



The Dragon Scoop

April 2015

St. George Episcopal Church
1024 SE Cass Avenue Roseburg, OR 97470
541-673-4048

Mission Statement:
“Loving God, Loving Our
Neighbors”

The Episcopal Church Welcomes You

From Our Junior Warden

It was just one year ago that I was elected to the Vestry. I thought I had retired from an active status as one being useful in the church. After some soul searching as a parishioner here at St. George, I felt I could contribute some leadership role and became the Junior Warden. Thanks to Bill Riley, Doug Holloway and Bob Spielman: they take care of issues that keep our church in good condition. Of course the main role for me is to assist Donna as needed with personal issues and paying the bills.

Many years have passed since I served as Eucharistic minister. Thanks to Sue Phelps who persevered in getting me licensed in our diocese. It is an honor to serve in this way with all of you. Bob Robins and Pete Benham have been leading morning prayer for years. It is an honor to be added to the list and give them a break!

Bishop Hanley has been most helpful to us in our transition from having a priest to seeing that we are blessed with an interim priest-in-charge, retired Bishop Neff Powell. Our congregation is starting to grow with his leadership and occasional supply priests.

As you are aware Donna, Jean, Gregg Henton and I attended a workshop in Ashland recently for "equipping the saints" for building healthy, faithful, sustainable congregations. We are working to have a committee to implement a model that will be ongoing. To help us get started the Reverend Sara Fischer, Canon for Congregational Development from the Diocese, will meet with the congregation Friday, April 10th, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. She will share her knowledge and give us instruction and training for our direction.

May we have a joyful Easter!
~ Steve Thomas, Junior Warden



“Eli, Eli”

My God, My God, he cried
if he is quoted right...
Somehow that moan is
comforting
to us, alone at night,
who tremble, daring dawn,
that He, so wise and strong,
should weep and ask for aid.
Somehow, my lovely distant
God,
it makes me less afraid.

~ Miriam Kessler

Inside This Issue

Letter from Bishop Neff	2
Equipping the Saints	3
Parish News	4
History	5
ECW	6
FISH	6
Wonderful World	7
Matthew 19:14	8
Cathedrals of the World	9
Calendar & Events	Insert

Letter from Bishop Neff

Easter

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The forty dreary days of Lent have been replaced by the fifty celebratory days of Easter. The Alleluias we symbolically buried on Ash Wednesday have been dug up and returned to the liturgy. The solemn and introspective hymns of Lent have been replaced by the joy-filled hymns of Easter.

As you read this message, Christians in Jerusalem are joining us in this season of our celebration of the resurrection. The tomb is empty. He is risen. Go tell the rest. (And actually, because different strands of Christianity calculate the celebration of Easter Day differently, the celebrations in the Old City of Jerusalem and at the Holy Sepulcher will last even more than fifty days.)

After the central story of our faith, the discovery of the empty tomb, my favorite Easter scripture is the story of the Road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35). Two disciples are walking the road to Emmaus discussing the dramatic events of the past week. One of the disciples is named Cleopas. We don't know the name of the other, but one ancient tradition is that it is Mrs. Cleopas. The mundaneness of the setting always reminds me that ninety-nine per cent of our Christian lives are lived out in ordinary times of life like being on a journey to somewhere with a companion and using the time to talk about the events of the week. Jesus comes along, walks with them, and explains everything to them, but they do not recognize him and they do not take in the news. The words do not sink in.

When the disciples reach their destination in Emmaus, they invite Jesus to stay for supper. At supper, Jesus takes the bread, blesses it, and breaks it. At that very moment their eyes are opened and they recognize the risen Lord.

Sometimes in a moment as simple as the breaking and sharing of the bread of the Eucharist, after having listened to the readings, sung the hymns, heard the sermon, and praying, it all clicks into place and we recognize the presence of Christ. There are all manner of times when we can feel the presence of Jesus, or not. The one time Christ is always present is at the Eucharist. I guarantee it.

We do not know where Emmaus is. Scholars and the traditions identify four possible sites. There is no one, "this is the place" tradition. The city of Abu Gosh, six miles northwest of Jerusalem, is one of the possible sites. Crusaders built a church there in 1140. It is now maintained as a monastery for French Benedictine monks. The church is deeply uplifting. Some of the old original frescos still dimly but discernibly show. It is prayer cured with the prayers of centuries of pilgrims and the prayers of the monks. Here it was on my pilgrimage to the Holy Land that Bingham was invited to celebrate the Eucharist. In this sacred space there was no doubt in my mind that Christ was present at the breaking of the bread.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

+Neff



P.S. I do not need to remind you that it is tax season. This secular season is the best time of the year to look honestly at how we are returning to God a portion of what we have done with God's many gifts to us. Remember that your gift to the church is a gift back to God, the giver of all life and love.

