



# The Dragon Scoop

## December 2014

**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**

### Upcoming

#### **Vestry Nomination Process**

Each year, as put forth in the bylaws, the Vestry is charged to adopt a process to nominate persons for election to the Vestry and publish a description of this process to the legal voters of the Parish by the 30th of November. On November 18, 2014 the Vestry adopted the following process.

“The Vestry requests that you submit your desire to be nominated for election to the Vestry class of 2018 in writing by Monday, December 22nd to the church office and the Senior Warden. Please give a brief biography and comment on how you feel called to this ministry.

No experience is necessary, but to be eligible you must be a lay member in good standing, 18 or more years of age, not a member of the household of a current Vestry member, be willing to create more active involvements from parish members who are not Vestry members, faithfully attend parish functions, worship services, encourage and support parish members in mutual ministry, and be willing to work with other members of the Vestry. The Vestry would like to recognize the gifts of eligible candidates and will put forward a slate of nominees to be elected at the Annual Meeting on February 8, 2015.



Bishop Neff will be with us on Sunday, December 21. After the service we will be caroling in the Parish Hall.

Stay and enjoy cookies, hot chocolate, and some of your favorite Christmas carols.



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Consultant and facilitator Dan Martin met with us after worship service on November 16. Parishioners were able to share their concerns about the past and future of St. George Episcopal Church.

We were asked to consider these two questions for “homework” for our next meeting:

1. Who are we as a community?
2. What commitment am I willing to make for the community?

He ended with the words, “Love will show the way. Who will heed the call?”

## Letter from Bishop Neff

Dear Saints of St. George's,

I love Advent. The purple or blue hangings. The Advent candles. The Advent wreath. St. Lucy and St. Nicholas, those wonderful Advent saints, not to forget John the Baptist and the Virgin Mary. Singing *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*. I still remember the first time I heard that hymn. It was at the Christmas pageant at St. Paul's, Salem, where I grew up. The church was filled with the smell of the greens and all the extra candles were glowing. The whole effect was magical to my five-year-old self.

I love the lights: the candles, the lights on the tree and the lights outdoors during this season when the whole world seems dark.

The season of Advent is a season of preparation; we prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ who comes to us in three different ways. First, we prepare for Christ who came to us as a baby born of Mary in a stable in Bethlehem, a story we all know and love. It is the story that almost the whole world knows. Second, we prepare to celebrate Christ who comes into our hearts and lives every day in the guise of friend and stranger. Third, we prepare to celebrate Christ who will come again at the end of time to bring all creation to one in himself.

As we light our Advent candles and as we sing the Advent hymns and as we prepare for Christmas, let us be ever mindful in heart and soul of the one who came to us in the stable to save us from our sins and to spread the good news of God's never-ending love for all people.

*Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

The Collect for the First Sunday of Advent.  
The Book of Common Prayer, page 211

Advent Grace and Peace,

+Neff



## In Memoriam



**Dr. William R. "Bill" Roady**  
1938-2014

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world . . . Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

~ Matthew 25: 34 and 40

## Christmas Tree for Kids

It's time to choose a mitten or a stocking from the Christmas tree in the hallway. Every year St. George parishioners buy Christmas presents for the children of Douglas County who would otherwise not have anything. We have the joy of helping to fulfill their dreams - wish lists written on pieces of paper on this tree.

The names are given to us by Douglas County Department of Human Services. The requests are for a range of items, anything from clothing to baby developmental toys to coloring books to princess costumes to iPods. The ages run from not-yet-born baby to teenager. You can do your own shopping - definitely the most fun - or you can contribute money and someone will shop for you.

The deadline for bringing the gifts to the church is Sunday, December 14. Don't miss your chance to participate in this wonderful ministry. If you have any questions, ask Thelma Sayers.



## Diocesan Convention Report

On November 14 and 15, Pete and Faye Benham and I attended the Diocesan Convention in Salem. The business "as usual" included review and passage of the 2015 Diocesan Budget along with a review of resolutions submitted for delegate consideration and action.

The only resolution that generated any lengthy discussion, both pro and con, concerned the resolution advising the Diocese to divest themselves of all capital involvement in companies supplying goods and labor to Israel for use in the Palestinian conflict. Some individual and well known blue-chip companies, such as Caterpillar, were specifically named and included. This is a very complex issue and the resolution to further study this proposal and its financial ramifications to Diocesan investment income was narrowly passed. Stay tuned since this will be ongoing and may require individual parish decisions regarding their own investments with the Diocesan Investment Fund in the future.

