March’s Presenter: Gary Williams

Gary Williams has been Carbondale's City Manager since 2015 and has been with the City since 2011. He earned his Bachelors and MPA degrees from SIU, is a graduate of the Delta Leadership Institute, and is currently pursuing a certificate in Public Works Management from the University of Wisconsin. He currently serves on statewide committees including the Illinois City Managers Association's DEI Committee and the Illinois Municipal League's Municipal Managers Committee. When he's not working, he spends as much time as possible with his wife and two daughters exploring the great outdoors of southern Illinois.

March 20 Meeting

- **Location:**
  Epiphany Lutheran-Church
  West Chautauqua Rd., Carbondale
- 9:30 - Coffee Social Hour
- 10:30 - Meeting and Program

March Greeters:
- Pat Racana
- Sandy Lambert
- Roxanne Schaal

President: Gary Hartlieb

**AT A GLANCE**

*Monthly Meetings:*
March 20, 2024
April 17, 2024
May 15, 2024
June 19, 2024
July - No Meeting

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

**Ukraine: report from the scene**

**Wed. March 6, 10:30-11:15 am, Epiphany Lutheran**

*Cindy Buys* will share her impressions of the situation in Ukraine, from the scene, just over the holidays, her second visit there.

This is a special program, so please note the date and time and location at Epiphany Lutheran Church, 1501 W Chautauqua St, Carbondale.

Because there are no commercial flights into Ukraine, Cindy flew into Warsaw and was bussed into Ukraine to attend a conference of international lawyer/scholars. She will share her impressions of the situation in Ukraine and Poland. Cindy is a Professor of International Law at SIU School of Law.

Feel free to bring your own refreshment.
SILIR Monthly Interest Groups

**Musical of the Month Interest Group**

This group meets on the last Friday of the month to enjoy and discuss a classical concert musical.

The next meeting will be **Discontinued**

at Epiphany Lutheran Church.

12:15-3:30 pm

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**Monthly Book Club**

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

March 18, 2024

March’s book selection is

“Four Winds”

By Kristin Hannah

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**Monthly Lunch Discussion Group**

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

March 28, 2024

11:45 am

Location:

Montgomery’s Place

131S. Division St

Carterville, IL

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**Important ANNOUNCEMENT**

Beginning March 20, 2024 SILIR Monthly Meeting will relocate to Epiphany Lutheran Church on West Chautauqua.

Please check out our Facebook page at Southern Illinois Learning in Retirement to see what we've been up to and read what's happening around town.

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**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!”

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**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.
Important ANNOUNCEMENT
SILIR is looking for someone to Chair our Travel Committee.
Please contact Gary Hartlieb if interest in serving as chair.

Community Events

April 5-8 Eclipse Crossroads Festival - see attached flyer for dates and time

Imagine being in the perfect place for an astronomical wonder...again! Southern Illinois University Carbondale is located at the intersection of the 2017 and 2024 total solar eclipse paths of totality where you can experience this twice in a lifetime awe-inspiring event on April 8, 2024.

While the entire country will see a partial solar eclipse, you must be in the narrow path of totality that sweeps across Southern Illinois to experience the unique features of a total solar eclipse. Only at this time and in the right location can you witness the sky darken as if it was night as the Moon blocks out all direct sunlight and the solar corona, the atmosphere of the Sun, reveals itself. In witnessing this event for the first time, people are often overcome with emotion and awe as the air cools, planets are visible, and an incredible 360 degree sunset is visible as the shadow of the Moon is cast on the earth.

On August 21, 2017, a total solar eclipse path stretched across the entire United States, reaching its point of greatest duration (GD) a few miles south of Carbondale. This region in southern Illinois is not only in the path of the 2017 eclipse, but also the 2024 eclipse, making it a unique location for being able to perform observations of both eclipses from the same location.

Carbondale is on the center-line of the path of totality and will see 4 minutes and 9 seconds of totality for eclipse 2024, nearly double what was seen in 2017. The two eclipse paths form an intersection just south of the SIU campus around Cedar Lake.

April 27 SIU Civil Service Council—Flea Market SIU Arena Parking Lot.
All registration fees collected from vendor registration are given to Civil Service employee dependent for scholarships.
(Rain date is April 28)
2024 Southern Illinois Crossroads Eclipse Festival Events

Into the Darkness: Celebrating the Eclipse with Music
Concert with local schools premiering eclipse inspired piece.
Shryock Auditorium
Friday, April 5

Crossroads Eclipse Research Workshop
Engage in research opportunities and presentations.
Multiple campus venues
Friday, April 5 – Monday, April 8

Saluki Con Presents Eclipse Con
Comic Con with special guests, vendors, panels and more!
Student Center
Saturday, April 6 - Sunday, April 7

Eclipse Eve Live: Sky Observers Hangout
Live podcast and star-viewing event with Michelle Nichols, Adler Planetarium.
Shryock Auditorium (outside)
Sunday, April 7

Carbondale Eclipse Concert
Check out downtown Carbondale for an evening full of celestial connection through rhythm and dance.
Washington/E. Main St.
Sunday, April 7

Crossroads Astronomy Science and Technology Expo
Activities, exhibits, demonstrations, presentations.
Banterra Center
Sunday, April 7 - Monday, April 8

Crossroads Art and Craft Fair
Arts, crafts, eclipse items.
North of the Banterra Center
Sunday, April 7 - Monday, April 8

Eclipse Day at Saluki Stadium
Guided eclipse viewing event.
Tickets available at 877/785-8547 or on eclipse.siu.edu.
Saluki Stadium
Monday, April 8

Other weekend events:
Chalk-Eclipse – Friday, April 5
Run from the Sun 5K – Saturday April 6
Carbondale Spring FEST – Saturday, April 6 – Sunday, April 7
StraightUp Solar Campus and Community Area - April 8

For a full list of all events - visit
eclipse.siu.edu
SILIR Spring Session II Classes

March 18, 25 and April 1, 15 & 22, 2024  ( NO Class April 8, 2024)

"Hinduism Revisited” Registration Fee: $ 15.00
Instructor: Paul Mundschenk
Mondays from March 18– April 22, 9:30-11:30am
Epiphany Lutheran Church
Course description:
All the world’s major religious traditions arose long before humankind developed the capacity to explore life, our world, and the far-flung universe with the sophisticated technological instrument we now take for granted. Even so, religions flourish because they quit butting heads with science, but continue to speak to the complex questions that arise from the human heart—questions about meaning and purpose, about the nitty-gritty of another day. This course will revisit Hinduism, minimizing its cosmology and focusing on what it says about the more compelling issues of daily human life.

March 26 and April 2, 9, 16 & 23, 2024

“A Brief History of Revolutionary America (1763-1812)” Registration Fee: $ 15.00
Instructor: Kay Carr
Tuesdays from March 26– April 23, 2024, 1:30-3:30pm
Epiphany Lutheran Church
Course description:
This course spans the period of American history from 1763-1812, covering developments in late British colonial America, through the American revolution, and into the early republic. Through informal lectures and class discussions, participants will attempt to answer the following: Why did a diverse group of British colonists join to rebel against their British overlords and, then, to form a new nation based upon democratic principles? The class will explore the motivations of the late eighteenth-century colonists, with an emphasis upon the ideological, social, political, and economic developments behind the formation of the United States of America.

March 18, 25 and April 1, 15 & 22, 2024  ( NO Class April 8, 2024)

"More Monro ” Registration Fee: $ 15.00
Instructor: Beth Lordan
Mondays from March 18– April 22, 2024  1:30-3:30pm
Epiphany Lutheran Church
Course description:
We will examine Alice Munro’s stories from The Love of a Good Woman.
SILIR Spring Session Classes

March 20, 27 and April 3, 10 & 17, 2024 (NO Class April 8, 2024)

“Restoring American Statesmanship”

Registration Fee: $15.00

Instructor: John Shaw

Wednesdays, from March 20 - April 17, 2024 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Epiphany Lutheran Church

Course description:

This course will examine the concept of statesmanship, consider it in the context of American history, and reflect on the future of statesmanship as an ethos and aspiration in the United States. Given our current affairs, it is easy to forget that statesmanship, while unusual and distinctive, has been a critical feature of American politics and history. Statesmanship sometimes occurs in generational clusters such as America’s founding era, WW II, and the civil rights crusade. This suggests that statesmanship begets statesmanship—that it can be self-nourishing and perhaps even contagious. The class will explore such statesmen and stateswomen as Abraham Lincoln, George Marshall, Eleanor Roosevelt, former Illinois senators, Everett Dirksen and Paul Douglas, and Liz Cheney.

March 28- Trip

Adventure through the History of Williamson County - A Visit to Marion’s Historical Museum

Registration Fee: FREE

Thursday, March 28, 10 a.m. - noon.

Meet at 9:30 to carpool from Epiphany Lutheran Church
West Chautauqua St, west parking area.

Join us for a tour of the Williamson County History Society Museum and Genealogy Library at 105 S. Van Buren Street in Marion. This former jail and Sheriff’s residence is a sprawling brick structure built in 1913, just a block off the main square in downtown Marion. Our tour guide has a vast knowledge of the area and will tell us stories while showing us around the premises.

There will be no cost for the tour, but feel free to leave a donation to help support the Museum’s work.

For those who want to stay in Marion for lunch, we’ll convene at the old bank building, now a restaurant, called The Vault (on the square).

Register by calling SIU Events & Outreach, 618-536-7751.

For questions, call Pam Matthews, 618-490-1161, pam15river@gmail.com.
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