Equipping the Saints

Four members of St. George— Jean Bowden, Gregg Henton, Steve Thomas, and I— attended the workshop “Equipping the Saints.”

Presented by staff from the Diocese of Olympia College for Congregational Development along with Oregonian graduates from that program, this intensive workshop provided congregational teams with new tools to help congregations develop perspectives, processes, and practices for congregational vitality. The aim of this training was to facilitate and inspire congregational work that helps faith communities of all sizes and developmental stages to most faithfully carry out God’s mission in Oregon. A combination of teaching sessions, small group work, and project development equipped teams to return to their congregations with new skills and specific action plans.

The sessions were very intense with a lot of information which was and can be very helpful to St. George.

We will form a committee to work on the project we outlined at the training session. Then there will be a meeting with the congregation to get their input and give them the progress thus far on the project. Of course, you know all this will take time. Feel free at any time to ask questions about the project.

Trinity Episcopal Church in Ashland hosted the sessions. As an added pleasure we were given all our meals—excellent ones! One lunch we had a sausage soup made by the Right Reverend Bishop Michael Hanley. Yes, he helped in the kitchen.

Look for more information on this project.

~ Donna Litherland, Senior Warden



One of the meetings I attended was a finance meeting about the Diocese. The Diocese has \$30 million divided into four groups:

- \$10 million is invested by an investment group.
- \$3 million is in a parish owned group.
- \$7 million are funds owned by separate parties, e.g. monks of the Society of St. Paul.
- \$10 million are Bishop-managed funds.

These funds are evaluated each month. Every two years it is decided which ones to keep and which to discard. For example, the things considered are homelessness, women’s rights, and environmental stewardship. These issues go before the General Convention this year.

Guidelines were also given for disaster preparedness and how to protect our documents and records.

~ Jean Bowden

Parish News



Worship, food, and fellowship on March 8. To the delight of parishioners. Bishop Neff “storytold” his way through the ancestry of Jesus from the time of Abraham. Susan and Mike Brossia celebrated their 50th anniversary!

Lower right-hand photo: Bill Riley presented an overview of the current budget on March 22. Other members of the Finance Committee are Jeannie Burpee, Jon Burpee, Kathy Glockner, Frank Graham, and Roger Helliwell.

A Piece of St. George's History, 1916



Marcia Jackson sent this in, saying, “David scanned an old picture we have of the Masonic Temple and on the back it says the Episcopal Parish Hall. Can you see the Hebe statue standing proudly in the intersection on Cass and Main Street? It says it was taken in 1916 so before the drunk cowboys lassoed Hebe and pulled her down never to be seen again but her replica now stands in the park on the corner of Jackson and Lane, erected a few years ago.

“It says Drugstore over the corner building but not sure if it was Chapman’s Drugstore or another in 1916. Also a sign says Graves Photography. On the corner where the AA meets it says Coles Mining Company or something like that. Note the old street light fixtures on Jackson Street and the ‘cool’ man.”



Worry is like a rocking chair—
it keeps you occupied, but gets
very little accomplished.

Episcopal Church Women

ECW met March 19 for lunch and an interesting slide presentation by Jerry Phelps on Oregon mammals.

Next month Dan Latham from the Oregon Department of Transportation will be at the ECW meeting to help us understand how the Highway 138 Corridor construction from I-5 to Diamond Lake Boulevard will affect us. He will describe where the interchanges will be and what new routes we may need to get to the church.



We are also gearing up for the rummage sale May 1 and 2.

~ Betty Jo Hoffman, ECW Co-President

FISH Report

FOOD SERVICE: During February 2015 the FISH Pantry was open 15 times for 26.5 hours . Fewer people had to use the Pantry in February.

TOTALS:	2013	2014	2015
Households:	925	909	869
Persons:	3453	3409	3246

436 families were from Roseburg and 433 from the rest of the County.

Questions about FISH? Call Mik at 541-464-0634

Mother's Day vs. Father's Day Challenge from ECW

Here is a challenge to support the Fish Pantry. Which Sunday will produce the most baby items and money, Mother's Day or Father's Day? Start planning your strategy so when these special Sundays come around, you will be ready.



Wonderful World

by Bob Robins



SAINT GEORGE is one of the most venerated of Christian Saints and Martyrs. He is the Patron Saint of England, Greece, India, Portugal, Russia, and several other countries, and of many cities throughout the world. He is honored by the Anglican Church, Catholic Church, Lutheranism, and the Oriental and Eastern Orthodox Churches, as well as the Scout Movement, and is the Patron Saint of sailors.. I found it surprising and interesting to discover him very publicly and widely pictured in the Russian cities which I visited in 1995.

