

St. Stephen's News

St. Stephen's Anglican Church,
Timonium, Maryland

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Edited by Anne Hawkins

September 13th, 2011

FROM THE RECTOR

It's not at all easy not being green

NOT SO LONG ago I used to complain about the enormous volume of junk mail clogging my mailbox. That, however, is a thing of the past. Today the problem is the vast quantity of e-mail clogging my computer.

Back in those dear dead days of yesteryear, it was a simple matter to sort the junk from the good stuff. All it took was a glance at the envelope. Not so, e-mail. It is not mail from friends and acquaintances that's the problem, but the messages from people I don't know or whose e-mail addresses I don't recognize.

The spam filter on my Mac turfs out the most egregious spam – the million dollar offers from Mr. Chauncey Jones-Brown, Esq. of Lagos, Nigeria, for example – but often it jettisons the good along with the bad. Thus, I still need to sort out my spam. The following is a message from a friend saved from the spam can. I thought it worth sharing. GPH✘

IN THE QUEUE at the store, the cashier told an older woman that she should bring her own grocery bags because plastic bags weren't good for the environment. The woman apologized to him and explained, "We didn't have the green thing back in my day."

The clerk responded, "That's our problem today. Your generation did not care enough to save our environment."

He was right -- our generation didn't have the green thing in its day.

Back then, we returned milk bottles, soda bottles and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilized and refilled, so it could use the same bottles over and over. So they really were recycled. But we didn't have the green thing back in our day.

We walked up stairs, because we didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. We walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time we had to go two blocks. But she was right. We didn't have the green thing in our day.

Back then, we washed the baby's diapers because we didn't have the throw-away kind. We dried clothes on a line, not in an energy-gobbling machine burning up 220 volts -- wind and solar power really did dry the clothes. Kids got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new clothing. But that old lady is right; we didn't have the green thing back in our day.

Back then, we had one TV, or radio, in the house -- not a TV in every room. And the TV had a small screen the size of a handkerchief (remember them?), not a screen the size of the state of Montana. In the kitchen, we blended and stirred by hand because we didn't have electric machines to do everything for us.

When we packaged a fragile item to send in the mail, we used a wadded up old newspaper to cushion it, not Styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap. Back then, we didn't fire up an engine and burn gasoline just to cut the lawn. We used a push mower that ran on human power.

We exercised by working so we didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity. But she's right; we didn't have the green thing back then.

We drank from a fountain when we were thirsty instead of using a cup or a plastic bottle every time we had a drink of water. We refilled writing pens with ink instead of buying a new pen, and we replaced the razor blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor just because the blade got dull. But we didn't have the green thing back then.

Back then, people took the streetcar or a bus and kids rode their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their moms into a 24-hour taxi service. We had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And we didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 2,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest pizza joint.

Isn't it sad that the current generation laments how wasteful we old folks were just because we didn't have the green thing back then?

Remember: Don't make old people mad. We don't much like being old in the first place, so it doesn't take much to tee us off.

AN EAGLE'S EYE VIEW

There isn't much dignity being called a 'weagle'

THE ENGLISH are practical people and their church buildings have traditionally served secular ends as well as spiritual needs. Weather and time, for example, are age-old human preoccupations. Long before the advent of television and radio, townspeople and country folk felt a need to keep a close eye on both, and, in the days before weathermen and wristwatches were invented, they looked towards church towers for answers.

Church towers have been decorated with wind vanes and timepieces since the Dark Ages. In the 11th century, churches were required by papal edict to display images of roosters on their towers or roof peaks. The purpose of this was to remind the people that St. Peter denied Christ thrice before the cock crowed twice.

The idea quickly spread to England, where it was adopted with enthusiasm, not for love of the papacy but because they discovered that a rooster fashioned out of wood or iron made an excellent wind vane. This is why the English call a wind vane "a weather cock" and their understandable obsession with the weather explains why England's ancient parish churches are decorated with a rooster wind vane rather than a cross.

Frankly, I think they would have done a lot better to

St. Stephen's
Choir of Men & Boys
will hold its next
Choral Evensong
on the first Sunday in October,
Sunday, October 2nd
at 6.00 PM
A reception will follow

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

being Sunday, September 18th, 2011

8.00 AM & 9.15AM

HOLY COMMUNION

The Epistle: Galatians 3:16-22

The Gospel: St. Luke 10:23-37

11.15 AM MORNING PRAYER

The Psalter: Psalms 112

The First Lesson: Deuteronomy 24:10-22

The Second Lesson: St. Luke 10:23-37

have chosen an eagle to top their churches. A rooster, after all, is simply a jumped up chicken -- and where's the dignity in that, I ask you?

But may be it was entirely for the best that folks chose chickens to tell the direction of the wind. It is, after all, hard to shorten the word "weathercock." However you can bet your life that weather eagles would soon be called "weagles" -- and that's too close to "weasel" for comfort.

