

# St Stephen's News

ST STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH · TIMONIUM, MARYLAND

VOLUME XXX, No. 24 A PARISH IN THE CLASSICAL ANGLICAN TRADITION JULY 2ND, 2019

FROM THE TREASURER

## Please help keep the roof over our heads

Old style flat roofs are particularly vulnerable to leaks and the 30-year-old roof over the Cadwalader Room is no exception. Indeed, over the past couple of years, it has had increasing difficulties keeping out the rain and snow. Sad to say, the time has come to replace it.

The Rev. Dan Bursi, an architect in secular life, has drawn up plans for a replacement that should eliminate the problems flat roofs present. The new roof will have a gentle slope that will enable it to shed rain and melting snow more easily.

Your vestry has sought bids for the job from roofing contractors and the replacement will cost some \$29,000. Donations to cover the cost will be most gratefully accepted.

Please prayerfully consider helping us keep the roof over our heads by sending your contribution to The Treasurer, St Stephen's Anglican Church, 11856 Mays Chapel Road, Timonium, MD 21057. Mark your check "Flat Roof Fund." God bless you – Bob Reynolds

FROM THE RECTOR

## Let Founding Fathers speak for themselves

Much that is fanciful – and, sadly, plain false – has been written about our Founding Fathers and their religious beliefs. Take, for example, today's fashionable claims that they were predominantly ardent secularists and that, far from founding our constitution upon Christian principles, they created it on largely secular ones.

In view of all this, during the week in which we celebrate our nation's independence, we might do them the courtesy of letting them speak for themselves. And who better to start than **John Adams**.

On the day the Continental Congress approved the Declaration of Independence, Adams wrote to his wife Abigail: "[July 4<sup>th</sup>] ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty."

"The general principles upon which the Fathers achieved independence were the general principals of Christianity... I will avow that I believed, and now believe, that those general principles of Christianity are as eternal and immutable as the existence and attributes of God."

Again, in a letter written in 1798 to **Thomas Jefferson** 1798, he said: "We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Avarice, ambition, revenge, or gallantry, would break the strongest cords of our Constitution as a whale goes through a net. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

**John Quincy Adams** agreed. In a Fourth of July speech in 1837, he declared: "Is it not that, in the chain of human events, the birthday of the nation is indissolubly linked with the birthday of the Savior? That it forms a leading event in the progress of the Gospel dispensation? Is it not that the Declaration of Independence first

organized the social compact on the foundation of the Redeemer's mission upon earth? That it laid the cornerstone of human government upon the first precepts of Christianity?"

**Charles Carroll** wrote to **James McHenry**, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 1800: "Without morals a republic cannot subsist any length of time; they therefore who are decrying the Christian religion, whose morality is so sublime and pure...are undermining the solid foundation of morals, the best security for the duration of free governments."

**Alexander Hamilton** founded the Christian Constitutional Society, explaining: "Its object is first: The support of the Christian religion. Second: The support of the United States."

**Patrick Henry**, in a speech to the Virginia House of Burgesses, declared: "It cannot be emphasized too clearly and too often that this nation was founded, not by religionists, but by Christians; not on religion, but on the gospel of Jesus Christ."

## 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:** Janis, Parisa, Daniel, Richard, Judy, Leona, Charlotte, Bryan, Rachel, Elizabeth, Dorothy, Dan, Sarah, Betsy, Edie, Alan, Terry, Helen, Linda, John, Neal, Stephen, Nathan, Hobie, Betty, Helen, Jan, Bobby, Lee, Cary, Marie, Jim, Joanna, Kendall, Ian, Gloria, June, John, Adrian, Tom, Mitchell, Jack, Lewey, Stephen, Pamela, David, Wade, Sifa, Theresa, Lisa, Larry & Scott

**FOR LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE:** Caroline, Ardis, Mavis, Michael, Melba, Sam, Vinnie, Doug, Ian, Lisa, Carey, Cindy, Jacob, Casey, Beth, Kath, Rebecca, Catherine & Elizabeth

**IN MEMORIAM:** John Henry Griffin

**THOSE WHO MOURN:** Mrs Mary Griffin & family

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

**John Jay**, on October 12<sup>th</sup>, 1816, observed: "Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is the duty, as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian nation to select and prefer Christians for their rulers."

**James Madison** declared to the General Assembly of the State of Virginia in 1778: "We've staked our future on our ability to follow the Ten Commandments with all of our heart. We have staked the whole future of American civilization, not upon the power of government, far from it. We've staked the future of all our political institutions upon our capacity ... to sustain ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God."

**Benjamin Franklin**, not noted these days for Christian piety, insisted in his 1749 plan of education for public schools in Pennsylvania, that they teach "the excellency of the Christian religion above all others, ancient or modern."

This was not an aberration. On June 28<sup>th</sup>, 1787, at the Constitutional Convention, Franklin declared: "God

governs in the affairs of man ...We have been assured in the Sacred Writings that except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it. I firmly believe this. I also believe that, without His concurring aid, we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel”

**Thomas Jefferson**, another modern secularist hero, said: "I am a real Christian, that is to say, a disciple of the doctrines of Jesus...God who gave us life gave us liberty. And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are a gift from God? That they are not to be violated but with His wrath? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just, and that His justice cannot sleep forever.”

**George Washington**, told Delaware Indian chiefs, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 1779, “It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and Bible.. What students would learn in American schools above all is the religion of Jesus Christ.”

At Valley Forge in 1778, he declared: "To the distinguished character of patriot, it should be our highest glory to add the more distinguished character of Christian" And at his inauguration as President, Washington

summoned a Bible on which to take the oath, added the words “So help me God!” to the end of the oath, then leaned over and kissed the Bible.

The last word fittingly should go to Noah Webster, who wrote in the preface to his American Dictionary of the English Language: “In my view, the Christian religion is the most important and one of the first things in which all children, under a free government, ought to be instructed ... No truth is more evident to my mind than that the Christian religion must be the basis of any government intended to secure the rights and privileges of a free people.” GPHE

FROM THE ST GEORGE’S SOCIETY

## Watch the sport of princes

For an exciting afternoon out, visit the Maryland Polo Club grounds at 3663 Fallston Road, Jarrettsville, at 2.00 PM on Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup> to watch the St. George’s Polo Cup?

It is polo at its best – an annual event sponsored by the **St. George’s Society of Baltimore**. And why not make a very special; day of it? The society is offering summer cocktails and a luncheon buffet for the subscription of a modest \$30. For details, call **Scott Watkins at (443) 253-4272** or the parish office. GPH☒

## St Stephen’s Anglican Church

11856 Mays Chapel Road, Timonium, MD 21093  
Office: 410 560 6776 · Rectory: 443-425-2420  
Pastoral Care: 410 252 8674

[www.ststeve.com](http://www.ststeve.com)

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](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

Thursday, 10am: Knitting Circle

Noon: Bible Study

Friday, 10.30am: Bible Study

### MONTHLY & SPECIAL

## The Vestry Meeting

Wednesday, 7.00 PM, July 17th

## Ladies Who Lunch

Noon, Wednesday, June 17th

Venue to be announced

Reservations, call Sara Douglas at 410-560-9026

## Choral Events

As announced

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