

# St. Stephen's News

St Stephen's Anglican Church  
Timonium, Maryland

Vol. XXIV, Number 20

Edited by Don Ruthig

May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013

## A sheep's tale

"And he shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young." Sheep are mentioned in the Bible over 500 times and, even though most of us have never been exposed to sheep farming, we have a kind of heuristic understanding of the metaphors.

But a few of us recently got a crash course in sheep that lends a clarity to the Biblical references we never expected to have.

As you may know, Ellen Reather has a small flock of sheep; nine ewes to be exact, known affectionately as "the mamas who munch" (apologies to the Ladies who Lunch).

Last fall George, the ram, came to visit the girls and get to "know" them, and, sure enough a few weeks ago the evidence of his presence began to appear. By the end of the week eight lambs had joined the flock, bearing witness to George as every bit a Lothario.

Living just across the street from Ellen's pasture, Karen and I have enjoyed the flock vicariously, occasionally feeding them Saltines and refilling their water bowl in the heat of summer, so it is no surprise that lambing season has been a particular pleasure for us.

When we went to show the lambs to Karen's niece after church a couple of weeks ago we noticed that one of the ewes was in the process of delivering a lamb, in fact, the lamb's head had emerged from the birth canal. She seemed to be having trouble delivering but we assumed that she would complete the delivery in her time.

Later in the afternoon, dressed for Evensong, we decided to stop by again and check on the lamb. The unfortunate creature was still in the same position some four hours after we had first seen it. After a quick caucus with Ellen we decided we had to help the ewe finish the delivery, even though the lamb appeared stillborn.

Ellen herded the ewe into the stall and I grabbed her head to hold her while Ellen tried, to no avail, to help her birth the lamb. We changed positions but still with no success, except that the lamb opened its mouth. It was alive! There was no question what to do: call Dave Matthews, a sheep farmer and Ellen's sheep expert.

Without hesitation Dave knew what had to be done. The lamb had to be delivered or both lamb and mother would be lost. Ellen put me on the phone for a brief course in sheep anatomy and lamb delivery, and then we swung into action.

First, a quick run home to don my grubbier jeans and grab a bunch of rubber gloves. Second, a little anesthetic - not for the sheep, for me - a couple of glasses of champagne in anticipation of a successful delivery. And then down to work.

At the laundry sink we scrubbed, just like we'd seen a million times on Dr. Kildare, and put on our rubber gloves. Ellen stationed herself at the ewe's head to hold her steady and keep her calm. I had the business end. The goal was to find the lamb's front legs and get them free to emerge next to its head. Its right leg was located quickly but the left leg eluded me for quite some time until finally I hooked it with my finger and managed to pull it free. Shortly thereafter the rest of the lamb followed and we had delivered a living, breathing being. The sense of exhilaration was indescribable. Of course, more champagne was a must!

Unfortunately the trauma of his entry into this world was too much for little Donnie, as he was called. He only made it for a couple of days, but we rejoice in an experience we never dreamed we would have and in the survival of his mother.

End of story? Not quite.

While all of this was going on we noticed that one of a pair of twins born a week earlier was being shunned by its mother. This occasionally happens for a variety of reasons, in this case it may be that this lamb was a runt, being significantly smaller than the rest of the lambs.

We spoke with Dave again and decided that this lamb would have to be removed from the flock and bottle fed if it was to survive. The next morning we went to find him and finally located

## Calendar of Events

### Weekly Activities at St Stephens

**Tuesdays, 7.00 AM:** Bible Study at the Nautilus Diner

**Wednesdays, 5.00 PM:** Bible Study in the vestibule

**Thursdays, 10.00 AM:** Knitting Circle meets in the Parish Hall

**Thursdays, 7.00 PM:** Bridge Group meets in the Parish Hall

**Fridays, 10.30 AM:** Bible Study in the vestibule

### Special Events

**Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Monthly In-gathering for At Jacob's Well

**Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Evensong at 6.00 PM

**Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>:** Service for the Ordering of Deacons at 4.30 PM. Reception to follow.

**Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>:** Parish Life Committee meets at 7.00 PM in the Parish Hall

**Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>:** First "Silly Summer Supper" of the season at 5.30 pm in the Parish Hall

**Wednesday, June 26<sup>th</sup>:** Vestry meets at 7.00 PM in the vestibule

**Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>:** Parish Picnic at the home of Ellen Reather

him nestled in a hole at the base of a tree out in the pasture, totally neglected by his mother and the rest of the ewes.

Dave brought us an emergency supply of lamb formula to tide us over and now, two weeks later, Ryan (as in "Saving Private Ryan") tippy-taps his way around our kitchen and sunroom, wearing pampers and feeding on four bottles a day, usually sitting on mother Karen's lap. Kaleb, our hyperactive Doberman, has resigned himself to his new brother and ignores him, except for the occasional lamb/dobie races around the kitchen. Never a dull moment in the Ruthig house. **DPR**

**SAVE THE DATE: SUNDAY, JUNE 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2013**

## Bishop Vaughan to Ordain St Stephen's Postulants

SUNDAY, June 9<sup>th</sup>, will be a special day for our postulants, Michael Belt and John Novicki, as well as for St Stephen's. Bishop John Vaughan will be conducting a special service for The Ordering of Deacons at 4.30 PM in the sanctuary, at which time Michael and John will be receiving their orders as admitted Deacons.

Please join us to celebrate this important milestone in the spiritual journey of our postulants.

Following the service there will be a reception at the home of Colby and Wiley Hawks, 7809 Bellona Avenue, Ruxton. Please RSVP to Colby and Wiley at 410-321-8308 if you plan to attend.

