



# The Dragon Scoop

## February 2017

**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**



*Words for winter from the spiritual reflections of Steven Charleston, a Native American elder, author, and retired Episcopal Bishop of Alaska.*

In the tradition of my ancestors winter is the season for speaking of spiritual things. It is the season of stories. Sitting beside the warming fire, the elders teach the next generation, while outside the earth sleeps as the wind plays music on the flute-branched trees.

There is a spirit, the elders say, a Great Spirit, who is the maker of all things. There is a center to creation, a meaning and a purpose, that ties life together with endless beads of breath. We are part of a song, a song so old it has no remembered beginning, no imagined end.

If you close your eyes you can hear it, the elders say, you can hear the drum chant, begun before the stars opened their eyes. It is the echo of a deep love, the first sound and the last, the soul sound, the sound of God's breathing.



<https://www.facebook.com/bishopstevencharleston/>  
 January 24, 2017

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# Rector's Letter

Dear Friends,

I am ready for spring. Probably you are also. It will assuredly come, but on its own time, not ours. Such is life. We want to grow up, and it still takes years, and when we get there, we may notice that we are still not finished, still not fully empowered, still not fully independent, like we had imagined we would be.

As we grow, we often expand our hopes and desire beyond ourselves and our own groups, to all humanity. We hope for peace on earth, for prosperity for all, for an end to suffering. Some seek a utopia, others the fullness of the kingdom of God. As followers of Jesus, we sing the hymn:

*“ . . . nearer and nearer draws the time,  
the time that shall surely be,  
when the earth will be filled  
with the glory of God  
as the waters cover the sea.” (Hymn 534)*

In the meantime, we remember that Jesus said the kingdom of God is “at hand.” We see signs of God’s reign in acts of mercy and forgiveness, in healings of body and relationships, in hopes and joys of all sorts.

Sometimes we are anxious about the future: our own future, the future of St. George’s, the future of our country and of the world. And not without reason. Yet, as Christians, we know that the future is in God’s hands. And God’s hands are safe and good. And so we can go about our lives with an underlying peace and confidence. God’s will will be done, his kingdom will come. As Anglican missionaries taught in Africa over a century ago, “God is good, all the time.”

And you are good as well. You are good at singing and praying, good at loving and caring, good at work and good at play. It is a blessing to be your priest. And it is good to invite others to join us in this corner of God’s Kingdom, which is already present in our lives and our community, if not yet fully accomplished in the world.

See you at the Annual Meeting after church on February 12.

In Christ,

Fr. Jim+



## In Memoriam

Bertha Edith Wright, 1900-1989



At the request of her family, Mrs. Wright's ashes were placed in the Columbarium on January 1, 2017, after the morning worship service. Her son attended St. George's in the 1980s.

Father of all, we pray to you for Edith, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May her soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.  
Amen.

## FISH Report

The 73 Neighborhood Coordinators for the Roseburg Food Project collected 13,550 pounds of food in December from over 700 food donors, including the 1,786 pounds brought in by students from Jo Lane Middle School. FISH says this food makes a big difference in the quality, quantity, and variety that is available to the Pantry clients.

The FISH Pantry is currently looking for volunteer drivers who have either a pickup truck and/or trailer, and are willing to sign up one Tuesday or Thursday each month, to pick up food from UCAN and deliver it to the pantry. This commitment requires approximately 1-2 hours, one day per month. No lifting is required. If interested, please contact Kim at 541-643-9453 or [roseburgfish@gmail.com](mailto:roseburgfish@gmail.com)

Don't forget the FISH benefit concert by award-winning pianist John Nilsen at 7 p.m. on Saturday, February 4, at the First Presbyterian Church (823 SE Lane Avenue, Roseburg). A suggested donation of \$10 per person will be collected at the door. A canned food donation at the door is requested as well.

# Beautiful Soup

On December 11, the Vestry hosted a Soup and Bread Lunch to thank parishioners for their yearly pledges. Here are the recipes that many of you requested for the delicious offerings of that day.

