



Mission Statement:
“Loving God,
Loving Our Neighbors”

The Dragon Scoop

August 2025

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

The Episcopal Church Welcomes You



Graffiti Night Cruise, July 12, 2025



Pictured above left to right: Zack and BJ Hoffman,
Tom Hammerle, Rev. Janine Goodrich,
Steve Thomas, and Jerry Phelps.

Photos by Sue Phelps



Above: Rev. Matt Goodrich and Karla Roady.

We didn't make much money with our popcorn and drinks, but that wasn't the point. We let the community know we are here and we had fun!

The Most Rev. Sean W. Rowe

Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church

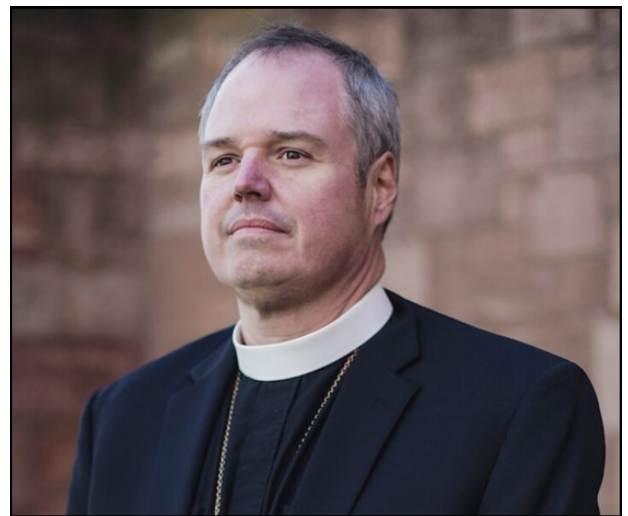
The reckoning, if we are honest, is long overdue. It is shaping up to be a complicated Independence Day for the Episcopal Church. We were once the church of the Founding Fathers and presidents—34 of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence were members of what became our church after the Revolution, and 11 presidents, including George Washington, have professed our faith. Today, however, we are known less for the powerful people in our pews than for our resistance to the rising tide of authoritarianism and Christian nationalism emanating from Washington, D.C.

When religious institutions like ours enjoy easy coexistence with earthly power, our traditions and inherited systems can become useless for interpreting what is happening around us. But our recent reckoning with the federal government has allowed us to see clearly the ease with which the Protestant tradition of patriotism can lead Christians to regard our faith more as a tool of dominion than a promise of liberation.

We have had an eventful few months. In February, we joined a coalition of interfaith partners to sue the federal government on the grounds that the threat of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement raids in houses of worship is a violation of our religious freedom. In May, we ended our four-decade participation in the federal refugee resettlement program over the current administration's demand that we resettle white Afrikaners designated as refugees. We are now assessing how to respond to the travel ban, which prevents us from gathering and worshipping freely with the people of our churches in Venezuela, Haiti, and Cuba, and may limit entry for our members in several other of the 22 countries and territories where the Episcopal Church is found. These challenges to our ability to practice our faith have strained the comfortable intermingling of church and state that our institution has enjoyed for nearly 250 years.

The reckoning, if we are honest, is long overdue. Every July 4, our prayer book reminds us of our failure to stand against the enslavement of Black Americans with a prayer for Independence Day claiming that “the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us.” But not all of us. The Episcopal Church did not make a moral stand against slavery, and some of our eminent leaders were pillars of the transatlantic slave trade. Our church ran residential schools for Indigenous children at which they were denied their culture and God-given humanity. And in the mid-20th century, our foreign missions aligned with U.S. foreign policy in Asia and the Pacific, and in Central America and the Caribbean.

The history of the church in Nazi Germany is a cautionary tale about how Christians can falter in perilous times. Some Christians in that time and place sided with the Reich based on their theological tradition of nationalism and loyalty to the state. Others, who came to be called the Confessing Church, became determined that they needed to oppose the government's interference in religion. They resisted the Nazi regime—some, like Lutheran theologian and pastor Dietrich



Bonhoeffer, to the death.

Bishop Rowe's Opinion Piece, cont.

But the Confessing Church's resistance was not primarily based in resistance to the Nazis' deadly and dehumanizing antisemitism, but rather in its belief in the autonomy of the institutional church and its resulting desire to block state interference in church affairs. The last six months has heightened my understanding of that impulse, and I do not intend to diminish the witness of the Confessing Church—especially that of Bonhoeffer, who was brutally executed by the Nazi regime less than a month before the end of the war in Europe. Its history, however, teaches us that when we are awash in propaganda, even our resistance can be bound by its definitions and incline us to see the world in the same categories—foreigner and neighbor, cisgender and transgender, white and people of color, Christian and Muslim—that we seek to transcend.

