

St. Stephen's News

St. Stephen's Church, Timonium, Maryland
A parish in the classical Anglican tradition

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Edited by Anne Hawkins

July 13th, 2010

FROM THE RECTOR

Founding Fathers can speak for themselves

MUCH THAT is fanciful – and, sadly, plain false – has been written about our Founding Fathers and their religious beliefs.. Take, for example, today's fashionable claims that they were predominantly ardent secularists and that, far from founding our constitution upon Christian principles, they created it on largely secular ones.

In view of all this, during the month in which we celebrate our nation's independence, we might do them the courtesy of letting them speak for themselves. And who better to start than **John Adams**.

On the day the Continental Congress approved the Declaration of Independence, Adams wrote to his wife Abigail: "[July 4th] ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty."

"The general principles upon which the Fathers achieved independence were the general principals of Christianity... I will avow that I believed, and now believe, that those general principles of Christianity are as eternal and immutable as the existence and attributes of God."

Again, in a letter written in 1798 to his life-long friend **Thomas Jefferson** 1798, he said: "We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Avarice, ambition, revenge, or gallantry, would break the strongest cords of our Constitution as a whale goes through a net. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

John Quincy Adams agreed. In a Fourth of July speech in, 1837, he declared: "Is it not that, in the chain of human events, the birthday of the nation is indissolubly linked with the birthday of the Savior? That it forms a leading event in the progress of the Gospel dispensation? Is it not that the Declaration of Independence first organized the social compact on the foundation of the Redeemer's mission upon earth? That it laid the cornerstone of human government upon the first precepts of Christianity?"

Charles Carroll wrote to **James McHenry**, November 4th, 1800: "Without morals a republic cannot subsist any length of time; they therefore who are decrying the Christian religion, whose morality is so sublime and pure...are undermining the solid foundation of morals, the best security for the duration of free governments."

Alexander Hamilton founded the Christian Constitutional Society, explaining: "Its object is first: The support of the Christian religion. Second: The support of the United States."

Patrick Henry, in a speech to the Virginia House of Burgesses, declared: "It cannot be emphasized too clearly and too often that this nation was founded, not by religionists, but by Christians; not on religion, but on the gospel of Jesus Christ."

John Jay, on October 12th, 1816, observed: "Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is the duty, as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian nation to select and prefer Christians for their rulers."

James Madison declared to the General Assembly of the State of Virginia in 1778: "We've staked our future on our ability to follow the Ten Commandments with all of our heart. We have staked the whole future of American civilization, not upon the power of government, far from it. We've staked the

future of all our political institutions upon our capacity ... to sustain ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God."

Benjamin Franklin, not noted these days for Christian piety, insisted in his 1749 plan of education for public schools in Pennsylvania, that they teach "the excellency of the Christian religion above all others, ancient or modern."

This was not an aberration. On June 28th, 1787, at the Constitutional Convention, Franklin declared: "God governs in the affairs of man ... We have been assured in the Sacred Writings that except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it. I firmly believe this. I also believe that, without His concurring aid, we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel"

Thomas Jefferson, another modern secularist hero, said: "I am a real Christian, that is to say, a disciple of the doctrines of Jesus...God who gave us life gave us liberty. And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are a gift from God? That they are not to be violated but with His wrath? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just, and that His justice cannot sleep forever."

George Washington, told Delaware Indian chiefs, May 12th, 1779, "It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and Bible.. What students would learn in American schools

THE RETURN OF THE SILLY SUMMER SUPPERS

Fun neighborhood get-togethers every

Thursday at 5.30 PM

Join us for fine food & fellowship

above all is the religion of Jesus Christ."

At Valley Forge in 1778, he declared: "To the distinguished character of patriot, it should be our highest glory to add the more distinguished character of Christian" And at his inauguration as President, Washington summoned a Bible on which to take the oath, added the words "So help me God!" to the end of the oath, then leaned over and kissed the Bible.

The last word fittingly should go to Noah Webster, who wrote in the preface to his American Dictionary of the English Language: "In my view, the Christian religion is the most important and one of the first things in which all children, under a free government, ought to be instructed ... No truth is more evident to my mind than that the Christian religion must be the basis of any government intended to secure the rights and privileges of a free people." **GPH**✠

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PASTORAL CARE

July 26th Blood Drive and Life Line Screening

THE RED CROSS will be coming to St. Stephen's at 3.00 PM on Monday, July 26th, for our summer Community Blood Drive. Blood is always in short supply during the vacation months of summer, and your donation is particularly important at this time of the year.

