

St Stephen's News

St Stephen's Anglican Church · Timonium, Maryland

Volume XXVIII, Number 19

A parish in the classical Anglican tradition

May 23rd, 2017

FROM THE PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE

A little bit of Britain in the heart of Timonium

There were sunny smiles – if not sunny skies – at this year's Garden Party and Fete. Again St Stephen's provided a bit of Britain to the neighborhood with authentic food, pub offerings, a maypole, and a festive lawn party atmosphere as only the British can provide. Gross receipts totaled over \$7,000.

The procession was piped in by the John F. Nicoll Pipe Band and our Master of Ceremonies, Bill Hawkins, kept events moving along during the day.

Professor Horn's Punch & Judy show was kept dry inside the church with children and adults alike enjoying the colorful new stage and puppets created in Europe.

No true British Garden Party could be complete without our many other booths: a jumble table, a Flower stall, a Bake table which sold out completely, books – some real bargains here! – a wine and spirits wheel,

The Barley Mow pub served pub grub and bangers close by. The Daughter of the British Empire brought their ever popular fascinators and British knick-knacks to sell.

The reenactment tent displayed uniforms, gear, and a field medical treatment center from WWII. Our court jester was royally costumed this year and thankfully the lord high Gaoler had few subjects in the stocks!

Games, face painting, and races were all part of the children's activities – our best-attended yet. The younger guests were delighted as they wove colorful ribbons in the maypole dancing.

Parish members and guests alike are always astonished at the transformation of Quimby Hall to a traditional British Tea Room, which served 117 this year. Complete with china tea cups, plates and "teabag" cookies, our teas get more beautiful each year.

Credit for our Facebook publicity goes to Peter Threadgill, whose Garden Party ad posts reached over 15,000 local residents.

The Baltimore Sun provided a colorful photo spread on Page 13 in the May 10th edition of the Towson Times.

We invite your feedback on continuing to make our Garden Party a successful event. Please e-mail any ideas or comments to Priscilla Huffman at priscillahuffman@verizon.net

Again, thanks for the extraordinary efforts on the part of our many volunteers. Those who missed out on the fun of preparation and organization, are invited to join the happy crew next year for camaraderie and fellowship!

PRISCILLA & RICHARD HUFFMAN

FROM THE RECTOR

The 'Grand Old Game' as a spiritual exercise

One of St Stephen's most memorable characters was Bill Downey, who passed away in November, 2001.

Bill was the parish's senior warden when I first arrived here some 28 years ago and not a day passes that I don't remember him with great fondness.

He was a prince of a fellow – generous, kindly, patient and unfailing polite. No less important, behind that affable exterior lay a steely inner resolve that served the parish well on many notable occasions.

I suspect this steely inner resolve also explained Bill's devotion to the game of golf. Although I'm no golfer myself, I

frequently find myself surrounded by them, and I am sure that it is only a steely inner resolve that enables them to stay focused on such a frustrating, not to say time consuming, pastime.

It was Bill's contention that it had been the game of golf that established 8.00 AM Eucharist as a Sunday institution. I asked him if he thought it might be a tad sacrilegious to attend a service simply because it afforded a good tee time afterwards. "Oh no," he replied, "It couldn't be that! Golf reinforces your Christianity."

*At first, I thought he was joking, but then I saw the steely glint in his eye. The next Sunday, he handed me the following article to amplify his contention. I hope you enjoy it as much as I do. GPH**

The Rector surely will arch an eyebrow (maybe two) at the following observations, but it is my intention to show in the least boring manner possible, the similarities of honest churchmanship to the determination of a dedicated golfer.

For those who have, at best, preconceived ideas about the Grand Old Game, let me just briefly try to define the fundamental facts about what it is.

First it is a GAME. It requires self-discipline, concentration, a plan and patience. It is governed world wide by one set of rules

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: Timothy, Peter, June, Hilarie, Sarah, Betsy, Edie, Alan, Terry, Helen, Jim, Linda, John, Judy, Neal, Aida, Stephen, Nathan, Hobie, Betty, Helen, Eunice, Tom, Robert*, David, Jan, Susie, Sophia, Bobby, Lee, Cary, Cour Marie, Joanna, Kendall, Ian, Gloria, June, John, David, Adrian, Michell, Aida, Mai, Al, Kathy & Don

FOR LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Stephen, Melba, Sam, Vinnie, Doug, Ian, Lisa, Carey, Cindy, Jacob, Casey, Beth, Erin and Aubery

FOR THE DEPARTED: Hilarie Greenston

FOR THOSE WHO MOURN: The Greenston Family

ON ACTIVE SERVICE: Lt Alex Bursi, Capt. Charles Bursi, Lt Nicholas Clouse, USN; Lt Col. Harry Hughes; MSGT Michael Holter, USAF; Cpt Fiodor Strikovski, US Army

covering every conceivable situation.

