

St. Stephen's News

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

Vol. XX, Number 43

Edited by Anne Hawkins

November 3rd, 2009

FROM THE RECTOR

Rewriting history spells the death of democracy

MOST people, I'd venture to guess, quietly breathed a sigh of relief when New Year festivities ushered in 1985. We had gotten through 1984 without author George Orwell's graphic prophecies of a grim totalitarian future being realized.

Feelings of relief, however, were decidedly premature. Granted we don't live in a dictatorship, but at least two of the predictions Orwell made in his prophetic novel have already become a reality: First, we, as a nation, are deliberately rewriting our history. Second, political correctness is radically restricting our ability to express our thoughts.

The central character in "1984" is Winston, who works in a civil service department engaged in constantly rewriting history to conform with political ideology. At the same time, the language is also being restructured in order to make it impossible to formulate, express and discuss politically incorrect ideas.

The purpose is to enable the dictatorship to perpetuate its power by controlling the minds of the people. The only permissible reality is the politically acceptable reality -- and that, of course, is not reality at all: "War is peace"; Hate is love"; "lies are truth", etc.

And this pretty well describes the process at work in our schools, universities, legislatures and, perhaps even more worrying, in our courtrooms. Children are forbidden to utter Christian prayers in public, (Muslim prayers, of course, are perfectly acceptable). A 60-years-old war memorial on federal land in the shape of a large cross is claimed to be unconstitutional by the American Civil Liberties Union on the grounds it violates "the separation of church and state."

Our Founding Fathers, however, did not, in that sense, erect "a wall of separation between Church and state." You will not find these words or any thing like them anywhere in the Constitution or the Bill of Rights.

The phrase has been taken -- entirely out of context -- from a private letter written by Thomas Jefferson to a Baptist inquirer. In it, he points out that the Founding Fathers deemed it inappropriate to establish a single Christian denomination as a federal state church.

Their purpose was to protect the Church from the federal government; not, as is now asserted, the reverse. Even so, many people seem convinced the Founding Father opposed any public expression of Christianity.

And they believe this because history has been deliberately falsified: An instance of this is the promulgation of the notion that George Washington and many other Founding Fathers were "deists" -- a religious concept that denied the validity of the Christian revelation.

The truth is that with the exception of Jefferson and possibly Franklin (neither of whom favored the exclusion of Christianity from national public life), the vast majority of the nation's founders were not "deists." They were, in fact, fervent Christians. ■ George Washington, a

church warden and active Episcopal layman, asserted: "True religion offers to Government its surest support." (By "true religion," he was referring to Christianity, not just to any religion.)

■ John Quincy Adams declared: "The highest glory of the American Revolution was this: It connected in one indissoluble bond the principles of civil government with the principles of Christianity."

■ Patrick Henry, a devout Presbyterian, stated in his will that the Christian faith was the most valuable legacy that he could bestow on his children: "If they had that and I had not given them one shilling, they would have been rich; and if they had not that and I had given them the world, they would have been poor," he wrote.

Thus, far from erecting a "wall of separation" between the Church and the nation's public life, it seems clear that the Founding Fathers expected -- indeed, demanded -- that the new nation be governed according to Christian principles.

Efforts to rewrite the history we find embarrassing or inconvenient are not simply foolish, they are downright dangerous. Doing so deprives us of the means of avoiding the pitfalls of the past and the legal precedents necessary for setting things right.

It is the truth that makes us free. Lies, as Hitler's propagandist, Dr. Josef Goebbels, so effectively demonstrated, accomplish precisely the reverse. **GPH**✕

FROM THE CHOIRMASTER

Choral Evensong for All Saints on November 1st

THE Feast of All Saints will take place on Sunday, November 1st and in celebration St. Stephen's Choir of Men & Boys will sing a festival Choral Evensong

Join us to hear

**ST. STEPHEN'S
CHOIR OF MEN & BOYS
EVENSONG FOR ALL SAINTS
6.00 PM Sunday, November 1st, 2009**

The music will feature T. L. Victoria's motet *O quam gloriosum* and Herbert Howell's *Magnificat* and *Nunc dimittis*, written for the Choir of King's College, Cambridge.

Evensong, a fusion of the monastic prayer offices of Vespers and Compline, is one of the jewels of the Anglican tradition. Presented by St Stephen's Choir of Men & Boys on the First Sunday of every month, Choral Evensong begins at 6.00 PM and generally lasts between 35 and 45 minutes.

Evensong is an ideal opportunity to introduce someone new to St Stephen's. Visitors from all faith traditions are always heartily welcomed to join us in prayer, and all are invited to stay for a light reception following the service.

For more information, please visit us online www.MaysChapelBoychoir.com/evensong. **ADRIC**

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR
THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS
Sunday, Trinity XXI, Ovember 1st, 2009

8:00 AM, 9.15 AM & 11.15 AM
HOLY COMMUNION
The Epistle: Revelation 7:2-17
The Gospel: St. Matthew 5:1-12
FOR YOUR AM MORNING PRAYER
The Psalter: Psalms 1 & 15
First Lesson: *Wisdom (Apocrypha)* 3: 1-9
Second Lesson: St. Revelation 19:1-16

FROM THE PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE

How to get to the Shrivvers

THE Annual Fall Picnic & Blessing of the Hounds takes place on Twentieth Sunday After Trinity, October 25th. Here is how to get there:

Take Route 140 (Reisterstown Rd.) north, past Maryland College, to Route 31. Turn left at blinking lights. Continue four miles to the old New Windsor Rd. Turn right on to the old New Windsor Rd. (at Windsor Livestock Auction). Continue for two miles to the Wakefield Bible Church. Turn right on to John Hydes Rd. Continue for a mile and a half, crossing a small bridge and a larger one, to Ruth Shriver Rd. (on right). The Shriver's Farm is the first on the right.

COLLECT FOR THE WEEK

The Twenty First Sunday After Trinity

Grant, we beseech thee, merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord AMEN.

✠ 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: Perry, Shirley, Deborah, Kimberly, Dean, Barb, Tanya, Jane, Brook, Val, Helen, Joseph, Joshua, Rachel, Frank, 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, 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, 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, Eudora, 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.

LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Robert & Renee, Lydia; Richard, Melba, Debbie, Phyllis, Georgetta, Carolyn, 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; David

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

THE HYMNS FOR
THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS

Sunday, November 1st, 2009

PROCESSIONAL: 126 (Sine nomine)
For all the saints

GRADUAL: 397 (Dundee)
Let all the saints in concert sing

SERMON: 130 (All Saints)
Who are these like stars appearing

COMMUNION HYMN: 129 (Bourgeois)
Joy and triumph everlasting

RECESSIONAL: 599 (Vigiles & Sancti)
Ye watchers and ye holy ones

Return Service Requested

St. Stephen's Traditional
Episcopal Church
11856 Mays Chapel Road
Timonium, MD 21093

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TIMONIUM MD
PERMIT NO. 181