

June 2008

TRINITY

# High Notes

News for and about members of Trinity Episcopal Church

## In this issue

- 1** *Fr. Hector muses about unruly churches*
- 2** *What's happening in June • Birthdays and anniversaries*
- 3** *Who, what, when, where, and sometimes why • Spring rummage sale*
- 4** *The fourth Core Component of our Vision/Mission statement*
- 5** *How're we doing? Jan Johnson gives us a bird's-eye view • Barbara Ballard shares some thoughts*
- 6** *You've got questions? We've got (some) answers*
- 7** *An interview with Candee Ferguson by . . . Candee Ferguson?*

The Rev. Dr. J. Robert Hector,  
Priest-in-Charge  
trinitychurchmpt@gmail.com

From Fr. Hector:

## Breakin' up is hard to do . . .

Allow me to make a few rambling remarks about "breakaway" churches.

There is a notion in the U.S. that churches, like kindling, should split easily, regardless of the denomination. Such is never the case. Trust is violated. Hope is lost. Regretfully, it is a part of our human nature. St. Luke tells us that a dispute arose among the disciples at the Last Supper (Lk 22:24). St. Paul wrote to the young church at Corinth because there was a fuss. He made it clear that every member of the church is valuable, like a member of the human body (1 Cor 12), each necessary to the other.

He continues with what is known as the "hymn of love" (1 Cor 13), which, for all its beauty, is really a scolding. Through the centuries, the church has struggled to live into the prayer of Jesus, that the church may be one, as He and the Father are one (Jn 17:11). Our ecumenical age is the fruit of this prayer—but I digress.

In 1976, when the General Convention approved the ordination of women and adopted a new Prayer Book, we had our first breakaways. In 2003, the General Convention approved the election of V. Gene Robinson as bishop of New Hampshire. This prompted

more breakaways. To date, some sixteen churches have arisen, with bishops ordained in Singapore, Nigeria, Kenya, Rwanda, and the Philippines.

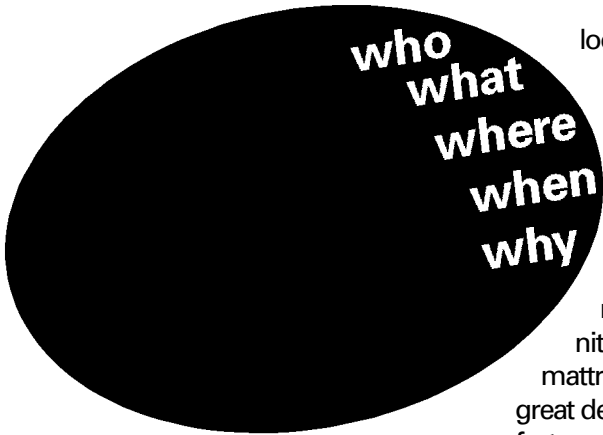
The significant action of late is that on December 8, 2007, Bishop John-David Schofield led the Diocese of San Joaquin, California, to declare itself free of the Episcopal Church, and to be a part of the Anglican Province of the Southern Cone, joining some 22,000 communicants spread among six countries in South America. Of course, there are those parishes and communicants true to the Episcopal Church, and now this enters the courts.

San Joaquin has been a restive diocese since the 1976 General Convention under its then-bishop, Victor M. Rivera, who was a champion of those who opposed the ordination of women. He retired in 1986, and the rest of the story is that he lived long enough to see his daughter, Bavi Edna "Nedi" Rivera, ordained as Suffragan Bishop in the Diocese of Olympia in 2005, and received Communion from her hand.

Robinson's ordination prompted the Windsor Report, a fine document, which will probably be the

*Con't on page 8*





looking for adult blankets and comforters, adult clothing (especially men's T-shirts and jeans), children's clothing, and swimsuits for men, women, and children. Men's casual wear "is flying off the rack," Juanita says, and furniture items, such as beds, mattresses, and dressers are in great demand, too—they "go as fast as we get them."

You can drop off donations at SWCAP Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and if you have large, bulky items to donate, Juanita can have them picked up—just call her at 608-574-1138. Please note that you don't have to have children to shop, and that you can shop for other people.

■ In other news from the Southwest Wisconsin CAP office, we're told that the Iowa County Food Pantry's shelves are low, and donations are needed. According

to Sharon Ray, who's in charge of the pantry, the need increases when school gets out and school breakfast and lunch programs are no longer available. Money is always welcome, of course (make your check out to Southwest Wisconsin CAP Food Pantry). Or, Sharon says, she can use chicken or hamburger helper, canned meals (like spaghetti), canned tomatoes, juices, canned fruit, saltines, powdered milk (small boxes), and canned soups. You can drop off your donations between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, or Friday at 149 N. Iowa in Dodgeville. Except in emergencies, families are limited to one Food Pantry basket every two months.

■ **Le Hector** shares this list of the seven deadly sins and the contrasting virtues with us, noting, "I've kept a copy on my fridge for years."