Worship services were interspersed throughout the sessions. The main Eucharist on Friday was quite contemporary, complete with a jazz band, and we all agreed that it felt more like being in a nightclub than in church but others seemed to think it was great. We did have some good conversations with other delegates and Bishop Neff stuck with us throughout. We thank him!

I have agreed to serve on the Poverty and Homeless Commission next year. Their annual basket raffle at Convention is a highlight and generates grant monies that any parish may apply to receive for related projects such as the one awarded two years ago to St. George's for the FISH Pantry.

Thanks to the members of the Vestry for agreeing to send and pick up some of the expenses this year. It allows for participation in activities and decisions that keep St. George's a part of "the Greater Church."

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Baum



# Wonderful World by Bob Robins

## Preserving the Afro-American Spiritual with Jester Hairston, the “Amen” Man

One of the most interesting people that my career in music education brought me into professional and personal friendship with was Los Angeles Afro-American conductor, composer, music arranger, and actor Jester Hairston (1901-2000). After meeting him at a Festival in Eugene in 1954 and being thrilled at the effect that he had on the high school students and the audience members, I was motivated to bring him to Roseburg on five occasions to conduct Festival concerts. He was here in 1963, 1965, 1970, 1973, and 1976 to direct the Roseburg High School Choirs and some invited groups. He was in Roseburg again in 1984 at the invitation of the Roseburg Concert Chorale.

In the late 1940s, Hairston became widely known for his singing voice, dubbed for that of actor Sidney Poitier, singing “Amen” in the film *Lilies of the Field*. Jester’s arrangement of the spiritual became widely popular with choirs throughout the U.S. and he soon was in demand as a guest conductor at Festivals throughout the country. Eventually he was sent to such foreign countries as Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Norway, Finland, Yugoslavia, Denmark, Mexico, Uganda, Mali, Tanzania, Kenya, China, and Japan as a representative of the U.S. State Department, conducting the American spirituals as a Goodwill Ambassador. Hairston was presented with honorary doctoral degrees by three U.S. universities. He was also honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Among his almost 300 arrangements and compositions was the song “Mary’s Little Boy Child,” recorded by Harry Belafonte and many other artists on Christmas albums, as well as arrangements of the spirituals “Elijah Rock,” “Poor Man Lazarus,” “I Can Tell the World,” “Great Gettin’ Up Mornin’,” “Angels Rolled de Stone Away,” etc. His movie appearances were in such films as *The Alamo* (with John Wayne), *To Kill a Mockingbird* (with Gregory Peck), *Band of Angels* (with Clark Gable), *Finian’s Rainbow* (with Fred Astaire), and many others. He worked with movie director Dimitri Tiomkin

for more than 20 years, directing the choral music in such productions as *Lost Horizon*, *Duel in the Sun*, *She Wore a Yellow Ribbon*, and other films. He also made numerous TV appearances, including a regular role on the series *Amen*.

I maintained an active correspondence with Dr. Hairston almost until the time of his death in 2000. On November 17, 1964, he wrote to me:

*You are one of the very best friends I have, young man, and one of my most ardent boosters. I want you to know how much I appreciate you. I’ll gladly do anything you want me to, any time, Bob.*

**Jester Hairston**



Jester Hairston and Bob Robins  
Roseburg, 1964



# Episcopal Church Women

## ECW IS VERY THANKFUL

ECW met November 20. We had a good discussion regarding holiday giving. We are thankful that, due to your generosity, we are able to donate funds to various projects.

- The Heifer Project is an international program that uses donated funds to purchase items to help those in need become self sufficient. We provided funds for a "Hope Box." It contains chicks and rabbits which produce food and fertilizer—and also multiply!

We also provided funds to support local projects:

- We sent funds to the FISH Pantry for the annual Ford Foundation matching-funds project to be matched by the community churches to purchase two-pound bricks of cheese for families of 5 or more.
- We also will be providing funds to Juliana Marez for her homeless students program.

There are many opportunities this time of year for you to donate your own funds or items.

