

# St. Stephen's News

St. Stephen's Traditional Episcopal Church, Timonium, Maryland

Vol. XIX, Number 27

Edited by Anne Hawkins

July 15th, 2008

FROM CHARLOTTE HAWTIN

## Random reflections on saying a morning office

FOR A LONG time now, I have engaged myself in saying my Morning Office from the family prayer section of the B.C.P. I began using these prayers in place of the regular Morning Office as they seemed more personal. They also fit the time I had allotted -- which is, of course, a poor excuse.

Nonetheless, I set a goal of reading the family prayer section and following the reading with a chapter of the Bible each day and so I have done for the past year or so.

There are some immediate benefits that come to mind from the exercise, not least on what portend to be the most difficult days.

It is then that the best words leap off the page for temper keeping and equanimity. That is not to say that they perfect the practitioner. Far from it! It is just that I am reminded of what I should aim for.

On many days the outside world intrudes, and I find myself under-concentrating until I am most of the way finished, or I must restart the prayer and this time pay attention.

Sometimes I have spontaneous thoughts about that which I might read elsewhere in the Bible, or a particularly good verse will abide with me in my thoughts throughout the day, being almost a sufficiency of interesting thought, though quite unintended. St. Francis' of Assisi's "Do good always" occurs to me frequently.

One of the things that set me on this course was an acquaintanceship with the works of sundry writers of the 18<sup>th</sup>

## Community Blood Drive

Monday, July 21st, 2008

3.30 PM to 8.00 PM

Parish Hall

Call Anne Hawkins at 410-560-6776 to schedule your life saving donation

century -- people like George Washington, my own distant relatives and such.

I was impressed, in reading their letters, at the presence of God constantly in their minds. They invoked God to their friends and business acquaintances. They used Christian virtues in their metaphors, and employed the concept of humility in their closing line.

For example, George Washington usually signed off a letter: "Your obedient servant". Even as general or president, this was his projection of himself upon another.

Meandering, as thought does, I began to ponder this, coming at last to the conclusion that the people of that earlier age were much more profoundly aware of the omnipresence of God in their lives than we are today -- myself included.

Putting God into one's life requires physically acting on the very thought of God each day. Most certainly God does not belong in a Sunday box.

The Bible recommends that we "pray without ceasing." Met anybody like that lately? No, neither have I. But, if I were to try to incorporate prayer without ceasing, it would have to be in the place where my unconscious thoughts put me in the small moments of the day.

To do that, one would need to organize some God thoughts. Hence, the notion of saying some prayers I liked to start off the day. That helped.

My five-minute prayer regime pushed more of my random thoughts toward God than without the effort. It was so that when a problem arose, God occurred to me. It was so that

## The Synod is coming ! The Synod is coming !

The Diocese of the Eastern United States of the Anglican Church in America will be meeting here in Timonium from July 30 through August 1. St. Stephen's is hosting the Synod. This is our chance to show how beautiful our Church is and how wonderful our congregation is.

The delegates, alternates, and observers will be staying and meeting at the newly renovated Holiday Inn, now called the Crowne Plaza. However, the Church itself will be used for Morning Prayer on Thursday at 8 AM, Solemn High Eucharist on Thursday at 7 PM (with dinner to follow at the Crowne Plaza for \$29.00 a person) and Holy Communion on Friday at 7:30 AM.

We need your help! A lot of the people attending will not be driving. Therefore, we need drivers from the Crowne Plaza to the St. Stephen's and back again for each of the three events. We are also planning to serve coffee, tea, juice and donuts both Thursday and Friday mornings. So we need people to serve both mornings.

And last but not least, we need two people to cover the Registration Table for the Synod in the lobby of the Crowne Plaza from 2-8 PM on Wednesday, July 30 and from 10 AM - 6 PM on Thursday, July 31. We hope to make the registration shifts between three and four hours.

Following the end of Synod business there will be a banquet at the Padonia Park Club on Friday, August 1 at 7 PM for \$49.00 a person.

If you are willing to volunteer and wish to attend any of the dinners, please call Donna Szper at 410-252-1499 for more details.

when a solution was needed God occurred to me. It was as James Montgomery's hymn says:

*Prayer is the soul's sincere desire,  
Unuttered or expressed,  
The motion of a hidden fire,  
That trembles in the breast.*

*Prayer is the burden of a sigh,  
The falling of a tear,  
The upward glancing of an eye,  
When none but God is near.*

*Prayer is the simplest form of speech  
That infant lips can try:  
Prayer, the sublimest strains  
That reach the Majesty on high.*

*Prayer is the Christian's vital breath,  
The Christian's native air,  
His watchword at the gates of death:  
He enters heav'n with prayer.*

*O thou by whom we come to God,  
The Life, The Truth, The Way,  
The path of prayer thyself has trod:  
Lord teach us how to pray.*

FROM THE PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE

## Silly Summer Suppers are a fundraising success

THE FOURTH of our **Silly Summer Suppers** was another gastronomic and financial triumph. Parishioners and friends tucked into Charlotte's succulent home-Manicotti and Annie's scrumptious veggie lasagna -- all accompanied by salad and the appropriate beverages. To top it off, there was yet another of our delicious diet busting desserts: A Knickerbocker Glory.

In addition to being extraordinarily successful from an epicurian perspective, the program has raised more than

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

July 20th, 2008 and for  
5.00 PM SATURDAY, July 26th, 2008

8.00 AM & 9.15 AM  
HOLY COMMUNION

The Epistle: I Corinthians 10:1-13  
The Gospel: St. Luke 15:11-32

11.15 AM MORNING PRAYER  
The Psalter: Psalm 51  
First Lesson: Lamentations 3:40-58  
Second Lesson: St. Luke 15:11-32

\$1,300 for the parish. It was instituted both to promote fellowship and raise funds to help cover the rapidly rising costs of keeping the church doors open.. The increased overheads are especially hard to bear in traditionally cash-strapped summer months when folks are way on vacation.

