

St. Stephen's News

St. Stephen's Church, Timonium, Maryland
A parish in the classical Anglican tradition

Vol. XXI, Number 24

Edited by Anne Hawkins

June 22nd, 2010

FROM THE CHOIRMASTER

Celebrate the Fourth of July at our Hymnfest

PUT YOUR patriotism on display at our Fourth of July Hymnfest and Reception. It will take place at the parish church on Sunday July 4th. at 6.00 PM -- the same time as our monthly services of Choral Evensong.

This year presents us with a rare occasions when Independence Day falls on Sunday, and we should make the most of it. What better way is there to celebrate it than with the patriotic songs and hymns that are traditionally sung on the nation's birthday, followed by a gala July 4th reception?

Come and join your voice with ours in a musical tribute to the USA at our Fourth of July Hymnfest. The program will not only be devoted to July 4th favorites, we are also planning to sing the parish's most popular hymns.

This means we are asking you to vote for your favorite hymn or hymns. We will be giving out voting slips with the orders of service on Sunday. Submit the numbers and tunes of your favorites and drop your votes in the alms bason along with your offering or hand them in at the office. Then get ready to sing your heart out. ADRIC

THE RETURN OF THE SILLY SUMMER SUPPERS

Fun neighborhood get-togethers every
Thursday at 5.30 PM
Join us for Evensong at 5.00 PM

FROM THE RECTOR

The Good Old Days? You've gotta be kidding!

THERE WERE a lot of things about "the good old days" that were not very good at all – medicine, for starters. Indeed, if Americans were still living in the good old days, many of us wouldn't be living at all. Folks hankering for a return to the days before the horseless carriage and the other trappings of the Industrial Age are simply suffering from serious delusions.

A world powered by the muscles of men and of horses might, at first glance, seem far more aesthetically pleasing than the world powered by coal, oil, the atom and the internal combustion engine. But don't imagine the version of relaxed, uncomplicated 18th Century life as re-created at places like Colonial Williamsburg gives you the full picture.

Certainly pre-industrial New York, Boston, Baltimore and Williamsburg were not plagued by gasoline induced air pollution. City fathers, however, were struggling ineffectually to cope with the vast accumulations of horse manure, garbage and human waste that befouled their disease infested streets.

The huge advances in public health and sanitation over the past 150 years are among the most under appreciated achievements of the Industrial Revolution. So don't for a minute buy into fantasies of going back to an idyllic past. It never existed.

That said, a lot of things about the present day that are nowhere near as good as they were in the bad old unreconstructed days of the late industrial era – childhood being one of them.

I'm not talking about childhood in the years prior to the 19th Century. Until the advent of steam power, electricity and internal combustion childhood as we know it scarcely existed. Back then, people were too preoccupied with scraping a living to indulge their children in something called childhood. Children were regarded as miniature adults with adult responsibilities.

The children of the poor were sent out to work to augment the

family's precarious budget. The children of the middle class were, as soon as judged able, put to learning a profitable trade, while the children of the wealthy were clad in adult fashion and coached in the skills necessary to make a "suitable" marriage.

Children were finally able to enjoy the luxury of childhood thanks to the fruits of the Industrial Revolution. Education largely free from the greater idiocies of political correctness equipped us to explore the world around us. Improved public safety encouraged most of our parents to grant us the degree of freedom that enabled us to investigate that world. After school, we were gone until supper time. During school vacations, we were gone from breakfast until supper.

In the country, we prowled the hedge rows and ditches collecting newts, frog spawn and beetles too slow to elude us. We learned from gamekeepers, farm hands and the occasional poacher how to snare rabbits and shoot pigeons. We made fireworks filled with homemade gunpowder, and, despite dire warnings that we might be kidnapped, we hung out with gypsies who, to our great glee, rarely washed and never went to school.

In the town, we played ball games in the streets, grabbed rides behind horse drawn coal wagons and brewers drays, and – what bliss! – earned a few pennies helping the milkman on his rounds.

We learned to swim in canals and rivers using water wings made from old kerosene cans plugged with cork and linked together with string. Naturally, we were told never to play on the bomb sites that scarred many towns and cities. Equally naturally, we explored them from top to bottom.

