



April

**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 own journey and mission.

VESTRY

Joan Faull
Beth McGehee
Claire Holland
Kathy Madigan
Mark Prouty
Jane Stenson

Sara Hector



Trinity Episcopal Church Service Schedule

	Usher(s)	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Acolyte
<u>April</u>				
2	K. Madigan	I. Bowers	C. Holland	S. Hector
9	K. Erdmann	M. Proudly	S. Hector	S. Hector
16	C. Holland	K. Madigan	K. Madigan	TBA
23	A. Chapman	C. Bowers	C. Whitford	S. Hector
30	J and T Faull	K. Erdmann	C. Holland	S. Hector
<u>May</u>				
7	B and S Mc Str	C. Whitford	C. Whitford	TBA
14	K. Madigan	C. Hunt	K. Madigan	TBA
21	K. Erdmann	J. M. Merrel-Beech	C. Whitford	TBA
28	C. Holland	C. Holland	C. Holland	TBA

USHERS' DUTIES

1. Before the service, greet the people as they arrive and distribute the bulletins.

2. At 8:55 insure the Bell is rung.
3. At the Offertory, bring the bread and wine forward, receive the offering and bring it to the Altar at the Doxology.
4. Assist as needed.
5. Following the service, go through the church and pick up loose bulletins, return the service books to their racks and raise the kneelers.

LECTORS' DUTIES

1. Carefully review the lessons and gain a full meaning of their context and significance.
2. Practice reading the lesson. Use pause and inflection to convey the meaning.
3. Prior to the service, pick up the Prayer List.
4. Lead the prayers of the people (you select the version).
5. Read to the back of the church with assurance.



The month of April

2	A. Chapman	B. McGehee
9	J. Stenson	M. Backstrand
16	C. Holland	K. Madigan
23	C. Hunt	J. Faul
30	A. Chapman	B. McGehee

The month of May

7	J. Stenson	M. Backstrand
14	C. Holland	K. Madigan
21	C. Hunt	J. Faull
28	A. Chapman	B. McGehee

The month of June

4	M. Backstrand	J. Stenson
11	Claire Holland	K. Madigan
18	C. Hunt	J. Faull
25	A. Chapman	B. McGehee

The month of July

2	M. Backstrand	J. Stenson
9	C. Holland	K. Madigan
16	C. Hunt	J. Faull
23	A. Chapman	B. McGehee
30	M. Backstrand	J. Stenson

Special visitations and services will have separate schedule.

*That I may go to the altar of God to the God of my joy and gladness;
and on the harp I will give thanks to you, O God my God
Psalm 43*

*O God of beauty, love and peace:
Make us thankful for the privilege of adding beauty to Thy sanctuary;
growing in love through Thy service and gaining peace from Thy presence;
through Christ our Lord. Amen*

*Note: Marilee and Jane, you were being extremely naughty and uncooperative

while typing.

FLOWERS ON A CROSS
The Rev. Brian Backstrand

Fred Bowden and Katherine may be living in Grand Junction, Colorado, having moved there just before I arrived here, but Fred's gift for expressing his faith through artistic wood creations remains an ongoing gift to Trinity Church.

His most recent creation came in response to a request from Carolyn Hunt who inquired if he would be willing to create a cross for Easter. Carolyn explained the idea of the flowering of the cross, a custom practiced in many Episcopal churches. Fred listened to her interpretation and responded with another beautiful creation "to the glory of God."

This gift to the church currently resides in Legate Hall. But come Easter Day, it will be an important part of our worship. Fred installed chicken wire in both the horizontal and vertical parts of the cross, creating an open and inviting space into which to place flowers. These flowers will be inserted during our Offertory with worshipers bringing their offerings down the main aisle. There they can leave their offerings and at the same time insert flowers into the cross itself.

The result transforms the cross. Although Fred's design is a beautiful rendering, all of us understand the harsh and brutal nature of this Roman design for a slow and agonizing death. Into this instrument for execution, we will place flowers on Easter Day.