## Cheeseburger Soup—Sue Phelps

1 pound ground beef  
1 1/2 cups shredded carrots  
2 teaspoons dried basil  
8 tablespoons butter  
8 cups diced peeled potatoes  
16 ounces Velveeta cheese, cubed  
salt and pepper to taste  
1/2 cup sour cream

1 1/2 cups chopped onion  
1 1/2 cups diced celery  
2 teaspoons dried parsley flakes  
6 cups chicken broth  
1/2 cup flour  
3 cups milk

In a 6-quart saucepan, brown the beef and drain and set aside. Sauté onions, carrots, celery, basil, and parsley in 2 tablespoons butter until tender. Add broth, potatoes, and beef; bring to a boil. Reduce heat, cover, and simmer for 10-12 minutes until potatoes are tender.

Make a white sauce with 4 tablespoons butter, 1/2 cup flour, and 3 cups milk. Add cubed Velveeta. Add mixture to soup. Add sour cream. Salt to taste.

## Sausage and Kale Soup—Bob Spielman (from a Martha Stewart Recipe)

In a large pot (6-8 quarts), heat 1 tablespoon **olive oil** over medium heat. Cook 1 diced **onion** until soft, stirring, 2 to 3 minutes. Add 2 minced **garlic cloves** and 1/4 teaspoon **crushed red pepper**; cook until fragrant, 1 minute. Add 5 **waxy potatoes** (1 1/2 pounds), peeled and cut into 1/2-inch chunks, and 3 cans (14.5 ounces each) **reduced-sodium chicken broth**; bring to a boil. Reduce heat, simmer until potatoes are tender, 10 to 15 minutes.

In a blender, purée half the soup. Return to pot; add 1 bunch (12 ounces) **kale**, stemmed and shredded, and 12 ounces **smoked chicken sausage**, cut into 1/2-inch half-moons. Simmer until kale is wilted, 10 to 15 minutes.

## Tomato Bisque—Nancy Baum

Nancy says, “I must confess I really don’t like to cook, so I’ve developed some strategies to make pre-prepared things seem home made. Tomato Bisque from Costco is one of them. I simply add a can of diced tomatoes, some half and half, and usually a dash of cream sherry. If I have some parsley, some celery, etc., you might see it in there.”

# Episcopal Church Women

by Betty Jo Hoffman

Our January meeting was highlighted by good food, good conversation, and interesting information. We voted to donate \$100 to the Lookingglass School fund, and Nancy Baum told us about the Roseburg Visitors' Center/Chamber of Commerce.

The next rummage sale will be the first weekend of May. Now that we are transitioning from winter and holidays to an upcoming spring and warming weather, it is a good time to decide what things you don't want to use or wear again this year and put them aside in a corner of a spare room until May. It gives you less clutter, more room in your closet, and less stuff in storage. We always appreciate your support.

## FYI

Thank you to everybody who helped decorate and undecorate the church and Parish Hall and helped provide the poinsettias and wreaths. With all of your physical, monetary, and moral support our church looks beautiful during each holiday season. God bless you all.

~ Betty Jo Hoffman

There is a new notebook in the office to help keep track of when we visit those who can't get to church. When you complete a visit, either make a note of it yourself in the log or else call the office (or leave a message) and the secretary will write it down. Usually all that is needed is your name and the date of the visit.

Safe Havens mothers sent some gracious thank you notes and suggestions for future classes:

"I'm very thankful for everyone that had us here for these classes and everyone's time, thoughtful gifts, kindness, and advice. It's been very helpful to learn ways to be a better mommy from other mothers who have already had some experience. Thank you all and I'm going to miss getting to see you on Thursdays. God bless you."

"All of it was wonderful! Thank you, all of you!"

"Thank you to the Congregation of St. George's."

Suggestions: hand and footprint keepsakes, painting, haircuts or makeovers for moms, baking.



## Safe Haven Grant

The fourth and final Safe Haven program was held on January 12. It was a festive occasion, and the young mothers attended with their children. The day's topics were on how to set a formal table and how to deal with parenting problems.

Those who assisted included Nancy Baum, Barry Boston, Father Jim Boston, Pam Boston, Justin Cahoon, Jewell Gates, BJ Hoffman, Marcia Jackson, Juliana Marez, Sue Phelps, Carolyn Spielman, and Leigh Van Sickle.



*A couple of great suggestions from Pam:*

*\*If you put candles on the table, your family will sit longer and talk more.*

*\*Build memories by including yourself in the pictures you take of your child.*

# Sermon Notes

by Leigh Van Sickle

Many of you know that I take notes during the Sunday sermons so that I can post a summary on Facebook the next day. People who have missed the service or former parishioners out of town appreciate knowing what is going on at St. George's.

