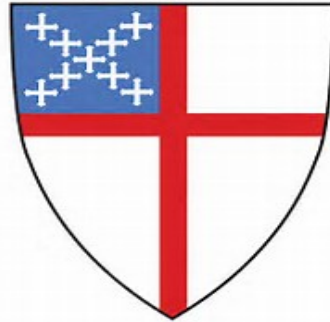


**TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**July 2017**

The Episcopal Church



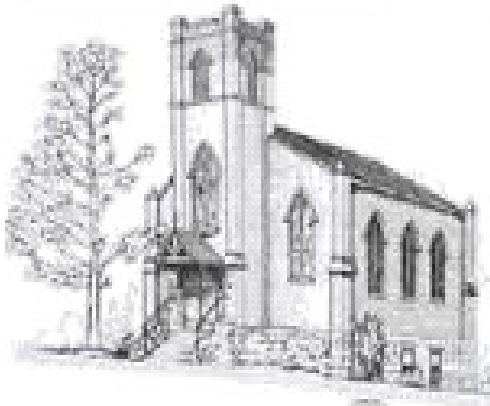
**WHERE ALL ARE WELCOME!**

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.

**Trinity Episcopal of Mineral Point**  
**409 High Street**  
**Mineral Point, Wisconsin 53565**  
**608-987-3019**

**Email: [trinitychurchmpt@gmail.com](mailto:trinitychurchmpt@gmail.com)**  
**Fr. Brian – Email: [bebackstra@aol.com](mailto:bebackstra@aol.com)**  
**Fr. Brian's cell: 630-939-3313**  
**Webpage: [trinitympt.org](http://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**  
**JULY 2017**

The Fourth of July celebration this year -- color guard, bands, horses, cars, tractors, root beer and hot dogs, dignitaries and more--provided all of us with a sense of community--coming together on a special day to celebrate, remember, converse, and (in the case of many of you) to work together.

Our particular presence as a faith community on Independence Day has its own fairly long history. I came away from the day with a renewed sense of just how important times like these are. We both work and relax together, renew friendships and extend them, tell stories, scoop ice cream, grill hot dogs, and circulate to socialize with our guests.

I have never heard the full story of how Trinity's Fourth of July sale of dogs and root beer floats originally came into being and am looking forward to hearing from someone in our congregation, but, suffice it to say that, somewhere in the past, a new idea was envisioned, discussed, and implemented. Perhaps, for some, it

originally received a lukewarm reception. Perhaps there was concern about whether or not the idea would truly "work."

Often new ideas, when they first surface, seem a bit daunting. Even new ideas that capture our imaginations or convey a sense of energy can seem just a little bit out of reach. But faith is not just reserved for our personal devotional lives. It has a corporate quality and involves us in mutual mission. The willingness to reach out and trust requires that we carry faith with us into times of outreach that send us into the midst of our community.

On July 4th, the community came to us. People walked right by our pop-up shelters while we greeted them and said hello. Many stopped, purchased food and, spent time together under the main tent at one of our tables. Our faith community and the wider community of Mineral Point and the surrounding area came together.

Now a new idea has surfaced: an evening of environmental films will be held on Saturday, September 9th beginning at 7 p.m. at the Mineral Point Opera House. As people walked by our food offerings on Independence Day, now we are asked to walk down the street on the evening of films on September 9th and bring our faith community and, hopefully, many others into the Opera House for a new venture--an exciting one that also may seem just a bit daunting.

We offered food to the community on the Fourth of July because we believe in helping others through the food pantry. Income raised on the Fourth will be directed there. Others work there, often on Mondays.

But now, an environmental film evening also is asking us to put faith and community together. By showing films dealing with the environment, we are encouraged both to remember and to proclaim that the great surround of the environment belongs to the ultimate source of all --the Lord of creation, God. Please take note of September 9th and of the announcements and of ways in which you can participate in taking on this new idea and in seeing it into the future. Fr. Brian

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## WORSHIP

Do you have a church family, a spiritual place to call home? Whether you are a person of faith or a seeker or spiritual truth, Trinity Church invites you to explore your faith journey as part of our faith community.

This newsletter and our webpage will provide some sense of who we are, but ultimately a church is its people.

Most Sundays we worship at 11:30 following an order of worship that is Catholic in nature. That is, we celebrate communion together using liturgical prayers that connect us with the devotional spirit of the ancient church.

We follow this up with a time of food and fellowship. To learn more about Trinity, please contact:

**Fr. Brian Backstrand 630-939-3313; bebackstra@aol.com**

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***Please remember prayers for Al, Carolyn, Sabine, Kris, Wes, Kate, Bob, Ellie, Steve, Sue, Dottie, Mary, JP, Andrea, Patrick J., Jill, Katie, Derek, Brandy, Doug,***

***Patrick F., Chuck, Kat, Jocelyn, Jean, Brittany, Alex, and Alec, and David.***

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**Remember: Lay ministry schedule, bulletin, announcements, and prayer concerns are welcome.**

***Another look at coming together and building a community...***

The following guest column ran in the *Wisconsin State Journal* on Thursday, June 15, 2017.

