

St. Stephen's News

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

Vol. XXI, Number 39

Edited by Anne Hawkins

October 5th, 2010

FROM THE TREASURER

The Parish launches its Endowment Fund Drive

ST. STEPHEN'S long-awaited Endowment Fund Drive got off to a splendid start with gifts amounting to some \$23,000. The donors are Colby and Wiley Hawkes and the estate of Harriet Downey, a long-time parishioner and wife of William Downey who served for many years as vestryman and church warden.

No ultimate target has yet been set for the fund, but the initial goal is to raise at least \$200,000. The fund will be invested in a parish money market account, managed by the investment firm T. Rowe Price. The income will be primarily devoted to reducing the parish's outstanding mortgage.

The Endowment Fund Drive team welcomes contributions large and small. If you would like to donate to the fund, please send your check to the Treasurer, made out to *St. Stephen's Traditional Episcopal Church* and marked on the memo line "*Endowment Fund.*"

If you wish to make an donation in memory, or in honor of a loved one or friend, please inform us of the dedication in an enclosed note. Also let us know if you would like to be named in the newsletter as a donor to the fund.

Endowment funds traditionally provide parishes with income to sustain growth and provide financial stability during difficult economic times. Newly-founded parishes like St. Stephen's are rarely blessed with endowments, because it is usually necessary devote all available resources to keeping the doors of the church open.

But after 20 years of living from hand to mouth, the vestry believes that an endowment fund is essential to underpin the parish's future growth. We hope you will respond as generously to this as you have to past appeals. **BILL HAWKINS**

FROM THE RECTOR

The straight scoop on good King Wenceslas

WHEN I was a junior chorister King Wenceslas was our favorite saint. It wasn't so much that we liked the melody of his carol – though, admittedly, it was quite beguiling. Our primary reason for liking him was that the big boys in the choir would occasionally sing what we considered to be an incredibly witty parody of the words.

"Good King Wenceslas went out in his kitchen garden," they would sing, "Bumped into a Brussel sprout; said, 'I beg your pardon.'"

It never occurred to us that Wenceslas was anything more than a jolly old codger – a sort of scaled down version of Santa Claus – whose main activity was slogging through snow, trailed by whining page boys, helping down and out peasants.

Imagine our surprise to discover he was not merely a saint but also a martyr who, as far as one can tell, had nothing much to do with snow, page boys, peasants or, for that matter, Brussel sprouts.

Other than musically, Wenceslas is in no way associated with Christmas. His Feast Day, in fact, is observed on September 28th. And my reason for writing this screed is that his feast took place last Tuesday.

Poor Wenceslas was martyred in AD 935, tragically young, at the age of 27. (So much for him being a jolly old codger!) Today he is the patron saint of the Czech Republic.

Actually, Wenceslas (or Wenceslaus, to give him his proper name) was not a king at all. He was Duke of Bohemia, the modern Czech Republic. His father Vratislav I was a Christian, whose father had been converted to the faith by St Cyril and St Methodius, the "apostles to the Slavs".

His mother, Drahomíra, was a bird of an entirely different color. The ruthless and highly ambitious daughter of a pagan tribal chief, she was only baptized at the time of her marriage.

After his father's death in AD 921, Wenceslas continued his Christian education in the care of his grandmother, St. Ludmilla, who was named to serve as his regent.

Wenceslas' mother, Drahomíra, was furious at losing control of her son and, with it, the dukedom. She drove Ludmilla and her young charge to seek sanctuary at Tetín castle near Beroun, where she arranged to have the saintly lady strangled to death on September 15, AD 921.

Having regained control of her son, Drahomíra tried unsuccessfully to convert him to the old pagan religion. But in AD 925 or thereabouts, Wenceslas reached the age of 18, ascended the throne and exiled Drahomíra.

He inherited a turbulent realm. Soon after his coronation, he was forced to put down a major rebellion and in thanksgiving for his victory built a grand church in Prague Castle, which today still stands as St Vitus Cathedral.

However, in September, AD 935, a group of nobles led by his younger brother, Boleslav, hatched a plot to murder him. Boleslav invited Wenceslas to celebrate the feast of St Cosmas & St Damian with him and, on the way to church, three of Boleslav's companions stabbed him to death.

