

October 2008

TRINITY

High Notes

News for and about members of Trinity Episcopal Church

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From Fr. Hector

We are church

There is a pattern to life on this little planet, which we call earth, as it spins, giving us what we call day, around a little star, which we call sun. We call the pattern seasons. Four of these seasons make what we call a year.

We have entered the season of autumn, from the Latin, meaning a time of shortening (days). It is a time of harvest, and a time of accounting.

Once, this was a simple equation. People ate what they grew and caught. Today we live in a complex economy, where goods and services are distributed by a medium of exchange, called money, which is always scarce.

For twenty years, there seemed to be an abundance of money, which created an unprecedented rise in the value of houses. That has ended. We are presently in what is called a market correction. Enough of economics.

Equally natural as the seasons is the celebration and sharing of an awareness of something more, called God. The people who celebrate and share God's presence are called church. The difference between the economy and church is that money is used and given without the expectation of return. This is called generosity.

Church has a way of growing by giving away. When Jesus was

instructing the disciples on their mission, he said, "Freely ye have received, freely give," in the language of 1611. Or, as in 1989 New Revised language, "You received without payment; give without payment."

Like all of Scripture, these short statements contain a lifetime of meaning and service. This is called ministry. Church exists to do ministry. Ministry is the celebration and sharing of God's presence, called love.

When I started this, I wanted to write about stewardship.

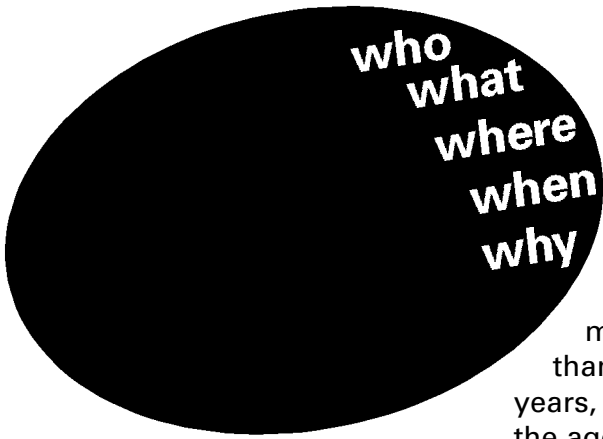
Stewardship means the faithful use of money. Using these brief statements makes it easier to write about money, which is a tool, and yet it seems to hold a mystery.

There is no mystery about money. There is no mystery about giving. Giving is the practice of generosity. Generosity is the practice of God's love. Church exists to make God's love known.

We are church.

—Fr. Hector

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



■ Perhaps reflecting our current economic climate, the Trinity Guild's just-ended Fall **rummage sale** brought in \$561, down from last year's \$652. According to **Marj Roberts**, Guild president, the sale does two important things: it makes quality used items available at very little cost to people in the entire county, and it raises money for the Guild, which dedicates the proceeds to the upkeep of the church buildings and grounds. A hearty thank-you to everyone who worked so hard to make the sale a success.

■ Also needing our help is Winter Care for Folks. Please drop off new or gently used spring/fall jackets, blankets, snow pants, sweaters, winter coats, mittens, hats, scarves, or boots at Grace Lutheran Church, 1105 N. Bequette, Dodgeville (next to McDonald's). The drop box is inside the "Main Entrance" doors on your left; drop-off hours are Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. year-round.

■ Leftovers that remained unsold at the end of our rummage sale were picked up by Southwest Community Action

Program (SWCAP) when the sale ended September 20.

According to Juanita Starr, co-director of the SWCAP We Care program, more people are in need than at any time in recent years, and our items will help the agency serve its clients in our surrounding communities.

■ Coming up soon—Trinity's annual **Holiday Gift Fair**, to be held this year on December 6 (which, as you'll recall, is the feast of St. Nicholas—and a wonderful excuse to stock up on Christmas gifts at the Fair). You'll be receiving a letter from the Guild about the event, but in the meantime, it's not too early to think about how you might help out. There will be a crafts table, a Christmas table, a "This 'n That" table (early-attic treasures), and of course, food and candy tables, where Marj Roberts says breads and all kinds of candies always sell well. Marj also reminds us that the rummage sales and Gift Fair can be successful only if *every one* pitches in.

■ From the Department of Red Faces: Ye Ed apologizes to **Kate Martin** for not mentioning in last month's *High Notes* that, although she wasn't present for the year-end class picture, Kate did indeed complete Year 1 of EFM.

