

St Stephen's News

ST STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH • TIMONIUM, MARYLAND

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A parish in the classical Anglican tradition

19 May 2015

STATE OF THE PARISH REPORT

Rector's Report 2014/15

The year 2014/15 was a splendid year for St Stephen's. The most joyous occasion of the year was our 20th Anniversary Celebration, which was marked by the ordination of two new priests (**Fr Michael Belt** and **Fr John Novicki**) and a deacon (**The Rev. Mr Wiley Hawks**), as well as the setting apart of a sub-deacon (**Mr Dan Bursi**). It was also the 25th anniversary of my call to the rectorship of St Stephen's.

What's more, this June the parish will host the Annual Diocesan Synod. And during the course of it **The Rt Rev. John Vaughan**, our Bishop Ordinary, will, God willing, ordain two deacons **Dan Bursi** and **Mark Newsome**, and confer Anglican Orders on Episcopal priest, **Robert Ludwig**.

Frs Belt and Novicki have already made their mark on the parish. Fr Novicki has taken on the role of Youth Director, while Fr Belt has joined the preaching rotation.

Meanwhile, the indefatigable **Deacon Hawks**, together with **Happy Riley**, our Director of Pastoral Care, has continued to expand the parish's ministry in our local health care facilities and retirement communities.

St Stephen's provides chaplains for organisations including the **U.S. Navy League**, **The Ancient & Honourable 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**, **College Manor**, **Broadmead** 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 after 15 years as a much loved Director of Pastoral Care, continues her work on a voluntary basis – and not just with pastoral care. Annie's culinary talents are legendary and, thankfully, she continues to share them generously, especially with her very popular Afternoon Teas.

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

The **Knitting Circle** – mentored by **Cindie Baker** – meets in the parish hall on Thursdays at 10am 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.

Adric, our choirmaster and organist, has taken over as editor of the newsletter following the departure of **Don Ruthig**.

Joyce Perlberg and her faithful dog **Misty** have retired as leaders of the Mail Room Team. Meanwhile team members **Mar Bopst**, **Anne Hawkins**, **Barbara Parker** and **Happy Riley** would be overjoyed if a few more volunteers arrived to help them. (By the way, 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** has gone from strength to strength under the joint chairmanship of **Priscilla** and **Dick Huffman**. The remarkable success of both the **2014 Cookie Walk** and the **2015 Garden Party** are, largely, a testament to their organising ability.

Mark you, scarcely less vital for the success of the parish's social life are **Martha Miller**, prototype for the Energizer Bunny, **John Karlsen**, a man with a remarkable talent for interior decoration, and **Colby Hawks**, whose exquisite taste and remarkable diplomatic skills, ensure both the Cookie Walk and Garden Party run smoothly.

The Parish Life Committee organised a host of other events, including a diet-busting Shrove Tuesday Pancake & Sausage Supper. 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 neighbourhood.

The parish owes a considerable debt of gratitude to the Vestry for its work in overseeing the parish's affairs. **John Cobb**, Rector's Warden (who is currently recovering from by-pass surgery) and **Registrar Sev Miller** have done sterling work revising the Parish By-laws. Their results of their handiwork will be presented to the upcoming Parish Annual Meeting.

Last year the parish bade farewell to People's Warden **Don Ruthig** and his wife, Karen, who have moved to the Eastern Shore of Virginia. **Donna Szper**, who is still recovering from a serious illness, also tendered her resignation from the vestry. The vestry invited long time parishioner **John Woodall** to take Donna's place.

The vestry also recognised that with the expansion of the church buildings the job of People's Warden – the officer responsible for the church fabric – has become an onerous burden for just one person. Therefore the members also appointed **John Woodall** and **John Karlsen** to succeed Mr Ruthig.

Thanks are also owed to vestrymen are **Gordon Turner**, People's Warden Emeritus, and **Paul Douglas**, warden's assistant emeritus; **William Hawkins**, our hard-working treasurer; **Dr Kirby von Kessler**, **Brock Johnson**, and **J. Brice Richardson**, who is also a member of the diocesan Standing Committee. At this year's annual meeting, we shall be filling three vestry positions. The nominees are: **John Woodall**, **J. Brice Richardson** and **Sev Miller**, all retiring vestrymen.

