

september 2011

High Notes

News for and about members and friends of Trinity Episcopal Church, Mineral Point, WI
Visit us online at www.trinitympt.org

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IT WAS A dark and stormy night." With all due regard to Snoopy's writing style, let me consider one of the miracles in Saint Matthew's Gospel and offer that it can be applied directly to our lives today.

The singular joy of the Bible is that we have this marvelous record of faith experiences for our learning, indeed, experiences which allow us to be bold in how we engage and share our faith. There are those who say that "the Bible says what the Bible says because the Bible says it, and that is all there it to it." This is a valuable understanding. It shows acceptance. It is a fine first step. But there is more, much more.

The setting: Matthew 14: 22. We have just had the miraculous feeding. Jesus sends the disciples off in the boat, while he dismisses the crowd. After they are gone, he finally gets a chance to pray, alone. He is our example of how to practice God's presence in prayer.

"It was a dark and stormy night." The disciples are in their little boat. It is night. It is stormy. A boat, or ship, is an ancient image of the church, and during persecution, this image of suffering, a storm, carried great identity, in ancient days, and today.

As the boat is tossed about by the storm, I assume that the disciples are busy bailing to keep the boat afloat, an excellent example of stewardship. But I digress.

With the dawn (a reference to the resurrection), what do the disciples see? Jesus is walking along on the water. Drawing on our life of limits, the first response is fear. By faith, the second response is joy.

Now we encounter Peter, who is the example of how faith will lead us into situations which we never imagined possible. There is joy as Peter responds when Jesus tells him, "Come." Then, he slips back to the life of limits. In his distress, he calls out, "Jesus, save me!" The passage ends with the disciples in worship.

My joy is that we share this dynamic in every Eucharist. Despite our positive habits, I suggest that there are many concerns, many "storms," that could swamp this little boat of our lives. However, like Peter, we dare to come.

I suggest that our cry of "Lord, save me!" is the all too liturgical "Lamb of God, have mercy." We say this all too easily, until, with a little awareness, we find that we are sinking, and we cry to Jesus. This is not poetry. This is urgency. And Jesus comes to us in the Eucharist, and the winds of concern are stilled.

With a little attention, these seemingly dry repeated phrases, unchanged for centuries, became the vibrant lessons of a life of faith. We move from a life of scarcity and limits, to a life of abundance, the abundance of God's love.

—Fr. Hector+

The Rev. Dr. J. Robert Hector,
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September@Trinity

Friday, September 2

10:00 a.m. Planning meeting for Lessons and Carols at the home of Susanne Southwood. Please come if you'd like to help.

Fridays, September 2, 9, and 16

7:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous meetings in the undercroft. AA will meet September 23 and 30 at the Methodist Church.

Sunday, September 4

9:30 a.m. We return to our winter service time, with Sung Eucharist at 9:30 a.m. Coffee hour contributions will go to the "Dimes for Bingo" program at the Mineral Point Care Center.

Tuesday, September 20

1:00 p.m. Trinity Guild meeting in the undercroft. All women of the parish are invited to attend. The rummage sale hanging will follow the meeting.

Thursday, September 22—Saturday, October 1

Rummage sale! Hours are 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. September 22–24; 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. September 26–30; \$2-a-bag day is 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. October 1.

Friday, September 23

5:00 p.m. Vestry meeting at Jan Johnson's. All parishioners are invited.

Thursday, September 27

7:00 p.m. **Pre-Convention hearing** at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 4011 Major St., Madison. Proposed 2011 diocesan budget and parochial assessment figures will be presented to the deputies for review, along with resolutions and nominations. These hearings are designed to prepare deputies for the Convention, but all members of the diocese are welcome.

Coming up . . .

Women, War, and Peace, a groundbreaking documentary series investigating the effects of conflict on women and the power of women to broker peace, airs on five consecutive Tuesday nights on PBS from October 11 to November 8.