WEYERHAEUSER — It is said “the Lord works in mysterious ways.”

That being the case, I have spent the past few weeks trying to figure out what God had in mind when he descended a tornado May 16 across a long swath of Barron and Rusk counties in northern Wisconsin, leaving a trail of death, destruction and heartache.

Why would an all-powerful, all-knowing, ever-loving God allow such an event to happen? On reflection, the answer is as clear as the damage done. What we have witnessed in response to the tragedy is an outpouring of generosity, selflessness, compassion and goodwill. Friends, enemies, neighbors and strangers have all come together to help those in need, whomever they might be.

To say that is heartwarming would not do the response justice. For those who were affected by the storm, and those who volunteered their time, resources and talents to help in the cleanup, it is hard to talk about it without emotions coming to the surface and tears to the eyes. God has a way of reminding us what is really important in this life.

For the past two years, we have had to endure this silly notion of “Make America Great Again.” The spirit of the American people that has been on display in Rusk and Barron counties is what makes America great — and that has always been in us and always will be.

Our greatness is not found in more prosperity, more money or more stuff. Those are false idols and certainly do little to make us great. During the cleanup, it has not mattered if someone voted for Donald Trump or for Hillary Clinton for president. It hasn’t mattered if people were rich or poor, if they were white or some other race. People needed help. That is what makes America great. And it always will.

God sends us these reminders from time to time, hoping we take to heart what is really important — our spirit of goodwill and helpfulness. It helps guide our lives forward.

Of course, what always happens is time erodes the feeling of goodwill and working together, and we retreat back to our separate camps where a more adversarial “us versus them” mentality thrives. That is one of our weaknesses as humans.

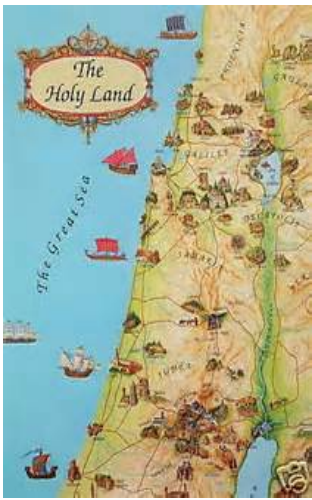
As much as God would like us to be like him, I guess we have a long way to go to get there.

\*Ron Weber lives in Weyerhaeuser, about 230 miles northwest of Madison in Rusk County.



**An opportunity...once in a lifetime!**

## **Pilgrimage to Holy Land planned for November, 2017**



**The Rev. Debra Trakel, a retired priest from the diocese, and the Rev. Scott Leannah, Rector of St. Mary's, Dousman, are planning to take a group of folks on pilgrimage to the Holy Land (Israel) next November (11/8-11/17). Tour members will see the land where Christianity began and explore Jesus' Jewish world. We will pray and sing and dance our way around this holiest of lands! Estimated costs, air inclusive, are \$3,500. The price depends upon how many people choose to go. The cost includes the onsite tour guide, two meals a day, transfers to and from the airport in Israel, travel insurance, outstanding lodging and more. Debra and Scott have been working with a professional Israeli travel agent to**

**craft a pilgrimage for our diocese. They have both been to Israel before, know what kind of pace they want, and what they want to be sure people get to see an experience. Debra and Scott will take tour members on a pilgrimage to pray in the places where Jesus prayed, and worship where He worshipped.**

**If you are interested in this possibility, please talk to Debra or Scott soon so that they can save you a space and give you more information. They will need to know by December 15 if there will be enough folks to make this pilgrimage happen, so don't delay! Contact: Debra: [revdebra@aol.com](mailto:revdebra@aol.com) 414-339-9266**

**A bit closer to home...**

**Julian of Norwich Gathering set for November 9th in Madison**

**Madison-Area Julian Gathering**

**Wednesday, November 9, 7:15 - 9:00 PM**

**St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church**

**6205 University Avenue**

**Madison, WI 53705**



**Julian of Norwich was a 15th Century English mystic and anchoress. [What's an anchoress? In the Middle Ages, certain women and men chose to live a life intensely devoted to prayer permanently enclosed in a small room, called an anchorhold, attached to a parish church.] Little is known about Julian's life, but she wrote a book, as far as we know the first in English written by a woman, about a series of revelations which opened her to the depths of God's unconditional love for us in Jesus Christ. Nearly forgotten for 600 years, Julian's insights and gentle wisdom are becoming ever more widely known and appreciated. Thomas Merton called her "greatest theologian for our time.**

**Julian prayed often in silence, and at a Julian Gathering we support each other in the practice of contemplative prayer and contemplative spirituality. These gatherings are initiated and supported by the Order of Julian of Norwich ([www.orderofjulian.org](http://www.orderofjulian.org)). They are open to all who want to deepen their life of faith through the practice of contemplative prayer, for beginners as well as those already practicing. Each meeting includes time for contemplative prayer, fellowship, and reading/discussion of Julian's book. At the beginning of each meeting, brief instruction on the practice of contemplative prayer is offered. For additional information, contact Susan Fiore at [slfiore@mac.com](mailto:slfiore@mac.com).**

