

St. Stephen's News

St Stephen's Anglican Church
Timonium, Maryland

Vol. XXIV, Number 31

Edited by Don Ruthig

August 13th, 2013

FROM THE VICAR

The Difficult Gift

ST. STEPHEN'S is a truly special place. As Carolyn and I have transitioned here over the last 9 months, the unique character of the parish forced us to make an unexpected change in our lives. Like many of you, we were always the "givers" in our parish community, but once we got here, we were flooded with hospitality, kindness and generosity. Suddenly, the shoe was on the other foot, and we were "receivers".

It seems as if the shift to "receiving" should be a simple and joyous adjustment, and yet, it is not. The grace to receive hospitality is one that I have needed to develop. Honestly, the only way I learned to be comfortable was to understand that by "receiving," by making myself vulnerable, forsaking my stubborn self-reliance, I was "giving" in return. I was allowing those whose generosity was being offered to be blessed by their hospitality.

Of course, that humility is reflected in the way we come to the altar. We make ourselves vulnerable, we acknowledge our limitations and sin, and we offer them to Our Lord. Though we could never repay Him for His love, and the love that extended to offering His only Son that we might have life, we please him when we humbly and appreciatively accept His gifts, especially the gift of grace and life that are offered in the Eucharist. Truly, learning to be "receivers" of the hospitality of our parish is a lesson for us that has deep spiritual value.

I mention all this, because I see in many of the parishioners of St. Stephen's, a similar hesitancy to receive. I hear from Carolyn, or from one of you, that a parishioner has been sick, has been dealing with a family crisis, or even mourning the passing of a loved one, and yet, the community, parish life, even the clergy were not informed.

No one understands the discomfort that comes from making oneself vulnerable by sharing a need, and facing the onslaught of kindness that is St. Stephen's character better than I do. Yet, we do ourselves harm when by pride and self reliance, we deny the community the opportunity to be graceful, to imitate Christ, to reach out and comfort us in our needs, even when we think those needs aren't deserving of the attention that awaits. Being in community, in a parish, requires that we allow the community to be blessed by sharing our burdens.

Honestly, as awkward as we can imagine receiving a meal, or a prayer, or a kind visit when we are unprepared for company might be, the reality is that the tangible fruit of a loving community does provide comfort. We are not meant to suffer alone and in silence, we are meant to carry each burden with joy and love. In the end, it may be that the willingness to be vulnerable and ask for help is the example that will allow one of our parish family members to do the same, and allow us to be the their comfort, grace and hospitality.

Please, let parish life, the clergy, even your pew mate know when you or the people you love are hurt or hurting.. Bless us all by letting us share and ease your burden.

FROM THE SUB-DEACON

My Library

I JUST spent seven glorious days with my wife, son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren at Lewes, Delaware. The trip really was great, relaxing, too much to drink, etc., but now I'm back in my favorite room, the sub-deacon's man cave. The joy and pleasure of just hiding up here with a great (to me) tome, my dog Garrett, my feet up, and a little libation is high living.

Father Guy once remarked "Wiley, you are going to have the best library of bibliographies I've known." Next to my collection of genealogy books, my true love is history and theology. For example take Jerusalem, the history by Simon Sebag Montefiore. It is a great book on the history of Jerusalem.

Calendar of Events

Weekly Activities at St Stephens

Tuesdays, 7.00 AM: Bible Study at the Nautilus Diner

Thursdays, 10.00 AM: Knitting Circle meets in Quimby Hall

Thursdays, 6.30 PM: Superior Summer Supper, Quimby Hall

Thursdays, 7.00 PM: Bridge Group meets in Quimby Hall

Fridays, 10.30 AM: Bible Study in the Cadwalader Room

Special Events

Wednesday, August 14th: Ladies Who Lunch, Ginza Restaurant, 12.00 Noon.

Wednesday, August 21st: Vestry Meets in the Cadwalader Room, 7.00 PM

Sunday, September 8th: Parish Picnic at the home of Ellen Reather

Now, my academic education ranks equal to or a grade above The Fonz from the TV series Happy Days, but in my old age my mind has cleared from the haze of the 60's. I find that my curiosity about names, places, tribes, and religions is uncontrollable.