**FROM THE LADIES WHO LUNCH**

## Join us June 19<sup>th</sup>

THIS month the Ladies Who Lunch will be meeting at 12 noon at Tark's Grill, 2360 W. Joppa Road, Lutherville, on Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>. Why not join us for a convivial get-together over a delicious meal? Good food and good fellowship -- what more could you want? To reserve your place call Joyce Perlberg at 410-252-2680.

## Monthly In-gathering for At Jacob's Well - Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>

### THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013

**8.00 AM, 9.15 AM & 11.15 AM HOLY  
COMMUNION**

The Epistle: I St. John 4:7-21

The Gospel: St. Luke 16:19-31

**For your MORNING PRAYER**

The Psalter: Psalm 73

The First Lesson: Jeremiah 23:23-32

The Second Lesson: St. Matthew 7:13-14, 21-29

Hindra, Ravi, Elizabeth, Brian, Tracey, Edithann, Jay, Perry, Amelia, Shirley, Adrian, Kimberly, Dean, Barb, Tanya, Jane, Brook, Joseph, Joshua, Rachel, Carl, Cal, Catherine, Sam, Ruth, Kristi, Paul, Sue, Patty, Antonio, Lauren-Michelle, McKayla, Randy, Jack, Grace, Fran, Carolyn, Ken, Serina, Wyatt, Bobby, Alexander, Erlene, Kathleen, Earle, Judy, William, Betty, Trisha, Peggy, Linda, Millie, Walt, Bruce, Cienna, Tom, Lelilah, Jennifer, Miriam, Karen, George, Eliza, Ray, Mel, John, Randy, James, Sarah, Linda, Suzanne, Steven, Tammy, Ellen, Patricia, Bonnie, Mary Ann, Christine, Dee, Brian, Barbara, Gillian, Eileen, Matthew, Bryan, Jason, Joan, Frances, Pat, Michael, Brandon, May, Scott, Stephen, Danny, Billy, Betty-Ann, Mildred, D'Metrius, Laura, Stacey, Frank, 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, Thomas, Jeanne, Maxine, Ann, Sharon, Dennis, Mae, Anita, Marilyn, Lawrence, Joanne, Martha, Jackie, Charles, Tony, Edward, Kim, Vivian, Doris, Fran, Carol, Jimmy, Felicia, Susan, Anita, Christina, Dawn and Suzie.

## Sunday Discussion Group

JOIN us on Sunday mornings between the 9.15 and 11.15 services for a lively discussion of the collects and lessons appointed for that day.

We meet upstairs in the Rector's office immediately following the 9.15 service. The discussions are led by Dan Bursi.

### ✠ PARISH PRAYER LIST ✠

OUR Prayer Chain offers prayer daily for people on the Prayer List as well as the guests of the Joseph Richey Hospice & Dr. Bob's Place. 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:** Brice, Reta, Willie, Stacy, Kathleen, Michael, Finton, Morris, Charles, Dawn, Betty Jean, Elliot, Sharon, Paul, Andy, Michael, Rosina Donna, Diane, John, David, Richard, Bill, Charlotte, Leo, Riley, Mary-Ann, Linda Lou, Cynthia, Nancy, Judith, Deborah, Dorothy, Thelma, Mary, Linda, Jan, Liz, Bob, Wyatt, Jim, Reta, Sara, Tammy Sophie, Paula, Blair, Melvin, Heather, Laurie, Lynn, Katherine,

**LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE:** Hope, JoAnn, Larry, Aaron, Hope, Tom, Rosa, June, Anna, Jean, Garrett, Dean, Ned, Stephen, Rachel, Lydia; Richard, Melba, Debbie, Phyllis, Carolyn, Suzanne, Tony, Erik, Bobby, Kay & Emma, Gillian, Beverley, Adrienn, Jhana, Marla, Matthew, Joan, Laurie, Ellen, Lynn, Mildred, Sarah Lee, Susan, Kathy, Owen, Douglas, Amy, JoAnne, Mary, Gregory, Isabel, Bobby, Dorothy, Darren, Scott, Rebecca, William, Charles, Joyce, Asfa, Eleanor, Kathy, Linda, James, Barry, Ann, Evelyn, Jeanette, Elizabeth, Virginia, Mildred, Chris, Carol, Sandra, John, Mary, Michael, Drake, Emily, and David

**ON ACTIVE SERVICE:** PFC Charles E. Heintz, IV, USA; Lt. Benjamin Schramm, USMC; Lt. Alex Bursi, Capt. Charles Bursi, Lt. Nicholas Clouse, USN. Lt. Col. Harry Hughes

**REPOSE OF THE SOUL:** Gerradine

**FOR THOSE WHO MOURN:** The Finn 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

PREBENDARY: The Rev. Rhae E. Kelley

VICAR: The Rev. Michael Kerouac

ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER: Adric

DIRECTOR OF PASTORAL CARE: Happy Riley  
(410-252-8674)

WEDDING CO-ORDINATORS: Happy Riley (410-252-8674)  
Martha Miller (410-321-9038)

#### SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00 am: Said Eucharist

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

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

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

#### WEEKDAY SERVICES

Wednesday, 6.00 pm: Evening Prayer

Friday Noon: Healing Eucharist

Saturday, 5.00 pm: Family Eucharist.

### COLLECTS FOR Trinity Sunday and Bede the Venerable

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who hast given unto us thy servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of the Divine Majesty to worship the Unity; We beseech thee that thou wouldest keep us stedfast in this faith, and evermore defend us from all adversities, who livest and reignest, one God, world without end.

AMEN

*Book of Common Prayer, Page 186*

HEAVENLY father, who didst call thy servant Bede, while still a child, to devote his life to thy service in the disciplines of religion and scholarship; Grant that as he labored in the Spirit to bring the riches of thy truth to his generation, so we, in our various vocations, may strive to make thee known in all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

AMEN

Return Service Requested

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