

St Stephen's News

ST STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH • TIMONIUM, MARYLAND

Volume XIX, No. 44 *A parish in the classical Anglican tradition* November 13th, 2018

FROM THE PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE

Tick Tock, Tick ... goes the Cookie Walk Clock

Our Cookie Walk extravaganza is fast approaching! While our *Sign-Up Sheets* are starting to fill up, there are many, many gaps to plug, and time is getting a bit short. We only have about three weeks to go before CW Day.

I would like to, again, encourage those who are new to our congregation to step forward and help out if you can. Working together on an important event can build lasting friendships,

While cookies are the main attraction, there are plenty of other important jobs that need to be done prior to CW Day in order to make this event a success. For instance, we need items for the Children's Table and the Gift Table, volunteers to help with general clean up tasks, before and after CW Day, the making of wreaths and center pieces, etc. etc. etc.

A really fun day is Tuesday November 27th when we will be creating those wreaths (about 60 we hope) and other arrangements. Don't worry that you haven't done anything like that before. We have a number of experienced pros who will be glad to "show you the ropes".

Finally, check out our Cookie Walk Table in the Cadwalader Room upcoming dates, sign-up sheets, baking tips and more.

More Cookie Recipes

Cinnamon Sugar Crinkles

INGREDIENTS:

1/2 Cup Unsalted Butter-softened

1/2 Cup Packed Brown Sugar

1 Egg

1/4 Cup Molasses

1 Teaspoon Vanilla

2 Cups All-purpose Flour

1 Teaspoon Baking Soda

1-1/2 Teaspoons Cinnamon

1/4 Teaspoon Salt

1/4 Cup Coarse Sugar

In a large bowl, beat butter with brown sugar until fluffy; beat in egg, molasses and vanilla. Whisk together flour, baking soda, cinnamon and salt; stir into butter mixture. Refrigerate dough for 20 minutes. Roll about 1 Tablespoon into balls. Roll balls in coarse sugar.

(These balls maybe frozen at this point and baked without thawing at a later time See Freezing Tips at <http://blog.kingarthurflour.com/2015/10/21/freeze-bake-tips/>.)

Place 1-1/2 inches apart on parchment paper lined baking sheets. Bake in a 350 F oven until puffed and crackly, about 9 minutes. Let cool on pan for 5 minutes. Transfer to rack and cool completely.

Bourbon Balls

A "no bake, no fuss" recipe: Bourbon Balls offer up a powerful punch while packaged in a small bite. These sweet, no-bake treats are a favorite gift and a perfect nibble for parties.

INGREDIENTS:

1 (12oz) package vanilla wafers, finely crushed

1 cup chopped pecans or walnuts

3/4 cup powdered sugar

2 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa

1/2 cup bourbon

2 1/2 tablespoons light corn syrup

Powdered sugar for rolling

Stir first four ingredients together in a large bowl. In another bowl, stir together bourbon and corn syrup. Add bourbon mixture to wafer mixture. Roll into 1 inch balls, roll in powdered sugar. Cover and chill up to two weeks.

FROM THE RECTOR

You simply can't redefine sin by the discernment process

For the past half a century or so America's mainline churches have shown an increasing enthusiasm for embracing ideas that are unequivocally condemned in the Bible – an inclination that has seriously undermined their standing as arbiters of morality among much of the population.

The curious thing about the controversies embroiling America's mainline churches – partly, but by no means exclusively, about sexual behavior – is that they involve doctrines promulgated by folks who claim they have God's enthusiastic support for flagrantly flouting scriptural authority.

They claim they can "discern" God's mind because his revelation to mankind was not, as the church formerly taught, completed in the incarnation, earthly ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. According to them, it is an on-going affair, continuing apace forever – well, at least until they

Parish Prayer List

Our Prayer Chain offers prayer daily for people on the Prayer List and 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 at (410) 560 6776.

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FOR RECOVERY: Charlotte, Bryan, Dorothy, Sarah, Betsy, Edie, Alan, Terry, Helen, Linda, John, Judy, Neal, Stephen, Nathan, Hobie, Betty, Helen, RobertX, Jan, Bobby, Lee, Cary, Marie, Jim, Joanna, Kendall, Ian, Gloria, June, John, Adrian, Tom, Michell, Al, Kathy, Jack, Lewey, Stephen, Pamela, Judy, Elizabeth, Wade, Sifa, Theresa, Lisa, Larry, Dan & Scott

.....
FOR LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Caroline, Mavis, Melba, Sam, Vinnie, Doug, Ian, Lisa, Carey, Cindy, Jacob, Casey, Beth, Erin, Aubrey & Kath

.....
IN MEMORIAM: Mrs. Phyllis W. Rice

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FOR THOSE WHO MOURN: Children: Robert E. Rice, Stephanie R. Davis and Courtney R. Martin & sister Elaine W. St. John.