Church towers were also decorated with sundials a` la St. Stephen's. Often they were elaborate affairs, embellished not only with gilded scrollwork, but also with proverbs and religious texts. Parish clocks, sad to say, have increasingly displaced the sun dial. **ISAAC EAGLE**

FROM THE PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE

Burnham returns as James I

FOUR hundred years ago the King James Version of the Bible was published. But in just four weeks, you can learn about the man behind the book!

To mark the 400th anniversary of the KJV, St Stephen's proudly presents **Howard Burnham's** characterization of the King who ordered the most famous English version of the Book of Books. Burnham's acclaimed characterization gives an entertaining, amusing, and accurate portrait of

the quirky king—the first to rule both Scotland and England—who gave us the inestimable KJV. Mark your calendars Tuesday, September 27th, at 7:00 PM.

✠ 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 prayer list, or to the visiting list, or to join the Prayer Chain, call the parish office at 410 560 6776.

RECOVERY: Mary, Adele, Reta, Sara, Michael, Tammy, Sophie, Gracie, Paula, Blair, Jim, Melvin, Noah, Mavis, Heather, Laurie, Diane, Don, Lynn, Helen, Katherine, Hindra, Ravi, Elizabeth, Brian, Tracey, Linda, Robert, Nancy, Edithann, Doris, Jay, Perry, Amelia, Shirley, Adrian, Kimberly, Dean, Barb, Tanya, Jane, Brook, Val, Helen, Joseph, Joshua, Rachel, Carl, Cal, Catherine, Sam, Ruth, Kristi, Paul, Sue, Patty, Antonio, Lauren-Michelle, McKayla, Randy, Jack, Grace, Bob, Fran, Carolyn, Ken, Serina, Wyatt, Bobby, Alexander, Erlene, Kathleen, Earle, Judy, William, Betty, Trisha, Peggy, Linda, Millie, Walt, Bruce, Cienna, Tracy, Tom, Lelilah, Jennifer, Miriam, Karen, George, Eliza, Mel, John, Randy, James, Sarah, Linda, Suzanne, Marian, Steven, Jeanne, Tammy, Ellen, Patricia, Bonnie, Mary Ann, Robert, Christine, Dee, Brian, Barbara, Gillian, Eileen, Matthew, Bryan, Jason, Jane, Joan, Frances, Pat, Michael, Ray, Leslie, Brandon, May, Scott, Stephen, Robert, Danny, Billy, Betty-Ann, Mildred, D'Metrius, Laura, Stacey, Frank, Alma, Christine, John, Henry, Naomi, Pam, Ben, Kevin, Gwen, Gloria, Lee, Emily, 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, *Albion, Martha, Jackie, Charles, Tony, Edward, Kim, Vivian and Carol.

LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Rosa, June, Anna, Jean, Garrett, Ned, & Stephen, Rachel, Robert & Renee, Lydia, Richard, Melba, Debbie, Phyllis, Carolyn, Suzanne, Tony, Erik, Doris, Drake, Bobby, Kay & Emma, Gillian, Beverly, Adrienn, Jhana, Marla, Matthew, Joan, David, Laurie, Ellen, Lynn, Mildred, Sarah Lee, Tom, Susan, 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, Stephen, Carol, Sandra, John, Mary, Michael and David

ON ACTIVE SERVICE: LTC R.J. Lytle, PFC Charles E. Heintz, IV, USA; Lt. Benjamin Schramm, USMC; Lt. Alex Bursi, USN; Capt. Charles Bursi, Lt. Col. Harry Hughes, USAF.

REPOSE OF THE SOUL: Thomas Worthington Brundige.

✠ St. Stephen's Anglican Church ✠

11856 Mays Chapel Road, Timonium, MD 21093
Tel.: Office (410) 560-6776; Rectory (410) 665-1278
Web Address: ststeve.com.

RECTOR: The Venerable Guy P. Hawtin
VICAR: The Rev. Rhae E. Kelley

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

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

(1st Sun. of the month: Choral Evensong at 6.00pm)

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Wednesday: 6.00pm Evening Prayer

Friday: Noon: Healing Eucharist

Saturday: 5.00 PM Family Eucharist.

COLLECTS FOR THE TENTH

ANNIVERSARY OF SEPTEMBER 11TH

PRAYER FOR VICTORY

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, we humbly beseech Thee, of Thy great goodness, graciously hearken to us who call upon Thee that, armed with Thy power, we may overcome the oppression and wickedness of our enemies and establish Thy justice among men and nations. *AMEN*

A PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE

ALMIGHTY God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed; Kindle, we pray thee, in the hearts of all men the true love of peace, and guide with thy strong and peaceful wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquility thy kingdom may go forward, till the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of thy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *AMEN*

Return Service Requested

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