

St. Stephen's News

St Stephen's Anglican Church
Timonium, Maryland

Vol. XXV, Number 19

Edited by Don Ruthig

May 20^h, 2014

STATE OF THE PARISH REPORT

Rector's Report 2013/14

IT IS fervently to be hoped that in the coming year the two priests who serve the parish will both be able to remain perpendicular at the same time.

This, lamentably, was not the case in the year 2013/14. No sooner had the hospital and dialysis center managed to get my kidneys working again than Father Kerouac, our vicar, fell and broke his thigh.

Nevertheless, in all other respects, 2013/14 was an excellent year for St. Stephen's. Not least, it saw the ordination of two deacons – **The Rev. Mr. Michael Belt** and **The Rev. Mr. John Novicki** – and the setting apart of a sub-deacon, **Mr. Wiley Hawks**.

This coming September, our bishop, The Rt. Rev. John Vaughan, plans to be here to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the dedication of our parish church and the 25th anniversary of my call to the rectorship of St. Stephen's.

During his visit, Bishop Vaughan, God willing, will ordain Deacons Belt and Novicki to the priesthood and Mr. Hawks to the diaconate.

Meanwhile our two deacons and Mr. Hawks have measurably increased our ability to minister to the parish and the community. The deacons have enhanced the liturgy, while Mr. Hawks, together with **Happy Riley**, our **Director of Pastoral Care**, have greatly expanded the parish's ministry in our local health care facilities and retirement communities.

St. Stephen's provides chaplains for organizations including the **U.S. Navy League**, the **Ancient & Honorable Mechanical Company of Baltimore** and the **St. George's Society**. We also offer pastoral care and support at **The Joseph Richey Hospice**, **Union Memorial Hospital** and **The Greater Baltimore Medical Center**.

Our clergy and pastoral care staff conduct regular church services at retirement communities and nursing homes, including **Glen Meadows**, **Mays Chapel Ridge**, **Powerback at Brightwood**, **Genesis at Mays Chapel**, **Lorien at Mays Chapel**, **Broadmead**, **College Manor** and **Roland Park Place**, as well as occasional services at other communities including **Heart Homes**, **Blakehurst**, **Edenwald** and **Keswick**.

The parish continues its monthly collections of non-perishable foodstuffs and household goods for **At Jacob's Well**, a charity that helps Baltimore's mentally ill homeless population.

I am also very glad to report that **Anne Hawkins**, who retired last year after 15 years as a much loved Director of Pastoral Care, still helps out – and not just with pastoral care. Annie's culinary talents are legendary and, thankfully, she continues to share them generously.

The **Parish Life Committee** has gone from strength to strength under the joint chairmanship of **Priscilla** and **Dick Huffman**. The remarkable success of both the **2013 Cookie Walk** and the **2014 Garden Party** are, largely, a testament to their organizing ability.

Happily, **Donna Szper**, who retired in 2012 as **Cookie Walk and Garden Party organizer**, appears well on the road to recovery from her bout with illness. The diocesan synod would not be the same without the delegate duo of **Donna** and **Rosa Halbert**, a/k/a "**Trouble One and Trouble Two**."

On a rather less cheerful note, **Fr. Rhae Kelley and his wife, Molly**, departed St. Stephen's in the fall for a new home – and a new calling – in South Carolina. Bishop Vaughan has appointed Fr. Rhae to be **Dean of the Carolinas**.

The Friday morning **Bible Study** is led by **Fr. Kerouac** and **Brock Johnson**, who also does sterling service as Director of Adult Education, lay reader, Sunday School teacher and catechist.

The **Knitting Circle** – mentored by **Karen Ruthig** and **Cinde Baker** – meets in the parish hall on Thursdays at 10 AM to produce beautifully crafted comforts for the patients at local health care facilities, retirement communities and folks on the parish sick list. New members are always welcome,

Calendar of Events

Weekly Activities at St Stephen's

Mondays, 6.30 PM: Bridge Club meets in Quimby Hall
Tuesdays, 7.00 AM: Breakfast Fellowship at the Nautilus Diner

Thursdays, 10.00 AM: Knitting Circle meets in Quimby Hall
Fridays, 10.30 AM: Bible Study in the Cadwalader Room

Special Events

Wednesday, May 21st, 12.15 PM: The Ladies Who Lunch at the Macaroni Grill

Wednesday, May 21st, 7.00 PM: Vestry meets in the Cadwalader Room

Sunday, May 25th, 10:30 AM: Annual Parish Meeting in the Cadwalader Room

Thursday, June 19th: Silly Summer Suppers begin

The newsletter now has a new editor – **Don Ruthig** – and comes to you courtesy of the hard-working mailroom team: **Donna Szper**, **Joyce Perlberg (and Misty)**, **Mar Bopst** and **Jim Halbert**. (If you change your address or if you're going away for few days, please let them know so they can make the necessary adjustments to the mailing list.)

The Parish Life Committee organized a host of other events, including a diet-busting Shrove Tuesday Pancake & Sausage Supper and an extraordinarily successful Gourmet Dinner and Auction.

The committee's Silly Summer Suppers ran through the summer and into the fall, attracting an enthusiastic following not only among parishioners, but among folks in the neighborhood.

