

St. Stephen's News

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

Vol. XX, Number 36

Edited by Anne Hawkins

September 15th, 2009

FROM THE RECTOR

Life style options from The Wizard of Oz

THE AMERICAN Civil Liberties Union seems to labor under the misapprehension that the Bible is being unconstitutionally thrust upon America to provide its animating philosophy.

In fact, the Bible has long ceased to animate America – as the moral state of the nation so amply demonstrates. A rather more persuasive case can be made for the contention that the book that furnishes modern America with its animating philosophy is *The Wizard of Oz*.

Indeed, it is ideally suited to a nation that routinely awards diplomas to brainless scarecrows, pins medals on cowardly lions and hails heartless tin men as philanthropists – a nation that imagines the purpose of education is to foster self-esteem and can't tell the difference between utopian fantasies and practical policies.

But, then, what else can you expect from folks who complain when parsons preach the word of God for more than 10 minutes at a stretch, yet cheerfully let Hollywood's aggressively secular philosophers preach to them and their children

Return of the best value in Baltimore!

SILLY SUMMER SUPPERS

Every Thursday at 5.30 PM

Menu: Salad, Entree & Dessert -- delicious!

Just \$10 per adult ■ Children \$5

Beverages: Wine, \$3 per glass; Soda, \$1

for hours on end.?

True, Hollywood's leading men and leading ladies are a good deal more cute than the average clergyman, but the fact of the matter is God's ideas make a great deal more sense than the notions propagated on on prime time TV.

For example, Hollywood's philosophers have long been promoting the view that it is a reasonable and responsible "life style option" for women – young and not so young – to have babies out of wedlock.

To be sure, there are many single mothers (and fathers, for that matter) who are successfully raising children without a spouse. But, at the same time, there are many, many others who are making a terrible hash of it. And even the most successful single parents will usually agree that lone parenting is not the best option.

The trouble with Hollywood – and much of the nation's news media – is that so many of the folks who work there seem to have major problems telling the difference between the real world and the world of make-believe.

In the real world, babies dirty their diapers, have colic, experience teething trouble, develop diaper rash, howl all night, reject their bottles, refuse to burp and contract all manner of frightening illnesses.

In the world of make-believe, of course, they do all these things, too. But in the world of make-believe, the baby and parent are following a script. Things turn out happily – or unhappily -- in exactly the manner the scriptwriter dictates.

The real world, however, is by no means so tidy. In the real world, there is nobody to write the screenplay. People don't have the comfort of knowing that all will be well when the

movie is in the can.

In the real world people speak their own lines. And if they're tempted to follow Hollywood's script, they are likely to end up in awful trouble – because the real world doesn't conform to Hollywood's rules.

When things go wrong in the real world, they tend to stay wrong because there is no scriptwriter to tie up the loose ends and give the story a happy ending.

Wishing on a star makes sense only in Tinsel Town. The real world works according to an older and entirely different maxim: "If wishes were horses, beggars would ride."

In the real world, there is only one person who can play God -- and that's God, himself. The devil may try to make you think otherwise, but he's lying.

This, perhaps, lies at the heart of the problem. Hollywood has treated producers, directors, scriptwriters and actors as gods for so long they have lost sight of the real one. If Hollywood truly wants to get back in touch with the real world, it needs to get back in touch with God.

As things stand, there is something decidedly bizarre about Hollywood and its media groupies presuming to advise folks who live in the real world how to live their lives.

A glance behind the tinsel shows the reality of the lives of many denizens of Hollywood bears little resemblance to the screenplays served up on TV and in our movie houses.

Hollywood has been trying to follow its own script for best part of 70 years and the toll in wrecked and broken lives is quite incalculable. It's high time we said: "Physician, heal thyself." **GPH**

FROM THE REV. DR. JOHN WORGUL

Courses for Fall Semester

THE Holy Trinity Theological College and Seminary has created a new program, the Associate in Theological Studies (A.T.S.) and is also opening its Master of Ministry Courses to all people – clergy and lay – who would like to audit them in

Join us to hear

ST. STEPHEN'S CHOIR OF MEN & BOYS CHORAL EVENSONG

6.00 PM Sunday, October 4th, 2009

order further their biblical theological knowledge. .

