

# St Stephen's News

## St Stephen's Anglican Church · Timonium, Maryland

Volume XXVIII, Number 33

A parish in the classical Anglican tradition

August 29th, 2017

FROM THE PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE

### Join us for the Fall Picnic on Sunday, September 3rd

St. Stephen's oldest tradition – the Annual Fall Picnic – will again take place at the home of Ellen Reather on Dulaney Valley Road in Glen Arm, on Sunday, September 3rd at 1.00 PM.

If great food and good company in a bucolic country setting appeal to you please plan to join us. For those who tried walking on water last year, the pool will be uncovered and officially open, so bring a suit and take a dip. There's a changing room in the pool house.

Ellen's gracious home, at 13201 Dulaney Valley Road, Glen Arm, is the perfect place for a traditional family fall celebration. The house is set among rolling hills, and her pasture is home to a small flock of sheep.

The Parish Life Committee will provide beverages, not to mention the hot dogs and hamburgers – all grilled under the personal supervision of our gourmet treasurer, Bill Hawkins. It would, however, be much appreciated if folks whose family names begin with letters from A to M should bring desserts or cake, while those whose names start with letters N to Z should bring salads or casseroles.

FROM THE RECTOR

### Don't begrudge prayers for your political adversaries

With nation engaged in the most bitterly partisan political debate in living memory, Christians often find themselves in a quandary over how they should be praying and for whom. Increasingly America's churches are praying for the "office of the president" rather than following long established custom and praying for him by name.

Refusing to name our political opponents in our public prayers is certainly uncharitable – a grievous sin according to St. Paul. And it runs contrary to the spirit of Jesus' command (*Matt. 5:44*) that we should love our enemies, bless those who curse us, do good to those who hate us and pray for those who are spiteful to us and persecute us.

The Scriptures, thus, do not give us the option of omitting from our public prayers the names of politicians with whom we disagree. It doesn't matter whether we are for or against them – offering prayers for those aspiring to guide the affairs of the country, whether they share our views or not, is a solemn Christian obligation.

Indeed, one might reasonably conclude it is particularly important to pray for those politicians with whom we disagree. This, however, in no way prevents us praying for their enlightenment – albeit it is better to do so in private rather than in public, to avoid giving offence to those Christians who do not share our political views. The pulpit is not an appropriate place for political polemic.

In any event, praying for the civil authorities is one of the oldest customs of the Church. Intercessions on behalf of the government, for example, are at the very top of St. Paul's priorities in his instructions to St. Timothy on how he is to conduct services at the Church in Ephesus.

"I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may live a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty," he writes (*1 Timothy 2:1 & 2*).

Moreover, it doesn't matter whether or not the civil authorities in question are Christian, pagan, or even atheist. We're obliged to pray for them no matter what their personal beliefs.

"Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers," writes Paul of the Emperor Claudius (*Romans 13: 1-7*), "For there is no power but of God ... For he is the minister of God to thee for good...."

Our Prayer Book's "Prayer for the President," thus, has a long and honorable history. It was adapted in 1789 from the "Prayer for the King" in the English Book of Common Prayer. The original intercession was first published in 1547, predating by two years the Book of 1549 – the first official Prayer Book to be published in the English Language.

There was a heated debate among the newly independent

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

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

**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.

American Anglicans as to whether or not it was appropriate for the Church to pray for a U.S. President. The argument seems to have been settled by Bishop William White.

In a letter to Bishop Thomas C. Brownell of Connecticut, dated February 8th, 1822, he observed scornfully: "It may be questioned, whether in a government which gives no power commensurate with life, it be congruous to pray for the long life and prosperity of the first Magistrate; but it is contemptible to cavil at the title of "God's servant," as applied to an unbelieving President, when everyone, who understands Greek, knows he is called so in Romans xiii.4." GPH✕

### A cure for teenage boredom

B-o-r-r-r-r-i-n-g! It's amazing the frequency with which kids utter the word "boring" these days. When I was a child, my mother took such complaints as an invitation to have me mow the lawn, weed her yard, or – horrors! – tidy my room.

"If you're bored, Guy Hawtin," she would say, "I've got just the cure for you." There was no arguing with mother. Once she

had an idea in her head there was no shifting it. It's quite amazing how much work she got out of us before we wised up and quit complaining about having nothing to do.

Charlotte took a slightly different tack.. When one of our children complained of boredom, she would reply: "It's time for bed, then. Bored children are obviously short on sleep." It's amazing how swiftly a nap in the middle of the day cured boredom.

The all time prize for curing boredom, however, must go to an enterprising father whose son constantly complained that most church hymns were boring – too far behind the times, tiresome tunes and meaningless words. His dad put an end to the discussion by saying: "If you think you can write better hymns, then why don't you?"

The boy promptly went to his room and wrote his first hymn. The year was 1690. The teenager was Isaac Watts. "When I Survey The Wondrous Cross" and "Joy to the World" are among almost 350 hymns written by him. Bored? Let the world remember you for 300 years! GPH✠  
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## The Sunday School Expands

With the blessings of increased enrollment, St Stephen's Sunday School is expanding the number of classes to better target the varied needs of our children. Starting on Sunday, September 10, 2017 classes will be: Babies and Toddlers (through age 3) teachers: Parent Volunteers and Kiki Gushue.

Primary (ages 4 through 2nd grade) Teachers: Tracey Collins and Datona Collins. Elementary (3rd grade to 5th grade) Teacher: Diane Novicki. Tweens and Teens (Middle Schoolers and up) Teacher: Brock Johnson. Fr. John Novicki will continue in his ministerial and educational leadership role.

FROM THE PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE

## Supplies for Mays Chapel school

St Stephen's is again collecting supplies for our neighborhood school, Mays Chapel Elementary School. There is a container in the Cadwalader room, together with a list of needed supplies. In addition to traditional supplies such as backpacks, notebooks, pens and pencils, donations also needed are baby wipes, gallon and quart re-sealable plastic bags, Post-It notes, and paper towels. The response last year was greatly appreciated by the school. Tuesday, August 29th, is the last day for collection of supplies.

FROM THE KNITTING CIRCLE

## Have a ball on Thursdays

Cares of the world weighing on your shoulders? Join us in the parish library on Thursdays at 10.00 AM. Can't knit? Cindie Baker, one of our most experienced knitters will teach you. Just set the time and place and she'll get you started. You'll have a ball.

## 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](http://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](http://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

## The Annual Parish Picnic

1.00 pm Sunday, September 3rd,

at 13201 Dulaney Valley Road, Glen Arm

## The Ladies Who Lunch

Wednesday, September 20th. Pappas Restaurant, 550 Cranbrook Road, Cockeysville. To reserve: Call Sara Douglas 410-560-9026

## Youth Play Group

Sundays, following the 9.15 AM Eucharist

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