It was a childhood not without risks, but the vast majority of us survived it unharmed. In fact, while I have only anecdotal evidence to back the claim, I don't think the childhood accident rate back then was any higher than it is today.

Compared with that sort of childhood, the kids of today seem to have a miserable time. A grandparent recently related to me how her grandson was so anchored to his computer that her son-in-law had to order him to play outside.

To the neutral observer, many children's lives appear so rigidly organized they are left with little room for developing their imaginations. Others seem to be lavished with material possessions but little parental attention and affection.

One thing is striking, however: Kids today have a far shallower grounding in morality and religion, particularly the Christian faith, than children of my generation. They don't get it at school and many of them do not get it at home or at church. Indeed, their relationship with the world seems to be shaped more by TV and the Internet than any other information source.

The extent of this influence can be judged by the time they spend with electronic media – computers, the Internet, video games, TV, i-pods, Facebook, texting, the telephone, etc.

Make glorious music at St. Stephen's
FOURTH OF JULY HYMN FEST
6.00 PM Sunday, July 4th, 2010
Reception to follow

My generation had only radio and latterly the television, but, even in those days, considerable concern was expressed about the effect that the electronic media were having on familial, social and civic life – family dinners spent in silence with everyone glued to the radio or goggling at the television set.

By present standards, however, television viewing in those far off days was quite restrained. Last year (2009) American children between the ages of 8 and 18 reportedly spent an average of 10 hours 7 minutes per day – repeat 10 hours 7 minutes per day – with the various forms of electronic media.

In 2004, the year of the previous survey, the age group's time spent with electronic media was reported to be 7 hours 50 minutes, while in 1999 the figure was 6 hours 47 minutes. In other words, there has been an increase of 49 percent of time spent with electronic media in 10 years.

The consequences of abdicating shaping of the ideas and

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR
THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

being Sunday, June 27th, 2010

8.00 AM & 9.15 AM
HOLY COMMUNION

The Epistle: Romans 8:18-23
The Gospel: St. Luke 6:36-42

11.15 AM MORNING PRAYER

The Psalter: Psalm 91
The First Lesson: Deuteronomy 32:1-4, 34-42
The Second Lesson: St. Matthew 10:24-39

attitudes the coming generation to electronic media can be seen today's woeful decline in the younger generation's manners, morality and civic pride. But this should hardly be surprising. As the economist and Nobel laureate Milton Friedman observed: "If you subsidize something, you get more of it." **GPH**

FROM THE VESTRY

Endowment drive to be unveiled in near future

TREASURER Bill Hawkins has already received promises of substantial sums of money from a number of parishioners eager to launch the campaign to establish St. Stephen's first parish endowment fund. The initial goal is to raise some \$200,000, the income from which will be dedicated to reducing the church's \$480,000 mortgage.

The fund drive, which is being enthusiastically received by church members, will be getting underway very shortly. St. Stephen's does not presently have an endowment fund. Like many new churches, it had many more immediate calls on its income -- not least building and equipping its worship facility.

Details of plans for the fund drive will be announced in the coming weeks. They are expected to include, among other features, a challenge to match pledged funds.

✠ 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 list, or to the visiting list, or to join the Prayer Chain, call the office at 410 560 6776.