## TRINITY VESTRY and WARDENS

**Joan Faull, Senior Warden**  
**Beth McGehee, Junior Warden**  
**Claire Holland**  
**Kathy Madigan**  
**Jane Stenson**  
**Mark Prouty, Clerk of the Parish**  
**Janean Faull, Treasurer**

### Church Schedules

#### Altar Guild

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

#### Ushers, Lectors, Acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers

	<u>Usher</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Eucharistic Minister</u>	<u>Acolytes</u>
<b>July 2</b>	<b>A. Chapman</b>	<b>C. Bowers</b>	<b>P. Cole</b>	<b>K. Erdmann</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>C. Holland</b>	<b>M. Prouty</b>	<b>K. Madigan</b>	<b>B. McGehee</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>B, S McStra</b>	<b>K. Madigan</b>	<b>J. Faull</b>	<b>J. Faull</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>K. Erdmann</b>	<b>C. Hunt</b>	<b>C. Holland</b>	<b>I. Bowers</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>B, S McStra</b>	<b>K. Madigan</b>	<b>P. Cole</b>	<b>K. Erdmann</b>

### Dates to Remember

**Tuesday, July 4th - HOT DOGS and ROOT BEER FLOATS – ALL GONE ☹**

**Friday, July 14th - Finance Committee meeting at Rectory @ 6:00 p.m.**

**Friday, July 14<sup>th</sup> – Vestry meets at Rectory @ 7:15 p.m.**



**Saturday, July 29<sup>th</sup>** – The Faith Community Nurse Committee meets at the church @ 10:30 a.m.

**Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup>** – Trinity MP presents an opportunity for all interested persons to gather at the church and sing sacred music together. Invite a friend and come for an informal time singing together @ 4:00 p.m.

**August 5-6<sup>th</sup>** – Youth Camping Trip overnight. On Sunday, everyone is invited to a joint worship service and picnic at 11:00 a.m. – Blackhawk Lake Recreation Area

### **OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Trinity's Annual Hot Dog and Root Beer Float sale was held before and after Mineral Point's Fourth of July parade. This event raises money for our local food pantry.
- In response to our Film Festival Grant, Trinity will hold its first evening of films on the environment at The Mineral Point Opera House on Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 p.m. **For more information, please speak with Jane Stenson.**
- The Youth Group will be holding a campout on Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup>. Trinity Mineral Point and Trinity Platteville will be joining them for a combined informal worship service at Blackhawk Lake Recreational Park. A group campsite with a shelter has been rented. Our informal worship with Eucharist begins at 11:00 a.m. with an all-church picnic to follow. Following our picnic, stay on for games or just to enjoy the afternoon at the lake. There will be no worship at Trinity Platteville or Trinity Mineral Point on this Sunday.

- **DROP-IN CHOIR ON SUMMER SUNDAY AFTERNOONS**

Trinity Episcopal Church of Mineral Point invites all persons interested in singing sacred choral music to a summer drop-in choir opportunity. This will be held at the church (403 High Street) Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Come for an informal time of singing and building community together

**ALSO, take note of past and future possibilities...**

**FOOD PANTRY:** It was many weeks ago that the Post Office had its enormous food drive securing close to 3000 pounds of canned goods for the Interfaith Food Pantry located across the street at the Methodist Church. Several Trinity people helped weigh, sort, and date those foods. Thanks to Father Brian, Pat Cole, Dorothy Mead and Jane Stenson.

**FILM EVENT:** Of course, you know by now! Trinity secured a grant to support an environmental film event which will occur September 9th at the Mineral Point Opera House. The films are from the Wild & Scenic Film group (just google it) and are a call to “pay attention” to the environment and to encourage activism on behalf of the environment. Our first meeting is **WEDNESDAY, JULY 12th at 6:30 in Legate Hall.**

We have much to accomplish to create a community celebration in these next nine weeks. We need someone to decorate the Opera House entry, ticket sellers, persons to collect door prizes, someone who can create a program booklet, marketing, marketing, marketing, et al. Hope you will join the activity...and we'll keep you posted. Jane Stenson

**MUSIC COMMITTEE:** The Vestry approved the development of a Music Committee at the June meeting which has two tasks going forward: 1. a redevelopment of Lessons and Carols and 2. offering our space to groups outside the parish. Trinity is well-known for its acoustics, and we thought to open ourselves to the community for this sort of activity. Because we do not have protocols for

outside use, our first meeting will begin this development. Please join in; the first meeting is **WEDNESDAY, JULY 12th at 7:30 in Legate Hall.**

**If you wish, you may participate in both meetings☺**

- A new directory is being prepared. Please check and verify information.
- Do not forget to contribute to the Food Pantry basket. The need is always there.
- Choir practices will be announced via email. If interested in singing with the choir, please contact Dorothy Prouty or email at [proutyme@gmail.com](mailto:proutyme@gmail.com).
- Office hours: Wednesday and Friday from 3:00-5:00 p.m.  
trinitychurchmpt@gmail.com  
[Coyne2012@gmail.com](mailto:Coyne2012@gmail.com)  
608-348-6402 (Platteville Office)