The building and grounds have never looked better thanks to Grounds Chairmen **Martha Miller** and **Dick Huffman**, Buildings Chairmen **Don Ruthig** (now retired), **John Woodall** and **John Karlsen**, not forgetting **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 and Choirmaster, the **Choir of Men & Boys** has maintained a remarkably high standard despite an absence of boy 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 hire him.

The choir have maintained their splendid **Choral Evensong** programme. These services are generally sung on the first Sunday of the month. In addition, the choir sings regular services of Choral Eucharist and Choral Mattins. The officiant at Mattins and Evensong is usually **Peter Threadgill**, our head lay reader.

Our lay readers are **Gordon Turner**, **Paul Douglas**, **Brock Johnson**, **Bob Reynolds**, **Dr Kirby von Kessler** and **Chris Browne**.

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

The **Altar Guild**, led by **Priscilla Huffman**, **Ellen Reather**, **Judy Kight** 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 11am Sunday service.

Our thanks goes to Sunday School teachers **Diane Novicki** (who also leads the **Junior Altar Guild**), **Tracey Gushue**, **Tracy Collins**, **Alison Belt** and **Brock Johnson**. The Sunday School teachers ran a highly successful Vacation Bible School in 2014 and are hoping for even greater success this year.

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

The Ladies will lunch on 20 May

This month the Ladies Who Lunch will meet at Michael's Cafe on Wednesday, 20 May at noon. Michael's is located at 2119 York Road in Timonium. (Visit michaelscafe.com to view a menu.) Why not join us for a convivial get-together over a delicious meal? Good food and good fellowship – what more could you want? Please ring Joyce Perlberg on **410 252 2680** to make your reservation; she will need a final count by the 18th.

FROM THE CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School: Savannah Safari

St Stephen's will be offering Vacation Bible School once again this summer for children ages 4 through 10. Vacation Bible School will take place from Monday, 22 June to Friday, 27 June from 9am–noon. This year's theme is 'Savannah Safari – Where Kids Discover How Love H.E.L.P.S. Others'. It is themed around life in an African village and is based on the Parable of the Good Samaritan.

There will be a modest \$20 fee to cover snacks, crafts and supplies. To process your child's registration, please telephone the church office on **410 560 6776** and speak to Happy Riley.

The 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. To add a name to the prayer list, or to the visiting list, or to join the Prayer Chain, ring the parish office on 410 560 6776.

FOR REPOSE OF THE SOUL: David

FOR RECOVERY: John ✠, Hilarie, Jack, Donald, Evelyn, Cal, Finton, Edie, Cary, Judy, Julie, Phyllis, Steve, Wendy, Matthew, Adele, Starr, Helen, Emily, Kathleen, Marty, Don, Linda, Elizabeth, Mary Lou, Cathy, William, Dan, Lindsey, Shelby, Olan, Rob, Dick, Melissa, Ned, Paula

FOR LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Stephen, Melba, Susan, Scott, Charles, Vinnie, Doug, Rusty, Ian, Lydia

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

Office: 410 560 6776 · Rectory: 410 665 1278

Pastoral Care: 410 252 8674

www.ststeve.com

The Ven. Canon Guy P. Hawtin, *Rector*

The Ven. Michael Kerouac, *Vicar*

The Rev. Michael Belt, The Rev. John Novicki, *Associate Rectors*

The Rev. Mr M. Wiley Hawks, *Deacon* · Adric, *Magister Chori*

Mrs Happy Riley, *Director of Pastoral Care & Wedding Coordinator*

SUNDAY SERVICES

8 am: Said Eucharist

9.15 am: Choral Eucharist (with Nursery & Church School)

11 am: Choral Mattins (1st Sunday: Sung Eucharist)

6 pm: Choral Evensong (as announced: evensong.ststeve.com)

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Wednesday, 6 pm: Evening Prayer

Friday, 12 noon: Healing Eucharist

Saturday, 5 pm: Family Eucharist

Calendar of Events

WEEKLY

Mondays, 6.30 pm: Bridge Club

Tuesdays, 7 am: Fellowship Breakfast (Nautilus Diner)

Thursdays, 10 am: Knitting Circle

Fridays, 10.30 am: Bible Study

MONTHLY & SPECIAL

Wednesday, 20 May, 12 noon:

The Ladies Who Lunch meet at Michael's Cafe

Thursday, 21 May, 2 pm:

Afternoon Tea

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