October 14–15 Diocesan Convention in Racine. All members of the diocese are encouraged to attend. Fred Bowden, Joan and Tom Faull, and Susanne Southwood are Trinity's elected deputies; Barbara Hector and Mark Prouty are alternates. For Convention details, please see www.diomil.org.

Birthdays

2 Maria Ginter
4 David Johnson
9 Jim Mock
15 Pamela Reily
20 Isabel Bowers
25 Robin Reily
30 Bishop Steven Miller

Anniversaries

5 Brent and Chris Bowers
25 Fred and Katherine Bowden



Tembys make gift to Trinity Endowment

We have been notified that former parishioners Edgar and Jean Temby have made a gift of MGE Energy stock, with a market value of \$5,111.68, to Trinity's Endowment Fund. We are deeply appreciative of their kindness, and look forward to thanking them in person on their next visit.

■ **Fred Bowden** writes, "Saturday, July 23, I spent with two other land surveyors and sixteen Boy Scouts giving the instruction for the Surveying Merit Badge. Part of the program involved hands-on use of equipment: compass and tape, transit and tape, total station and electronic distance meter, leveling and elevations, and a brief introduction to geographical positioning systems. The program started at 9:00 in the morning and lasted until 3:00 in the afternoon. There was field work as well as office work that included plotting the field work on graph paper. Katherine and I are busy planning for Ursula and Rob's wedding in late September in St. Paul. In the meantime, I have gone back to work, surveying for Madison Crushing and Excavating, a construction company, on the east side of Madison. It is a part-time job, but nice to be employed again. I have (in my spare time) been trying to reorganize my workshop, adding new garage doors and insulating the north wall to make it more inhabitable for the winter. The purpose of the exercise is to be able to park my wife's car in there and still have the ability to house equipment and materials in an efficient manner."

■ **Le Hector** shares some family (and sartorial) news with us: "No doubt, the big event for me will be my grandson's wedding on September 10. He'll never be able to miss an anniversary (9-10-11). My problem is what to wear??? – a 3 p.m. ceremony in a vineyard on a California day!!! I was told to wear comfortable shoes, but beyond that I've been given no advice. In addition, I'll be able to enjoy a few days at the cabin



in the red-woods. This is the first summer in years I have missed being there. It's better than a trip abroad!"

■ News from **Fr. Bob and Barbara Hector**: "Ours has been a summer of catching up with family. We have been to Colorado, and visited one cousin, as

well as doing usual cabin work. We have been to Pennsylvania and stayed a couple of days with Andrew and Cynthia plus three, to learn about his new job, new house, new school, and new church. Our August travel is a trip to North Carolina, where we will see Michael and Amy, who are expecting a baby in November. Come September, we will fly to California where a nephew, Nick (and Angela), will get married."

■ Who knew? While on a short trip to Manistee, Michigan (via the U.P.), **Susanne Southwood** and Tom Barker visited Sleeping Bear Dunes, not knowing it had just beaten out such sites as Sedona and Cape Cod to be named the most beautiful place in American for 2011.

SEPTEMBER ASSIGNMENTS				
DATE	USHER	LECTOR/ PRAYER READER	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER	ACOLYTE
4	Powers	Holland	F. Bowden	S. Hector
11	Holland	Whitford	Whitford	S. Hector
18	M. Prouty	M. Prouty	Holland	S. Hector
25	Southwood	Johnson	Madigan	S. Hector

OCTOBER ASSIGNMENTS				
DATE	USHER	LECTOR/ PRAYER READER	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER	ACOLYTE
2	F. Bowden	Martin	S. Hector	S. Hector
9	J. & T. Faull	Madigan	F. Bowden	
16	Powers	C. Bowers	Whitford	S. Hector
23	Holland	Powers	Holland	S. Hector
30	M. Prouty	Hunt	Madigan	

NOVEMBER ASSIGNMENTS				
DATE	USHER	LECTOR/ PRAYER READER	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER	ACOLYTE
6	Southwood	J-M. Merrell-Beech	S. Hector	S. Hector
13	F. Bowden	F. Bowden	F. Bowden	
20	J. & T. Faull	E. Hector	Whitford	S. Hector
27	Powers	Holland	Holland	S. Hector

Holy women, holy men

Approved at the 2009 General Assembly, the following new commemorations on the Episcopal Church calendar have been added for September.

