

St Stephen's News

ST STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH · TIMONIUM, MARYLAND

VOLUME XXX, No. 16 A SPECIAL BRITISH GARDEN PARTY EDITION MAY 4TH 2019

FROM JOHN DARLINGTON

Stand to! The British Garden Party is here!

Well, our British Garden Party has almost arrived. In a few short days our outdoor extravaganza (this Saturday) will be upon us, and everyone connected with this enterprise is quite excited and rarin' to go. Needless to say, there are a lot of things that still need to be done during this "run up" week which are mentioned below. The good news is that all of our "volunteer slots" for our booths and tables are now filled. The only thing left to do in this respect is to show up on Saturday morning and cover your assigned volunteer posts.

Tent and Booth Assembly and Erection Crew

The Tent and Booth Assembly Crew should rendezvous on Church grounds by 9AM Friday May 3rd. As mentioned previously, the assembly and positioning work is not very strenuous, but the more "hands" we have the quicker the work will be done. If you bring any of your personal tools, be sure to mark them for easy identification.

Most of the tent and booth materials can be found in the large grey storage shed at the rear of the Church, so any "early birds" who arrive can begin the unloading and separating process.

There is the possibility that we will need a pair of large pruning shears to cut back low hanging tree branches that may interfere with the tents and booths. If all goes well, and we have enough "hands", we should be finished around noontime.

Jumble, Wine Spirits and Book Donations

Those of you who still would like to donate items for the Jumble, wine and spirits for the Games of Chance and books for the Book Table can deliver these items during the "run up" week, however, the sooner you bring these items the better. There will be a lot of last minute things to do so early delivery will make it easier to sort out and organize these items before the Friday "rush".

Baked Goods Donations

It is obvious that items for the Baked Goods Table should be the last things brought to the Church so as to maintain their freshness.

All baked goods are welcome (cakes, cookies, pies, breads tarts etc.) and they should be delivered either Friday or Saturday. Be sure to label your item(s) with your name.

Cake boxes will be available at the Church for your use. If you are unable to deliver your goods on

Friday (May 3rd), please make every effort to deliver them by 9AM Saturday so that there will be enough time to wrap them prior to the 11AM opening.

Clean-Up Crew

Those of you who have volunteered for the Clean-Up Crew should be at the Church by 3PM when the event closes. Although we usually have a fairly tidy attendance, be prepared with trash bags for any litter that escaped the trash receptacles already provided. Again, the more "hands" we have, the quicker the clean-up job will be accomplished.

Finally, it does look like the weather for Saturday is holding with a prediction of partly cloudy skies, and a high in the mid-60s. It should be a great day, and a just reward for those who have worked so hard to make our British Garden Party a success.

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 visiting list, or to join the Prayer Chain, call the parish office (410) 560 6776.

FOR RECOVERY: Daniel, Leona, Charlotte, Bryan, Rachel, Elizabeth, Dorothy, Sarah, Betsy, Edie, Alan, Terry, Helen, Linda, John, Judy, Neal, Stephen, Nathan, Hobie, Betty, Helen, Robert, 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: Bethany, Caroline, Ardis, Mavis, Melba, Sam, Vinnie, Doug, Ian, Lisa, Carey, Cindy, Jacob, Casey, Beth, Kath, Rebecca, Catherine & Elizabeth

IN MEMORIAM: Mary Anne Rew & Daniel Licht

THOSE WHO MOURN: James & Rosa Halbert and Judy Browne & family

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

FROM THE RECTOR

Which revision is right?

A question clergy are frequently asked is: "Which of the many translations of the Bible on the market is the best?" It is a question which invites a further question: "Best for what?"

If you are looking for a Bible to read privately and to use for general study – with certain notable exceptions – most modern translations will do. Find one that you are comfortable with and have at it. But if you are looking for a Bible to use academically or as a norm for establishing matters of doctrine, the question of which translation is best is a matter for debate.

Since the 4th Century, scholars like St. Jerome have been engaged in continual – often acrimonious – arguments over which ancient texts of the various books of the Bible are the most authoritative.

The King James Version – used by St. Stephen's liturgically – is based upon a text known in Latin as *Textus Receptus* [The Received Text]. It is drawn from a family of ancient texts traditionally used by Western and Eastern Orthodox Churches.

Textus Receptus went unchallenged from the 16th Century until the middle of the 19th. when a German scholar unearthed a Bible at St. Catherine's Monastery in the Sinai Desert which was claimed to predate the earliest versions of *Textus Receptus* by a couple of centuries. It was a find that fueled scholarly debates that continue to this day.

The newly discovered book – dubbed *Codex Sinaiticus* – was hailed as the repository of the earliest textual New Testament tradition and resulted in a new translation, published in 1881 as the Revised Standard Version (RSV). However, it met with fierce opposition from critics, including The Rev. John W. Burgon, Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford, and Gresham Professor of Divinity, who was excluded from the translation committee.

Sinaiticus is seriously corrupted by errors, affecting not merely words and sentences, but entire passages, and Burgon objected to the revision committee's "reconstruction" of large portions of the text through inference and extrapolation. He also questioned the committee's use of paraphrase.

Other critics of the RSV – pointing to the presence of sectarian scholars on the committee, including a Unitarian – claimed that the translators had been chosen with an eye focused more on sales than scholarship. The RSV text, however, steadily gained adherents in educational institutions, and, in the 1930s, it began

to catch on with churches. Soon publishers were vying with one another to produce newer, more up-to-date versions.

Today, the RSV and translations based on its underlying text are in greater favor at universities and theological schools than the King James Version. And currently only one major modern language edition of The Bible is based on the Received Text: The New King James Version. But as it also employs paraphrase quite extensively, it is not truly a substitute for the old King James.

Publication of the full text of the ancient manuscripts known as the Dead Sea Scrolls add yet another fascinating element to the debate – at least as far as the Old Testament and the Apocrypha are concerned. According to a number of influential scholars, the texts found in the Scrolls echo more closely the Septuagint, the Greek translation of the Bible that was in use at the time of Christ, than either the Received Text or the more modern texts derived from *Codex Sinaiticus*.

However, as far as ordinary folks are concerned, it shouldn't make much difference which text ultimately comes out on top. They are all quite similar. And, as the Israeli soldier/archaeologist Yigael Yadin once observed, the Dead Sea Scrolls enable us to say for certain that the Biblical text has been transmitted from generation to generation with amazing accuracy for more than 2,000 years. GPH✳

St Stephen's Anglican Church

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Pastoral Care: 410 252 8674

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The Very Rev. Guy P Hawtin, Dean & Rector
The Ven. Michael Kerouac, Vicar ·
Associate Rectors:

The Rev. Michael Belt, The Rev. John Novicki,
The Rev. M Wiley Hawks
and 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)
11 am: 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

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The British Garden Party
Saturday, May 4th at 11.00 AM to 3.30 PM

Choral Evensong
Sunday, May 5th at 6.00 PM

The Vestry Meeting
Wednesday, May 15th, 7.00 pm

Ladies Who Lunch
*Wednesday, Noon, May 15th,
Venue to be announced,
Information, call all Sara Douglas at 410-560-9026*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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