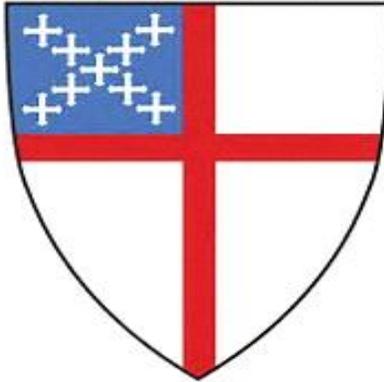


TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

November 2018

The Episcopal Church



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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Mineral Point, Wisconsin 53565
Email: trinitychurchmpt@gmail.com

Fr. Brian - Email: Fr. Brian - bebackstra@aol.com
Fr. Brian's cell: 630-939-3313
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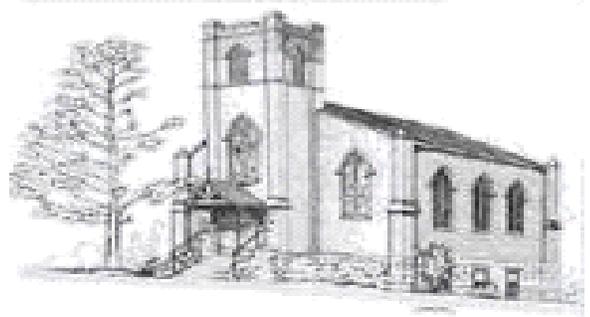
The Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church: The Most Reverend Michael B. Curry
The Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee: The Right Reverend Steven A. Miller

Rector: The Reverend Brian E. Backstrand
Music Minister: Dorothy Prouty

Vestry: Brent Bowers, Annie Chapman, Kathy Madigan and Mark Prouty
Senior Warden: Beth McGehee,
Junior Warden: Tom Faull

Clerk of the Parish: Mark Prouty
Treasurer: Janean Faull
Faith community Nurse: Susan Schlager

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.

Please remember prayers for Joan, Colby, Conner, Sue, Betty, Quinn, Isabella, Kat, Jenny, Kurt, Jocelyn, Andrea, David+, Richmond, Paul, Dottie, Bonnie, Ruthie, Patrick J., Patrick F., Jill, Derek, Brandy, Jessica, John, Sharon, Anita, Wes, Ruth and Clemmie.

NOVEMBER MUSING

THINKING OF SABBATH

I have been thinking a lot in recent days of the people of the Tree of Life Synagogue – their gifts, their talents, their faith community, their lives. They have connected me to others: The people of First Baptist Church of Sunderland, Texas who lost 26 people to gun violence in 2016; the people of Emmanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston who lost 9 persons to gun violence at a Bible study in 2015; the Sikh Temple in Oak Creek, Wisconsin where 7 persons including the perpetrator were fatally shot in 2012.

In all of this, I have become aware of how inured I have become to gun violence. All across America gun violence is connected with community and with place: Columbine, Parkland, Eugene, Chicago, Las Vegas, Minneapolis--where can we go to escape the violence of our society?

In 2015, before the 78th General Convention met in Utah, our Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Steven A. Miller, joined the 59 other members of Bishops Against Gun Violence in offering statements and prayers for the dead in the AME church in Charleston. In his letter to the Diocese, Bishop Miller included a prayer from the Wisconsin Council of Churches:

Gracious God, when there is no peace, not even in a house of worship, we pray for the violence in this land and the divisions in our lives. We pray for the grieving at Emmanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, SC. And we lift our prayers for all of our AME brothers and sisters who are weeping this day. We pray in Christ's name. Amen.

Now this prayer extends to others in other faith communities as well. It appears we need more prayers, many more. It appears that our prayers need to be formative in our lives. Today I ask you to join me in praying for the victims of gun violence – thinking of those places and persons you remember most, and including the good people of Jeffersontown who were just out shopping and the good people of the Tree of Life community in Pittsburgh who were just together keeping the Sabbath—worshipping.

--- Fr. Brian

Lay Ministry Schedule

NOVEMBER	USHERS	LECTORS PRAYER READER	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER	ACOLYTES	ALTAR GUILD
4	T&J Faull	Mark Prouty	Kathy Madigan	Beth McGehee	Claire Holland Kathy Madigan
11	Claire Holland	Kris Erdmann	Pat Cole	Jill Underly	Carolyn Hunt Joan Faull
18	Mark Prouty	Claire Holland	Kris Erdmann	Isabel Bowers Nick Bowers	Ann Chapman Beth McGehee
25	Beth McGehee	Jean Margaret Merrell-Beech	Claire Holland	Joan Faull	Jane Stenson Marilee Backstrand

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have any information that you would like included in the newsletter or the weekly email, be sure to give the information both to Terri at trinitychurchmpt@gmail.com so it will be included in the Sunday bulletin, and to me at patcole2009@gmail.com for the weekly email.

