January 17th Meeting

**Location:**
Grace United Methodist Church
220 N. Tower Rd., Carbondale

• 9:30 - Coffee Social Hour
• 10:30 - Meeting and Program

**January Greeters:**
• Joyce Siason
• Mary Kramer
• Sylvia Drake

**President:** Gary Hartlieb

**AT A GLANCE**

**Monthly Meetings:**
February 21, 2024
March 20, 2024
April 2024

**Questions?**
Email SILIR at silir@siu.edu
or call 618/536-7751

**BIO:** Judge Christy Solverson is the presiding judge of Jackson County. If the court schedule permits, she will be joined by Judge Ralph Bloodworth, Chief Criminal Judge of the County.

---

**January Presenter: Judge Christy Solverson**

**What is the SAFE-T Act? What is Cashless bail?**

You may have heard about the new “cashless” bail system in Illinois but what is it? How is it working?

What else is new? Judge Christy Solverson, presiding judge of Jackson County, will explain the Safety, Accountability, Fairness and Equity-Today (SAFE-T) Act which became effective in 2023. The judge will report on its implementation to date in Jackson County.

Under the law, prosecutors may seek pretrial detention in certain specified cases. For example, a defendant charged with certain crimes may be detained if the court finds the person “poses a real and present threat to the safety of any person or persons or the community.” If the prosecutor seeks detention, the judge then reviews the investigative report and decides whether to detain.

In discussing the new Act, the Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts said “(1) the Pretrial Fairness Act is historic – we are the first state to explicitly prohibit the use of money in pretrial detention decisions and (2) all eyes nationally are on Illinois.” Prior to the passage of the SAFE-T Act, the Illinois Supreme Court had studied best pretrial practices, consulted national pretrial reform experts, and heard from those affected by the Illinois pre-trial system. The SAFE-T Act provides for the training of existing staff to conduct the investigations and hearings needed to guide the decisions of whether to detain an accused. The Court has initiated state-wide training to ensure compliance with the Act. Come and learn what is going on.

**Golden Opportunities**

Our newsletter is published online as well as in print and can be found at conferenceservices@siu.edu/silir. The online version is in color and you might enjoy seeing pictures and graphics in color, so please check out the link!

“If you have any comments or suggestions regarding the Newsletter, please email them to silir@siu.edu. Your feedback is greatly appreciated!”

---

**Special Accommodations**

SILIR members needing a special accommodation to participate in a SILIR activity must notify SIU Conference and Scheduling Office 618/536-7751 two weeks prior to the published date of an activity or at the time of registration for a trip. SILIR will make reasonable efforts to accommodate those with special needs. SILIR is not required to provide services of a personal nature so if you need assistance of a personal nature during a SILIR activity, it is your responsibility to provide the personal assistant.
SILIR Monthly Interest Groups

### Musical of the Month Interest Group
This group meets on the **last Friday of the month** to watch and discuss a musical or movie musical.

The next meeting will be **January 26, 2024**

at Epiphany Lutheran Church.  
12:15-3:30 pm

### Monthly Book Club
The Book Club meets on the **3rd Monday of the month at 9:30am** at Epiphany Lutheran Church on West Chautauqua.

**January 15, 2024**

January’s book selection is  
**“The Dickens Boy”**  
A Novel By Thomas Keneally

![Image of a book cover](image)

### Monthly Lunch Discussion Group
Members are invited to join this group to meet monthly to share lunch and open conversation.

**January 25, 2024**  
11:45 am

Location:  
Walkers Bluff Casino,  
main dining room  
777 Walkers Bluff Way,  
Carterville, IL

The Membership & Publicity Team recruits new members, informs current members of activities (press releases and online announcements), handles hospitality and greeter functions at monthly meeting, and organizes annual luncheons. Team members may provide presentations if requested by local organizations. If you are interested in becoming involved, **please contact Pam Matthews** pam15river@gmail.com

### Current Membership & Publicity Team members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pam Matthews, Chair</th>
<th>Beth Arthur</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kathy Fatz, Vice Chair</td>
<td>Ann Dillard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ken Loving, Secretary</td>
<td>Verella Leaton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carolyn Loving</td>
<td>Bobbie Ogletree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy Muzzarelli</td>
<td>Arlene Pellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan Radtke</td>
<td>Jim Womack</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
"Ancient Mesopotamia: Life in the Cradle of Civilization"  
Registration Fee: $15.00  
Instructor: Fran Oros  
Mondays from Jan. 8, 1:30-3:30pm  
Epiphany Lutheran Church  
Course description:  
This is a DVD course taught by Professor Amanda Podany, a leading authority on the region. Mesopotamia is the ancient name for the region that is now Iraq and Syria, a remarkably advanced civilization that flourished for two thirds of the time that civilization has existed on Earth. Mesopotamians mastered irrigation agriculture; built the first complex urban societies; developed writing, literature, and law; and united vast regions through warfare and diplomacy.  
The rich history of Mesopotamia has only recently been rediscovered, thanks to the decipherment of Mesopotamia's cuneiform writing less than 200 years ago. In this course, you will learn some of the newest information that historians have gathered from hundreds of thousands of ancient cuneiform tablets and other artifacts.

"Women In and Around Politics"  
Registration Fee: $15.00  
Instructor: Pam Matthews  
Thursdays from Jan 11, 1:30-3:30pm  
Epiphany Lutheran Church  
Course description:  
There are many talented women working in the world of politics today. We'll hear from some local women during this five-week class. These movers and shakers will tell their stories: how they got where they are today, how they feel about it, what they're doing to impact our world, and how they think we can get involved. Our line-up includes a former Lieutenant Governor of Illinois and a current State Senator. Come join us for a fascinating look into local women in and around politics!
SILIR Spring Session Classes

January, 12, 19 & 26 and February 2 & 9, 2024 (Session I)

"Short Stories by Alice Monro from her collection Runway"  Registration Fee: $15.00

Instructor: Beth Lordan
Fridays from Jan. 12, 1:30-3:30pm
Epiphany Lutheran Church
Course description:

January 9, 16, 23 & 30 and February 6, 2024 (Session I)

Singing for Old Folks"  Registration Fee: $15.00

Instructor: Tim Fink
Tuesdays from Jan 9, 9:30-11:30pm
Epiphany Lutheran Church
Course description:

Learn how the singing voice works, and then apply it, with special emphasis on the aging singer. One hour each week will be learning about respiration, phonation, resonation, articulation and interpretation, and one hour getting on our feet and singing, both group and solo. Wanted: a maximum of 10 people who have a sense of humor about themselves.

Enrollment limit of 10.
Please submit a check payable to "SIU Carbondale" or credit card information below.

Mail to: Events & Outreach
Anthony Hall - Mail Code 6705
Carbondale, IL 62901

or call Registration at 618-536-7751 to register with your credit card.
What will you learn today?

Visit the SI Learning in Retirement web page at:

https://conferenceservices.siu.edu/silir