

St. Stephen's News

St. Stephen's Traditional Episcopal Church, Timonium, Maryland

Vol. XX, Number 20

Edited by Anne Hawkins

May 26th, 2009

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2008

It was a difficult year in a recession-hit economy

THE RECESSION began to bite St. Stephen's Church at the mid-year point of 2008. Overheads started moving upwards while the offertory began a steeper than usual summer decline which continued through to the end of the year and into 2009.

Pledged income and offertory for the year fell by just over 12 per cent. At the same time overheads went sharply in the opposite direction, climbing by a shade under 12 percent to \$373,453. The parish, however, ended the year with surplus of \$44,362 thanks to generous bequests from church founders Tom Cadwalader and Mary Stuart Barnhart.

Costs were up in virtually every operating sector -- banking and finance, maintenance and repairs, operations and administration. Perhaps, the most significant increase of all, however, came in utilities costs. St. Stephen's along with the rest of Maryland felt the full effects of the electricity rate hikes.

The effects of the recession were felt even more acutely in the opening months of the current year. Offertory continued steeply downwards, while overheads continued to rise.

In response, we took immediate action to cut back our operating costs -- deferring all but essential maintenance and halting all but unavoidable expenditure. Thanks go especially to Jim Halbert who renegotiated our utility costs, saving us some \$500 a month on our winter heating bill. We also hope to see a similar reduction in summer air-conditioning bills.

The clergy and the director of pastoral care also made a hefty contribution to the savings effort, at considerable

than after you came back. Meanwhile, God bless all of you and I wish you a joyous summer. **DONNA SZPER.**

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Two summer courses from our new Anglican seminary

THE NEWLY-established Anglican Seminary, **Holy Trinity Theological Seminary**, is offering two exciting summer courses here at St. Stephen's. The first is a *Seminar on the Book of Common Prayer: It's History & Its Use in Personal Prayer and Sacramental Worship*. The second is a course on the great medieval theologian *St. Thomas Aquinas*.

The Prayer Book Seminar costs a modest \$25 and starts on June 7th at 6.00 PM with Choral Evensong and continues on Thursday, June 11th and Friday, June 12th from 7.30 PM to 9.30 PM, concluding on the morning of Saturday, June 13th, from 9.00 AM to 12.00 Noon. Saturday's lunch will be provided. The instructor will be Archdeacon Guy Hawtin, Rector of St. Stephen's.

The Course on St. Thomas Aquinas is longer and academically more demanding. The instructor will be The Rev. John Worgul, Dean of Holy Trinity Seminary. It will run for 11 Monday evenings from June 15th to August 24th. The cost to audit the course is only \$150, which works out at about the price of a dozen evenings at the movies.

Thomas Aquinas is one of the church's most fascinating theologians. With him we reach the pinnacle of Medieval thought. We do well to think of him sitting upon the shoulders of all the best thinkers of his time, both classical Greco-Roman as well as Christian. As for philosophy, he not only accomplishes the incredible task of baptizing Aristotle, but weaves together Plato and Aristotle into one beautiful tapestry.

Like Augustine of Hippo, Aquinas is larger than life, and his thought is so cosmic and universal that we will only be able to scratch the surface of his thinking. We will strive to gain from this course a basic idea of the contours of his thought and a sense of his deep spirituality.

For further details about these courses, contact The Rev. John Worgul at Tel: 410-861-6876 or on the Internet at frjworgul@yahoo.com. Registrations for the Prayer Book Course close on June 7th, though we would appreciate as early notice as possible.

FROM WILEY & COLBY HAWKS

Please join us for a farewell party for Father Jon Filkins

SAD TO RELATE, The Rev. Jon Filkins' last services at St. Stephen's are scheduled to take place on Sunday, June 7th. He is leaving to accept the call to become rector of the Church of St. Barnabas in Picayune, Mississippi.

Please join us for a party in his honor from **3.30 PM to 6.00 PM on Sunday, May 31st at 7809 Bellona Avenue, Towson**. If you'd like to bring a salad or a dessert, please call us at: 410-321-8308 or at 443-844-0920. See you at 3.30 PM

FROM THE YOUTH GROUP

Youth throw brunch to raise funds for the summer camp

EACH year a group of youngsters from St. Stephen's look forward to attending Camp Treowth, the diocesan Youth Camp in West Virginia. Attending Camp Treowth is an exceptional experience. The youngsters who go there keep in touch with one another throughout the year and can't wait to return -- either as campers or, with the passage of time, counselors.

Every year, however, there are children whose home economic circumstances make it difficult for them come up with \$375 to pay for the week-long camp, and the parish has managed to provide scholarships to enable them to attend.

This year, however, the recession has bitten deep into parish

Return of the best value in Baltimore!

SILLY SUMMER SUPPERS

Every Thursday at 6.00 PM
beginning June 11th, 2009

Menu: Salad, Entree & Dessert -- delicious!
Just \$10 per adult ■ Children \$5

Beverages: Wine, \$3 per glass; Soda, \$2

personal sacrifice, by giving up filing for travel expenses and the like. Hopefully, we will be able to make this good if the economy improves. None of them are exactly overpaid.

Concurrently with the cost-cutting, Allan Gushue, our chief fund raiser, embarked on a campaign to increase offertory income and it is gratifying to report that you, the parishioners, have responded most generously.

