



Monthly Book Club

LOCATION:
Epiphany Lutheran Church
1501 W. Chautauqua St.

Monday, January 19 » 9:30 am
Grendel
by John Gardner

Monday, February 16 » 9:30 am
1776
by David McCollough

Monthly Lunch Discussion Group

LOCATION:
Hunan
710 E. Main St.

Thursday, January 15 » 11 am

Members are invited to join
this group to share lunch and
open conversation.

January Presenter Benjamin Bricker

The strengths and vulnerabilities of the U.S. Constitution

Today, we see new challenges to
our modern constitutional order
– challenges that some fear can
erode the traditional constitutional
structure and the democratic norms
that underpin it.

This year, the Supreme Court
has accepted several cases that
may fundamentally reshape our
constitutional system. Benjamin's talk
will go over several of those cases –
including *Learning Resources v. Trump*, *Cook v. Trump*, and *Trump v. Slaughter* –
as well as the Court's increasing use of its emergency docket, which may (or may
not) give us a preview of how they will ultimately rule in many of these cases.

Benjamin Bricker (Ph.D., Washington University in St. Louis, 2013; J.D.,
University of Illinois) is Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and an
Associate Professor of political science at SIU. He holds a cross appointment in
the SIU Simmons Law School. He is the author of *Visions of Judicial Review: A
Comparative Study of Courts and Policy in Democracies*.



**Wednesday, January 21
10:30 am**

Monthly Presentation

LOCATION:
Epiphany Lutheran Church
1501 W. Chautauqua St.

Wednesday, January 21

9:30: Coffee, Tea and Conversation
10:30: Meeting and Program

Next Board Meeting

LOCATION:
Epiphany Lutheran Church
1501 W. Chautauqua St.

Monday, January 19 » 1:30 pm

January Greeters
Sylvia Drake
Dona Lach

President
Gary Hartlieb

At-a-Glance Monthly Presentations

Wednesday, January 21
Wednesday, February 18
Wednesday, March 18

SILIR Spring Session One Classes

February 3 - March 5

Tuesdays » 9:30 - 11:30 am

COST: \$10

TWO SESSIONS: February 3 and February 10

INSTRUCTORS: Sandy Pensoneau-Conway
and Irene Lutterodt

Understanding Diversity and Using Pronouns

CLASS 1:

Communicating Diversity

How can we create welcoming environments and embrace differences we see around us? Communication is a powerful tool to create a more just and open world.

CLASS 2:

Pronouns in Action

Focus on gender and pronouns. Engage in guided discussion on the evolution and usage of pronouns and move into practice with the goal of better understanding why someone might use gender-neutral pronouns.

Tuesdays » 1:30 - 3:30 pm

COST: \$15

FIVE SESSIONS: February 3 - March 3

INSTRUCTOR: Gary Hartlieb

Five Best Broadway Musicals Turned into Movies

The course will feature five of the best Broadway musicals turned into movies. Included are *Chicago*, *Cabaret*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Funny Girl* and *Oliver*. Bring your popcorn or other snacks and enjoy the movie!

Thursdays » 1:30 - 3:30 pm

COST: \$15

FIVE SESSIONS: February 5 - March 5

INSTRUCTOR: Suzanne Schmitz

Lawyers Who Made a Difference

As we celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, drafted by four lawyers, let's get to know some lawyers who have made a difference. We will focus on lawyers no longer with us and learn their life stories and their contributions as legislators, judges, advocates, and public servants. Some may be familiar; most not so much.

Wednesdays » 1:30 - 3:30 pm

COST: \$10

TWO SESSIONS: February 25 and March 4

INSTRUCTOR: Robin Ridgley

Brain Health

A two-part series covering strategies for dealing with forgetfulness, maintaining a healthy brain and enhancing memory and thinking, as well as learning how dementia affects people and how we can make a difference in the lives of people living with the disease.

BRING A GUEST, RECRUIT A NEW MEMBER

Our monthly presentations are free and guests are welcome, so next time you come to one of our talks, bring a friend, invite a neighbor. Many out there don't know what we do, so by creating interest in our activities we may expand our membership.

For that matter, you might consider passing on your monthly newsletter so your friends can see the variety of classes we offer at Learning in Retirement.

SILIR Registration Form

Please fill out and send entire form with payment.

First Name _____ Last Name _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Day Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

E-mail _____

NEW MEMBERS: How did you hear about us? ☐ Friend ☐ Newspaper ☐ Social Media/Online ☐ Radio/TV

*If you are registering more than yourself for a class/trip, please list the name(s) of the SILIR member you are registering.
July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026*

Name _____ (26M0901901) FY26 Membership Dues \$25 x _____ = _____

INTEREST GROUPS

Name _____ (26M0901904) Book Study Group \$10 x _____ = _____

Name _____ (26M0901905) Lunch Discussion Group \$10 x _____ = _____

Name _____ (26M0901917) Understanding Diversity \$15 x _____ = _____

Name _____ (26M0901918) Five Best Broadway Musicals \$15 x _____ = _____

Name _____ (26M0901919) Brain Health \$15 x _____ = _____

Name _____ (26M0901920) Lawyers Who Made a Difference ... \$15 x _____ = _____

Additional Name(s) _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Learning in Retirement program waiver disclaimer: Most SILIR activities require very little mobility. When an activity requires traveling up to one mile or more or navigating 10 steps or more, or involves longer waiting or standing times, we will alert you so that you may choose wisely.

Signature _____ Date _____

My signature confirms that I have read and understand the activity level of any trip sponsored by Learning in Retirement and accept the risks and conditions of the trip. I am aware that some trips may encounter rough terrain and closed-toe shoes will aid in maintaining my safety.

Make check payable to *SIU Carbondale* or enter credit card information below:

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Mail form and check to:
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Questions or suggestions
Email: silir@siu.edu
Phone: 618/536-7751

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What will you learn today?
Visit the SI Learning in Retirement webpage at:
conferences.siu.edu/silir