These historical lessons are urgent. Churches like ours, protected by the First Amendment and practiced in galvanizing people of goodwill, may be some of the last institutions capable of resisting this administration's overreach and recklessness. To do so faithfully, we must see

beyond the limitations of our tradition and respond not in partisan terms, but as Christians who seek to practice our faith fully in a free and fair democracy.

We did not seek this predicament, but God calls us to place the most vulnerable and marginalized at the center of our common life, and we must follow that command regardless of the dictates of any political party or earthly power. We are now being faced with a series of choices between the demands of the federal government and the teachings of Jesus, and that is no choice at all.

This is not the same kind of patriotism that has guided our church since its founding in 1785, but this July Fourth, it may be the most faithful service we can render—both to the country we love and the God we serve.

From an opinion piece originally published July 3 in Religion News Service:

<https://tinyurl.com/BishopRowe>

Prayers—by Rabbi Irwin Keller

Before Reading the News

My God, the soul you have placed in me is pure and vulnerable. I am afraid that looking at today's news will be painful. Encircle me in a robe of light so that I can witness the wounds of the world without being wounded myself. Let me learn what I need to know in order to be of my greatest use, without being overwhelmed by despair. I feel your protective light now as I open myself to the world's suffering and the world's joys.

After Reading the News

I am Yours, and all that is in this world is Yours. Today I have read stories and seen images, but

my knowledge is incomplete. I don't know how it all connects. But I know I am connected to everyone; I take joy in their joy; I suffer with their suffering. If there is no role for me to play today then let my learning leave me wiser and better prepared. If there is a role for me to play, let clarity rise up in me to see it, even if that role is a humble one. Lift up the work of my hands, in anything they might do for peace, for justice, for the wholeness of our planet, or for the betterment of my community. Just as you turned the curse of Balaam into a blessing, so may all my actions accrue to the good.

(Add here a prayer for the healing of a specific suffering you read about.)

Remembering Thelma Sayers

by Sue Phelps

"You just have to think of other people, that's all, and be conscious of their needs and wants and desires, but don't give up on your own."

Ah, Thelma. We are all here today not because of the amazing things she did, but because of the amazing woman she was. Few people can say they knew someone personally who came through Ellis Island to begin a new life here, but we can.

On any Sunday morning in the bustle of preparing for the service, the parish hall empties as people drift into the sanctuary and to their pews. The altar party has gathered for a prayer, and perhaps even the bell has been rung, but something is missing, we are not complete. And then we hear from our enthusiastic usher, "Here's Thelma." Now we could begin. There were very few Sundays that Thelma was not in her pew which was customized for her with a seat cushion, a pad for her back, and a large print bulletin, probably not necessary as she knew the services by heart. This past Sunday following communion Pastor Janine remarked that the routine of taking communion back to Thelma was so ingrained that she is just now adjusting to her absence as we all are.

As I said, there were very few Sundays that Thelma was not in church. A few weeks back she and I spent a Saturday night in the emergency room while they ran tests, and we waited for results. Dawn had arrived before they discharged her with a clean bill of health, and we headed back to her apartment. I tucked her into bed and dragged my exhausted body home declaring I was not getting up in a few hours to go to church. Thelma was in church, and I was home sleeping. This church and her church family were so important to her and her determination to be here was so strong.....

When she was interviewed at age 100 and asked, "To what do you attribute your long life?" she responded, "I guess I've always believed in God and that there was someone taking care of me all the time, and just keep moving, keep moving." And those of you who traveled with her and exercised with her, and the ladies who gave up their lunch time to give her physical therapy know that she did just that.

I firmly believe that in the early hours of May 24th, in another realm, could be heard those joyous words, "Here's Thelma."



Thelma's 104th Birthday Blessing, Nov. 3, 2024.

Parish News

On July 25 Melrose Vineyards hosted “An Evening for Hope,” a special dinner benefiting Douglas County Cancer Services. Parishioner Tom Hammerle organized a St. George table, which included—clockwise from bottom right—Cathy and Gil Gomez, Kathy Glockner, Karla Roady, Nancy Baum, Tom, and Annalise Clark. Not pictured is Myana Clark, who took photographs.