The parish owes a considerable debt of gratitude to the Vestry for its work in overseeing the parish's affairs. They are **John Cobb**, Rector's Warden; **Don Ruthig**, People's Warden; **Gordon Turner**, People's Warden Emeritus, and **Paul Douglas**, warden's assistant; **William Hawkins**, treasurer; **Dr. Kirby von Kessler**, registrar; **Sev Miller**; **Brock Johnson**, **Donna Szper**, and **J. Brice Richardson**, who is a member of the diocesan Standing Committee.

At this year's annual meeting, we shall be filling three vestry positions. The nominees are: **William Hawkins**, **Brock Johnson** and **Dr. von Kessler**, all retiring vestrymen.

The building and grounds have never looked better thanks to **Grounds Chairman Martha Miller**, **Buildings Chairman Don Ruthig** and **Brock Johnson** (a.k.a. "**Sparkles**"), who lead a team of enthusiastic volunteers, including **Colby Hawks**, **Judy Elliot**, **Sev Miller** and **Bill Hawkins**.

Thanks to the creativity of **Adric**, **Organist & Choir Master**, the **Choir of Men & Boys** has maintained a remarkably high standard despite an acute shortage of trebles.

We are always on the lookout for trebles, experienced singers, as well as probationers and learners. If you know a boy who would enjoy singing and who would appreciate a splendid musical education – all for free – please let us know his name. We'd love to recruit him.

Adric and the choir have also maintained their splendid Choral Evensong program. These services are generally sung on the first Sunday of the month.

The choir sings only Evensong on the first Sunday of the month as well as regular services of Choral Eucharist and Mattins. The officiant at Mattins and Evensong is usually **Peter Threadgill**, our head lay reader and resident composer.

Our lay readers are **Gordon Turner**, **Paul Douglas**, **Dan Bursi**, **J. Brice Richardson**, **Bob Reynolds**, **Dr. Kirby von Kessler** and **Chris Browne**.

St. Stephen's Ladies Who Lunch, under the leadership of **Joyce Pearlberg**, have enjoyed another year of fellowship and fine dining.

The **Altar Guild**, led by **Ellen Reather** and assisted by **Judy**

Celebrate our Parish Church - Our Twentieth Anniversary Year

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR
ROGATION SUNDAY**

May 25th, 2014

8.00 AM & 9.15 AM AM HOLY COMMUNION

The Epistle: St. James 1:22-27

The Gospel: St. John 16:23-33

11.00 AM CHORAL MATTINS

The Psalter: 65,67

The First Lesson: Ezekial 34:25-31

The Second Lesson: St. John 16:23-33

Kight, Anne Hawkins, Colby Hawks, Priscilla and Dick Huffman, John and Diane Novicki and William Spicer, has had another busy year. Membership is open to both men and women. If you are interested in this vital work, please contact the parish office or an Altar Guild member. We are also looking for more **ushers** – particularly for the 11.15 AM Sunday service.

Our thanks goes to Sunday School teachers **Diane Novicki, Tracey Gushue, Tracey Collins, Alison Belt and Brock Johnson**. Diane also leads the **Junior Altar Guild**.

Our talented **Flower Guild** continues to deck the sanctuary with spectacular floral arrangements. It was hard to imagine the church appearing more beautiful than it did at Christmastide until we saw the Easter flowers.

Almost last, but very far from least, our long suffering treasurer **Bill Hawkins** would like to remind you that finances always get tight as summer approaches.

Family vacations tend to play havoc with church cash flow. If

you are planning a trip, Bill would very much appreciate it if you paid your pledge before you went away, rather than upon your return.

Meanwhile, if you would like to keep abreast of parish affairs, check a date, read a sermon, hunt through ancient newsletters or just browse generally, our website is the place to do it. You will find it at our web address: www.ststeve.com **GPH**

FROM THE LADIES WHO LUNCH

Plan to join us on May 21st

THIS month the Ladies Who Lunch will be meeting at **12.15pm** at the Macaroni Grill on Padonia Road on Wednesday, May 21st. 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 Mike✠, Fr Tim✠, Carolyn, Hilarie, Vivian, Jack, Suzie, John, Rodney, Hamilton, Donald, Annie, Evelyn, Cal, Finton, Fran, Tracey, Linda Lou, Edie, Adele, Baby Charlie, Angie, Oona, Cary, Janna, Martina, Leela, Bobby Sally, Isabelle, Julie, Ray, Courtney, Mary, Phyllis, Liz, Joe, Indra, Ally, Marjorie, Steve.

LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Stephen, Ann, Lydia, Remi, Melba, Donna, Josh, Kim, Shane, Susan, Paula, John, Hannah.

ON ACTIVE SERVICE: Lt. Benjamin Schramm, USMC; Lt. Alex Bursi, Capt. Charles Bursi, Lt Nicholas Clouse, USN. Lt. Col. Harry Hughes.

✠ **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 Rev. Canon Guy P. Hawtin

VICAR: The Venerable 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)*

11.00 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.

COLLECT FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY
AFTER EASTER and DUNSTAN,
ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY

ALMIGHTY God, who showest to them that are in error the light of thy truth, to the intent that they may return into the way of righteousness; Grant unto all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's Religion, that they may avoid those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ.

AMEN

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O GOD of truth and beauty, who didst richly endow thy bishop Dunstan with skill in music and the working of metals, and with gifts of administration and reforming zeal: Teach us, we beseech thee, to see in thee the source of all our talents, and move us to offer them for the adornment of worship and the advancement of true religion; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

AMEN

Return Service Requested

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