May our flowers on Easter Day be expressive of our own personal faith. May they transform the brutal cross and present it to us and others as that place of deep and enduring Love. May the flowers in their beauty impress upon us the deep

and abiding Love of God. This is the Love that would probe death and endure; this is the Love that yet abounds and will not let us go.

Happy Easter in its fullest sense. Fr. Brian

**“Christ has died; Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.”**



Maundy Thursday Combined Service ~ April 13, 2017

7:00 p.m.

Place: Trinity Episcopal Church of Platteville

250 Market Street

Platteville, Wisconsin 53818

Holy Eucharist

The Stripping of the Altar and A Brief Service of

Tenebrae

Combined Good Friday ~ April 14, 2017

12 Noon

Place: Trinity Episcopal Church of Mineral Point

403 High Street

Mineral Point, Wisconsin 53565

**The Good Friday Liturgy with The Stations of the
Cross, Solemn Collects and Anthems**

The Combined Great Vigil of Easter ~ April 15, 2017

7:00 p.m.

Place: Trinity Episcopal Church of Platteville

250 Market Street

Platteville, Wisconsin 53818

The Great Vigil Service with special music



The Combined Easter Day Eucharist ~ April 16, 2017

10:30 a.m.

Place: Trinity Episcopal Church of Mineral Point

403 High Street

Mineral Point, Wisconsin 53565

**Holy Eucharist with special music and the flowering of
the cross**

**Trinity Episcopal is in the process of writing a grant that focuses on our
Christian relationship and responsibility to ecology and the environment.**

**Jane Stenson provided this information to introduce the grant and its
opportunities.**

BRIEF NARRATIVE - ABSTRACT

Trinity Episcopal Church is located in the continentally significant Driftless Area of Wisconsin where many citizens are concerned about ecology and the environment. Our purpose is to provide sustainable, exciting, and enjoyable educational opportunities and outdoor experiences that focus on nature, culture, human interactions, and the interrelationship between people and the environment. We hope that by helping people to better understand, appreciate, and experience the Earth and other cultures, as well as their connection with the natural and human environments, they will care more deeply for — and take responsible actions to protect, preserve, and restore — the well-being of our planet. Future activities and projects are based on a belief that promoting knowledge and positive social and environmental values will build a stronger life ethic to guide people's conduct as it affects their own lives and the world around them. (community and civic stewardship)

INFORMATION - On March 31, 2017, a grant opportunity was offered by the National Episcopal Church for the STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION, and Trinity is applying for the full \$10,000. Our plan is to increase the value of Trinity's trust into the environmental conversation with a preliminary Diocesan grant for \$5000 which will fund the film series and a projector for Trinity.

THE GRANT PROPOSAL

Trinity seeks a holistic project to establish our parish church as the leading local proponent of stewardship of CREATION and development of community/civic stewardship through

- two gardening projects, the first, which replicates our antique stained glass windows, and the second, a water garden;
- the rain barrel initiative;
- a film festival that emphasizes national/global understanding of ecology (land, air, water); followed by
- an environmental presentation/discussion speaker series ranging from local issues such as placement of electric transmission lines to national issues of supporting the Standing Rock initiative;
- a limited but on-going educational project for local children that connects global thinking about stewardship of the land and peace through storytelling.

1. **GARDENS:** The plan is a stained glass garden project that replicates our antique stained glass windows. Lower on the slope, we will create a water garden. Our altar window, in the trefoil style, is said to be the oldest stained glass window in Wisconsin; it is beautiful. We will “replicate” the patterning, colors, and designs in the windows outside with herbs, produce, and flowers on the sloping lawn between the church and rectory. It will create interest in an otherwise fallow space where a large and damaged tree was removed and the stump remains. This garden project is an immediate invitation to tell the stories of the windows and to invite people into the church to view the actual windows. Benches from the far side of the church will be moved to the site to encourage meditation, rest, and visual appreciation by just looking at the garden. One emphasis of our communal life is the beauty of our small church, and this is a sharing of that beauty.