September 3—Prudence Crandall, Teacher and Prophetic Witness, 1890. Born in a Quaker family in Rhode Island, she started a girls' school in Canterbury, Connecticut, where she educated daughters of the town's wealthy. When she admitted a young African American girl, the parents of the white children were outraged and demanded the child's expulsion; Crandall refused and went on to open a new school for African American girls. Despite many threats, she kept the school open until the state legislature passed the so-called "Black Law," which made it a crime to open a school teaching black children from any state other than Connecticut. Crandall was arrested, jailed, tried, and convicted, but a higher court reversed the decision and the harassment continued. Fearing for her students' safety, she closed the school in 1834. In 1886 Connecticut awarded her a pension, and over a hundred citizens of that state expressed their regret and shame over her treatment. She is today recognized as the official State Heroine of Connecticut.

September 5—Gregorio Aglipay, Priest and Founder of the Philippine Independent Church, 1940. Ordained a Roman Catholic priest, he called on his fellow priests to occupy the parishes and support the Philippine Revolution in 1898, recognizing that national independence would also mean independence from the Roman Catholic church, which was strongly allied with Spanish interests in the Philippines. He was threatened with excommunication and, with his Filipino supporters formed a new national

church. Subsequently, he and the whole of the Philippine Independent Church was excommunicated. In 1940, the Philippine Independent Church entered into full communion with the Episcopal church, and through it, is recognized as being in full communion with the churches of the Anglican Communion.

September 7—Elie Naud, Hugenot Witness to the Faith, 1722. Born in 1661, at a time when persecution of Protestants was becoming more violent, Naud fled France after two years' imprisonment in the notorious Chateau d'If before settling permanently in New York, becoming a member of Trinity Church, Wall Street, and serving as a catechist among black slaves and native Americans. He founded a school for the children of the poor and of slaves, and tried to influence Parliament to pass British laws that would demand Christian instruction for the children of slaves and Native Americans and the formation of schools for their education. It was only through these means, he believed, that an equal and free society could be created.

September 8—Nikolai Grundtvig, Bishop and Hymnwriter, 1872. Born in Denmark and the son of a Lutheran pastor, he had a lifelong appreciation for classical Lutheran orthodoxy rooted in sacramental practice, and believed that the dry, rational, almost gloomy approach favored at the time did not penetrate the depths of the human soul. Towards the end of his life his vision was taking hold, and his influence on both church and nation continued to increase. With Soren

Kierkegaard he was the most influential Dane in the nineteenth century both in theological and philosophical circles and civil life.

September 8—Soren Kierkegaard, Teacher and Philosopher, 1855. Sometimes called "the Father of existentialism," Kierkegaard was critical of established religion for most of his life. However, his criticism of the church as an institution should not be confused with the absence of faith or lack of trust in the ethical teachings of the Christian Gospel. His work influenced philosophers such as Martin Heidegger and theologians such as Karl Barth, and his challenges to the Church remain powerful reminders of the institution's call to pattern its common life according to the teachings of Jesus.

September 11—Henry Thacker Burleigh, Composer, 1949. The grandson of a slave who had been blinded by a savage beating but nonetheless passed along old songs by singing them to his grandsons, he was an American singer, composer, and arranger who did more than anyone else up to his time to make available the musical and spiritual riches of the American Negro spiritual to vast audiences. As a young man, he became the baritone soloist at St. George's Episcopal Church in New York, a fact that initially caused dissension that died down when J. Pierpont Morgan, a member of the parish, took a clear stand on the matter. His greatest achievement was recovering and arranging many Negro spirituals for solo voice and piano so they could be widely heard on the concert stage.