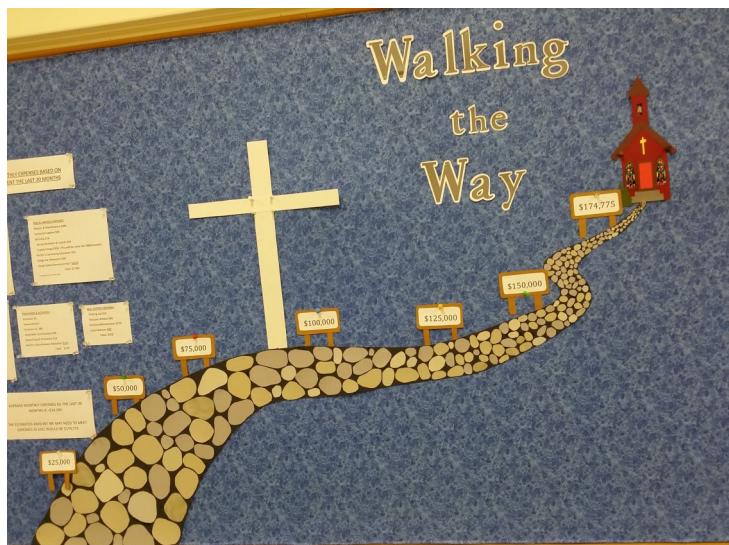
- Our boxes for socks, mittens, umbrellas, rain ponchos, and coats are in the narthex.
- Toys for Tots sponsored by the Roseburg Fire Fighters would be thankful for your donation mailed to:  
Toys for Tots  
P.O. Box 1940, Roseburg, OR 97470  
(Make your check out to Toys for Tots).
- The Roseburg Mission is always in need of items and funds.
- We have placed magazines from international organizations on the coffee table for you to look at and consider supporting their projects.

Thank you again for all of your support to the ECW Rummage Sales which provided the funds that we were able to pass along to those in need.

ECW will meet again December 18 at 11:00 a.m. at church.

~ Betty Jo Hoffman  
on behalf of all the ECW members

## Money Matters



Have you made your pledge yet? So far we have received only \$46,452 in pledges. (Last year totaled \$85,000.) Our goal is \$174,775, based on average monthly expenses for the last 20 months. If you have questions about the amount, you can find more details on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

If you have already made your pledge, you can step it up!

And if you have ideas for fund raising, please let the Vestry know.

# Matthew 19:14

*Ephesians 1:7 - In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.*

This month an arts and craft lesson was provided at the local tribal office (Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe) with youth. It included an opportunity for the kids to make ledger paper drawings.

Ledger paper drawings are a traditional art form that started in the 1800s. An example would be the drawings of Cetan Sapa, also known as Black Hawk, of the Minisa (Red Water) clan, Itázipcho band (Without Marks), Teton Lakota tribe. He drew depictions of traditional life for his people and traded it for fifty cents a page to the government agent in order to get enough rations to feed his people. Those pictures sell today by Sotheby's Galleries for \$30,000 to \$50,000.



*"Social Dance" by Black Hawk, 1880-1881*

Black Hawk was hard pressed to put his mark on those pictures because he was Itázipcho. His people had the practice of not marking their arrows so that no one hunter took credit for the game that was taken to feed the people. They believed all things were from their Creator and were a blessing for all. It was Blackhawk's people who first received the *canupa wakan*, called the peace pipe. It is said they received it first because they understood all things come of our Creator, not from man. It is the accuser that makes us want to believe that there is not enough for all.

*Matthew 6:2, 3 - Jesus said, "So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do... when you give to the needy, and do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing."*

*1 Chronicles 29:12-15, 18 - All things come from God.*

This song of praise is a reminder that because he is their Creator, all things belong to God—which includes us. Anything we possess is on loan to us, and we are duty bound to make use of God's gifts not only in such a way as to glorify God, but also in a way which accords with his will. We have nothing we can offer him, except what he has already given us.

*"You must give some time to your fellow men. Even if it's a little thing, do something for others - something for which you get no pay but the privilege of doing it."  
Albert Schweitzer (1875 - 1965)*

*"I slept and I dreamed that life is all joy. I woke and I saw that life is all service. I served and I saw that service is joy."  
Kahlil Gibran*

Let us come and go into this holiday season with the knowledge that we have received the greatest gift ever known: redemption and salvation. Let us go among others with the elegance and grace of one for whom much was sacrificed and much is expected.

~ Juliana Marez

**FISH** had a very successful food drive November 1 and 8 at five local grocery stores.

A total of 4,567 pounds of food and \$614 were donated to the pantry.



Thank you, St. George volunteers!



# Cathedrals of the World

## 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 present organ dates from 1832. After that time there have been numerous additions, alterations, and cleanings, with the most recent after the 1984 fire.

~ Doug Holloway



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



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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**

