

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

August 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.

Trinity Episcopal of Mineral Point
409 High Street
Mineral Point, Wisconsin 53565
Email: trinitychurchmpt@gmail.com

Fr. Brian - Email:
Fr. Brian - bebackstra@aol.com
Fr. Brian's cell: 630-939-3313
Phone: 608-987-3019

Webpage: trinitympt.org

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
Maintaining the Unity of the Spirit**

1 I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Ephesians 4: 1-3

The month of August finds us encountering a variety of passages from the Letter to the Ephesians Sunday by Sunday through the entire month. These readings began in mid-July and now, as we begin this month, we come to a passage from chapter four.

In musing on this passage with its focus on *humility, gentleness, patience, love and unity*, I find myself asking the simple question: *Why?* Are we just supposed to strive for these qualities in our living with others? Are these qualities just a good idea to help us smooth out any bumps in the road of human relations? Or is there something deeper that should motivate us?

Paul says something at the beginning of this short passage that we might easily find ourselves skimming over: He tells us that we have been called. In a commentary on this passage from Ephesians, New Testament scholar Klyne Snodgrass writes:

We need to recover a sense of the calling with which we were called. Most Christians have no sense they are called, but every Christian has been called by God as an act of grace....

This exposes a deeper reason for pursuing love and unity, gentleness and patience. These are the qualities that God values and desires in us. God has called us, claimed us in love. God has reached out to us to show us a deeper way of living. And because we are claimed, God asks us to pay attention: These qualities come to us from the Spirit and from the example of Christ who has shown us how to live.

I close with one more quotation from Dr. Snodgrass:

How can unity be established? It does not need to be established, for it already exists, given by God. It needs to be valued and maintained. Christ is not divided (I Cor 1:13). The community is not the source of its own existence; Christ is. He is the unity of the church, for the church only exists in him.

Please remember prayers for Joan, Audrey, Colby, Conner, Sue, Betty, Quinn, Isabella, Kat, Jenny, Kurt, Jocelyn, Andrea, David+, Aaron, TJ, Richmond, Paul, Dottie, Bonnie, Ruthie, Patrick J., Patrick F., Jill, Derek, Brandy, Jessica, John, and Bishop Curry.

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, Treasurer

Church Schedules

Altar Guild

August	5	C. Holland	K. Madigan
	12	C. Hunt	J. Faull
	19	J. Stenson	M. Backstrand
	26	A. Chapman	B. McGehee

Ushers, Lectors, Acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers

August	Usher	Lectors	Eucharistic Minister	Acolytes
5	M. Prouty	C. Holland	P. Cole	J. Faull
12	B. McGehee	JM Merrell-Beech	C. Holland	I. Bowers
19	C. Holland	C. Bowers	K. Madigan	J. Faull
26	K. Madigan	C. Hunt	P. Cole	B. McGehee

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wild & Scenic Film Event Saturday, September 8th with a 1:00 pm Storytelling Concert (free), and 7:00 pm Films with Special Guest Joseph Bruchac. Tickets are \$10 each available at the door or from Berget Jewelers or brownpapertickets.com.

Fr. Brian's schedule for August includes the following days off: Thursday August 9 through Wednesday, August 15.

Dates to Remember

Thursday, August 23: Diabetes Support Group, 1 PM at Trinity Platteville.

ONE TRIP ARUND THE SUN

Trinity's second film festival weekend

Trinity rapidly approaches its second environmental film fest, and we've made some exciting changes while retaining the fun of last year's film event.. Mark your calendars NOW for September 7th and 8th!

On Friday September 7th at 12:00 we've invited area schools - grades 4 through 8 - to come to the Opera House for six wonderful films from the Wild & Scenic Film Organization. Tickets are FREE. The program will finish by 2:00. Please understand that indigenous perspectives are highlighted during this weekend as we pursue more insights into the stewardship of creation. School groups reservations are being accepted now (email Stenson.stories @gmail.com with inquiries), and the Opera House is filling quickly!"

- Joseph Bruchac, an Abenacki storyteller, will give a storytelling concert on Saturday at 1:00 PM at Mineral Point Opera House. Joseph has written over 130 books (*KEEPERS OF THE EARTH* series) and is a musician and poet. Again, this is a free performance. We anticipate building an audience for this lively performing artist. A community reception follows in the library hosted by The Mineral Point Library, The Mineral Point Historical Society, and Trinity. Co-chairs of that reception are Dan Lloyd and Mark Prouty.
- 7:00 FILMS! FILMS! FILMS! Just like last year - films ranging from three minutes to thirty two minutes make up the program and cover topics such as the Oceans, Food, Water, Indigenous Perspectives, Agriculture, National Parks, Light Pollution, and Land Preservation. TICKETS are \$10.00 and are available at Berget Jewelers,

brownpapertickets.org, and at the door. Advocacy groups will be present with displays on the second floor. Door prizes from local businesses will be shared during intermission, and Joseph will tell a story.

- Our combined Sunday service at 10:30 has Father Brian and Joseph combining thoughts and story. It will be followed by a potluck.

Hopefully you've seen posters for the events in several communities, and hopefully you'll want to donate as an individual and/or business sponsor (forms came in the Monday new blurb). Individual and business sponsors' names and ads will appear in our program booklet. And, of course we'd love to see you there as we inform and inspire activism for our environment/creation. One more important idea: The films and the stories Joseph Bruchac tells are all about the environment and our positive stewardship of the land, air, and water.

NOW, let's think about the grants that financially support our efforts. There are two - a \$4750 Diocesan Grant for the film fest, speaker, and a projector. The larger grant \$10,000 from the National Church - termed The Stewardship of Creation Grant - supports speakers, our rain barrel initiative, the development of a rain garden and altar window replication garden. However, this spring, the committee got SIDE-TRACKED! We began paying attention to our site - the overgrown and the unweeded areas, as well as decaying trees. On many Saturdays the committee was outside cutting back Norway Maple saplings, raucous and rampant vines, clearing out deadwood. My goodness! An arborist walked the property with us and made recommendations which are posted in Legate Hall. We welcome help; it's a big job and long overdue. Mark Prouty has a (growing) list of what needs to be done. Clippers, Loppers, Chain Saws, sunglasses, old clothes, gardening hats and YOU are needed!

Jane Stenson, Chair
Creation Care Committee

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

608-348-6402 – Platteville Office

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

trinitychurchmpt@gmail.com