Bill Riley
accepts
55th Anniversary Blessings
for
his and Barbara's Marriage

Parish News



Birthday Celebration

This Birthday Blessing became a family event! We are no longer allowed to list children's names, but the Birthday Boy is in the center. Birthday Women are Kathy Glockner on the left and Lori Combs on the right.



**July Cakes
by Lori Combs**

Financial Report

by Kathy Glockner

Finances 2025

	April	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Pledges	\$ 7,592	\$ 7,169	\$ 28,433	\$ 28,675
Other Income	2,864	2,318	12,633	9,273
Total Income	10,456	9,487	41,066	37,949
Expenses	15,698	14,283	59,949	57,130
	<u>\$ (5,243)</u>	<u>\$ (4,795)</u>	<u>\$ (18,883)</u>	<u>\$ (19,181)</u>
	May	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Pledges	\$ 7,487	\$ 7,169	\$ 35,920	\$ 35,844
Other Income	4,313	2,318	16,946	11,592
Total Income	11,800	9,487	52,866	47,436
Expenses	11,221	14,283	71,170	71,413
	<u>\$ 579</u>	<u>\$ (4,795)</u>	<u>\$ (18,303)</u>	<u>\$ (23,977)</u>
	June	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Pledges	\$ 6,032	\$ 7,169	\$ 41,952	\$ 43,013
Other Income	4,502	2,318	21,448	13,910
Total Income	10,534	9,487	63,400	56,923
Expenses	12,839	14,283	83,514	85,695
	<u>\$ (2,306)</u>	<u>\$ (4,795)</u>	<u>\$ (20,113)</u>	<u>\$ (28,772)</u>

Hello All. I'm just going to go down to the bottom line with few comments in between.

Pledges were looking good until June, but per usual not in the summer months. Hopefully they'll come up again in the fall. Our expenses were below budget in May and June. In April we paid our insurance on the church, which had gone up significantly, and had our organ serviced which increased our expenses for April. In May we ended up in the black even with our extra expenses which meant other expenses were down for the month. As of June 30 our pledges for the year to date are down from what we budgeted by about \$1,000, but our expenses to date are \$2,000 under budget. For the year-to-date bottom line we are about \$20,000 in the red. Hopefully we won't need to draw from our investment funds. One good thing is our DPA is paid to date. Our bottom line is still better than what we budgeted and by improving the time that we have access to Revs. Matt and Janine we are in better shape than what we had budgeted, realizing we may have to draw from our investment funds.

Cooling Center Report for July

Graphic by Courtney Greenwalt-Schlueter



The Schlueter-Greenwalt Foundation's Cooling Resource Center was open four days in July to a grateful community.

Parishioner Valarie Bruffett said of herself and her husband, Tim,

"It was so meaningful to us to be part of this wonderful program."

FISH

As of July 21:



The Preacher & The Teacher

1970

The Tysons are still in Europe. They spent the night in Dunkirk after having said goodbye to Thelma Sayers, who was going to Stuttgart to meet her husband Albert.

After spending the night, we resumed our drive south, through exceedingly interesting farm country in Normandy, stopping at Calaise for a “coffee break.” We also stopped for a bit of lunch at Boulongue, an ancient walled town once the headquarters of William the Conqueror who left from here to cross the channel and conquer England. His “standard bearer” was Gilbert Tyson, for whom one of my uncles was named. As a reward for his services, William the Conqueror gave him the right to build a castle on the northeastern corner of England, where some of my ancestors came from.

Then next morning on to our destination: St. Malo and St. Servan where Dad grew up as a boy and Uncle Gerald and Aunt Mabel both were born. The Germans had a big submarine base here during WWII, so it was heavily bombed by the Allies. We visited the cemetery where my Grandfather and Great Grandmother both were buried, noticing several stone angels with heads and hands and wings missing. The caretaker told us “they were shot off by the Americans in WWII” (each probably had a German soldier hiding behind it).

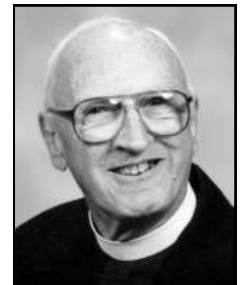
The most interesting event was when we went to the British consulate where my Grandfather had been. Here we met the British Vice Consul, Mlle. Thomas, whose father had been Consul there before her. At first, she was too busy to talk to me—she had a meeting to go to. But when I mentioned that my Grandfather had been the Consul there before 1900, she became so interested that it was an hour later before we left!