The ATS program consists of six courses and three seminars that can be completed in three years. There is one course per term, and each course meets for eight weeks on Monday evenings. A certificate from the Seminary will be granted to those who complete the program.

Our first course offering is: **SF110 Walking With God: The Joseph Story**. We will carefully work through Genesis 37-50 taking note of the Hebrew text, literary structure, and spiritual significance of this timeless story. **Place, time and dates:** We meet from 7:15-9:15 PM. Classes will be held at St. Stephen's Church, 11856 Mays Chapel Road, Timonium, MD 21093. The course begins on Monday, September 21st, and ends on Monday, November 9th.

To join the A.T.S. program, classes are \$200.00. To audit the course, the cost is \$150.00. Make Checks payable to Christ the King Church marked "Seminary."

The following Master of Theology courses are being offered: **TH501 Systematic Theology***: An overview of Christian theology. With special focus on how theology is necessary for

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR
THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
Sunday, September 20th, 2009**

8:00 AM & 9.15 AM
HOLY COMMUNION

The Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18
The Gospel: St. Matthew 6:24-34

11.15 AM MORNING PRAYER

The Psalter: Psalm 34

First Lesson: Joel 2:21-27

Second Lesson: St. Matthew 6:24-34

daily life It will meet from 7:30-10:00 PM on Friday.:
September 18; October 2, 23; November 20; December 18.

BS501 Pentateuch*: An overview of the first five books of the Bible With special focus on how the ancient Hebrews thought theologically. It will meet from 9:00 AM-4:00 PM: on Saturday **Sept. 19; Oct. 3, 24; Nov. 21; December 19.**

* Both courses are being taught in the Parish House at Christ the King Church; 1102 Hart Road, **Towson, MD 21286.** The Audit fee is \$150.00 each plus \$25.00 for BS501 Saturday Lunch. The instructor is The Rev. Dr.. John Worgul, Ph.D.

For more information contact Dr. John Worgul, Dean, (410) 861-6876 or frjworgul@yahoo.com

COLLECT FOR THE WEEK

Fourteenth Sunday After Trinity

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, give unto us the increase of faith, hope and charity; and that we may obtain that which thou dost promise, make us to love that which thou dost command; through Jesus Christ our Lord *AMEN.*

The Book of Common Prayer, Page 209

✠ **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 Ven. Guy P. Hawtin
ASSOCIATE RECTOR: The Rev. James V. Johnson, Jr.
VICARS: The Rev. Rhae E. Kelley, 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, Joseph, Joshua, Rachel, Frank, Carl, Charlotte, Cal, Catherine, Sam, Rosemary, Ruth, Kristi, Paul, Sue, 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, William, Betty, Cal, Wendell, Trisha, Peggy, Linda, Millie, Dorcas, Walt, Bruce, Cienna, Tracy, Tom, Lelilah, 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, 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, Geradine, Thomas, Jeanne, Sister Catherine-Grace, Ann Sharon, Dennis, Mae, Anita, Marilyn, Lawrence, Rebecca, Dorothy, Joanne, Albion, Martha, Jackie, Charles, Tony, Edward, Kim, Vivian, John, & Maxine.

LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Richard, 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, John, Robert, Mary, Michael

ON ACTIVE SERVICE: Col. Scott Taylor, U.S. Arny, 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.

**THE HYMNS FOR THE
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

Sunday, September 20th, 2009

PROCESSIONAL: 498 (Gardiner)
Where cross the crowded ways of life

GRADUAL: 535 (Festal Song)
Rise up, O men of God!

SERMON: 337 (Rockingham)
When I survey the wondrous cross

COMMUNION HYMN: 200 (St. Thomas)
Therefore we, before him bending

RECESSIONAL: 562 (Webb)
Stand up, stand up for Jesus

**St. Stephen's Traditional
Episcopal Church**

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