(Con't on pg. 6)

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting

Friday, July 8, 2011 (not yet approved)

The regular monthly meeting of the Trinity parish Vestry was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Fr. Hector and began with prayer. Members present: Fr. Hector; Jan Johnson, Senior Warden; Fred Bowden, Jr. Warden; Claire Holland, Susanne Southwood, Clerk. Also present: Sara Hector, Treasurer; Skip Lee, investment counselor. Absent: Joan Faull, Mark Prouty.

Minutes

Motion by Jan to accept the minutes of the June 17, 2011 meeting, second by Fred; motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

As of the 7/3/2011 Treasurer's Report, we had YTD income of \$25,810.57 (budget: \$26,054), expenses of \$20,946.44 (budget: \$27,444.67), and checkbook balance of \$13,047.67.

Motion by Fred to accept the treasurer's report, second by Susanne; motion passed.

Old Business

• **Church sign.** Fr. Hector reported that it is on its way.

New Business

1. Investments. Skip Lee, our investment counselor, presented a report on our investment portfolio. He reported that as of 3/31/11 the investments under his management totalled \$235,573.89; as of 7/8/11 that number was \$238,950.78. We are averaging a 6%–7.5% annual return so far this year. He advised the Vestry that, after 17 years as a broker-dealer, a commission-based model, in May he became a Registered Investment Advisor (RIA), a fee-based model, and is now vice president of Pillar Wealth Management, an independent RIA. This model makes a larger number of investment products—some 14,000—available to him through Charles Schwab, the holding company. It also means we will pay only a management fee of 1.5% annually. He point-

ed out that prior to February 15, 2010, the Vestry's investment strategy was:

25% aggressive
35% moderate
30% conservative.

However, at the February 15, 2010 meeting, desiring more investment income, the Vestry changed its strategy, to a mix as follows:

40% aggressive
15% moderate
45% conservative.

The Vestry's intent was to realize \$5,200 annually from non-Snow Clausen Fund instruments. (At present, we augment pledge and plate offerings with about \$6,000 from the Snow Clausen Fund and \$5,200 from our funds invested with Skip ,to meet our annual budget.)

Skip further said that at present we are invested 45% in international equities (i.e., emerging markets funds), 45% in bonds or fixed income, and 10% in moderate-risk national resources funds. He also said it is his intention to immediately replace the emerging-markets funds with domestic stock and index funds. He repeated that his intent is to look at value, not just return. Skip also said that if we were invested solely in moderate and conservative instruments, he thought we could realize our goal of \$5,200 annual investment income.

Discussion followed, with the Vestry considering whether we should continue to follow the risk-allocations above.

Jan's opinion was that we would like to grow our portfolio now in anticipation of needing to take more income in future, and that our decision should be based on short- vs. long-term considerations. Fred said he was not uncomfortable with a 40% allocation to aggressive instruments. Susanne and Claire said they were not comfortable with the 40% figure; Susanne suggested she might be comfortable at 30%.

Because of the differences of opinion, we decided to leave the allocations alone at present, but to schedule a vote on the matter at the next Vestry meeting.

2. National Historic Register. Susanne said that, in the opinion of a friend who teaches historic preservation at the college level, we appear to have a chance to get NHR status, based on Trinity's historic and architectural importance. Part of the upside of such designation is that we might be eligible for government restoration funds; the downside is that we would be unable to make changes to the property in future. *Jan moved that we ask Susanne to complete as much of the required documentation as is immediately feasible and to report back to the Vestry at her convenience. Fred seconded; motion passed.*

3. Adult education. We agreed to ask all Vestry members to consider the list of 30 Episcopal Beliefs and Practices, as written by members of the Church of the Holy Spirit in Lake Forest, IL, and to submit to Fr. Hector, no later than September 1, 2011, our own list of five topics for discussion at adult education programs next year. Susanne will email the request to all Vestry members.

Upcoming

1. Vestry meetings. There will be no August Vestry meeting. The next meeting will be on September 23 at 5:00 p.m. at Jan Johnson's.