Offertory for the first four months of the year is up by just under 7 percent. From operating deeply in the red, we have moved to operating marginally in the black, thanks in part to a substantial \$7,000 donation from the Parish Life Committee. Kudos to Stephanie Verhage and her hard-working colleagues!

In addition to this, our Silly Summer Suppers program will be starting again on Thursday, June the 11th at 6.00 PM. Last year the suppers -- mater-minded by Anne Hawkins and Charlotte Hawtin -- made a significant contribution to church finances in a difficult year.

They offer delicious food and drink in great good company. If you were a regular last year we hope we will see you again. If you have not yet sampled the menu, why not give us a try. You won't find better value for \$10 anywhere in Baltimore.

In summation, we are not yet out of the woods, but our prospects are by no means entirely bleak. We have certainly not suffered as deeply as many churches, some have been hit by income declines of as much as 30 percent. But that's cold comfort for your treasurer.

If you haven't yet decided to increase your pledge, I would beg you prayerfully to consider doing so. If you are planning to go away on vacation, you would spare me the summer blues if you made your contribution before you went away rather

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR
THE FEAST OF PENTECOST**
commonly called Whitsunday, May, 31st, 2006

8:00 AM, 9.15 AM & 11:15 AM
HOLY COMMUNION

For the Epistle: Acts 11:1-11
The Gospel: St. John 14:15-30

11.15 AM MORNING PRAYER
The Psalter: Psalm 68
First Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-9
Second Lesson: St. John 6:53-69

finances, which makes it difficult for us to provide aid for all the kids who need financial assistance. Thus, we are appealing to you, the parishioners, for help.

Actually, you can do so by helping yourself . . . to the brunch the Youth Group is hosting following the 9.15 AM and 11.15 AM services on Sunday, May 31st. The money they raise will go to helping the kids with some of the costs..

They will be serving a mouth watering menu including pancakes, eggs, biscuits, muffins and fruit – all for just \$5. This is a delicious way to help support our kids at the same time as enjoying good fellowship after a service.

Another way to help is to sponsor a youngster to attend Camp Treowth. A full week's scholarship totals \$375. That is certainly beyond many, if not most, people's means, but sponsoring kids by the day costs \$54 per day, while sponsoring a half day at camp is only \$27.

Please prayerful consider helping a child to go to camp this year. When all's said and done, it's an investment in our future.

COLLECT FOR THE WEEK

The Feast of the Ascension

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that like as we do believe thy only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; so we may also in heart and mind

thither ascend, and with him continually dwell, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God world without end. *AMEN. Book of Common Prayer, Page 176*

✠ 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: Catherine, Algin, Sam, Rosemary, Ruth, James, Patty, Antonio, Lauren-Michelle, McKayla, Randy, Rosemarie, Debbie, Jack, Grace, Bob, Fran, Doris, Carolyn, Ken, Serina, Wyatt Bobby, Alexander, Erlene, Kathleen, Earle, Judy, Polly, Katherine, Helen; William, Betty, Cal, Wendell, Trisha, Peggy, Linda, Millie, Dorcas, Walt, Bruce, Cienna, Tracy, Tom. Leliliah, Jennifer, Miriam, Harriet, Karen, Steve, George, Eliza, Mel, John, Randy, James, Sarah, Linda, Suzanne, Marian, Edith Anne, Steven, Jeanne, Judith, Angela, Tammy; Ellen, Jim, Patricia, Bonnie, Mary Ann, Robert, Christine, Ruth, 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, Rachel, Laura, Stacey, Frank, Alma, Christine, John, Henry, Naomi, Pam, John, Ben, Kevin, Gwen, Elizabeth, Gloria, Lee Emily, Elsie, Bruce, Regina, Lewis, Madolin, Eudora, Carol, Bernie, Charlene, Josephine, Margaret, Mackie, Jody, Sheila, Jo Anne, Thomas, Jeanne, Sister Catherine-Grace, Mae, Anita, Marilyn, Lawrence, Rebecca, Dorothy, Joanne, Albion, Martha, Jackie, Charles, Tony, Edward, Kim, Vivian, Geraldine, Maxine, Ann Sharon & Dennis.

LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Donna, Melba, Debbie, Phyllis, Georgetta, Carolyn, Perry, Suzanne, Tony, Robert, 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, Harriet, Darren, Scott, Rebecca, William, Charles, Joyce, Asfa, Eleanor, Kathy, Linda, James, Barry, Ann, Evelyn, Jeanette, Elizabeth, Virginia, Mildred, Chris, Micki, Stephen, Erik, Carol, Sandra, Elsie, Rhae, John, Robert, Mary, Michael & Loyal.

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

✠ St. Stephen's Traditional ✠ Episcopal Church

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

RECTOR: The Ven. Guy P. Hawtin
ASSOCIATE RECTOR: The Rev. James V. Johnson, Jr.
VICARS: The Rev. Rhae E. Kelley, The Rev. Robert Menas & The Rev. Jonathan Filkins
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.

THE HYMNS FOR THE FEAST OF PENTECOST

commonly called Whitsunday, May 31st, 2009

PROCESSIONAL: 218 (Mendon)
Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest

GRADUAL HYMN: 109 (The Golden Sequence)
Come, thou Holy Spirit, come!

SERMON : 108 (Veni Creator)
O come, Creator Spirit, come

COMMUNION HYMN: 369 (St. Agnes)
Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly Dove

RECESSIONAL: 111 (Melcombe)
Spirit of mercy, truth and love

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