



# The Dragon Scoop

## December 2023

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

The Episcopal Church Welcomes You



**Mission Statement:**  
"Loving God, Loving Our  
Neighbors"

## St. George's New Members!



The congregation rejoiced to welcome five new members on Nov. 12. Left to right are Cheryl Goodlet, Nic, Robin, Lukas (front), and Chris Artac, and Lynda Green.

## Pastoral Letter

I like the fact that churches are a little bit weird. I like that our liturgical New Year begins on the first Sunday of Advent each year, instead of waiting with the rest of the world for the ball to drop on New Year's Eve. We get to march to our own drummer. And so instead of marking the new year with champagne toasts and grandiose resolutions that rarely make it through the week, we light a candle and remind one another that whether we are ready or not, Jesus comes to us .... and he is the one who truly makes everything new. Yes, our new year begins with Advent and it is all about Jesus who comes to us, just as we are, and loves us into new beginnings.

Jesus who comes before we have our life together...when we've failed at keeping all those rosy resolutions, when we've disappointed people we love, when we're struggling with our own personal demons of depression and grief and addiction.

Jesus who comes into our lives that are not what we expected or hoped for...in circumstances that we would not have chosen...when our dreams have been shattered.

Jesus who comes to us in unexpected pregnancies (like Mary's), in dead end jobs (like the shepherds'), and in the midst of the horrors of political violence (like Herod's murder of the children).

Jesus who comes into this world and into our lives to announce that God is here...with us...right now. And that God loves us...just as we are. And that nothing, nothing in this whole wide world, nothing in our hearts or minds, could ever shake God's hold on us. Not even death.

Yes, that's how we begin a new year in church....not with our so often unfulfilled promises and rosy resolutions about the ways we will make our lives better...but rather, with the reminder that Jesus is the fulfillment of all God's promises. And Jesus keeps showing up. He keeps coming—again and again and again. What a wonderfully weird thing it is to be the church and to have countless new beginnings in Christ.

We are blessed this Advent with the new beginning of our ministry together. May we look for Jesus who will keep showing up in our midst in this new year and all the years ahead.

In Christ,

Rev. Janine

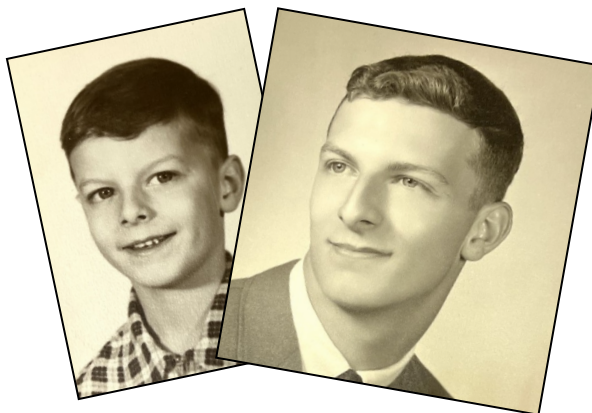


# In Memoriam

## *Michael Glenn Brossia* *June 10, 1945 — November 5, 2023*

*From Tom Brossia's eulogy for his father at the St. George memorial service on Nov. 12:*

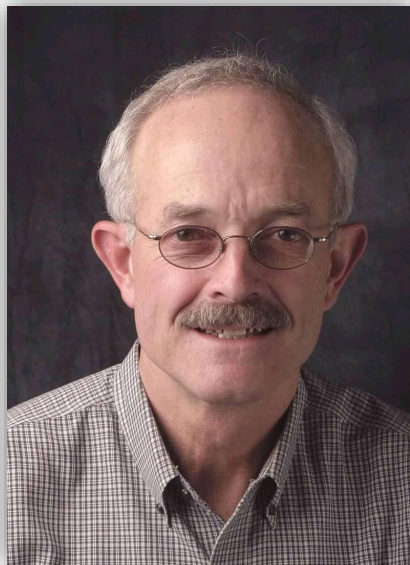
In closing, it is hard to speak of all the things my dad was to our family: best friend and husband, dad and confidant, friend. He loved life and those who shared his life. He embodied the best of what we feel our family was and could be. Words cannot express the love we have for him and the hole he has left through his death. But, I count, as I know we all do, every day we were able to spend with him as a gift and look forward to when we will all once again gather around the table to tell stories and laugh. And be a whole family once again.



## In Memoriam

### *Roger Irving Helliwell*

*December 16, 1946 — October 27, 2023*



Roger Irving Helliwell passed away peacefully on Oct. 27, 2023, surrounded by loved ones. After a long battle with Alzheimer's, he is now a citizen of heaven.

Roger was born in Roseburg, on Dec. 16, 1946, to Robert and Lois (Irving) Helliwell. He graduated from Roseburg High School in 1965, going on to attend the University of Oregon, in Eugene, where he met and married Dorothy "Jody" Earl.

For most of the past 50 plus years they have resided in Roseburg, and Glide, raising a family and devoting much of their energy to building up the local community. Roger was an active member and leader in several local organizations, including: St. George's Episcopal Church, Boy Scouts of America, Roseburg downtown, Douglas County Library, Glide school board and many others.