Boleslav seized the dukedom in his place. But chroniclers record that the evil deed was not forgotten. His son, born on the day of Wenceslas' murder, was named Strachkvas, meaning "a dreadful feast," in memory of the crime.

Wenceslas is interred in the cathedral he built at Prague Castle, and his helmet and armor are on display in the castle keep. An equestrian statue of Wenceslaus (accompanied by the other patron saints of Bohemia: Adalbert, Ludmila, Prokop and Agnes) stands in Prague's Wenceslaus Square.

Legend has it that Wenceslas and a vast army of knights are asleep inside a Czech mountain, ready to wake and save the Czech people when they face ultimate danger.

In another version of the legend, it is the statue of Wenceslas in Wenceslaus Square that will come to life, raise the sleeping army, slay the nation's enemies with the legendary sword of Bruncvík, and finally usher in an age of peace and prosperity. **GPH**

HOLY TRINITY SEMINARY

Two courses to audit

HOLY TRINITY Seminary has initiated a program, the **Associate in Theological Studies (A.T.S.)**, for all who wish to deepen their knowledge of the Bible, spirituality, and theology. The program, which consists of six courses and three seminars, can be completed in three years. There is one course per term, and each course meets for eight weeks on Tuesday evenings. A certificate from the Seminary will be granted to those who complete the program.

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE
NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

being Sunday, October 10th, 2010

8.00 AM & 9.15 AM
HOLY COMMUNION

The Epistle: Ephesians 4:17-32
The Gospel: St. Matthew 9:1-8

11.15 AM MORNING PRAYER

The Psalter: Psalms 103
The First Lesson: *Wisdom** 12:12-19
The Second Lesson: Mathew 9:1-8

*Apocrypha

Holy Trinity has also opened a **Master of Ministry (M.Min.)** course for those interested in furthering their biblical theological knowledge. You do not have to be enrolled in a degree program to audit this course.

The first A.T.S. Course is entitled "TH110 Christian Worldview, Apologetics, and Evangelism." It will be team taught by Dn. Michael Burns, M.Min., and Fr. John Worgul, Ph.D. and meet on Tuesdays from 7:15-9:15 PM at St. Stephen's Church, from Tuesday, September 28th, and until on Tuesday, November 16th. For those who want to sign up for the A.T.S. program, classes are \$200.00. For those who simply want to audit the course, the cost is \$150.00. Make Checks payable to Christ the King Church marked "Seminary."

The M.Min. Course – BS530 Gospels and Acts will meet the following five Saturdays from 9:00 AM to 2 PM: September 18; October 9, 30; November 13; and December 11. Classes will be held in the Parish House at Christ the King Church 1102 Hart Road Towson, MD 21286. The audit fee is \$150.00. Bring your own lunch. Make Checks payable to Christ the King Church marked "Seminary." The instructor will be Fr. John Worgul.

✠ **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.

✠ **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, Doris, Jay, Robert, Nancy, Perry, Amelia, Shirley, Adrian, Kimberly, Dean, Barb, Tanya, Jane, Brook, Val, Helen, Joseph, Joshua, Rachel, Carl, Cal, Catherine, Sam, Ruth, Kristi, Paul, Sue, James, Patty, Antonio, Lauren-Michelle, McKayla, Randy, Jack, Grace, Bob, Fran, Carolyn, Ken, Serina, Wyatt, Bobby, Alexander, Erlene, Kathleen, Earle, Judy, Katherine, William, Betty, Cal, Trisha, Peggy, Linda, Millie, Walt, Bruce, Cienna, Tracy, Tom, Leliliah, 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, Frances, 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, 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, XAlbion, 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, IV, U.S. Army, Alex Bursi, US. Navy; Capt. Charles Bursi & LTC Harry Hughes, U.S. Air Force.

**COLLECTS FOR SUNDAY, TRINITY XVIII
& ST WENCESLAS OF BOHEMIA**

LORD, we beseech thee, grant thy people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil; and with pure hearts and minds tyo follow thee, the only God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

AMEN. Book Common Prayer, Page 214

O GOD, who art the King of kings and Lord of lords, Give grace, we beseech thee, to the earthly rulers of thy people that following the faith of thy servant Wenceslas, they may with him receive a crown of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.. *AMEN.*

Return Service Requested

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Episcopal Church

St. Stephen's Traditional

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