■ **Mark your calendar** for Lessons and Carols at Trinity, December 7 at 7:00 p.m.

The Gifts of the Jews

This month's guest Bookworm is Kate Martin

"Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country . . . to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation . . .'" (Genesis 12: 1–2. And so begins the history of the Jews and the story of their life with God. In his book, *The Gifts of the Jews, How a Tribe of Desert Nomads Changed the Way Everyone Thinks and Feels*, Thomas Cahill re-tells this moving story.

Ancient religious thought and philosophies were circular. Life was perceived as an endless cycle of birth and death; time was like a wheel spinning endlessly. The Jews, however, during their long journeys following the voice of God, began to see life in a linear fashion. Perhaps when Abram left to follow God's command he snatched up his little house cult god, his good luck charm. But this belief did not linger.

As he and his successors listened, the voice of the One True God spoke to these desert nomads. Choices were given and for the first time in ancient history there was an option of right or wrong. Wrong choices resulted in catastrophic ends and right choices resulted in blessings. The future depended on what was done in the present. Each moment moved into the next, leading forward. The end was not known, but there was hope—and a whole new sense of reality.

Don't miss reading this one!

Coming up in November . . .

“A magical, musical opportunity”

Save the date! Billed as “a magical, musical opportunity,” four Gospel music workshops will be held at Trinity on Saturday, November 15.

The all-day program will feature the Gospel Choir from All Saints Catholic church, an inner-city church in Milwaukee, and will conclude that evening at the Mineral Point Opera House where workshop participants will join the choir in a 7:30 p.m. concert.

The event is the brainchild of **Jan Johnson**, who, along with **Dorothy Prouty**, sees the workshop as part of our new Music at Trinity initiative. Jan says that after she talked to a number people and got a positive response to the idea all around, she asked Dean Daniels at the diocesan office to suggest a person to lead or teach such a program.

He immediately recommended Arlene Skwierawski, director of the All Saints Gospel Choir. The choir has toured all over the world and frequently participates in teaching workshops. According to Arlene, the choir likes to do gospel-singing workshops in smaller towns and cities as part of a mission to promote diversity.

At this point, Jan says, “Given the size of the project, I approached Dean Bakopoulos, executive director of Shake Rag, about collaborating with us.” Dean gave the project an enthusiastic thumbs-up, and offered for Shake Rag to handle registration, credit card payments, disbursement of funds, and the like. He also agreed to list the workshop in the Shake Rag catalog and on their website, and said they would print and distribute posters and flyers through their

usual channels besides providing posters and flyers to Trinity for our promotion efforts.

Phil Mrozinski, speaking for the Opera House, offered to rent the space either per hour or as a percent of the box office, whichever was less. He also loved the idea and assured us that the Opera House would cooperate in any way to assure a success.

Trinity will provide the hospitality, promote the event to area churches, and, if necessary, find housing for choir members staying over for church on Sunday.

Hospitality involves tea biscuits at the reception check-in, lunch (\$5.00) for workshop participants and teachers, and dinner (\$7.00) for participants, teachers, and the choir. The choir will be paid from box office receipts.

(Con't on page 6)

Music at Trinity and Shake Rag Center for the Arts present
All Saints Gospel Choir of Milwaukee Workshops and Concert
November 15, 2008

9–10 a.m.: Registration and refreshments at Shake Rag Alley.

10–11 a.m.: Overview of Gospel Styles and Rhythms for Choir Directors (Arlene Skwierawski). **Class Code: 8C295. Fee: \$12.**

11a.m.–noon: Review of music for concert with emphasis on chords and rhythm for musicians (Cortez Burt, pianist). **Class Code: 8C296. Fee: \$12.**

2–4 p.m.: Singing the upcoming concert music with the support of All Saints’ choir and director as a rehearsal for evening performance. **Class Code: 8C298. Fee: \$24.**

5:30 p.m.: **Dinner together at Trinity Church for the choir and workshop attendees.**

7:30 p.m.: Performance by combined choirs at the Opera House under the direction of Arlene Skwierawski. **Concert fee: \$12 in advance; \$14 at the door. Code: 8C300.**

More about our windows . . . *the story continues*

The story of our beautiful stained glass windows continues in this commentary written by Fr. Hector and included with the bulletin on July 13, 2008. As has been said before, they are among the glories of Trinity Church, and if it's been a while since you've really looked at them, this guide may be helpful.

