

St Stephen's News

ST STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH · TIMONIUM, MARYLAND

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A parish in the classical Anglican tradition

22 December 2015

FROM THE RECTOR

The Cookie Walk: a great success against the odds

This year the economy, the weather, the U.S. Postal Service, and sheer dumb luck conspired against the Cookie Walk. But, despite the odds stacked against it, St Stephen's 26th Annual Cookie Walk was nonetheless a remarkable success.

Parish Life Committee Treasurer, Cindy Baker, reported that takings on the day of the Cookie Walk itself totalled a hefty \$8,214. That's no small potatoes ... and an awful lot of cookies.

While receipts for the day were below last year's total figure, it should be remembered that sales continue two weeks or so after the Cookie Walk closes its doors. Thus this year's total can be expected to increase considerably, although it is unlikely to equal or exceed 2015's record-breaking total of \$9,736.

Hindsight is always 20/20, but a number of factors appear to have been working against this year's Cookie Walk, not least the feeble economy and consequent weak consumer confidence.

The weather also played a role in depressing sales. With Christmas still

three weeks away, mild weather does not encourage folks to get into the Yuletide spirit. There's nothing like a nice cold snap for cookie sales.

Our Cookie Walk is no longer simply a neighbourhood affair. It has evolved into a community institution, with customers drawn not merely from Timonium and Cockeysville, but from all over Baltimore.

And the failure of the U.S. Post Office to deliver our press handout to the Towson Times and The Sun paper in time for publication meant the word did not get out to many of our regulars. Next year we will forget about snail mail and notify them by e-mail.

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 RECOVERY: Hilarie, Jack, Cal, Phyllis, Edie, Will, Adele, Linda, Elizabeth, Shelby, Melissa, Sandra, Ralph, Nathan, Hobie, Hayley, John, Nancy, Jon, Gloria, Judy, Pam, Neal, Aida, David, Betty, Helen

FOR LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Stephen, Melba, Scott, Vinnie, Doug, Ian, Lisa, Carey, Ned, Cindy

ON ACTIVE SERVICE: Lt Alex Bursi, Capt. Charles Bursi, Lt Nicholas Clouse, USN; Lt Col. Harry Hughes; Lt Cdr Emma Hawkins, RN

Christmastide Services

CHRISTMAS EVE

Thursday, 24 December

4pm: Children's Crèche Service

7pm: Family Candlelight Eucharist

10.30pm: Choral Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY

Friday, 25 December

10am: Sung Eucharist

SAINT STEPHEN'S DAY

Saturday, 26 December

5pm: Said Eucharist

SAINT JOHN'S DAY

Sunday, 27 December

8am: Said Eucharist

9.15am: Choral Eucharist

11am: Choral Mattins

SAINT SYLVESTER'S DAY

New Year's Eve, Thursday, 31 December

11.15pm: Said Eucharist

THE CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST

New Year's Day, Friday, 1 January 2016

10am: Said Eucharist

CHRISTMAS II

Sunday, 3 January 2016

8am: Said Eucharist

9.15am: Sung Eucharist

11am: Sung Eucharist

Finally in this sad saga, our intrepid jam maker, Cindy Baker, injured her shoulder half-way through her production run and was only able to produce about half of her usual quantity.

Cindy's jams are deservedly a great favourite. Even so, perhaps some other folks might also consider stepping up to the jam-making plate next year.

However one cannot reasonably expect to break records every year. The world just doesn't work that way. And it would be sheer ingratitude not to recognise that this year's Cookie Walk was indeed another tremendous success – thanks once again to your wonderful cookies.

The parish owes all this to extraordinary teamwork on the part of the Parish Life Committee crew, headed by the redoubtable Dick and Priscilla Huffman.

A special vote of thanks goes to Cookie Walk coordinator, Brock Johnson; his brilliant assistant, Colby Hawks; Martha Miller, who fearlessly tackles the jobs nobody else has the stomach to take on; and Reta Richardson and her cookie sales crew.

But, actually, it is unfair to single out particular individuals for praise when so many were involved and when everybody worked so hard. The real heroes of this success story are you, the parishioners.

It is your talents, your crafts, and above all your glorious, utterly scrumptious cookies that have transformed the Saint Stephen's Cookie Walk from a humble church fundraiser to a Baltimore institution.

Putting on such an event is an immensely stressful business, but the good humour, kindness, and tolerance for which Saint Stephen's is noted ensured things ran as smoothly as possible.

We know that it's tough to summon up the enthusiasm to begin your Christmas baking ahead of time – especially when the temperature is in the balmy 50 degrees Fahrenheit – but every year you've come through and created a selection of fabulous cookies that have become a neighbourhood byword.

Cookie Walk, unlike other church bazaars, is all home-made. We don't use vendors, but rest our reputation of each of you. You have never let us down. You are the folks who give the Christmas spirit especially delicious flavour. **COH**

December Parish Life meeting recap

- **Cookie Walk** – Final figures for the Cookie Walk will be available at the next meeting, as there are continuing sales of items. Many positive comments were received, especially on the selection of cookies and the helpful, friendly volunteers.
- **Church decorating** – All are invited to help decorate the church for Christmas on Wednesday, 23 December at 10am.
- **Jewellery Auction** – postponed until a later date
- **Pancake Supper** – Shrove Tuesday, 9 February 2016
- **Security cameras** – Bids are being accepted for installation of cameras at the front and back of the church
- **At Jacob's Well** – Canned goods and cleaning supplies are collected on the first Sunday of month at the church font. Monetary donations can be made as well in the basket at the back of the church.
- **Parish Life notes** – Following monthly meetings, a recap of notes will be included in the church newsletter.

Parish Life meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month in the church library beginning at 7pm. All are welcome to attend. Complete meeting notes are available on the small table in the Cadwalader room.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWERS

To make a contribution towards the Church Christmas decorations in honour or memory of a loved one, please complete this form and return it with a cheque—payable to **St Stephen's Anglican Church** and marked for **Christmas Flowers**—by 21 December.

Name of Donor: _____

Poinsettia colour (*circle one*): RED · WHITE · PINK

Single (6 inches, 5–8 blooms) @ \$12 · # of plants: _____

Double (7 inches, 10–12 blooms) @ \$18 · # of plants: _____

Triple (RED only, 8 in., 12–18 blooms) @ \$27 · # of plants: _____

Total # of plants: _____ Total amount enclosed: _____

My gift is... (*circle one*):

IN HONOUR OF · IN MEMORY OF · IN THANKSGIVING FOR

(dedication): _____

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, The Rev. Robert Ludwig, *Associate Rectors*

The Rev. M Wiley Hawks, *Pastoral Care Chaplain*

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 (1st Sunday) – evensong.ststeve.com

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Wednesday, 6 pm: Evening Prayer

Friday, 12 noon: Healing Eucharist

Saturday, 5 pm: Family Eucharist

Calendar of Events

WEEKLY

Monday, 6.30 pm: Bridge Club

Tuesday, 7 am: Fellowship Breakfast (Nautilus Diner)

Thursday, 10 am: Knitting Circle

Friday, 10.30 am: Bible Study

MONTHLY & SPECIAL

Tuesday, 12 January, 7 pm

Parish Life Committee meeting

Wednesday, 20 January, 12 noon

The Ladies Who Lunch

Thursday, 21 January, 2 pm

Afternoon Tea

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Timonium, MD 21093

11856 Mays Chapel Road

St Stephen's Anglican Church

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