

St. Stephen's News

St. Stephen's Anglican Church,
Timonium, Maryland

Vol. XXII, Number 19

Edited by Anne Hawkins

May 17th, 2011

FROM THE VESTRY

Vestry candidates for the Annual Meeting, June 5

ST. STEPHEN'S Annual Parish Meeting will take place between the 9.15 AM and the 11.15 AM services on Ascension Sunday, June 5th. Members attending the meeting will hear the Rector's report on the state of the parish, the reports of the Treasurer and Wardens, and elect candidates for the Vestry. The candidates nominated for the vestry this year are all sitting members. They are:

WILLIAM H. J. HAWKINS

Mr. Hawkins was born in England and recently became a U.S. citizen. He has lived in America for some 13 years and recently retired from a senior management position at Millennium Inorganic Chemicals in Hunt Valley. Although the name of the company has changed several times, he was with the same company for the best part of 30 years, part of which was in the North East of England. Mr. Hawkins is a Chartered Engineer and is a member of the Institution of Chemical Engineers. He studied Chemical Engineering at Glamorgan University gaining an honors degree and has a postgraduate qualification in Business Management from Swansea Institute of Higher Education.

DR. KIRBY VON KESSLER

Dr. Kirby von Kessler, one of Baltimore's leading orthopedic surgeons, retired from practice a couple of years ago. He remains active in the his profession, however, serving as a consultant to the Social Security Administration. Dr. von Kessler is the parish registrar and also serves as lay reader and acolyte at the 8.00 AM service of Holy Communion. A keen fox hunter, Kirby is an accomplished horseman and is active in local equestrian circles.

G. BROCK JOHNSON

A Baltimore native, Brock Johnson is a long time stalwart of St. Stephen's and has served on the vestry from the past four years. He was a founding member of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, where his enthusiasm for keeping the church sparkling has earned him the nickname "Sparkles." He was also a particularly villainous looking "gaoler"

Brock has for many years served as a Sunday School teacher and catechist, preparing our candidates for confirmation. He teaches our Friday morning Bible study, moderates the Discussion Group that meets between the 9.15 AM and 11.15 AM services and leads the Tuesday Morning Bible Study at 7.00 AM in the Nautilus Diner on York Road. He also made a particularly villainous looking "gaoler" running the stocks at the Annual Garden Party

FROM THE RECTOR

It is a crime to expel religion from academe

IF EVER you have been tempted to wonder why so many young people emerge from our better known universities with jaundiced views of America and traditional American values,

a recent book review in *The Wall Street Journal* shed light on the subject.

The book – *More God, Less Crime* by Byron R. Johnson – is a survey of every study between 1944 and 2010 that measured the possible effect of religion on crime. Mr. Johnson appears well qualified to conduct such a survey. A professor of criminology at Baylor University, Waco, Texas, he has been studying relationships between crime and religion since the mid-1980s.

Professor Johnson reports that during six and a half decades covered by his survey some 273 studies of the effects of religion on crime were conducted.

This seems an astoundingly small number of such studies. After all, the era in which they took place was one of profound social change during which the increase in the crime and incarceration rates was exceeded only by the exponential growth in our institutions of higher education.

One thus might reasonably have expected this interesting and intriguingly controversial subject to have been studied to death at the rapidly expanding university departments of religion, social research and psychology. But not so.

The remarkable absence of interest in the subject is all the more puzzling considering the results of Professor Johnson's survey: Even though the authors of the various studies used different methods and assessed groups and people their conclusions were quite remarkable.

A full 90 percent of the studies found that more religiosity led to less crime. Only 2 percent found that religion produced more

crime. The remaining 8 percent found no relationship one way or the other.

Professor Johnson points out that none of the studies he surveyed could be assessed in what we have come to regard as a proper scientific manner. To meet such standards the researchers would have had to recruit cadres of subjects who had no religion, then assign some to adopt a religion and the rest to a godless control group. The two group's crime rates could then be measured statistically and assessed.

But in this instance such methods would be clearly unethical and impractical (not to say immoral and illegal -- should such considerations concern modern academe). Even so, one might be inclined to think that the extraordinary 90 percent positive track record of the studies might prompt a few cutting edge academics to take up the challenge.

The fact that none have done so is probably explained by the effect Professor Johnson's interest in the relationship religion and crime has had on his career.

At Memphis State University in Tennessee (now The University of Memphis) in the mid-1980s, he was warned by his department chairman that none of the scholarly articles he had published about religion would count towards getting tenure. Two years later he was fired – despite the fact that he had acted on the warning and concentrated on publishing articles on subjects other than religion and had also received high student evaluations.

Dismissing his appeal, the provost told him: "You simply don't fit in here. I think you need to consider a job teaching at some small Christian college." He then warned the young academic that he would "have the same problem" at any other state university. Professor Johnson then said to the provost: "If I were a Marxist we wouldn't be having this conversation, would we?" The provost "nodded in agreement."

ST STEPHEN'S CHOIR OF MEN & BOYS

will sing a

Choral Evensong for the
Sunday After The Ascension

at 6 PM on

Sunday, June 5th, 2011

People of all faith traditions
are heartily welcome
Reception to follow

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR
THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER**

Sunday, May 15th 2011

8.00 AM & 9.15 AM

HOLY COMMUNION

The Epistle: St. James 1:17-21

The Gospel: St. John 16:5-15

11.15 MORNING PRAYER

The Psalter: Psalm 91

The First Lesson: Lamentations 3:22-33

The Second Lesson: St. Matthew 10:24-39

This dismal little tale should not surprise anybody even remotely acquainted with modern American academe. Sadly, too many institutions of higher education, as a matter of policy, reject serious, well-qualified scholars simply because they profess the faith that for two thousand years has shaped and framed the tenets of western liberal democracy. It is a latter day equivalent of "No Irish need apply."

