

March 2009

TRINITY

High Notes

News for and about members of Trinity Episcopal Church

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

From Fr. Hector

Lent is renewal. Lent is not fussy rules. In times past (long past), the dietary rules of no eggs, no milk, no butter, no meat, made a virtue of necessity. At this time of the year, without modern feeds, the chickens had long since stopped laying, and the family cow had long since stopped giving milk, ergo no butter, and no one wanted to butcher a valuable animal.

What was there to eat? Not much. What was there to do? Pray.

Today, we live in a land of abundance, and all too often, we feel self-satisfied. Lent calls us to challenge that. Lent calls us to remove ourselves from the center of our attention, and to place God in the center. This was the necessity of old. It is still necessary. It is the time of the year when I look at my humanity, and my limits, and then I look to Jesus who shared my humanity, and surrendered his life for me.

Our word "lent" comes from the Old English for "spring." Similarly, "Easter," comes from the name of the Teutonic goddess of spring. There is no better example of how we take what is familiar and give it new meaning.

Personally, this is the renewal that I find in Lent. The familiar is still here. Through my renewed awareness of God in my life, I find new meaning. Outwardly, I look totally familiar. Inwardly, I have a

different way of understanding myself. There are different ways to accomplish this. They are all familiar, yet each year something new will arise.

On Ash Wednesday, the pattern for Lent is given in the exhortation (BCP p. 264). Each year, we are called to "the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith."

Does my faith make a difference? I hope so. Do I learn more about myself when I turn to God? Oh yes. Repentance is not only saying "I'm sorry," but my resolve to make the world a better place. How? By choosing one of the four disciplines of Lent: prayer, fasting, self-denial, and study (see page 9).

Traditionally, these form what is called a "rule of life." Prayer needs to be something that can be done daily. Actually, a time of quiet, alert to God, can serve very well. Fasting can be simplicity in what we eat, and also simplicity in how we live.

Self-denial once meant filling a coin folder. It is really about how we serve God in serving others (Matthew 25:31ff). Study of the Bible allows us to place ourselves in these accounts of faith. Each of these four calls for commitment. Each of these four holds the promise of growth, and renewal.

Each Lent I find that God brings new meaning to my faith.

—Fr. Hector+

March goings-on

Sunday, March 1
Coffee hour donations go to the Mineral Point Care Center's "Dimes for Bingo" program.

Tuesday, March 3
7:00 p.m. Juanita Starr, co-coordinator of the We Care program in Dodgeville, will be our "Tuesdays at Trinity" speaker. (See page 7.)

Wednesday, March 4
6:00 p.m. Evening prayer, followed by a soup and bread supper and video, "Startling surprises."

Sunday, March 8
2:00 a.m. Daylight Savings Time begins. Spring forward!

Tuesday, March 10
10:30 a.m. Trinity Guild meeting, hosted by Carolyn Hunt in her home at 21 N. Iowa.

Wednesday, March 11
6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist, followed by a soup and bread supper and video, "Longing for a king."

Monday, March 16
7:00 p.m. Vestry meeting in the undercroft.

Tuesday, March 17
Feast of St. Patrick.

Wednesday, March 18
6:00 p.m. Sung evening prayer, followed by a soup and bread supper and video, "Why did Jesus die?"

Thursday, March 19
Feast of St. Joseph.

Saturday, March 21
9:30 a.m. Convocation meeting, St. Dunstan's, Madison.

Wednesday, March 25
6:00 p.m. Feast of the Annunciation. Holy Eucharist, followed by a soup and bread supper and video, "Who was Jesus?"

Saturday, March 28
9:00 a.m.- Enneagram workshop, conducted by Sr. Mary Hopkins, O.P., M.A. \$25 in advance, \$35 at the door.
4:00 p.m. For reservations, call 608-987-3380. (See page 8.)

March Celebrations

happybirthdayhappyanniversaryhappybirthday

Birthdays

- 2 Heather Johnson
- 5 Larry Hector
- 6 Kathy Madigan
- 11 Fr. John Edwards
- 14 Tess Oberhauser
- 20 Annie Chapman
- 23 Jenna Breckon



LENTEN SCHEDULE

Lenten Wednesdays
6:00 p.m. devotions, followed by a soup and bread supper in the undercroft.

Palm Sunday, April 5
9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist.

Maundy Thursday, April 9
7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist.

Good Friday, April 10
1:30 p.m. ecumenical service, place to be announced.

Holy Saturday, April 11
4:00 p.m. We celebrate the New Fire.

Easter Sunday, April 12
9:30 Holy Eucharist, followed by reception in the undercroft.

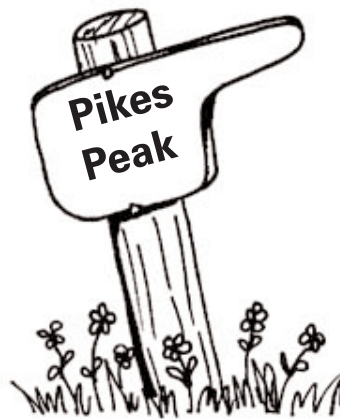
Fred Bowden surveys the things he's seen, the things he's done, the things he's learned

Last month I went to Green Bay for the Annual Institute of Wisconsin Society of Land Surveyors to see and be seen. I came back re-energized in my (pre)occupation. It is a good thing to be able to share our common interests and learn from each other, and an opportunity to discover new technologies and renew old friendships.