2. Vacation. Fr. Hector will be on vacation on July 17, July 24, August 21, and September 10. Fr's. Majkrzak, Burden, and Cabillero will celebrate the Eucharist.

3. Rummage. The Guild's fall rummage sale will be September 22–October 1.

4. Diocesan Convention. The Convention will be held October 14–15 in Racine.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Jan, second by Fred; motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Susanne Southwood, Clerk.
All motions passed unanimously
unless otherwise noted*

THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD GOD

is upon me, because
the Lord
has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring
good news to the
oppressed,
to bind up the
broken-hearted,
to proclaim liberty
to the captives, and
release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of
the Lord's favour,
and the day
of vengeance of
our God;
to comfort all
who mourn;
to provide for those
who mourn in Zion--
to give them a
garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness
instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise
instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks
of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord,
to display his glory.

Isaiah 61:1-3

Holy Women, Holy Men—*Con't from pg. 4)*

September 15—**James Chisholm**, Priest, 1855. The rector of St. John's Episcopal Church in Portsmouth, Virginia, he sent his family away to safety but stayed behind, when many others were fleeing, to help care for the sick during an aggressive yellow fever epidemic in 1855. He himself died of the fever as the plague was beginning to subside.

September 26—**Wilson Carlie**, Priest, 1942. Ordained an Anglican priest, he was concerned about the church's lack of presence among the poor and working classes, and encouraged soldiers, grooms, coachmen, and other working laymen to preach the gospel in some of the worst slums of London, for which many in the church establishment accused him of "dragging the church into the gutter." In 1882 he resigned his curacy and devoted himself to the establishment of the Church Army, which was dedicated to proclaiming the gospel among the least of society. In 1885 the Upper Convocation of Canterbury officially approved and recognized the Church Army, which continues to this day.

September 27—**Vincent de Paul**, Religious, and Prophetic Witness, 1660. A pioneer in the renewal of theological education, Vincent was instrumental in establishing seminaries. For him, charity was a predominant virtue that was to be extended to all. He is honored in the tradition as the patron saint of charitable causes.

September 27—**Thomas Traherne**, Priest, 1674. Although not as well known as John Donne or George Herbert, Traherne was one of the seventeenth century's most searching, inventive poets

and theologians and is one about twelve Anglican lyricists dubbed by Samuel John-son as "the Metaphysical Poets." Johnson meant that their poetry was pretentious and obscure, thus missing not only their erudition but their subtlety and profound awareness of the depths of the Divine Mystery through which they tried to articulate the Christian Faith in a world that was changing from the sure faith of the Middle Ages to the bewildering maze of conflicting opinion that was the "Modern." Traherne was particularly taken with the paradox that the naive grandiosity and self-centeredness of a small child was, in fact, a kind of window into the Divine Being.

September 28—**Richard Rolle**, **Walter Hilton**, and **Margery Kemp**, Mystics, 1349, 1396, c. 1440. Richard Rolle was an English hermit about whose early life little is known. At the age of 18 he gave up his Oxford studies for the ascetic life. Although criticized by many for promoting a highly subjective form of religion, he was an ardent defender of the contemplative life he practiced. Walter Hilton's early life is similarly obscure, although it is thought he studied at Canterbury. His great work is *The Scale of Perfection* in which he develops his understanding of the "luminous darkness" that marks the transition between self-love and love of God. Margery Kempe was a mystic who experience intense visions, making pilgrimages to the Holy Land with the encouragement of Dame Julian of Norwich. She describes her travels as well as her mystical experiences in the *Book of Margery Kempe*.

Holy Women, Holy Men, Church Publishing, New York, 2010

Looking backward, looking forward

By Jan Johnson, Senior Warden

FROM 1978, when James and I first came to Mineral Point, until 2000, when we returned to live here, Trinity church changed. A generation passed away and the generation that followed scattered. Children of those who remained were caught

larger population base surely must contain more Episcopalians. Visitors did come but few returned. Another disappointment.

We implemented the Mutual Ministry Review advocated by the Bishop, analyzing everything, setting

goals, measuring performance and results. All we accomplished was to make everybody mad.