You can make your appointment by putting your name and preferred appointment time on the sign up sheet at the rear of the church, or you can call me at the office to make you

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

being Sunday, July 18th, 2010

8.00 AM & 9.15 AM
HOLY COMMUNION

The Epistle: Romans 6:19-23
The Gospel: St. Mark 8:1-9

11.15 AM MORNING PRAYER

The Psalter: Psalm 116
The First Lesson: Micah 7:14-20
The Second Lesson: St. Mark 8:1-9

appointment. Either way please be sure to eat plenty of iron rich foods in preparation for giving blood. If you would like some dietary recommendations, you find a list of iron rich foods on the table at the rear of the church.

Meanwhile, on Friday, August 13th, Life Line Screening will be visting St. Stephen's to offer preventive health screeing to the community. They will be offering screening and tests for stroke risk, vascular disease and bone density.

The screening team will be here from 8.30 AM to 5.00 PM for more information or to pre-register, call me at the Parish Office: 410-560-6776 or call Life Line at 888-653-6441. Alternatively, you can go on the web and visit Life Line at www.lifelinescreening.com. **ANNE E. HAWKINS**

FROM THE LADIES WHO LUNCH

Come join us on July 21

ST. STEPHEN'S Women will be lunching at 12 Noon the **Ginza Japanese Steakhouse** on Wednesday ,July 21st, at the shopping center on Cranbrook Road, Cockeysville. Why not exer-

cise you sense of adventure and make your reservation by calling **Ann Bonnell at 410-560-1130**. If you need directions, Anne will be provide them. Please join us for good food. and plenty of good fellowship, too.

✠ 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: Helen, Alma, Sara, Ravi, Elizabeth, Brian, Tracey, Linda, Robert, Nancy, Sharp, Edithann, Jay, Robert, Nancy, Perry, Amelia, Shirley, Adrian, Kimberly, Dean, Barb, Tanya, Jane, Brook, Val, Helen, Joseph, Joshua, Rachel, Carl, Charlotte, Cal, Catherine, Sam, Ruth, Kristi, Paul, Sue, James, Patty, Antonio, Lauren-Michelle, McKayla, Randy, Jack, Grace, Bob, Fran, Doris, Carolyn, Ken, Serina, Wyatt, Bobby, Alexander, Erline, Kathleen, Earle, Judy, Katherine, William, Betty, Cal, Wendell, Trisha, Peggy, Linda, Millie, Walt, Bruce, Cienna, Tracy, Tom. Lelillah, Jennifer, Miriam, Karen, Steve, George, Eliza, Mel, John, Randy, James, Sarah, Linda, Suzanne, Marian, Edith Anne, Steven, Jeanne, Tammy; Ellen, Jim, Patricia, Bonnie, Mary Ann, Robert, Christine, Dee, Brian, Barbara, Gillian, Eileen, Matthew, George, Bryan, Jason, Jane, Joan, LFrances, Ernie, Pat, Lynn, Michael, Ray, Leslie, Brandon, May, Scott, Stephen, Robert, Danny, Billy, Betty-Ann, Mildred, D'Metrius, Laura, Stacey, Frank, Alma, Christine, John, Henry, Naomi, Pam, John, Ben, Kevin, Gwen, Elizabeth, Gloria, Lee Emily, Elsie, Bruce, Regina, Lewis, Madolin, Eudora, Linda, Carol, Bernie, Charlene, Josephine, Margaret, Mackie, 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, Carol and Debbie.

LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: 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, Debbie, 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, Micki, Stephen, Carol, Sandra, Elsie, John, Mary, Michael and David

ON ACTIVE SERVICE: LTC. R. J. Lytle, PFC Charles E. Heintz,

✠ St. Stephen's Traditional Episcopal Church ✠

11856 Mays Chapel Road, Timonium, MD 21093
Tel.: Office (410) 560-6776; Rectory (410) 665-1278
Web Address: <http://www.ststephens-md.org>

RECTOR: The Venerable Guy P. Hawtin
ASSOCIATE RECTORS:

The Rev. Rhae E. Kelley and The Rev. Robert Menas

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

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Wednesday: 6.00pm Evening Prayer
Friday: Noon: Healing Eucharist
Saturday: 5.00PM Family Eucharist.

COLLECTS FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY & ST. SWITHUN

O GOD, who hast prepared for those who love thee such good things as pass man's understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards thee, that we, loving thee above all things, may obtain thy promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *AMEN.*

Book Common Prayer, Page 197

MOST gracious God, who didst glorify thy Church by the life and labors of thy holy Bishop Swithun: Send down, we beseech thee, showers of blessings on thy people that they may grow in grace, and in knowledge and love of thee, and of thy Son Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, world without end. *AMEN.*

Return Service Requested

Timonium, MD 21093
11856 Mays Chapel Road

Episcopal Church
St. Stephen's Traditional

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