<i>Pride</i>	<i>Humility</i>
<i>Anger</i>	<i>Forgiveness</i>
<i>Covetousness</i>	<i>Generosity</i>
<i>Lust</i>	<i>Purity</i>
<i>Envy</i>	<i>Love</i>
<i>Sloth</i>	<i>Diligence</i>
<i>Gluttony</i>	<i>Temperance</i>

■ A new Education for Ministry (EFM) class is forming now for next fall's term, and the group has a few openings available. **Susanne Southwood** and Gail Ray will be co-mentors, and the group will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Thursdays. Designed to give lay people access to the same quality of religious education that's available to the clergy, the four-year program encompasses the Old and New Testaments, church history, and modern theology. If you're interested, please call Susanne at 608-987-2427 or visit [www.sewanee.edu/EFM](http://www.sewanee.edu/EFM).

■ From Dodgeville comes news that the Winter Wear program has been merged into We Care, and is now located in the Southwest Wisconsin Community Action Program (SWCAP) office, 149 N. Iowa St., Dodgeville.

According to Juanita Starr, who, along with Ronda Swanson, heads the program, the need is great and getting greater. "We're serving more families than ever," she says. "Every single item that's donated is out the door within a month after we get it." Right now, We Care is

## Trinity's Spring rummage sale nets \$839 for the Guild

Thanks to a lot of hard work by a lot of dedicated workers, Trinity's annual Spring rummage sale was a definite success, netting \$839 over the course of its ten-day run.

Business at the sale was brisk, according to **Marj Roberts**, president of the Trinity Guild, which puts on the sale. But inevitably, when the sale wrapped up on May 24 there were some items left over, and they have been picked up, as in the past, by the St. Vincent de Paul Society, a charitable organization in Monroe.

However, according to Marj, our future rummage "leftovers" will be donated to (and picked up by) volunteers from SWCAP's We Care program (see above).







## How're we doing?

### *Jan Johnson gives us a bird's-eye view of our progress on our Vision/Mission goals*

We are moving ahead in resource management, both human and material. We have a five-year financial outlook in place and are working at getting our investment portfolio aligned with our forecasted income needs. Getting our planning ahead of current needs will allow us to be more proactive about how we use the dollars we all give to the church. Part of this process has also been an ongoing learning exercise for the finance committee.

On the human resource side we have two new acolytes in training. We have also seen talented members stepping forward to lead workshops, EFM, Sunday School, interviewing for the Vestry planning project, and producing "High Notes" every month. These efforts are in addition to the ongoing work of the Altar Guild, the Women's Guild, and Vestry.

Our objectives in music are also moving ahead. A Music at Trinity series is under development, with the Early Music program on May 17 as its debut event. Congregational singing is also underway with Wednesday evening hymn-singing practice.

## Barbara Ballard shares some thoughts about winter and reviews a play for us

Over the past few months, **Barbara** and **Jim Ballard** have taken several trips, and Barbara was kind enough to tell us about two of them.

About a trip to northern Badger country, Barbara writes, "On a good day in summer, you can see the smokestacks of Duluth from a 30-foot cliff overlooking Lake Superior, but, when the cold gray of winter dominates the horizon, fractured ice floes ride the waves. Though it is an expansive view from Bark Point, the mood is somber, cold, and mesmerizing—a great excuse for a small glass of Scotch and a good book, or the movie 'Becoming Jane Austin.'

"As the Southern Badger cousins to—as you might guess—our Northern Badger cousins, we settle in during cold weather and just share the riches of their community. Though small, the community is well organized and purposeful in supporting healthy lifestyles.

"Making work fun, they host events that raise money for land stewardship and scholarship. We were fortunate to be there for the annual pancake breakfast this year, and were, again, impressed with their grass-roots vigor. Recognizing and celebrating skills of residents, this group makes winter a season of fellowship and creativity—not to even be compared with summer!"

Home again, the Ballards

headed to Chicago where they saw the play, *The Trip to Bountiful*, which was part of a festival at the Goodman Theater honoring playwright Horton Foote.

"When convention denies passion and humble people surrender their dreams," Barbara writes, "the world will suffer—and Horton Foote knows it. By way of empowering readers and theater patrons, Horton

Foote has written an antidote to isolation and small-mindedness in this play about a woman, Carrie Watts, who dreams about—and eventually claims—her own past, her joy, and life.

"*Chicago Sun-Times* theater critic Hedy Weiss wrote on March 11 that Foote's plays have 'been giving us back our humanity,'" Barbara continues, "and the Goodman's artistic director, Robert Falls, says, 'there are very few playwrights in the American theater who write with the depth, sensitivity, and honesty of Horton Foote . . . who has been a veritable quiet giant of the stage and screen, unsentimentally capturing the thoughts, hearts, and everyday activities of small-town America with a signature delicacy and understated intensity.'

"Copyrighted in 1953, *The Trip to Bountiful* is as powerful a story now as it was when it was first produced," Barbara says. "We all want to live in Bountiful; how many of us are willing to accept the discipline to get there?"