At the same time all this was going on, the church managed to pay its bills, keep the buildings in shape and even set aside small sums for investment.



up in the culture of secular consumerism. Loyalty to their parent's church was not part of their culture of individualism. There was no "next generation at Trinity" in the usual sense of the term.

In response to declining numbers Trinity, like most small churches, set out to "grow" the congregation. Just since 2000 Trinity has tried three different campaigns. First, we hired a full-time priest who we expected to reach out to more people and bring them to church. We exhausted ourselves with fundraising to support him. A layoff at Lands' End and a couple of funerals reduced us by 25%. Huge disappointment.

We tried an advertising campaign to raise our profile in the community. We tried to become the Episcopal Church in Iowa county, thinking a

Pledge and plate revenue have not declined proportionately to membership. Investments continue to both pay dividends and increase the capital. We are solvent and a long way from being out of options.

• • •

REMEMBER the old saying, "insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results"? We thought we were trying different ways to bring in more people. Maybe we were trying to do the wrong thing. Maybe it isn't about finding a larger congregation and becoming a bigger church.

Mineral Point is a town of 2,600 with eight churches. Population growth is very slow, even with many urban retirees. If half the people in town came to church that would mean only 162 people for

each church. Of those 162, typically 20% or fewer are active, say 32 people. That's not too far off from where we are now.

If we accept that we aren't a big church and aren't ever likely to be one, we can stop chasing the numbers chimera, ask what Trinity's job is—and get on with doing it.

The job is the same one the apostles had 2,000 years ago—spread the good news and grow the Kingdom. All we are called upon to do is to know, value, and aid the life journey of every person who comes through our door—family, friend, or stranger—and to provide the experience of Christian love in our community.

I suggest that we think about how we as Episcopalians do that. ❖

Coming up: Lessons and Carols

It's hard to believe that summer is officially over—and maybe even harder to believe that our Festival of Lessons and Carols for Advent is coming up in about three months, on December 4 at 4:00 p.m, with Bishop Steven Miller presiding. An earlier meeting got the ball rolling, and another meeting to iron out the who-what-when-why details will be held at 10:00 a.m. Friday, September 2, at the home of **Susanne Southwood**. If you're interested in helping plan this wonderful annual event, you're warmly invited to attend.

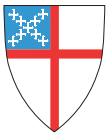
TRINITY CHURCH

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ADDRESS CORRECTION
REQUESTED



DON'T FORGET!
We return to our
winter service time
September 4!
SEE YOU SUNDAY AT 9:30!



Trinity Church

The Episcopal Parish in Iowa County, Wisconsin

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

Jan Johnson, *Senior Warden* (2011)
Fred Bowden, *Junior Warden* (2011)

VESTRY

Joan Faull (2011)
Claire Holland (2013)
Mark Prouty (2012)
Susanne Southwood, *Clerk* (2012)

AND ALSO

Barbara Hector, *Trinity Guild President*
Le Hector, *Altar Guild President*
Sara Hector, *Treasurer*
Dorothy Prouty, *Music Director*

Deadline for *High Notes'* news is the 20th of the
month preceding publication. Please send your
news to Susanne Southwood, [deltadirect@earth-
link.net](mailto:deltadirect@earth-link.net). Back issues of *High Notes* are available
as pdfs on our website at www.trinitympt.org.

Rummage, rummage, rummage!

The annual fall rummage sale is coming up fast, and it's time to clear your closets
and attics! Set-up and hanging will be September 20 after the Guild meeting (see
pg. 2); the sale itself runs from Thursday, the 22nd, through Saturday, October 1st
(please see page 2 for times). As always, your help is needed and appreciated.
Any items you can spare and any help you can give, make a difference. You'll find

a sign-up sheet in the church kitchen, or please call **Barbara Hector**.
Sale proceeds go to the Trinity Guild, which this year pledged
\$2,500 to the church. The money helps pay for mowing, snow
removal, and repairs to the church and rectory.