Sponsored by the Parish Life Committee, the **Silly Summer Suppers** will take place weekly on Thursday evenings throughout the summer. They will be followed by an evening of TV comedy, for those who want to stay.

Each week we will be providing dinner and dessert for \$10 per adult and \$5 per child. Naturally, beverages are available, including wine at \$2 per glass and soft drinks at \$1 per glass. Supper begins at 5:30 PM and continues until 7:00 PM. Britcom will air at 7:10 PM. Please join us, for food and fun – and why not invite your friends and neighbors too? Tell them it's a deal that's too good to pass up! **AEH & COH**

**COLLECT FOR THE WEEK**

## Eighth Sunday After Trinity

O GOD, whose never-failing providence ordereth all things both in heaven and earth; We humbly beseech thee to put away from us all hurtful things, and to give us those things that are profitable for us. through Jesus Christ our Lord. *AMEN.*

*Book of Common Prayer, Page 199*

✠ **St. Stephen's Traditional** ✠  
**Episcopal Church**

11856 Mays Chapel Road, Timonium, MD 21093  
Tel.: Office (410) 560-6776; Night 665-1278  
Director of Pastoral Care: (410) 308-2771  
Wedding Co-ordinator (410) 252-0353  
Web Address: <http://www.ststephens-md.org>

RECTOR: The Ven. Guy P. Hawtin  
ASSOCIATE RECTOR: The Rev. James V. Johnson, Jr.  
VICARS: The Rev. Rhae E. Kelley & The Rev. Robert Menas  
ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER: Adric  
DIRECTOR OF PASTORAL CARE: Anne Hawkins  
WEDDING CO-ORDINATOR: Elizabeth Briscoe

**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: 5.00 PM Family Eucharist.

## ✠ 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:** Polly, Jo-jo, William, Betty, Cal, Michaelene, Helen, Stephanie, Wendell, Jack, Peggy, Linda, Millie, Dorcas, Walt., Bruce, Cienna, Leliliah, Jennifer, Anna, Miriam, Harriet, Karen, Steve, George, Eliza, Mel, John, Randy, James, Sarah, Linda, James, Suzanne, Marian, Edith Anne, Steven, Jeanne, Betty, Judith, Angela, Tammy; Ellen, Jim, Patricia, Emma, Henry, Bonnie, Mary Ann, Robert, Christine, Kathleen, William, Ruth, Dee, Brian, Barbara, Gillian, Eileen, Matthew, George, Bryan, Jason, Jane, Joan, Frances, Mary, Ernie, Pat, Lynn, Michael, Ray, Leslie, Brandon, May, Scott, Stephen, Robert, Danny, Billy, Sara, Betty-Ann, Mildred, D'Metrius, Rachel, Laura, Stacey, Frank, Alma, Christine, Mahnaz, John, Henry, Eric, Naomi, Pam, Betty, John, Ben, Kevin, Gwen, Elizabeth, William, Gloria, George, Sarah, Donald, Lee Emily, Elsie, Bruce, Regina, Lewis, Kerri, Madolin, Eudora, Carol, Bernie, Charlene, Josephine, Margaret, Mackie, Jody, Sheila, Jo Anne, Thomas, Jeanne, Sister Catherine-Grace, Mae, Marilyn, Lawrence, Rebecca, Dorothy, Joanne, \*Albion, Martha, Matthew, Jackie, Charles, Tony, Edward, Kim, Eunice, Wendell, Vivian, Maxine, Ann Sharon, Tom, Dennis, Mail & Alice.

**LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE:** Melba, Phyllis, Georgetta, Carolyn, Perry, Suzanne, Tony, Doris, Drake, David, The Norris family; Gillian, Beverley, Adrienn, Jhana, Marla, Matthew, Joan, Laurie, Ellen, Lynn, Mildred, Sarah Lee, Tom, Susan, Debbie, Kathy, Owen, Douglas, Amy, Jo Anne, Mary, Gregory, Isabel, Bobby, Dorothy, Harriet, Darren, Scott, Rebecca, William, Charles, Joyce, Asfa, Eleanor, Kathy, Linda, James, Barry, Ann, Evelyn, Elizabeth, Virginia, Mildred, Chris, Micki, Stephen, Erik, Jurgen, Carol, Sandra, Elsie, Anita, Rhae, John, Robert, Mary Michael, Loyal.

**ON ACTIVE SERVICE:** Majors Benjamin J. Hawkins and Kevin Jessop, British Army; Ens. Alex Bursi, US. Navy; Lt. Charles Bursi, US. Air Force; Lt. Col. Harry Hughes, U.S. Air Force; Lt. Col. R. J. Lytle, U.S. Army, PFC Charles E. Heintz, IV, U.S. Army & PFC Ian Cadwalader, U.S. Army.

HYMNS FROM THE TOP TEN FOR  
THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

July 20th, 2008

**PROCESSIONAL: 426 (Aughton)**  
He leadeth me!

**GRADUAL: 522 (Bohemian Bretheren)**  
Lord Christ, when first thou cam'st to men

**SERMON: 301 (St. Denio)**  
Immortal, invisible, God only wise

**COMMUNION HYMN: 199 (St. Thomas)**  
Now, my tongue, the myst'ry telling

**RECESSIONAL: 523 (Russia)**  
God, the Omnipotent!

## St. Stephen's Traditional Episcopal Church

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