*It should be noted that our stained glass windows are on the May 20, 2017, art tour sponsored by Trinity and AMP (Art Mineral Point). Trinity is the public face; AMP is providing office support and promotion. “The windows at Trinity were the inspiration for the event. The historical connection of the trifoliate, the Tiffany windows and the Belgian glass combine to create a notable example of glass art.” Jan Johnson, artist and parishioner

2. **WATER GARDENS:** (See above.) The water gardens will demonstrate and produce water-based produce and flowers. The purpose of the rain garden is to increase the amount of water that filters into the ground which recharges local and regional aquifers, helps protect streams and lakes from pollutants carried by urban storm water, and provides habitat for birds, butterflies and beneficial insects.

Saturday morning gifts: Because of our proximity to the excellent Farmers’ Market, we can offer (not compete with the Farmers’ Market), by offering free small herb bundles to passersby; b) we can grow a few vegetables to take to the Interfaith Food Pantry (conveniently across the street!) c) we can bring flowers to shut-ins; d) on several Sundays we can use fresh flowers from our gardens in lieu of the imported flowers we purchase every week.

3. **RAIN BARREL INITIATIVE:** Twenty to twenty-five rain barrels will be offered to parishioners and neighbors at a 40% cost and 60% sponsored by the grant. We will ask participants to compare their water usage (gallons used) before and after the rain barrel installation. Furthermore, we will ask if the water bills went down.

4. **FILM FEST:** (Funding is from a renewable grant from the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee) To begin, we will offer one evening of films that emphasizes understanding ecology at the Opera House. The Wild and Scenic Film Fest offers approximately 140 short films from (and the Opera House) artistic committee will choose a 75-minute program. Mineral Point's Opera House established a popular (8 years), sustainable film series, The Driftless Film Festival, lasting five days every November. In discussion with Parrish Johnston, manager at the Opera House, it is clear that Trinity's sponsorship of the environmental films will be successful not only for us but also for the Opera House.

5. **SPEAKER SERIES:** An environmental presentation/discussion series at the church ranging from local issues such as placement of electric transmission lines and national issues such as Standing Rock. Meant as a follow up to the film evening, we thought to encourage participation in the dialogue we thought to encourage participation in the dialogue inside our church. We welcome divergent thinking and will attend to our parish's conservative and liberal proponents on climate conservative and liberal proponents on climate change, land use, big agriculture, and organic farming.

Some of speaker ideas include:

Sustain Iowa County/Citizen's Climate Lobby

Driftless Area Land Conservancy - recently became an accredited land trust

Paul Ohlrogge - UW Extension Chair to Iowa County

Native American storytellers - Tim Tingle - Choctaw - Trail of Tears

Dovie Thomason - Apache/Sioux

Joseph Bruchac - Abenacke - Keepers of the

Earth – Standing Rock Advocate

6. **EDUCATIONAL SERIES:** Established for children that connects global thinking about stewardship of the land and of peace through storytelling. Schools dismiss early every Wednesday for teacher professional development...and many of the students pass the church on their way home or to the library. This 'Storytelling Wednesdays' afternoon will cover environmentalists such as Wangari Maathai - Nobel Peace Prize for

ecological activity, Joseph Bruchac KEEPERS OF THE EARTH (hoping to have him here to work with students and be part of our Speaker's Bureau evening), Johnny Appleseed - folk hero, George Washington Carver - scientist, John Muir, Alton Leopold, Teddy Roosevelt and Jimmie Carter and the like through the medium of storytelling. YES, students will learn to tell folktales and stories of environmentalists and their work.

Dates to Remember



“PARTY” FOR

Sara Hector

thanking her for years and years of service to Trinity

WHEN: Saturday, April 22nd

WHERE: Rectory

TIME: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**We will provide SARA'S FAVORITE FOODS!!!!
beef tenderloin, coleslaw, and coconut-macaroon pie**

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE to the MENU!

Additional Dates to Remember

April 15

Vestry Meeting – 9:00 a.m.