Roger spent most of his professional career in real estate, retiring from G. Stiles Realty in 2017. He was also in banking (primarily real estate lending) for many years. His knowledge of and enthusiasm for the local area was a primary driver of his success.

An avid hiker and camper, Roger spent as much time as he could in the outdoors. He loved the North Umpqua, but enjoyed exploring other parts of the West as well. Roger was an Eagle Scout and led his two sons and many others in achieving that rank. He was a lifelong Ducks fan and especially loved to hear Jerry Allen call games. He preferred all things "local" especially Douglas County and Oregon.

Roger was preceded in death by his parents and older brother, Robert "Robin" Helliwell. He is survived by Jody and their children Chris, Sarah, Molly and Ben, along with nine grandchildren.

He gave generously of his time and talents. One of his mandates as a scout leader was to "leave it better than you found it" and he lived this out in his 76 years.

Obituary from the *News-Review*

# Episcopal Church Women

## by Betty Jo Hoffman

Thelma Sayers was able to be with us and she gave us her thought for the day:

*"You can let yourself out as long as you can let yourself in."*

The final result of our rummage sale is \$1312.53. We have not decided to whom we will send \$300. Sue will research charitable opportunities within Douglas County but outside Roseburg. We have donated to many organizations within the city and thought we might find someone outside of the city. We are open to your suggestions.

We talked about the Christmas Tea that is being held by Holy Spirit in Sutherlin, the baked potato meal on Nov. 26th, and the monetary gifts we give to the people who make sure our church is clean and others who help enhance the worship service.

Mik Carlson reported that she has already made the Christmas ornaments for the Christmas Giving Tree. They are attached to envelopes. Please feel free to keep the ornament; then put the envelope in the offering plate. You may put cash or a check

in the envelope. If you write a check, make it payable to ECW. Be sure to write ECW on the envelope if you put in cash. ECW will collect the money and purchase gift cards for Juliana Marez to use to help her clients at Peace at Home Advocacy Center.



*Above: One of Mik's delightful ornaments.*

Matthew Jackson shared some of the interesting results he has had in checking into his family genealogy on his Mom's side.

Thanks to Jean Bowden for a great lunch.

There will be no program at the Dec. 21 meeting but please join us to help us decide to whom we will donate a portion of our rummage sale proceeds.

## FISH

*Penny Reed is the new Roseburg Food Project Coordinator. She writes:*

There is a lot to tell you about what is happening at the FISH food pantry. We have a new Executive Director, Jennifer Reida, who just started in mid-November. She has a great deal of experience as a volunteer and in working with and for non-profit agencies. She is an artist and a connector. She has only lived in Roseburg since May and has already gotten very involved in our community. She is friendly and outgoing and has a special place in her heart for food pantries. We are very excited to have her at the helm of FISH.

Unfortunately our shelves continue to be shockingly bare. This started last spring and seemed to get slightly better for a while but has again deteriorated. We often do not get the food that we order from the Oregon Food Bank (OFB) via Feeding Umpqua (our local food bank at UCAN). They tell us that the OFB is not getting what they order from the USDA. This means that we must purchase more foods locally which costs so much more than the food we used to get from OFB. At the same time, our client numbers are up 48% over last year. This means that we need your donations of food and money more than ever.

**Next Green Bag Pick-Up Day:  
Saturday, December 9.**

# All Saints' Sunday, 2023



## Financial Report by Kathy Glockner

### Finances 2023

	October	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Pledges	\$ 6,655	\$ 5,338	\$ 65,534	\$ 53,378
Other Income	3,401	3,783	46,489	37,833
Total Income	10,056	9,121	112,023	91,212
Expenses	4,719	12,393	89,594	123,931
	<u>\$ 5,337</u>	<u>\$ (3,272)</u>	<u>\$ 22,429</u>	<u>\$ (32,719)</u>

You really came through on catching up with your pledges. Thank you all! I think our funds are in a good position if we keep up the good work. Also helping our bottom line is that our expenses for the month were way below the budgeted amount. That is not only for the month, but for the actual Year-to-Date expense amount.

## Birthday Blessings



**Thelma Sayers,**  
shown here with **Pastor Gail,**  
celebrated her **103rd Birthday**  
on November 5.

**Lukas Artac** accepts  
**Birthday Blessings**  
for his cat **Journey,**  
who is one year old.



## Beginnings



Above: Pastor Gail Duba receives a blessing from (left to right) Pete Benham, Jean Bowden, and Steve Thomas, the three people who were the first at St. George's to speak to her about the open position. Now Pastor Gail will begin another phase of her life.

Below: Pete Benham presents our new clergy team to the congregation: Pastors Matt and Janine Goodrich.





# The Preacher & The Teacher

## Excerpts from 1952

Hal Haskin was elected President of the Couples Club, which continued to draw new people into the Church and to provide fun and fellowship for those already in. Martha Jane Plimpton wanted to expand and to develop a boys' choir like those traditional in England. Our girls' choir continued to go great guns, but Roseburg boys couldn't see themselves as the cute little choirboys with big bow ties they saw in pictures of English choirs, and the boys' choir effort failed. This was perhaps the first failure in the marvelous new growth that was sprouting at St. George's.