Even more worrisome, these same institutions lionize the proselytes of a failed utopian ideology that has inflicted untold suffering on every society in which it has been applied.

There is something seriously amiss with folks who in this day and age are incapable of recognizing Marxism's moral and intellectual bankruptcy. It borders on madness to entrust the education of the young and impressionable to people who still embrace a politico-economic philosophy that has spawned the most hideous force of tyranny the world has ever seen.

Parents might be wise to take the advice the Memphis State provost offered to Professor Johnson: Face up to reality and send your students to small Christian colleges. **GPH✠**

THE EDITOR

Get the newsletter by email

AT LONG last we have a new publishing program which gives us the capability of delivering St. Stephen's News by e-mail. If you would rather receive the newsletter by e-mail, please email the Treasurer at treasurer@ststeve.com or give me a call at the parish office and I will arrange it. **AEH**

✠ PARISH PRAYER LIST ✠

OUR Prayer Chain offers prayer daily for people on the Prayer List and guests of the Joseph Richey Hospice. To add a name to the list, or to the visiting list, or to join the Prayer Chain, call the office at 410 560 6776.

RECOVERY: Blair, Jim, Georgetta, Melvin, Noah, Mavis, Heather, Laurie, Diane, Don, Lynn, Helen, Katherine, Hindra, Sara, Ravi, Elizabeth, Brian, Tracey, Linda, Robert, Nancy, Edithann, Doris, Jay, Perry, Amelia, Shirley, Adrian, Kimberly, Dean, Barb, Tanya, Jane, Brook, Val, Helen, Joseph, Joshua, Rachel, Carl, Cal, Catherine, Sam, Ruth, Kristi, Paul, Sue, Patty, Antonio, Lauren-Michelle, McKayla, Randy, Jack, Grace, Bob, Fran, Carolyn, Ken, Serina, Wyatt, Bobby, Alexander, Erlene, Kathleen, Earle, Judy, William, Betty, Trisha, Peggy, Linda, Millie, Walt, Bruce, Cienna, Tracy, Tom, Lelilah, Jennifer, Miriam, Karen, George, Eliza, Mel, John, Randy, James, Sarah, Linda, Suzanne, Marian, Steven, Jeanne, Tammy; Ellen, Patricia, Bonnie, Mary Ann, Robert, Christine, Dee, Brian, Barbara, Gillian, Eileen, Matthew, Bryan, Jason, Jane, Joan, Frances, Pat, Michael, Ray, Leslie, Brandon, May, Scott, Stephen, Robert, Danny, Billy, Betty-Ann, Mildred, D'Metrius, Laura, Stacey, Frank, Alma, Christine, John, Henry, Naomi, Pam, Ben, Kevin, Gwen, Gloria, Lee Emily, Elsie, Bruce, Regina, Lewis, Madolin, Linda, Carol, Bernie, Charlene, Josephine, Margaret, Jody, Sheila, Jo Anne, John, Geradine, Thomas, Jeanne, Sister Catherine-Grace, Maxine, Ann Sharon, Dennis, Mae, Anita, Marilyn, Lawrence, Rebecca, Dorothy, Joanne, ✠Albion, Martha, Jackie, Charles, Tony, Edward, Kim, Vivian and Carol.

LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Rosa, June, Anna, Jean, Garrett, Ned, & Stephen, Rachel, Robert & Renee, Lydia; Richard, Melba, Debbie, Phyllis, Georgetta, Carolyn, Suzanne, Tony, Erik, Doris, Drake, The Norris family; Gillian, Beverley, Adrienn, Jhana, Marla, Matthew, Joan, David, Laurie, Ellen, Lynn, Mildred, Sarah Lee, Tom, Susan, Kathy, Owen, Douglas, Amy, Jo Anne, Mary, Gregory, Isabel, Bobby, Dorothy, Darren, Scott, Rebecca, William, Charles, Joyce, Asfa, Eleanor, Kathy, Linda, James, Barry, Ann, Evelyn, Jeanette, Elizabeth, Virginia, Mildred, Chris, Stephen, Carol, Sandra, John, Mary, Michael and David

ON ACTIVE SERVICE: Lt. Benjamin Schramm, USMC; LTC. R. J. Lytle, PFC Charles E. Heintz, IV, U.S. Army; Alex Bursi, US. Navy; Capt. Charles Bursi & LTC Harry Hughes, U.S. Air Force.

✠ St. Stephen's Anglican Church ✠

11856 Mays Chapel Road, Timonium, MD 21093

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Web Address: ststeve.com.

RECTOR: The Venerable Guy P. Hawtin

VICAR: The Rev. Rhae E. Kelley

ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER: Adric

DIRECTOR OF PASTORAL CARE: Anne Hawkins (410-308-2771)

WEDDING CO-ORDINATOR: Anne Hawkins (410-308-2771)

SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00am -- Holy Communion

9.15am -- Holy Communion

(Nursery & Church School)

11.15am -- Morning Prayer

(1st. Sun. of the month: Holy Communion at 11.15am)

(1st Sun. of the month: Choral Evensong at 6.00pm)

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Wednesday: 6.00pm Evening Prayer

Friday: Noon: Healing Eucharist

Saturday: 5.00 PM Family Eucharist.

**COLLECT FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY
AFTER EASTER & ST GEORGE**

ALMIGHTY God, who showest to them that are in error the light of thy truth, to the intent that they may return into the way of righteousness; Grant unto all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may avoid those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things that are profitable to the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *AMEN.*

Book of Common Prayer, Page 173

Return Service Requested

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