

WEEKLY MESSAGE – July 8th- Fr. Thomas

Professor's Stephen Hawking's death this spring brought up in my own mind, at least, the old debate of Evolution of Intelligent Design versus the traditional creation story. First of all, let me say that the belief in a "Higher Intelligence" and the Theory of Evolution are not necessarily contradictory. One can simultaneously believe and accept each other. These days, on the other hand, perhaps we're tempted ask, "Is there intelligent life on earth?" First of all, remember that the "Theory" of Evolution is a *theory*; it cannot easily be proved, or disproved, if at all. Darwin's theory is that mutation and natural selection determine how life on earth evolves. His theory cannot be summarily rejected simply because it doesn't agree with the account of creation in the Book of Genesis. Some biblical terminology is metaphorical, such as the earth sitting on poles in a pool of water and the hard shell above the earth with gates that open and close for the rain to come down are not to be interpreted literally. Remember, science asks the question, "How?" Theology asks the question, "How Come?"

To some extent, the Theory of Evolution supports the belief that God is always in the process of changing, transforming His creation; and didn't just throw everything up into the sky at one precise moment in time and let the "chips fall where they may." Yet, not everyone in the scientific community is totally sold on Darwin's theory. They point to the cell, for example, saying that every part of a cell had to work correctly from the beginning for cells to exist, and that if each part of a cell had to evolve, there never would be cells at all. Apparently, Darwin did not know about DNA, so he didn't understand how everything had to be in place all at once and not over time. They say some "intelligent power had to design life on earth." Other critics have suggested that for life to have evolved over epochs of time without a definitive design or plan, would be like throwing a basketball out of an airplane in flight miles above the surface of the earth and having the ball land in a trash can on the first attempt.

So, call the "Designer" what you want, wisdom itself suggests that there was, and continues to be a great "Watchmaker" in the sky overseeing the project from above. Of course, as Christians we don't believe that God simply set everything in life on its course, and then left us for some other less ambitious project! The Incarnation is our belief that God became man, so that we could become like God. Or in the words of English poet John Betjeman,

No love that in a family dwells,
No caroling in frosty air,
Nor all the steeple-shaking bells
Can with this single Truth compare -
That God was man in Palestine
And lives today in Bread and Wine.

THIS WEEK AT ST. DAVID'S

TRIVIA NIGHT
Saturday, July 21st, 6:00 p.m.
Parish Hall \$5.00 Per person
20 question rounds with a 5-question Tie-breaker
Bring a snack & beverage to share!

NOTE: Due to summer schedules, this E-Newsletter will temporarily be suspended until July 27th.

HOSPITALITY HOUR - is hosted by the St. David's Men's Organization. Next week July 15th it will be hosted by the Daughters of the King. Please bring a breakfast beverage or food to share. *The first of every month, we are in need of volunteers for Congregation Sunday, the first of each month. Please take a turn to help set out food/drinks, oversee, and cleanup afterwards. Thank you.*

HOLY EUCHARIST – Tuesdays 8:30 a.m. and Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY – meets on Tuesdays in the Mark Room at 7:00 p.m.

DAUGHTERS of the KING – meets in the Mark Room on Sunday at 8:45 a.m.

VESTRY – meets in the Mark Room on Sunday, July 8th at 11:15 a.m.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN – meets in the Church on Friday, July 13th at 11:00 a.m. prior to going to lunch.

OUTREACH – School Supplies Drives begins July 22nd. More information to following future bulletins.

PLEASE PRAY... For the sick: Assad, Lora, James, Carmen, Jan, Rudy, Gina, Ruth, Pat, Iris, Debbie, Ethan, James, Laura, Tim, Bill, Donna, Ashlyn, Tom, Robin, Linda. For those celebrating a birthday: Theresa Joseph, Kenneth Barnett, Lauren Melton, Joyce Parker, Lucas Joseph. For our expectant mother: Chika. For the faithful departed: Len Bierer

FLOWERS & CANDLES for the ALTAR – your donation is appreciated to offset expenses; fill out form along with your prepayment to memorialize, honor or celebrate a loved one or mark an occasion.

I (Sue) will be OUT-OF-TOWN and unavailable July 11-July 23.

If you are in need, please leave a voicemail on the Parish Office phone number and Fr. Thomas will be happy to return your call.

Thank you for your support.