.....
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.

"discern" when God wants them to stop.

Now "discernment" is a very ancient concept. Indeed, since the church's very inception, Christians have been trying to discern the word of God. But until quite recently, for the orthodox, at least, it was a reasonably straight forward process.

Folks who wondered what God thought about something or other, looked it up in the Bible and the scripture told them what God's opinion was. Today, however, the folks who dominate the leadership of our mainline churches appear to "discern" God's mind by conceiving outlandish notions and then taking a vote on whether or not to implement them. And as they are usually the only folks debating the issues and voting on them, they invariably carry the day.

Judging from the results, however, one might be tempted to think that if these people spent as much time reading The Bible as they spend talking about it, and voting on what they “feel” it means, the results would be rather different.

For example, a bishop, noted for his enthusiasm for overthrowing doctrines established in the days of the Apostles, once declared: "It took the Church 30 years to realize that gentiles could be Christians. [And] it took 1,830 years for the Church to realize that slavery was wrong . . . "

Yet, sad to say, if he'd bothered to read the Bible before opening his mouth, he might not have made such a fool of himself. He was wrong on both counts, you see. A glance at the Book of Acts would have told him that within a couple of years of the resurrection, St. Philip had baptized an Ethiopian eunuch – a gentile if ever there was one (*Acts 8:16-39*).

He would also have learned that St. Peter had his vision on the roof of the house in Joppa and baptized the gentile Roman centurion Cornelius and his entire gentile household (*Acts 10:1-48*) long before the execution of St. James the Great in AD 43 (*Acts 12:2*).

What's more, he would have found out that in AD 43 the Council of Jerusalem decreed, citing Scriptural authority and Christ's revelation, that it was wrong for Jewish Christians to ask gentile Christians to undergo the rite of circumcision. In other words, the Council affirmed that, from its very inception, the

Church had always been open to gentiles.

The notion that it took the Church 1,830 years to wake up to the evils of slavery is similarly ridiculous. Read St. Paul's Epistle to Philemon, a member of the Church at Colossae. It concerns Onesimus, Philemon's runaway slave, who had gone to Rome, converted to Christianity and devoted himself to helping St. Paul, who, at the time, was in prison awaiting trial.

Rome had a remarkably efficient secret police. As a runaway slave, Onesimus was in constant danger of betrayal, arrest and summary execution by crucifixion. In the circumstances, the only prudent course was to send him to Philemon, with a letter aimed at effecting a reconciliation between master and slave.

This, then, is Paul's Epistle to Philemon. No impartial reader could possibly construe it as evidence that Paul condoned slavery. Far from it. Paul's letter, in fact, so radically redefines the relations between master and slave that both states are rendered utterly meaningless. Moreover, his message cannot be interpreted as applying only to the relationship between Philemon and Onesimus. Paul reiterates his redefinition of the master/slave relationship in his Epistle to the Colossians (*Col. 3:22-4:1*).

Perhaps the most important lesson we can learn from St. Paul's injunctions to slaves and their owners is that, on this and many other important matters, Christians by no means always follow The Bible's teachings. This, of course, shouldn't be altogether surprising. It is, after all, what sin is all about. GPHX

St Stephen's Anglican Church

11856 Mays Chapel Road, Timonium, MD 21093

Office: 410 560 6776 · **Rector:** 443-425-2420

Pastoral Care: 410 252 8674

www.ststeve.com

The Rev. Canon Guy P Hawtin, *Rector*

The Ven. Michael Kerouac, *Vicar* ·

Associate Rectors:

The Rev. Michael Belt, The Rev. John Novicki,

The Rev. M Wiley Hawks, The Rev. Robert Ludwig. &

The Rev. Dr. Norman Flowers

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

SUNDAY SERVICES

8am: Said Eucharist

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

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

Choral Services (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

Thursday, 10am: Knitting Circle

Noon: Bible Study

Friday, 10.30am: Bible Study

MONTHLY & SPECIAL

The Vestry Meeting

December date to be determined.

TAKE NOTE: CHANGED DATE

Ladies Who Lunch

Koopers North at Mays Chapel

Wednesday, Noon, November 14th

Reservations: Call Sara Douglas at 410-560-9026

Cookie Walk 2018

Saturday, December 1st from 9.00 AM to 12 noon

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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