# Candee Ferguson kicks off a new 'High Notes' feature and talks to herself

by Candee Ferguson

*As a means of getting to know each other better, I suggested in the May issue of "High Notes" that we profile a different member of the congregation each month. To kick off this new feature for our parish newsletter, and keeping in mind Terry Parsons' sage advice about not asking anyone to do something we ourselves as Vestry members would not be willing to do, I thought it only fair that the interviewer be the first interviewee.*

**High Notes:** *Can you tell us something about your church background before coming to Trinity?*

**Candee Ferguson:** I was raised Catholic and attended a Catholic grade school in my hometown of Ottawa, Ill. I gradually fell away from the church as my horizons broadened and I learned more about other belief systems, such as Buddhism and other Eastern religions. For many years, I did not attend any church.

**HN:** *What brought you to Trinity?*

**CF:** I began attending services here in January 2000 when I still lived in Madison, a 62-mile drive from my apartment on the city's far east side. I felt at home immediately, both with the liturgy, which was so similar to what I had grown up with, and with the wonderful people, who were (thankfully) nothing like those I

remembered from my youth. Over the next few months, I went through a reawakening of my faith in God and decided to join the church. The next logical step was moving to Mineral Point, which I did in August of that year, and I was received into the church that same month by Bishop Roger White.

**HN:** *How do you like to spend your free time?*

**CF:** I have many hobbies and

## "Did Tesla really invent a 'death ray'? I've always wondered."

interests, including movies, music, trivia, blogging, and collecting. I love rubber art stamps and have a massive collection of more than 2,500 stamps, plus a whole host of accessories and gadgets that go along with that hobby. I could probably open my own store tomorrow. I have always loved to read and have a large (too large, according to my friends, who tell me they are never helping me move again!) personal library containing everything from classic British mysteries to signed first editions of science fiction novels to off-beat reference books, such as a guide to Cockney rhyming slang.

In case you can't tell, I am also a major lifelong Anglophile.

**HN:** *You say you're an avid reader. What are some of your favorite books?*

**CF:** Hmmmm, this is a toughie because I have so many. There are certain books I read again every few years, such as Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings* trilogy and Mary Stewart's Arthurian saga. Some others that I really adore are *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Watership Down*, Vonnegut's *Player Piano*, *Tristram Shandy*, Mervyn Peake's *Gormenghast* trilogy, and *The Devil in the White City*, which centers on the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago.

**HN:** *If you could meet one person, who would you choose and why?*

**CF:** I have always been fascinated by Nikola Tesla. He was a scientific genius, inventor, and engineer, whom more than one biographer has called "the man who invented the 20th century." Tesla's inventions and experiments in the fields of electricity, wireless communication, and electromagnetism were groundbreaking, but because he was unconcerned about money or fame, he died penniless and remains relatively unknown to this day, especially in comparison with his arch rival, Thomas Edison. There are many intriguing mysteries surrounding his life and his work that I would love to be able to discuss with him. Did Tesla really invent a "death ray"? I've always wondered.

heard over and over again that people want to learn—want to participate in forums, workshops, and study groups. This is admirable, and I think it creates a mandate for us to enlarge our offerings. There are many talented, deeply spiritual people at Trinity, and this is a way to use their gifts for the good of all.

*Vestry—cont'd from page 4*

stood still, Joshua 10:13). The issue is still before us. Meanwhile, people starve. Pray that the bishops understand that, like members of the human body, each of us is necessary to the other. —Fr. Hector

many fish to fry. Secondly, it is worthy to note that the first Lambeth conference was called in 1867 to smooth ruffled feathers after John V. Colenso, Bishop of Natal, South Africa, wrote a book questioning the literal interpretation of the Bible (notably, when the sun

*Breakin' up—cont'd from page 1*  
central piece to the Lambeth Conference in July, when some 800 Anglican bishops will gather from around the world. Two notes. I say the Windsor Report is a "fine document" because it applies equally to all Anglican Provinces, and there are

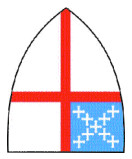
Le Hector, *Altar Guild*  
Sara Hector, *Treasurer*  
Dorothy Prouty, *Musician*  
Marjorie Roberts, *Trinity Guild*

Brent Bowers (2010)  
Candee Ferguson (2010)  
Jan Johnson (2008)  
Kate Martin (2008)  
Mark Prouty, *Secretary* (2009)  
Susanne Southwood (2009)

**WARDENS**  
Joan Fall, *Senior Warden* (2008)  
Fred Bowden, *Junior Warden* (2008)

**Sunday**  
9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II, and laying on of hands for healing  
9:00 a.m. Christian Formation for children

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**



# Trinity Church

*The Episcopal Parish in Iowa County* • 608 . 987 . 3019

Trinity High Notes—June 2008

## TRINITY CHURCH

*The Episcopal Parish  
in Iowa County*  
409 High Street  
Mineral Point, WI 53565  
trinitychurchmpt@gmail.com



**Summer schedule starts June 1  
—Sunday Eucharist at 9:00 a.m.!**

Vacation Bible Camp, preschool to grade 4, June 10, 11, and 12 at the Iowa County Fairgrounds, 6:00–8:00 p.m. Preview and registration June 8, 5:00–5:30 p.m. Call Geri U'Ren at 987-2606 for details or to volunteer.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED