

# St. Stephen's News

St Stephen's Anglican Church,  
Timonium, Maryland

Vol. XXIII, Number 7

Edited by Anne Hawkins

February 28th, 2012

## FROM THE RECTOR

### Good intentions pave the road to perdition

THE ON-GOING obsession with political correctness continually gives me "a sense of deja vu all over again" as Yogi Berra so memorably put it.

I was just 13 years old when I first encountered it in George Orwell's terrifying novel *Nineteen Eighty Four*. A scant 10 years later, I came face-to-face with the horrifying reality of applied political correctness in the Soviet Bloc.

There's nothing particularly new about the notion of suppressing unacceptable ideas and recasting current and historical events to conform with contemporary political fashion.

It is a favorite tool of tyrants seeking to control subject people. But here in today's America a majority of the folks promulgating politically correctness appear to be motivated by a desire to avoid giving offense to their fellow men.

But, far from being beneficial, the consequences of their good intentions are terribly dangerous:

Political correctness prevents us from discussing serious, but painful, issues arising from such matters as race, sex and equality of opportunity. It also deprives us of the ability to comprehend the true lessons of history.

Analyzing the political, economic and sociological events past enables us to strive to emulate our ancestors' successes and avoid their failures. But, as the philosopher George Santayana observed, if we are unable to learn from history, we will be doomed to repeat it.

Many of Russia's current problems, for example, are the legacy of more than 70 years of political correctness. Its history has been so extensively and systematically falsified, it is difficult to tell fact from fiction.

No Russian history book, for example, can give a true figure for those who died in the gulag. The number is put at 20 million or so, but it's only an estimate. The lack of hard facts have made it difficult to discredit utterly Lenin and the Communist Party.

Researching the history of the Soviet economy is an even more complicated task. It is virtually impossible to sort fact from fiction when skewed statistics from government ministries are compounded by, say, falsified production returns from factory managers.

The problems are exactly the same in a sociological sphere. For example, the Soviets used to boast that crime wasn't a problem in their major cities. Criminality, they claimed had virtually disappeared as a consequence of the revolution.

This was pure humbug. The Soviets and their satellites averted their eyes to the legion of mobsters who exploited the shortages that are endemic in socialized economies. And those same gangsters are now undermining both Russia's moral fabric and its economic stability.

The deliberate falsification of Soviet history has made it useless as an analytical tool. A pack of lies is not a valid yardstick by which to measure anything. This, in turn, has made cleaning up the mess the communists left behind an absolute nightmare.

Thanks to our own current obsession with political correctness, a similar, though slightly more subtle, falsification of the past is under way in the U.S. Important elements of our history are being suppressed. Others are being invented out of whole cloth.

St. Stephen's  
Choir of Men & Boys  
A CHORAL EVENSONG  
FOR ST DAVID'S DAY  
at 6.00 PM  
at The Parish Church  
Sunday, March 4th, 2012

For example, Western culture – the crucible of American democracy – is unjustly denigrated in the nation's schoolrooms. At the same time, barbaric native societies are falsely portrayed as fundamentally more civilized and humane than the European settlers' culture.

The foundational role played by Christianity in framing the United States' Constitution and forging its system of government is being suppressed. Instead, students are led to believe that the nation was founded by skeptics who sought to shelter government and the people from "oppressive"

**PLEASE DON'T FORGET!!**  
**THE SUNG EUCHARIST**  
**BEGINS AT 9 AM ON SUNDAY FROM**  
**NOW ON, REPEAT 9 AM**

nature of Judeo-Christian thinking.

Politically correct historians even have effrontery to claim that George Washington – a loyal Anglican vestryman – rejected the divinity of Jesus Christ. Yet his prayer for the nation gives the lie to the notion.

The folks who engaged in falsifying the historical record in this fashion claim that their efforts will make people who are not of European stock, and who adhere to religions other than Christianity or Judaism, feel more comfortable here.

Such delicacy of feelings might be admirable, but they are based on a profound misunderstanding of human nature. The reason non-European, non-Judeo-Christians come to America is precisely in order to enjoy the freedoms and opportunities offered by a nation governed according to the Judeo-Christian principles laid down by our founding fathers.

Like it or not, our governing elite need to accept the fact that our Anglo-Saxon founding fathers' principles were unswervingly Christian. Denying this truth puts at risk the liberty we so casually take for granted. **GPH**

## FROM ISAAC EAGLE

### Sung Eucharist starts at 9 AM from now on!

THIS IS an irritating repeat of the Rector's gentle reminder: On the First Sunday in Lent (that was February 26th) the Sung Eucharist started at its new time 9.00 AM.

The idea is that it will make life easier for the clergy, leave more time for adult education and give the choir a tad more rehearsal time.

Change always takes getting used to, but we hope you will persevere, and ultimately welcome it. It allows us to enjoy a short coffee break, while making time for a discussion group between the 9.00 AM and 11.15 AM services.

Our plan is to use the Lenten Season as an ecclesiastical "shake-down cruise" so to speak, and to institute the discussion group after Easter. Suggestions would be much appreciated. Remember I've got my eye on you. **ISAAC**

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR  
THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**

Being Sunday, March 4th, 2012

**8.00 AM, 9.00AM & 11.15 AM**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

The Epistle: I Thessalonians 4:1-8

The Gospel: St. Matthew 15:21-28

**FOR YOUR MORNING PRAYER**

The Psalter: Psalms 86 & 142

The First Lesson: I Kings 8:37-43

The Second Lesson: Colossians 3:12-17

**THE LENTEN STUDY**

**All you want to know  
about Christianity etc . . .**

THIS YEAR'S Lenten Study will be a freewheeling series of five seminars entitled "*All You Wanted To Know About Christianity But Never Had The Courage To Ask.*" The series will begin on Wednesdays at 6.45 PM (after Evening Prayer) starting on February 29th and continuing until March 28th.

Participants will join in a "no holds barred" interchange with a panel of five experts on everything from Archaeology to Zwingli and all stops in between. If you are puzzled by the relationship of Jerusalem (old and new) with Christianity, have at it. If you would like to know the real cause of England's row with Rome, just ask. If you want to find out about sex and "Original Sin," or the pros and cons of infant baptism, or Essenes and the Dead Sea Scrolls, or the "lost Books of the Bible" just raise a hand.

As usual we will be offering nourishment for the body as well as the soul -- a hearty soup, the best bread in Baltimore and choice of beverages. If that's not enough, bring a sandwich.

**✠ 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:** Riley, Sallie, Linda Lou, Cynthia, Goff, Robert, Nancy, Judith, Deborah, Dorothy, Dr. Devadadson, Thelma, Mary, Adele, Linda, Jan, Liz, Bob, Wyatt, Jim, Reta, Sara, Tammy Sophie, Paula, Blair, Melvin, Noah, Mavis, Heather, Laurie, Diane, Don, Lynn, Helen, Katherine, Hindra, Ravi, Elizabeth, Brian, Tracey, Robert, Nancy, Edithann, Jay, Perry, Amelia, Shirley, Adrian, Kimberly, Dean, Barb, Tanya, Jane, Brook, Val, Joseph, Joshua, Rachel, Carl, Cal, Catherine, Sam, Ruth, Kristi, Paul, Sue, Patty, Antonio, Ray, Lauren-Michelle, McKayla, Randy, Jack, Grace, Fran, Carolyn, Ken, Serina, Wyatt, Bobby, Alexander, Erline, Kathleen, Earle, Judy, William, Betty, Trisha, Peggy, Linda, Millie, Walt, Bruce, Cienna, Tom, Leliliah, Jennifer, Miriam, Karen, George, Eliza, Mel, John, Randy, James, Sarah, Linda, Suzanne, Steven, Jeanne, Tammy; Ellen, Patricia, Bonnie, Mary Ann, Christine, Dee, Brian, Barbara, Gillian, Eileen, Matthew, Bryan, Jason, Joan, Frances, Pat, Michael, 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, Dorothy, Joanne, ✠Albion, Martha, Jackie, Charles, Tony, Edward, Kim, Vivian, Doris, Carol, Suzie and Jennifer.

**LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE:** Jennifer, Brendan, Rosa, June, Anna, Jean, Garrett, Ned, Stephen, Rachel, Robert & Renee, Lydia, Richard, Melba, Debbie, Phyllis, Carolyn, Suzanne, Tony, Erik, Drake, Bobby, Kay & Emma, Gillian, Beverley, 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, Charles Watts, USN; Capt. Charles Bursi, Lt. Col. Harry Hughes, USAF.

**FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL:** George

**FOR THOSE WHO MOURN:** Carroll & Shelly Browne and family.

**✠ 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](http://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: Said Eucharist

9.00am: Sung Eucharist (*with Nursery & Church School*)

11.15am: Choral Mattins (*1st Sunday: Choral Eucharist*)

6.00pm: Choral Evensong (*1st Sunday only*)

**WEEKDAY SERVICES**

Wednesday, 6.00pm: Evening Prayer

Friday Noon: Healing Eucharist

Saturday, 5.00 pm: Family Eucharist.

**COLLECTS FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN  
LENT & ST DAVID OF WALES**

O LORD, who for our sake didst fast forty days and forty nights; Give us grace to use such abstinence, that, our flesh being subdued to the Spirit, we may ever obey thy godly motions in righteousness, and true holiness, to thy honour and glory, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *AMEN.*

*Book of Common Prayer, Pages 125*

ALMIGHTY GOD, who called thy servant David to be a faithful and wise steward of thy mysteries for the people of Wales: Mercifully grant that, following his purity of life and zeal for the gospel of Christ, we may with him receive our heavenly reward; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who livest and reignest with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *AMEN*

Return Service Requested

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St. Stephen's Anglican Church

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