



TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF MINERAL POINT
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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 join us on Sundays at 9 a.m.!

MUSINGS -- From the Rector

A friend of mine recently acquainted me with the poet Malcolm Guite who also happens to be an Anglican priest, serving as Chaplain of Girton College at Cambridge. In one of his books, Guite takes up the sonnet form to explore the Christian Year (Sounding the Seasons).

Here is one of them, “*Love's Choice*”, which explores the mystery of Eucharist.

Love's Choice

This bread is light, dissolving, almost air,
A little visitation on my tongue,
A wafer-thin sensation, hardly there.
This taste of wine is brief in flavor, flung
A moment to the palate's roof and fled,
Even its aftertaste a memory.
Yet this is how he comes. Through wine and bread
Love chooses to be emptied into me.
He does not come in unimagined light
Too bright to be denied, too absolute
For consciousness, too strong for sight,
Leaving the seer blind, the poet mute;
Chooses instead to seep into each sense,
To dye himself into experience.

May we have a reflective sense of anticipation as we come to this
small meal, asking it to be Love's choice. Fr. Brian Backstrand

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TRINITY EXPLORES A SUSTAINABLE GRANT OPPORTUNITY

Trinity Church responded to a grant opportunity offered by the Episcopal Church initiative entitled, *The Stewardship of Creation*. Jane Stenson, Chair, Marilee Backstrand, and Fr. Brian Backstrand served on the initial committee writing the draft.

The proposal states: *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.

Also from the 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 offering 20-25 rain barrels at a reduced cost to friends and area neighbors;*
- *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 ;*
- *a limited but on-going educational project for local children that connects global thinking about stewardship of the land and peace through storytelling.*

We hope to hear about funding of the total project by mid-June. However, we are pleased to announce that the Film Festival portion of this initiative has been approved by the Commission on Mission and Development of The Episcopal Diocese in the amount of \$4750. See Jane Stenson for more details!

May 20th --- A TOUR OF STAINED GLASS TREASURES



Trinity Church and Arts Mineral Point have combined to sponsor an area tour of stained glass throughout Mineral Point.

This special opportunity to learn about stained glass art features stained glass works in both residential and church settings throughout our town.

James Hibbard, University Archivist of the University of Wisconsin-Platteville will be presenting a 30-minute talk about Trinity's stained glass windows on the 20th at 10:30 a.m.

For more information, please speak with Jan Johnson or Claire Holland. Docents will be on hand at each location to describe the history and artistic significance of the stained glass. Also, see a demonstration of the stained glass art.

Ticket/Maps \$10.00 each.

In the fellowship of our church ~

Trinity Church had a farewell dinner at the Rectory in honor of Sara Hector who has served in many and important ways at Trinity Church through her many years here. Sara has touched all of our lives with her witness. God speed to Sara and many blessings in her new adventure. She will be missed.

Kathy Madigan “sealed the deal” with her Retirement Party on April 30th, hosted by Claire Holland and contributions from the celebrants. Note: Every time we looked out Claire’s windows, there was another bird species. Life is not fair!

Prayer Requests ~

Jean Margret, Joan, Al, Carolyn, Sabine, Kris, Wes, Kate, Bob, Ellie, Steve, Sue, Dottie, Andrea, Steven

Church Schedules for Lay Ministry ~

Altar Guild

May

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

June

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

Ushers, Lectors, Acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers

May	Usher(s)	Lector	E. Minister	Acolyte
7	Tom Faull	C. Whitford	K. Madigan	Joan
14	K. Madigan	C. Hunt	K. Madigan	TBA
21	K. Erdmann	J. M. Merrell-Beech	C. Whitford	TBA
28	C. Holland	C. Holland	C. Holland	TBA

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.
- The weekly work at the Interfaith Food Pantry continues! Several organizations have donated large amounts of canned goods, and the largest donation of all—the UNITED STATES POST OFFICE—who will supply goods in May. NOTE: On MONDAY, MAY 15TH FROM 9:30 to 2:00, we need additional help in sorting, dating, and shelving donations. Mineral Point's, *The Democratic Tribune*, published a descriptive article last Thursday. Those who are available on Monday, May 15th, please join us.
- 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
 - 3) 608-574-7934 (Cell)
 - 4) 608-348-6402 (Platteville Office)
- Fr. Brian is seeking individuals to serve as chalice bearers, acolytes, and readers for Holy Eucharist on Sundays. Are you available to help lead worship in this way? Please email or contact him directly.
- Our church choir practices during May on Saturdays at 1:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Are you interested in singing with us? Please speak to Dorothy Prouty or email at proutyme@gmail.com.

A poem for May ~

MAY 1st

I.

Although it is the first of May
A wild day in which one
Should leap from flower to flower
Flit about in the green
Grass
Dance as heartily
As one might
And come home with
Grass stains on ones
Face,
The grey goddess leans in
One more time
Pressing her
Many faces through the branches
Of the black walnut
As though winter were
Stuffing
Her fissures
With putty
resting against them with her
Many arms.
Kali for sure
Has come to stay
A year and a day.

Well.

We know better than to
Whimper
About it
Too much
It can get worse.

II.

By mid-afternoon,
The promise
Of rain is kept.
I unroll my Texas flag

**Umbrella
And wade in
But think the rhubarb
Too small to cut.
The one magic flavor
Of renewal
Waiting.
In its green hood
And red
Overcoat.**

~ James Huston Johnson

From the Editor ~

A few thoughts from a frazzled mind...

First, welcome to our visitors that have graced our church in recent months. You are indeed a welcoming presence. Please continue to worship with us.

Second, Easter [Day] is over, but the events must always be present in our minds. It is a constant reminder that “hope” lives. In our present times, we desperately need something to remind us there is more to life than what we are presently experiencing.

With that said, as Christians, we have an obligation to speak out and to speak for those whose voices are not heard. Our voices must be loud and strong. It is not enough to speak about injustices in our little groups. As Christians, we need to expose the injustices and the inequities not only in our country but throughout the world.

My question is: what can we at Trinity do? How can we translate our prayers into action? Peace and blessings...

~ Kris Erdmann, Newsletter Editor

VESTRY & WARDENS

**Joan Faull, Senior Warden
Beth McGehee, Junior Warden
Claire Holland
Kathy Madigan
Jane Stenson**

Mark Prouty, Clerk of the Parish
Janean Faull, Interim Treasurer