RECOVERY: Alma, Sara, Ravi, Elizabeth, Brian, Tracey, Linda, Robert, Nancy, Earnie, Sharp, Edithann, Jay, Robert, Nancy, Perry, Amelia, Shirley, Adrian, Kimberly, Dean, Barb, Tanya, Jane, Brook, Val, Helen, Joseph, Joshua, Rachel, Carl, Charlotte, Cal, Catherine, Sam, Ruth, Kristi, Paul, Sue, James, Patty, Antonio, Lauren-Michelle, McKayla, Randy, Jack, Grace, Bob, Fran, Doris, Carolyn, Ken, Serina, Wyatt, Bobby, Alexander, Erline, Kathleen, Earle, Judy, Katherine, William, Betty, Cal, Wendell, Trisha, Peggy, Linda, Millie, Walt, Bruce, Cienna, Tracy, Tom, Leliliah, Jennifer, Miriam, Karen, Steve, George, Eliza, Mel, John, Randy, James, Sarah, Linda, Suzanne, Marian, Edith Anne, Steven, Jeanne, Tammy; Ellen, Jim, Patricia, Bonnie, Mary Ann, Robert, Christine, Dee, Brian, Barbara, Gillian, Eileen, Matthew, George, Bryan, Jason, Jane, Joan, LFrances, Ernie, Pat, Lynn, Michael, Ray, Leslie, Brandon, May, Scott, Stephen, Robert, Danny, Billy, Betty-Ann, Mildred, DMetrius, Laura, Stacey, Frank, Alma, Christine, John, Henry, Naomi, Pam, John, Ben, Kevin, Gwen, Elizabeth, Gloria, Lee Emily, Elsie, Bruce, Regina, Lewis, Madolin, Eudora, Linda, Carol, Bernie, Charlene, Josephine, Margaret, Mackie, Jody, Sheila, Jo Anne, John, Geradine, Thomas, Jeanne, Sister Catherine-Grace, Maxine, Ann Sharon, Dennis, Mae, Anita, Marilyn, Lawrence, Rebecca, Dorothy, Joanne, Albion, Martha, Jackie, Charles, Tony, Edward, Kim, Vivian, Carol and Debbie.

LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: June, Anna, Jean, Garrett, Ned, & Stephen, Rachel, Robert & Renee, Lydia; Richard, Melba, Debbie, Phyllis, Georgetta, Carolyn, Suzanne, Tony, Erik, Doris, Drake, The Norris family; Gillian, Beverley, Adrienn, Jhana, Marla, Matthew, Joan, David, Laurie, Ellen, Lynn, Mildred, Sarah Lee, Tom, Susan, Debbie, Kathy, Owen, Douglas, Amy, Jo Anne, Mary, Gregory, Isabel, Bobby, Dorothy, Darren, Scott, Rebecca, William, Charles, Joyce, Asfa, Eleanor, Kathy, Linda, James, Barry, Ann, Evelyn, Jeanette, Elizabeth, Virginia, Mildred, Chris, Micki, Stephen, Carol, Sandra, Elsie, John, Mary, Michael and David

ON ACTIVE SERVICE: LTC. R. J. Lytle, PFC Charles E. Heintz, IV, U.S. Army, Alex Bursi, U.S. Navy; Capt. Charles Bursi & LTC Harry Hughes, U.S. Air Force.

✠ St. Stephen's Traditional Episcopal Church ✠

11856 Mays Chapel Road, Timonium, MD 21093
Tel.: Office (410) 560-6776; Rectory (410) 665-1278
Web Address: <http://www.ststephens-md.org>

RECTOR: The Venerable Guy P. Hawtin

ASSOCIATE RECTORS:
The Rev. Rhae E. Kelley and The Rev. Robert Menas

ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER: Adric

DIRECTOR OF PASTORAL CARE: Anne Hawkins (410-308-2771)

WEDDING CO-ORDINATOR: Anne Hawkins (410-308-2771)

SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00am -- Holy Communion
9.15am -- Holy Communion (Nursery & Church School)
11.15am -- Morning Prayer (Nursery)
(1st. Sun. of the month: Holy Communion at 11.15am)

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Wednesday: 6.00pm Evening Prayer
Friday: Noon: Healing Eucharist
Saturday: 5.00PM Family Eucharist.

**COLLECTS FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY
AFTER TRINITY & ST. BASIL THE GREAT**

O LORD, we beseech mercifully to hear us; and grant that we, to whom thou has given an hearty desire to pray, may, by thy mighty aid, be defended and comforted in all adversities; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *AMEN.*

Book of Common Prayer, Page 192

ALMIGHTY God, who hast revealed to thy Church thine eternal Being of glorious majesty and perfect love as one God in Trinity of persons; Give us grace that, like as thy bishop Basil of Caesarea, we may continue steadfast in the confession of this faith, and constant in our worship of thee, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit; who livest and reignest ever, world without end. *AMEN.*

Return Service Requested

Timonium, MD 21093
11856 Mays Chapel Road

Episcopal Church
St. Stephen's Traditional

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TIMONIUM MD
PERMIT NO. 181