Fr. Brian's schedule for November includes the following days off: Thursday November 8 through Wednesday, November 14.



DATE TO REMEMBER

Saturday, November 3rd: **Book discussion** group meets in Legate Hall at 10 AM.

Sunday, November 4th: **10:30 am Combined Worship at Trinity Platteville followed by a potluck and 1:00 pm Combined Vestry** meeting in the Cunningham Center. Mineral Point parishioners are asked to bring salads and desserts.

Tuesday, November 6th: **Trinity Guild** meets at 1:30 PM. Main topic of discussion will be the Holiday Gift Fair.

Sunday, November 18th: **Parish Nurse Health Presentation**—10:15 am in Legate Hall.

December 1st: **Holiday Gift Fair**. We encourage you to work on your crafts and to be thinking about what you can donate for the raffle.

Sunday, December 16th: **The Rt. Rev. Steve A. Miller, Bishop** of the Diocese of Milwaukee, will visit Trinity Mineral Point.

Choir Rehearsals have begun at Trinity, Mineral Point! We would love to have more singers. Please contact Dorothy Prouty if interested 920-723-5889. Please Note: No practice on Saturday, November 10th.

An article pertinent to our responsibility for Stewardship of Creation:

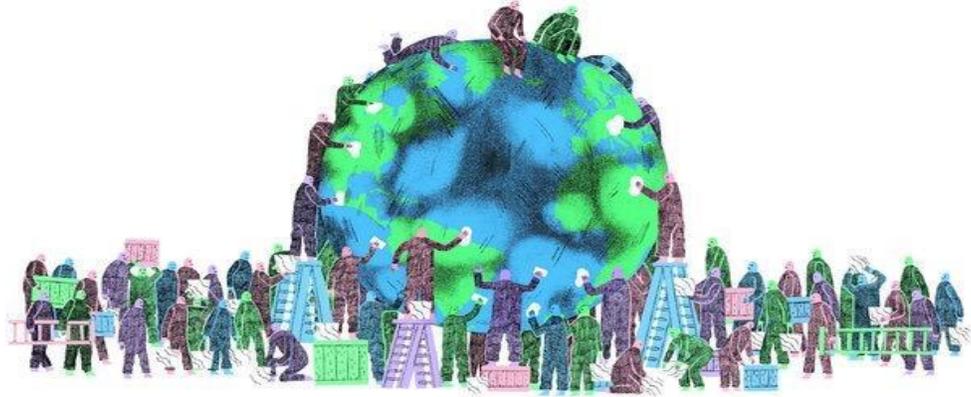
Stopping Climate Change Is Hopeless. Let's Do It.

It begins with how we live our lives every moment of every day.

By Auden Schendler and Andrew P. Jones

Mr. Schendler is a climate activist and businessman.

Mr. Jones creates climate simulations for the nonprofit Climate Interactive.



Credit Claire Merchlinsky

On Monday, the world's leading climate scientists are expected to release a report on how to protect civilization by limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, or 2.7 degrees Fahrenheit. Given the rise already in the global temperature average, this critical goal is 50 percent more stringent than the current target of 2 degrees Celsius, which many scientists were already skeptical we could meet. So we're going to have to really want it, and even then it will be tough.

The world would need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions faster than has ever been achieved, and do it everywhere, for 50 years. Northern European countries reduced emissions about 4 to 5 percent per year in the 1970s. We'd need reductions of 6 to 9 percent. Every year, in every country, for half a century.

We'd need to spread the world's best climate practices globally — like electric cars in Norway, energy efficiency in California, land protection in Costa Rica, solar and wind power in China, vegetarianism in India, bicycle use in the Netherlands.

We'd face opposition the whole way. To have a prayer of 1.5 degrees Celsius, we would need to leave most of the remaining coal, oil and gas underground, compelling the Exxon Mobils and Saudi Aramcos to forgo anticipated revenues of over \$33 trillion over the next 25 years.

And while the air would almost immediately be cleaner and people healthier, the heartbreaking impacts of climate change — flooding in London, New York and Shanghai, as well as in Mumbai, India; Hanoi, Vietnam; Alexandria, Egypt; and Jakarta, Indonesia, to touch on just one consequence — would continue for decades, regardless of emissions cuts, because of the long life of man-made greenhouse gases already in the atmosphere.

Some cynical news headlines will certainly follow the report: "Scientists Agree — We're Cooked!" The headline writers would have a point. Solving climate is going to be harder, and more improbable, than winning World War II, achieving civil rights, defeating bacterial infection and sending a man to the moon all together.

So how do we engage in a possibly — but not probably — winnable struggle within a rigged system against great odds, the ultimate results of which we'll never see? Forget success, how do we even get out of bed in the morning?