A little background: When I began surveying, we used a transit for measuring horizontal and vertical angles, and measured horizontal and slope distances with plumb bobs (you knew you were working for a cheap outfit when each crew only had one plumb bob, with the explanation of the boss being, "Having two plumb bobs on a crew is an extravagance! There's only one man who's downhill at a time!") and a "chain" (the chain was a 100.00'- drop-a-foot steel tape or a 101.00'-add-a-foot steel tape) which was "dropped" in the morning, used all day, then coiled and "thrown" at the end of the day before storing it in the truck).

We used a plane table and alidade—an antiquated surveying instrument—for topography. For accuracy we used a 300' "bicycle" chain (it was a thin lovar steel tape stored on a bicycle wheel) and temperature readings from four intervals along the chain were recorded and averaged to compensate for the varying length of the tape due to tem-

perature—it was understood that only the federal government could afford that kind of accuracy which took a 7-man crew, two well adjusted transits, two staffs, and a calibrated scales to run; we learned the difference between precision and accuracy and how the difference is important. Measurement is only one facet of land surveying.



The Annual Institute is a good time to reflect on what has been important throughout my career and relate it to the younger generation. Sometimes, it was the wildlife: A trembling newborn fawn curled up under a pine bough, out of the wind, in the warmth of the sunlight of a crisp spring morning; struggling ducks flying backward, away from their intended destination—a lake they were having second thoughts about why they just left—in the strong winds of Wyoming which forced us to weight our tripods with log chains to hold them down; or tracks of cougar kittens stalking one another in the

fresh snow, one crouching behind the sage brush to attack its unsuspecting sibling, the culmination of which was a wrestling match within the outline of rocks where an Indian tepee once stood in a village of five tepees on the leeward side of a windy hilltop ridge facing east).

Sometimes it was a particular day: Standing in the bright morning sunlight on a mountain peak at daybreak, overlooking a sea of stormy clouds that stretch from 500 feet in front of me to the horizon where it meets the azure blue sky; or standing on the steel skeleton of a 200-foot tall building and seeing the majesty of the 14,000-foot-high peak that is Pikes Peak and knowing that it is 140 miles away; or lying on my back on the ground in a rain storm that came so fast that we could only space ourselves thirty feet apart before the lightning came out of the clouds behind us, tearing the sky as it struck a tree in the valley 800 feet below).

One time it was arriving at the office and finding a bullet hole in the side of the truck behind the front wheel on the driver's side, and realizing that God must not be done with me yet—that shot had to have come from beneath us when we were in the switchbacks descending a mountain road.

And always, it's "following in the footsteps of those who preceded," perpetuating the work they did whether it was right or

(Con't on pg. 8)

HOW *WE CARE* HELPS—AND WHY IT MATTERS

*“We Care” in Dodgeville is helping
more families than ever before.
Find out what they do, how they do it
. . . and how we can help.*

A FREE talk by Juanita Starr, co-cöordinator
of the “We Care” program in Dodgeville.
All are welcome.



7:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 3
Trinity Episcopal Church
409 High St. (enter on Iowa St.) • Mineral Point
A Tuesdays at Trinity presentation

WHAT'S YOUR TYPE?

Reformer?
Helper?
Achiever?
Individualist?
Investigator?
Loyalist?
Enthusiast?
Challenger?
Peacemaker?

Find out how the Enneagram can help you understand yourself better (and the people around you, too!).

Join us for an non-denominational, all-day
ENNEAGRAM WORKSHOP

led by Sr. Mary Hopkins, O.P., M.A.

March 28, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Reservations: 608-987-3380

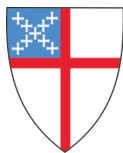
\$25 in advance (includes lunch)

(\$35 at the door)

**Trinity Episcopal Church
409 High St. • Mineral Point**

TRINITY CHURCH
The Episcopal Parish in Iowa County
 409 High St. • Mineral Point, WI 53565
 trinitychurchmpt@gmail.com

*ADDRESS CORRECTION
 REQUESTED*



Trinity Church

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

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I (during Lent)
 and laying on of hands for healing
 9:30 a.m. Christian Formation for children

WARDENS

Jan Johnson, *Senior Warden* (2009)
 Fred Bowden, *Junior Warden* (2009)

VESTRY

Brent Bowers (2010)
 Joan Faull (2011)
 Kate Martin (2010)
 Bob Oberhauser (2011)
 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.

Fred Bowden—Con't from pg. 6
 wrong—because when the patents were created, the mistakes [of our predecessors] were given the same credence as what they did right, so long as their lines could be retraced.

A mile may be 5,280.000000 feet to an engineer, but to a surveyor, it's the distance between two original monuments and can be verified by evidence which might be the 1/4 corner set halfway between (at 40 chains on a north-south section line; at 40 chains on a west-east section line, adjusted for distance and alignment upon closing into the corner to the east, +/-1 foot in 300 feet tolerance), always keeping in mind that

there are exceptions.

God gave me the ability to see, a mind with which to discern his creation, and the realization that there is so much more if I'll just keep looking. I have faith that He will let me know when He is done with me. In the meantime, it's my responsibility to keep on keeping on.

*From Grandpa's Bible
 author unknown*
 Just keep on smiling cheerfully
 If hope is nearly gone,
 And bristle up and grit your teeth
 And keep on keepin'on.