The Tower Window

1. Here we have the symbol of the Trinity in Latin. The Father (Pater), the Son (Filis), and the Holy Spirit (Spiritus Sanctus); "non est" means "is not," the "est" means "is," and at the center we have "Deus," God.
2. The Cross and Crown at the apex symbolize Jesus, who is "Lord of All." Because it is a popular symbol, there are many interpretations.
3. The Greek letters "alpha" and "omega" symbolize Christ, the beginning and the end (Revelation 21:6).

The Window Above the Door
The grapes and vines represent the church (John 15:5).

Above the altar we have the
Trinity Window

- This early Victorian window is reputed to be the oldest stained glass window in Wisconsin.
1. The window is in three parts, or "lights." As such, it repre-

sents the Trinity, the central doctrine of the Church, to which this church is dedicated.

2. Across the top, the Trinity is



They are among the glories of our church, and if it's been a while since you've really looked at them, this guide may be helpful.



represented by the *Holy Bible* (which is open; another volume is closed, and there is a pillow), representing the Son (the divine Word, John 1:1).

The *descending Dove* represents the Holy Spirit, and the *Crown* represents the Father, of whose Kingdom we are members. The *seven stars* on the crown represent the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: godliness, knowledge, understanding, wisdom, holy fear, counsel, and strength (cf Isaiah 11:2-3).

3. The *Cross* of Christ is the center of the window, and also the center of our faith. This instrument of shameful death

is our symbol of salvation. The letters IHS in the center are the first three letters of "Jesus" in Greek.

4. The *Alpha* and *Omega* are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet, and are symbolic of Jesus, "the beginning and the end (Revelation 1:8, 21:6, 22:13).

5. The *Grape* motif that forms the border represents the wine (and bread) of Holy Communion. The grapevine is a symbol of the church (John 15:5).

6. Motto: "He giveth his beloved rest" (Psalm 127.2) is also the title of a well known poem by Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

7. This window was given in memory of Schuyler Pulford, 1796-1848, and his nephew, Lt. George Pulford Scott, 1845-1864.



Interested in becoming a lay reader? An acolyte? Please see Fr. Hector!

Did you know . . . this year it costs \$881 a week to operate Trinity.

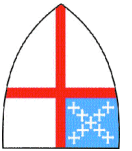
need help distributing posters, and more details on how you can help will be coming up soon. Meantime, to sign up for a workshop listed on page 4 or to obtain concert tickets, please contact Shake Rag directly at 608-987-3292 or www.shakeraalley.com. "This promises to be an absolutely unforgettable event," Jan says, "one that presents Trinity well to our parishioners, our community, and the members of the All Saints choir. I hope everyone will come—at least to the concert, if not to the workshops."

Workshop—cont from pg. 4
Shake Rag will pay the teachers and promotion costs out of any remaining profits. With all the details worked out, the Vestry gave the project the go-ahead. **Claire Holland** volunteered to coordinate the hospitality, **Le Hector** is getting a mailing list of area churches, and **Carolyn Hunt** will help with envelope addressing and stuffing. (We still need another person to help stuff envelopes and a person to organize housing.) **Susanne Southwood** is writing a press release for area news-promotion with Shake Rag. We'll

SUNDAY WORSHIP . . .
9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II, and laying on of hands for healing
9:30 a.m. Christian Formation for children
WARDENS
Joan Fall, *Senior Warden* (2008)
Fred Bowden, *Junior Warden* (2008)
VESTRY
Brent Bowers (2010)
Candee Ferguson (2010)
Jan Johnson (2008)
Kate Martin (2008)
Mark Prouty, *Secretary* (2009)
Susanne Southwood (2009)
ALSO
Le Hector, *Altar Guild*
Sara Hector, *Treasurer*
Dorothy Prouty, *Musician*
Marjorie Roberts, *Trinity Guild*
News deadline for High Notes is the 20th of the month preceding publication. Please send your news to Susanne Southwood, deltadirect@earthlink.net.

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

Trinity Church

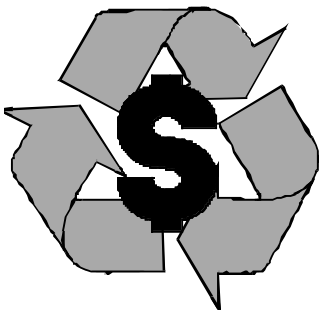


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TRINITY CHURCH

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ADDRESS CORRECTION
REQUESTED



**Pledge drive coming up
—watch your mailbox!**

