

**TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**April 2018**

***WHERE ALL ARE WELCOME!***

The mission of Trinity Church is to unite all persons with God and with one another in Jesus Christ. Trinity is an inclusive Episcopal Community that lives out its Baptismal Covenant by welcoming people in all their diversity, and by supporting spiritual growth through traditional worship, social responsibility, and proclaiming the Gospel.

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**The Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church  
The Most Reverend Michael B. Curry  
The Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee  
The Right Reverend Steven A. Miller  
The Reverend Brian E. Backstrand, Rector  
Dorothy Prouty, Music Minister**

**We pray for our Trinity Church of Mineral Point. May Thy gracious presence enable us to be open and receptive to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Bless all who come here for worship and fellowship; please Lord, strengthen us in our journey and mission.**

**Come and join us on Sundays at 9:00 a.m.**

MUSINGS from Fr. Brian

First, I want to thank all of you who were involved in making both the Great Vigil of Easter and Easter Day times of joyous worship. I found myself drawn into both services personally, beyond

my own role as celebrant and I hope you did as well.

Easter --we all know-- is not one day. The Church set aside fifty days for the season itself to make an impression upon us and to remind us in various ways: We are Easter people.

One of the reminders that comes our way is the Pascha nostrum -- Christ our Passover. You will find it on page 83 in the Book of Common Prayer. Drawn from texts in I Corinthians and Romans, it remains for us a special reminder during the Easter season of our Easter heritage and identity.

It begins:

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us;

therefore let us keep the feast,

Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil,

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

What a gracious invitation to consider our lives, our postures with one another and with others! I encourage all of us to read this and to open ourselves up to the power of the Spirit--that holy and wondrous presence that can inform our own lives and transform us as Easter people.

Fr. Brian

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*Please remember prayers for Judy, Andy, Dottie, Wes, Bonnie, Betty, Sue, Harry, Megan, Quinn, Isabella, Kat, Jenny, Kurt, Jocelyn, Andrea, David+, Aaron, TJ, Richmond, Estele, Paul, Ruthie, Patrick J., Patrick F., Jill, Derek, and Brandy*

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### VESTRY AND WARDENS

**Beth McGehee, Senior Warden**

**Tom Faull, Junior Warden**

**Brent Bowers**

**Annie Chapman**

**Kathy Madigan**

**Mark Prouty**

**Mark Prouty, Clerk of the Parish**

**Janean Faull, Interim Treasurer**

### Church Schedules

#### Altar Guild

April 8  
15

C. Holland  
C. Hunt

K. Madigan  
J.Faull

22	A. Chapman	B. McGehee
29	J. Stenson	M. Backstrand

**Ushers, Lectors, Acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers**

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April

	Usher	Lectors	Eucharistic Minister	Acolytes
8	K. Madigan	I. Bowers	C. Holland	J. Faull
15	C. Holland	P. Cole	K. Madigan	I. Bowers
22	M. Prouty	JM Merrell-Beech	C. Holland	B. McGehee
29	B. McGehee	C. Bowers	P. Cole	J. Faull

**Dates to Remember**

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**Wednesday, April 4:** Book study, *Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life* by Richard Rohr, 11 AM in Legate Hall

**Tuesday, April 17:** 5:00 PM, Legate Hall, Creation Care Committee meeting

**Tuesday, April 17:** Vestry meeting, 6:30 PM

**Saturday, April 21:** WATER is Life, Rain Barrel Initiative, 10:30 AM at Aspen Ridge Home and Garden

**Monday, April 23:** Creation Care Committee meeting, 5:00 PM

**Saturday, April 28:** WATER is Life, Father Floberg lecture followed by panel discussion, 6 PM, Mineral Point Opera House

**Sunday, April 29:** Church service with Trinity Platteville, 10:30 AM. Father Floberg and Father Backstrand will co-celebrate followed by Blessing of the Rain Barrels at the Rectory. Lunch will follow.

**May 3, 4, 5 and 10, 11, 12:** Trinity Rummage Sale

Fr. Brian's schedule for April includes the following **days off:** Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>

**Other Announcements**

**Do not forget to contribute to the Food Pantry basket. The need is always there.**

**There will be a lunch following church service with Father Floberg on April 29. Please watch for an announcement about how to help with this!**

### **April Vestry meeting summary**

On March 20<sup>th</sup> the Vestry met with all members present- Mark by Face time audio; Joan Faull was present as substitute clerk. We read the Vestry Covenant aloud. Reports from the Clerk, Treasurer, Rector, Finance Committee, and Creation Care Committee were reviewed. A discussion was held to bring all Vestry members up to speed on the change in converting from Quicken to QuickBooks. Brent presented a fundraising raffle project to address the funds needed to purchase the 2 furnaces for the Church. This project will be presented to the congregation in the near future for discussion. Signatories on Trinity accounts will be compiled so we have a list of who is listed on each individual account. A discussion proceeded on who could be signatories on accounts. The Vestry decided that the folding chairs owned by Trinity would not be used at the Rain Barrel event due to possible damage. We want them to last as long as possible. Joan and Annie volunteered to inquire about other options. There is a meeting on April 14<sup>th</sup> for the River Convocation in Baraboo to review revisions to Canon 28, which in my understanding discusses how the Diocese supports and guides a church in financial need. We also discussed creating a calendar of events that occur every year such as mutual ministry review, contract renewal etc. Mark and Beth volunteered to assist with the calendar. The Stained Glass Tour was discussed. Annie agreed to follow up with Arts Mineral Point and Jan Johnson. Our Next vestry meeting is April 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30. We joyfully sang Happy Birthday to Annie!! Please watch for forthcoming approved Vestry minutes.

**Beth McGehee, Sr. Warden**

### **Creation Care Committee News:**

As of April 1st, we have sold 26 of the 30 available rain barrels! By the time this newsletter is published, all will be spoken for. Well done for the water, the soil, the plants, and the aquifer! Well done for us, the stewards of the water! On April 21st Kim Wahl the Director of Education, Wisconsin Green Schools Network of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation will speak about Iowa County water and water issues generally and show us how to install the rain barrel. This is to be held at Aspen Ridge on Saturday, April 21st from 10:30 - 12:00. The Creation Care Committee is glad to offer this event on Earth Day weekend.

On April 28th and 29th the Creation Care Committee invited Father John Floberg of Standing Rock to Mineral Point, to speak to the public at the Opera House from 6:00 to 8:00pm. Panelists include Eugene Tesdahl of UW-Platteville, an Assistant Professor of History whose doctoral work concerned Native American history, and Albert LeBeau, Cultural Resource Program Manager of the Effigy Mounds in Harper's Ferry, Iowa, who is an enrolled member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Nation. A Q & A follows the speeches.

Father Floberg and Father Brian will co-celebrate on Sunday morning April 29th at Trinity at 10:30am. Following the combined service, Father Floberg will bless the rain barrels gathered on the rectory lawn, and we will enjoy lunch! He is speaking at the Student Union at UW-Platteville at 3:00 Sunday afternoon. A busy day!

We also have discussed beginning the restoration of Trinity's gardens and the trimming of the lilacs. These activities are open to all this summer and will take place as the weather warms and as we find the plats of the garden beds.

You may wish to mark your calendar now for the committee's fall event. The WILD & SCENIC FILM EVENT returns to the Opera House Saturday, September 8th, with the addition of a school groups film event on Friday, September 7th. It seems Trinity is making the most out of these wonderful grants!

Jane Stenson, Chair  
Creation Care Committee

### A meditation from Richard Rohr

*My friend, Sister of Saint Joseph and Professor Mary Beth Ingham, knows John Duns Scotus inside and out. Over a decade ago we spoke together at a conference in Albuquerque called Holding the Tension. Today I share her insights from Duns Scotus' teaching of haecceity or thisness, drawn from that conference.*

What is *haecceity*? It's you. It's the unique identity inherent in each being. Each one of us has been given our gift, and that's our little "*haec*." It's what makes me, me, and not somebody else. *Haec* cannot be cloned. It's the part of me that is not to be replicated.

So, I'm not just one of a kind, and you're not just one of a kind, and we are each not just one of a kind; we are one of an eternity. No pressure! Each of us has come with a gift. And if we do not give our gift, the world misses out.

*Haecceity* is a term invented by Duns Scotus to capture the ineffable. It's that which I cannot name within myself. No amount of self-help exercises will ever exhaust the mystery that is me. So, the good news is I can never figure myself out. I can always surprise myself.

Since before the foundation of the world, God has longed to be one with us. Jesus is the mutuality of God in creation. The incarnation is God's presence in our world – not an event of the past. The incarnation is still going on in our lives. And our vocation is to join God's dynamic, incarnate energy in the world and to be that presence wherever we find ourselves.

Duns Scotus writes: "You ask me, what is this *haec*? What is this thing from which the individual difference is taken? Is it matter or form or the composite? I give you this answer: . . . It's just *this*." [1]

You're just yourself. Live with it. Here I am. I'm just me and all I can do is be me. That's the only thing I can do, and I can do it better than anybody else. If I don't do it, nobody will do it. So often we spend our lives trying to be other people. Yet God says, "I made you, and I like the you I've made, so just do your best and be yourself, and I'll be there to help you." It's not something we have to do alone, but something we grow into.

Allan Wolter [a Franciscan theologian and philosopher] said that *haecceity* invests each person with a unique value as one singularly wanted and loved by God, quite apart from any trait that person shares with anybody else, or any contribution he or she might make to society. *Haecceity* is our personal gift from God. [2] Part of our vocation is to appreciate ourselves as the pearl of great price because God does. We get to discover ourselves as the treasure in the field and to rejoice with God in the wondrous work that God does in each of our lives (Matthew 13:44-46), quite independent of any contribution we might make to society, any quantitative way of measuring.

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[1] John Duns Scotus, *Ordinatio II*, d. 3, no. 187-188. See William M. Frank and Allan Wolter, *Duns Scotus: Metaphysician* (Purdue University Press: 1995), 185.

[2] John Duns Scotus, *Early Oxford Lecture on Individuation*, trans. and intro. by Allan Wolter (New York: The Franciscan Institute, 2005), xxi.

Mary Beth Ingham, *Holding the Tension: The Power of Paradox*, disc 5 (Center for Action and Contemplation: 2007), [CD](#), [MP3 download](#).

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Trinity Episcopal ♦ Mineral Point and Trinity Episcopal ♦ Please contact Terrie, Parish Administrative Assistant, if needed.

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♦ Office hours: Wednesday and Friday from 3:00-5:00 p.m.

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