Legate Hall

Congregational Development Grant Due

April 18	Guild Meeting – Trinity – 1:30 p.m.
April 20-22	Rummage Sale
April 22	Sara's Day!!!
April 27-29	Rummage Sale

Additional Reminders:

- **A new directory is in the works and will be passed around during coffee hour. Please check and make changes/addition where necessary.**
- **See the bulletin board downstairs for a calendar of events and special announcements.**
- **Office hours will usually be on Wednesday and Friday from 3-5 p.m. in Platteville. However, Hannah will also hold office hours during her lunch breaks when she doesn't have homework. Contact Hannah Coyne about the lay ministry schedule, bulletin, announcements, and prayer concerns.**
- **Email, text, or call Hannah Coyne, Mon-Sat 9am-5pm, and she will do her best to get back to you in a timely fashion:**

1) trinitychurchmpt@gmail.com

2) Coyne2012@gmail.com

608-574-7934 (Cell)

608-348-6402 (Platt Office)



Mineral Point Stained Glass Tour Saturday, May 20, 2017 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

See Mineral Point's stained glass treasures in churches, homes, and commercial spaces during the stained glass tour. Docents on hand at each location to describe the history and artistic significance of the stained glass. See a demonstration of the stained glass art. Ticket/Maps \$10.00 each.

I Light My Candle (Many thanks to James.)

James Johnson

I light my candle
To
the Virgen de Guadalupe.

I stood mid
Way
On
The
International bridge
Between
Texas
&
Progresso
Mexico
And looked at
The Rio Grande
Below.

Not very wide here
Not
I think
Very deep.
I could
Wade across here...
I think
Of my grandparents
On their
Little ship
Lady Liberty
Lifting
Her candle
Thank you
You've come
To the right place
Those tears
Dripping
From
One's
Clothes
From ones
Beard

Tears
From
The hearts
Fountain
Home.
I could wade
The sea

You tyrants
Who
Would
Turn us back
We were born here
In
Our hearts
In our souls
Every
Deep atom
In us
Was
Born here.

Lady
Never has it been known
That
You
Would fail
those
Who light
Their candles
To you.

Let our cry
Come
Onto thee.

WALKING ALONE
James Johnson

Walking alone
On Military Ridge Trail
I see the pale
Blue
Hands
Held up
And waved

Among the spindly
Arms
Bones
And fingers
Of last Fall
That are
Still
Dead.

Like a pure thought
In the tangle of
Chatter.

Like one smile
Amid so much
Snarl.

A blossom that has
Found
This moment
Out of the endless
Universe
Time
Darkness
chance
And
No other:
This now.

Not very wide here
Not
I think
Very deep.
I could
Wade across here...
I think
Of my grandparents
On their
Little ship
Lady Liberty
Lifting
Her candle
Thank you
You've come
To the right place
Those tears

Dripping
From
One's
Clothes
From ones
Beard
Tears
From
The hearts
Fountain
Home.
I could wade
The sea

You tyrants
Who
Would
Turn us back
We were born here
In
Our hearts
In our souls
Every
Deep atom
In us
Was
Born here.

Lady
Never has it been known
That
You
Would fail
those
Who light
Their candles
To you.

Let our cry
Come
Onto thee.

Thoughts....

In putting the information together for this month's newsletter, it appears that while we are engaged in the somber reminder of the Crucifixion and then in the joyous reminder of the Resurrection that are upon us, there is also an unmistakable rebirth happening in our parish. We have had a rebirth in the music being offered to us, a rebirth through an opportunity to experience a connection to our environment, a rebirth afforded to parishioners through a Parish nurse, a rebirth in looking at finding life in our waning years, and a rebirth in bringing two parishes together. Furthermore, it is not coincidental that our celebration of Easter and our celebration of spring go hand in hand. We have only to look around and be reminded of God's work and of his promise to us. It is only through Him that we can experience a reawakening—a rebirth. God's resurrection is his promise of us. "And I will raise you up; I will raise you up. I will raise you up on the last day."

Kris