Now right here, a more scholarly work would insert a footnote to the effect that, being an invention of man some 500 years old, the rules have had to conform to endless numbers of situations previously inconceivable.

Nevertheless it is, and always has been since its inception, a game in which the object is to propel a ball with a stick over a prescribed course of terrain and into a hole in the fewest possible strokes.

And the basic rule for 500 years has been and continues to be that one plays the ball as it lies, neither improving nor changing its position. So much for the religion of golf. Now, to my analogy.

Not everyone who shouts "Fore, Fore" shall enter the kingdom of Old Tom Morris, Bobby Jones or Jack Nicklaus.

As we said, golf is a game for anyone silly enough to challenge it. The fact that there are great numbers of people who do, made it obvious long ago that there was opportunity for the few skilful

practitioners to make a living teaching us hackers how to better our hacking. Obvious also was the fact that a gathering of these masters of the game made for a popular spectacle. Thus it can be legitimately stated that golf is a business. But only secondarily. Primarily, golf is a game.

The four requirements of the game, previously stated, are certainly admirable ambitions for everyone. Physical coordination, of course, is involved and is something we all have, to whatever degree God intended, but the flawless variety of a ballet star or a trapeze artist is not required for the game.

Few of us can claim the mental capacity to concentrate on one objective for upwards of four hours. The self-discipline required to accept an otherwise excellent stroke that hits a pebble and ends up in a sand bunker puts a strain on the saintliest of men. The strategy one plans for the best route to a given hole may not have accounted for a gust of wind, or an unbalance swing, but patience might provide a result that cancels the error.

Through all of this, I have failed to point out that one never plays the game of golf by one's self. That would be practice only. The rules stipulate the order of play (the liturgy), and each player is silent and motionless while the other struggles with his ability without delay.

We can put an end to this tedious analogy by telling the story (parable) of a fine local golfer seated by a lovely young lady at a dinner party. Searching for a conversational jump-start, she gushed, "I hear you are an excellent golfer. Is that true?" The young man blushed in reply, "That's like asking me if I am a good Christian. If I really am, I don't think so." BILL DOWNEY

FROM MITCH & DEVON ROCK

Join us for the Bible's advice about managing your money

Join us for Financial Peace University, a presentation of Dave Ramsey's video series. Financial Peace University changes lives through wise money management focused on building wealth and eliminating debt. Learn how God's principles for finance can make a difference in your life and improve your relationships.

There are over 2000 verses in the Bible that relate to finances. 16 out of the 38 parables deal with money. God has something to say to us. Are we listening?

The average person taking this class pays off \$5300 and saves \$2700. Join us to learn together how God can impact you and those around you to experience financial peace. The class will be hosted by Mitch and Devon Rock beginning on May 25th at St. Stephen's. Classes will run every Thursday for nine weeks.

Classes will be offered completely free. However, optional materials which you may find helpful may be purchased from daveramsey.com after the first class. For more information call Mitch and Devon at (443) 761-1880 or follow online: <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/classes/1041723>

For additional information and videos about Dave Ramsey's approach to finances go to: www.daveramsey.com. On the radio listen to Dave Ramsey's call-in program weekdays from 3:00 to 5:00 pm on AM 1230-WRBS

St Stephen's Anglican Church

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Pastoral Care: 410 252 8674

www.ststeve.com

The Rev. Canon Guy P Hawtin, *Rector*
 The Venerable Michael Kerouac, *Vicar*
 The Rev. Michael Belt, The Rev. John Novicki and
 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

8am: Said Eucharist
 9.15am: Choral Eucharist (with Nursery & Church School)
 11am: Choral Mattins (1st Sunday: Sung Eucharist)
 6pm: Choral Evensong (as announced) –
evensong.ststeve.com

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Wednesday, 6pm: Evening Prayer
 Friday, 12 noon: Healing Eucharist
 Saturday, 5pm: Family Eucharist

Calendar of Events

WEEKLY

Monday, 6.30pm: Bridge Club
Tuesday, 7am: Fellowship Breakfast (Nautilus Diner)
Thursday, 10am: Knitting Circle
Friday, 10.30am: Bible Study

MONTHLY & SPECIAL

Parish Youth Play Group

Saturday, May 27th, 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Evensong

Sunday, June 4th, 6.00 pm

Parish Youth Play Group

Saturday, June 10th, 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Ladies Service Award

Recognition Tea

Sunday, June 11th, 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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 11856 Mays Chapel Road
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