Statue at the base of the Great War (World War 2) Memorial in Moscow. (Note the size compared to the tourists at the left.)



A tapestry in the Izmayloro Market, a huge "arts-festival" like area, also in Moscow.



Mural on the side of a store building on busy Old Arbat Street in Moscow, near a McDonald's Restaurant.



A statue in the City of Nishni Novgorod, Russia's 3rd largest, with a population of 3 million.

Matthew 19:14

by Juliana Marez

Christians celebrate Palm Sunday a week before Easter and palm fronds are an important part of this celebration. According to Jewish tradition, palm fronds symbolize victory. Christians wave blessed palm fronds to symbolize Jesus Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem, just as the crowds that welcomed him did 2,000 years ago. Palm fronds used for the feast day are cut from compound palm leaves. They can be left as is or made into crosses.

Read more: http://www.ehow.com/how_5390555_make-cross-palm-leaf.html

As a child at St. George's I have fond memories of this season. I remember all the children and adults meeting in the fellowship hall to make palm crosses. We usually made one for ourselves and a couple to give away. These crosses would be placed on our night stands or in our Bibles or pinned to the wall in our rooms. It was a reminder of the victory and promise we could claim as Christians. We carefully folded these little crosses and taught one another how to make them with varying skill. The result was time together as a church family as well as the little keepsake.



We knew as children that Easter was at hand. The pegboard cross would come out Easter Sunday and we would be invited to the altar to add our flowers to the cross. It was so beautiful when it was full and finished. Spring, hope, and victory were ours. An Easter egg hunt on the church lawn or in the fellowship hall would complete the holiday, and sometimes a special dinner.

It wasn't until I became an adult that I realized what a tremendous gift was ours. As a parent and grandparent we make sacrifices for our children. Do we sacrifice for other children? Do we sacrifice for only "deserving children?" Jesus didn't ask for credentials. He opened his arms wide on the cross to include all His children. I hope we make palm crosses again. I hope we make one for ourselves, one for a loved one and one for someone who deserves it the least.

He drew a circle that shut me out —
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.
But Love and I had the wit to win:
We drew a circle that took him in.

~ Edwin Markham,
Oregon Poet Laureate,
"Outwitted"

Juliana works with Homeless and Runaway Youth Services and Native American Services for Roseburg School District 4. She has chosen Matthew 19:14 for the title of her column:

*but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them;
for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs."*

Cathedrals of the World

by Doug Holloway

Liverpool Cathedral Liverpool, England



Frederick Thomas to complete the work. The dedication service was eventually held in October, 1978.

The 13 bells in the 210 feet bell tower are the world's highest and heaviest ringing peal of bells. The organ is the largest pipe organ in the United Kingdom and consists of two five-manual consoles and 10,268 pipes.

In 1931, artist Edward Preston was commissioned for a series of sculptures and in the next 30 years he produced over 50 sculptures, 10 memorials and several reliefs.

The Cathedral Church of Christ in Liverpool is the Church of England Cathedral of the Diocese of Liverpool and is the seat of the Bishop of Liverpool. At 621 feet long it is the longest cathedral in the world and is the fifth largest cathedral worldwide.

When the first Bishop of Liverpool was installed in 1880, there was no cathedral – only a small parish church. In 1881 an Act of Parliament authorized a cathedral to be built and in 1902 a site was purchased on a hill overlooking the city. The foundation stone was laid in 1904. This was only the third Anglican cathedral to be built in England since the 16th century. Giles Scott was the architect chosen to design the new building. Although he was only 22 years old, both his grandfather and father had been well-known church designers.

The Lady Chapel was the first part to be completed and was consecrated in 1910. Work continued in stops and starts over the years because of lack of manpower and materials during the two World Wars. Scott died in 1960 and it was passed to



*“Loaves and Fishes”
by Edward Carter Preston*



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Return Service Requested

St. George Episcopal Church publishes THE DRAGON SCOOP on the last Sunday of the month. If you would like something to be considered for the newsletter please talk to Leigh Van Sickle. E-mailed articles and photographs can be sent to saintgeorgepix@gmail.com

Leigh Van Sickle, Editor
541-391-0814

Priest-in-Charge: The Rt. Rev. Neff Powell
Senior Warden: Donna Litherland
Junior Warden: Steve Thomas
Treasurer: Frank Graham

OFFICE HOURS
10 am—2:00 pm
Monday through Friday

ST. GEORGE WORSHIP

Sunday
10:00 am

Holy Eucharist
or Morning Prayer



APRIL