We could order in Chinese and lock ourselves in the closet, but we shouldn't. Because there's good news: We're perfect for the job. If the human species specializes in one thing, it's taking on the impossible.

We are constitutionally equipped to understand this situation. We are, after all, mortal, and so our very existence is a fight against inevitable demise. We also have experience: The wicked challenges we've faced through the ages have often been seemingly insurmountable. The Black Death killed off at least a third of Europe in its time. World War II claimed 50 million lives. We won those battles — sort of. We've spent our time as *Homo sapiens* fighting what J.R.R. Tolkien called "the long defeat."

Historically, we've tackled the biggest challenge — that of meaning, and the question of how to live a life — through the concept of "practice," in the form of religion, cultural tradition or disciplines like yoga or martial arts. Given the stark facts, this approach might be the most useful. Practice has value independent of outcome; it's a way of life, not a job with a clear payoff. A joyful habit. The right way to live.

Such an approach will require dropping the American focus on destination over journey, and releasing the concepts of "winning" and "winners," at least in the short term. As the journalist I.F. Stone was said to have [explained](#): "The only kinds of fights worth fighting are those you are going to lose because somebody has to fight them and lose and lose and lose until someday, somebody who believes as you do wins." He added: "You mustn't feel like a martyr. You've got to enjoy it." Or as Camus [put it](#): "One must imagine Sisyphus happy."

To save civilization, most of us would need to supplement our standard daily practices — eating, caring for family and community, faith — with a steady push on the big forces that are restraining progress, the most prominent being the fossil fuel industry's co-option of government, education, science and media. This practice starts with a deep understanding of the problem, so it will mean reading a little about climate science. Our actions must be to scale, so while we undertake individual steps in our lives, like retrofitting light bulbs, we must realize that real progress comes from voting, running for office, marching in protest, writing letters, and uncomfortable but respectful conversations with fathers-in-law. This work must be habitual. Every day some learning and conversation. Every week a call to Congress. Every year a donation to a nonprofit advancing the cause. In other words, a practice.

Maybe this approach doesn't seem as noble as, say, our memory of the civil rights movement. But that era's continuous, workmanlike grinding probably didn't feel all that glorious then, either. With history as our judge, though, it does. And we know what happens when enough people take up a cause as practice: Cultural norms change. Think gay marriage. Think the sharp decline in smoking in the United States.

There should be no shortage of motivation. Solving climate change presents humanity with the opportunity to save civilization from collapse and create aspects of what the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. called "the beloved community." The work would endow our lives with some of the oldest and most numinous aspirations of humankind: leading a good life; treating our neighbors well; imbuing our short existence with timeless ideas like grace, dignity, respect, tolerance and love. The climate struggle embodies the essence of what it means to be human, which is that we strive for the divine.

Perhaps the rewards of solving climate change are so compelling, so nurturing and so natural a piece of the human soul that we can't help but do it.

[Auden Schendler](#) is a board member of [Protect Our Winters](#) and the author of "Getting Green Done." [Andrew P. Jones](#) is co-founder of [Climate Interactive](#), which contributed climate scenarios to the latest report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Follow *The New York Times Opinion section* on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter \(@NYTopinion\)](#). A version of this article appears in print on Oct. 6, 2018, on Page SR10 of the New York edition with the headline: Stopping Climate Change Is Hopeless. Let's Do It.. [Order Reprints](#) |



Let your *Love Lights* Shine!

The Upland Hills Health Auxiliary invites you to honor/remember a loved one by purchasing a Love Light for \$5 each to light up the entrance to the Upland Hills Dodgeville Hospital. All proceeds raised will go toward the Auxiliary's effort to support the mission of Upland Hills Health. Please order by November 16th. Please make your check payable to: Upland Hills Health Auxiliary and write Love Lights on the memo line. Include a note with "I wish to honor ..." and/or "In memory of ..." and mail to the Auxiliary at 800 Compassion Way, Dodgeville, WI 53533.

A Special 2019 Trip to Scotland with Jill Underly

Jill is in the process of organizing the tour and invites you to join her in traveling to Scotland at the end of September 2019. Sites pending are Edinburg, the Castles of Scotland, the Isles of Skye and Iona (the center of Scottish Christianity) Glasgow and more. The rest of the tour and all the details can be found at <https://jillunderly.grouptoursite.com/>

Trinity Episcopal Church – Platteville and Trinity Episcopal Church – Mineral Point are served by one Administrative Assistant.

To contact Terrie Hoffman, Parish Administrative Assistant, please call during office hours or email Terrie at either church email address. For placing announcements in our church bulletin, contact Terrie by 10 a.m. on Thursdays.

608-348-6402 – Platteville Office

Office hours are: Wednesdays: 1:00-5:00 p.m.

and Thursdays 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Emails: Platteville -- trinitychurch@centurytel.net
Mineral Point -- trinitychurchmpt@gmail.com