[In April of 1952] I was elected as alternate delegate to General Convention, however, the regular delegates all went and I stayed home. But Caroline went! She was elected by the Diocesan ECW as their delegate to the national convention, which met in Boston at the same time and place as the General Convention. Women could not yet be elected deputies to General Convention.

In May of 1952 an "organ fund" was begun with the help and backing of Pat Mayo, which led to the purchase of a 6+ Moeller pipe organ [St. George's current organ, bought in 1955 and upgraded and maintained by Hochhalter, Inc. in Salem]. June saw the rector of St. George's begin serving on the Diocesan Council, which continued for over fifteen years and necessitated trips to Portland on the average of every two months. The new freeway was not yet completed, although luckily it was opened before too much longer, at least going north.

## Excerpts from 1953

Two young married men took over the responsibility of directing the acolytes: John Fields and Jim West. We had regular meetings every other week, with forty to fifty boys turning out for games and instruction. One of their

favorite games was "battleship," in which one team of acolytes would compete against another team in neighboring Sunday School rooms, each trying to sink the other team's navy before they lost their own. There was quite a contrast between the saintly-appearing acolytes on Sunday mornings with the over-active normal boys on Thursday nights.

On the subject of Lauren McReynolds [resident minister at the Myrtle Creek mission], an incident took place a month or two before his ordination. He was quite anxious to have his congregation call him "Father McReynolds," a title not yet in universal usage in the Diocese of Oregon, and not entirely favored by Bishop Dagwell. One morning, Lauren showed up at the parish office with a long, sad face and obviously disturbed. Asked what was wrong, he replied that his telephone had rung and when he answered it, the voice at the other end asked, "Who's speaking?" Lauren answered, "Father McReynolds." (He was still a deacon, and the term "Father" is never applied to deacons.) After a considerable pause, the voice at the other end of the phone said, "Well! I guess I won't have to ordain you, then!" It was Bishop Dagwell. Of course, the ordination took place as scheduled, but Lauren was very concerned about the Bishop's reprimand, which no doubt was only partly joking.

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



## Vestry Nominations

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. 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.

The Vestry requests that anyone who desires to be nominated for election to the Vestry submit their desire in writing by January 7, 2024, to the church office or to 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.
- ✚ Eighteen (18) or more years of age.
- ✚ Not a member of the household of a current Vestry member.
- ✚ Willing to create more active involvements from parish members who are not Vestry members.
- ✚ Faithfully attend parish functions and worship services.
- ✚ Encourage and support parish members in mutual ministry.
- ✚ Be willing to work with other members of the Vestry.

There are three openings available.

The logo for the Vestry, featuring the word "Vestry" in a serif font. The "V" is dark red, "e" is blue, "s" is dark blue, "t" is dark blue, "r" is dark blue, and "y" is dark blue. A small white cross is positioned below the "y".

Your Church needs you –  
Please consider serving on the Vestry.

## Inspiration

Thank you, Great Spirit, for all the ways you have sustained us through these last many months. Thank you for the Earth, alive with the power of life, as aware of us as we are of her.

Thank you for the gift of faith and those with whom we can share it. It has been a life line for many.

Thank you for being beside us through the long nights and during the nervous days, because without you we might not have had the patience to endure.

Thank you for embracing all those we have lost on this year's difficult journey. We will never forget to pray for them and their families.

Thank you for all the heroes who have worked miracles simply because they did their job. We will always honor them. Thank you for hopeful eyes behind the masks, eyes that long to see a better tomorrow. May we all come to share in that vision together.

And finally, thank you for those we love, all those we cherish as family. Bless them today, please Spirit, and keep them safe, for we are thankful for each and every one, just as we are thankful for every day we share with them."

~ The Rt. Rev. Steven Charleston

## Stamp Club News

Umpqua Valley Stamp Club presents  
the stamp of the month



### December is National Pear Month



Scott #3302, Issued July 8,  
1995, in Reno NV

The U.S. Department of Agriculture made it official in 2004. USA Pears states that 84% of shoppers cannot tell when a pear is ripe because not all pears turn yellow and ripen from the inside out. Gently press near the stem with your thumb. When it gives to gentle pressure it's ripe.

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*

## Advent/Christmas Schedule

The Parish Hall is once again decorated for Advent by Sue and Jerry Phelps. Thank you both for this wonderful blessing!

**Christmas Eve, Sun., Dec. 24: Concert at 3:30 pm followed by Holy Eucharist at 4 pm**

**Lessons and Carols, Sun., Dec. 31, 10:30 am**





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St. George Episcopal Church publishes **THE DRAGON SCOOP** monthly except for a combined July-August issue. If you would like something to be considered for the newsletter please talk to Leigh Van Sickle, Editor—541-391-0814 E-mailed articles and photographs can be sent to [saintgeorgepix@gmail.com](mailto:saintgeorgepix@gmail.com)

**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**