Back to Father Guy's remark, Jerusalem's Notes and Bibliography go from page 569 to page 627 and I am trying to buy all the books I can, from Baibars The First, by Abdul-Aziz-Khowaiter, to a book best under brown paper wrappers, The Secret History of Procopius, An Ecclesiastical History, by Eusebius, to Saladin In His Time, by P. H. Newby. All of which came from one bibliography list.

Colby thinks it's a sickness when most days the postman brings packages from around the world to me (Thank you ABEBOOKS.Com). But I find that the more I can learn from writers on the past, especially the past as it relates to my savior Jesus Christ, the closer I am brought to knowing, loving, fearing and worshipping my God.

It must be working, just look at the collar with electrical tape I've been sporting since March.

God Bless,
Sub-deacon Wiley

PS: I just bought a 6 volume set of C.H. Spurgeon, The Treasury of David, Expositions on Psalms, 1882. One problem though, it stopped at psalm 125, so if anyone has Volume Seven I would love to study Psalm 137.

FROM THE PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE

Healthy Body, Healthy Soul Cookbook

Our 2013 St Stephen's Cookbook, scheduled to premier at this year's Cookie Walk, will be a compilation of the parish's favorite healthy recipes.

After all, we have to do something to counteract all those wonderful high calorie, high fat treats that tempt us off our diets during the holidays.

There are lots of categories of healthy recipes to choose from: fat free, low sugar, low sodium, reduced cholesterol, high fibre, gluten free -- the list goes on. And just because they're low on some of the bad things, these recipes are high in the most important quality - flavor.

Please scour your recipe box for your favorites and send them via email to Petrus@ststeve.com, or drop them off in the Parish Office. There are copies of an informative brochure in the Cadwalader Room or on our website.

Deadline for submissions is September 29th. Bon appetit!

NEW TIME!! Superior Summer Suppers - Thursdays at 6.30 PM. Join Us!

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE
TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

August 18th, 2013

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

The Epistle: II Corinthians 3:4-9

The Gospel: St. Mark 7:31-37

For your MORNING PRAYER

The Psalter: Psalm 32, 126

The First Lesson: Isaiah 29:18-24

The Second Lesson: St. Mark 7:31-37

FROM THE LADIES WHO LUNCH

Join us on August 14th

THIS month the Ladies Who Lunch will be meeting at 12.00 Noon at Ginza Restaurant, Yorktowne Plaza Shopping Center, 56 Cranbrook Road, on Wednesday, August 14th. 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

✠ 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: Fr Guy✠, Charlotte, Susan, Brice, Reta, Kathleen, David, Evelyn, Ellen, Mimi, Val, Stacy, Dino, 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, Sara, Tammy Sophie, Paula, Blair, Heather, Laurie, Lynn, Katherine, Hindra, Ravi, Elizabeth, Brian, Tracey, Edithann, Jay, Perry, Amelia, Shirley, Adrian, Kimberly, 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, Erline, Kathleen, Earle, Judy, William, Betty, Trisha, Peggy, Linda, Millie, Walt, Bruce, Cienna, Tom, Leliliah, Jennifer, Miriam, Karen, George, Eliza, Ray, Mel, John, Randy, James, Sarah, 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, JoAnne, 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, Christina, Dawn, Shirley, Daniel and Suzie.

LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: JoAnn, Larry, Aaron, Hope, Bob, Paige, 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, 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, Daniel, 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, Ian Cadwalader serving in Afghanistan.

✠ 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

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 THE Eleventh Sunday
after Trinity and the Assumption of
the Blessed Virgin Mary**

O GOD, who declarest thy almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity; Mercifully grant unto us such a measure of thy grace, that we, running the way of thy commandments, may obtain thy gracious promises, and be made partakers of thy heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

AMEN

Book of Common Prayer, Page 204

O GOD, who hast taken to thyself the blessed Virgin Mary, mother of thy incarnate Son: Grant that we, who have been redeemed by his blood, may share with her the glory of thine eternal kingdom; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

AMEN

Return Service Requested

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