During WWII, she and her father had been there and they had helped run an “underground railway” to help condemned Jews to escape from France and the Nazis. But the Germans discovered what was going on and arrested them. They were

on a prison train headed for the gas chambers when an allied airplane bombed the train and they escaped. The French peasants shielded them and kept them hidden until the end of the war. In gratitude for what they had done, the British government put Mr. Thomas back after the war, and when he died, gave his daughter the position. It was fascinating.

Friday morning we left Pontorson and headed up the Loire River for Tours, staying at a small hotel just out of town. The night before was very raucous as the bar was directly under our room. Next morning the bartender had a black eye, so it must have been an exciting night!

Finally it took us three hours to drive into Paris, as every Frenchman in Paris had taken a ride in his car and was trying to get home. Three or four lanes would all be dead stopped for minutes at a time. We finally got into Paris, located Hotel l’Arcade, but had to “go around the block” because of the one-way street. But there weren’t any “blocks” and it took another hour to get back to the hotel. We just parked the car on the sidewalk, as was their custom, and left it there until we turned it in to the rental agency. We spent the next two days in Paris. I had spent a month there in 1937, staying with my Uncle Gerald and Aunt Madeleine in their apartment. But that is a different story!



*The Preacher & the Teacher:
the story of our years at St. George's
as told by Father Alfred S. Tyson*

Cathedrals of the World

by Doug Holloway

York Minster, York, England

York Minster is a cathedral in York, England, and is the seat of the Archbishop of York—the second highest office in the Church of England.

The first recorded church on the site was a wooden structure built in 627. Other later structures were either destroyed by fire, by invaders, or fell into disrepair.

The present building was begun in 1230. Building commenced with the north and south transepts, followed by the chapter house with the nave being completed in 1350. The central tower collapsed before the building was completed so a new tower was built in 1420, and the cathedral was completed and consecrated in 1472.

In July 1984 a lightning strike caused a fire which destroyed the roof of the south transept. The restoration work was finished in 1988 and lumber sent from Oregon was used to help with this project.

There are 128 stained glass windows throughout, with the earliest dating from the 12th century. The early glass was imported from Germany, then painted, fired, and glazed on site. As the windows were installed over hundreds of years, many different types of glazing and painting are visible.

Six clock bells ring every quarter of an hour (daytime only) and the Great Peter bell strikes on the hour.



The basis of the Minster's grand organ (above) dates from 1832. After that time there have been numerous additions, alterations, and cleanings. It underwent extensive restoration work from 2018 to 2020.



“Minster” refers to Anglo-Saxon missionary teaching churches and now is only an honorific title.

This article was first published in the December 2014 Dragon Scoop and has been updated slightly.

Stamp Club News



Umpqua Valley Stamp Club presents
the August Stamp of the Month

Celebrating A Sports Standout

#2097 is part of the American Sports series (1981 to 2013) featuring a variety of sports. Clemente, a skilled athlete from a young age was signed to the Brooklyn Dodgers Triple-A team in Montreal in 1954. The following year he was the first rookie pick of the Pittsburgh Pirates where he remained for the rest of his career. Clemente was an All-Star for 13 seasons. He died on December 23, 1972, on an earthquake relief flight to Nicaragua.



#2097 Issued on August
17, 1984
Carolina, Puerto Rico

The Umpqua Valley Stamp Club meets monthly every 3rd Monday except for June and December.
Here in the Parish Hall at 7:15. Visitors welcome.

Poster by Clarence Adams, Umpqua Valley Stamp Club

Brewed Theology

**BREW
EDTHE
OLOGY**

INDIVIDUALISM

**ME,
MYSELF,
& I ALONE**

Brewed Theology August 28—Gather at 2:00 and 6:00—Conversations start at 2:30 and 6:30.

This month is a conversation about Individualism and how it affects our relationships with God and with one another... Looking forward to seeing you!



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St. George Episcopal Church publishes **THE DRAGON SCOOP** monthly.
If you would like something to be considered for the newsletter please talk to
Leigh Van Sickel, Editor

Co-Rectors: The Revs. Janine & Matt Goodrich
Senior Warden: Pete Benham
Co-Junior Wardens:
Bob Spielman & Sue Phelps
Treasurer: Kathy Glockner

OFFICE HOURS
10 am—2 pm
Monday through Friday

ST. GEORGE WORSHIP
10:30 am
Sundays
and
10 am
Wednesdays