But I have come to realize that even if I didn't publish my notes anywhere, I would still want to take them. It's a way of keeping my mind focused on what is being said at the time as well as a record to look over later and perhaps meditate on. I don't have a good memory for the spoken word (unless set to music), and I can remember things better if I see them written down. I use a combination of high school shorthand and my own abbreviations so I can write quickly. Sometimes my handwriting is really bad and later I have to puzzle out words. But if you are only taking notes as a reminder to yourself, you don't need to worry about being detailed. Jot down phrases that catch your attention, maybe something you want to mull over or meditate on later.

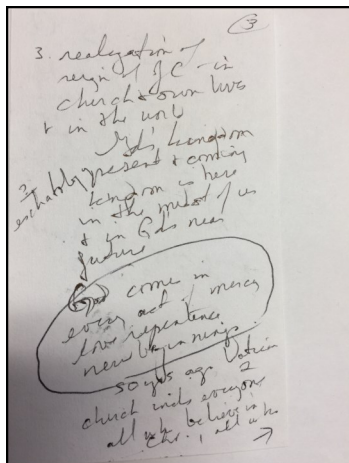
Here are my notes from Father Tom Murphy's sermon on July 10, 2016.

The Good Samaritan. It's easy to overlook the heart of this story, which is about our understanding of the boundaries of the human race. Our temptation is to limit our concept of neighbor to those who think and look like us. Authentic neighborliness is found in the baptismal covenant Episcopalians make: "Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons?" "Will you strive for justice and peace among all people?" This is an incredible promise and challenge of a lifetime. Its political implications are compelling. The Episcopal Church is an invitation to a journey in the lifestyle of the Samaritan. Jesus is the journey and the end of that journey.

If I hadn't taken notes that day, only a vague image—if even that—would remain in my mind. But I put the notes in my Bible as a reminder that "Jesus is the journey and the end of that journey."

I will always regret not taking notes several years ago when the Reverend Canon Neysa Ellgren made a visitation to our church. Her sermon was on sheep and all I recall is that it was wonderful. At least I did remember enough of her benediction to look it up later: "Life is short and we have never too much time for gladdening the hearts of those who are travelling the dark journey with us. Oh be swift to love, make haste to be kind." (Henri-Frédéric Amiel, 19th century Swiss philosopher)

I try to carry index cards and a pen in my pocket or purse for my notes. You might try that or a small notebook. Give note taking a try. I don't think you'll be sorry.



*My notes from Father Jim's November 27, 2016 sermon: God comes in every act of mercy, love, repentance, new beginnings*

# Blessings

**Nancy Miles** serves the people of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Medford as parish nurse. She wrote this column, which she is generously sharing here, for the January 2017 edition of St. Mark's newsletter, Lion Tales. So much of it is applicable to us here at St. George's.

Here it is January 2017. This past year you have all been part of a transformation process in one way or another. A process that is still going on. I see it is an example of how the Spirit is working in and through us. Some of us have experienced challenges that surprised us, spun us around, even stopped us dead in our tracks so that we would hear that still small voice urging us to listen. At those times we sat in the stillness, felt the calm, and remembered the words of the song "Be still and know that I am God; that I am with you. Be still and feel that I am real . . . ."

As a result there are those in our St. Mark's family who have bravely stepped forward with not only new ideas but also the willingness to bring the ideas into action. Others have been open to seeing changes with new eyes; recognizing that change is much like the birthing process. At times all systems come into play quickly and a new creation is born with little effort. At other times it may take a while for the systems to synergize and work together to produce the same outcome. Some of you have begun to write a new chapter in your lives by letting go of fear, trusting the Spirit, and resting in the healing of "one day at a time."

Thank you for allowing me to meet you at your doors, in your homes, at your bedsides. Listening to your stories, your challenges, your fears, your hopes has been a blessing for me. A blessing in which I experienced the Holy Spirit's subtle presence and secret energy. In his book, *To Bless The Space Between Us*, John Donohue writes,

"When a blessing is invoked, it changes the atmosphere. Some of the plentitude flows into our hearts from the invisible neighborhood of loving kindness. In the light and reverence of blessing, a person or situation becomes illuminated in a completely new way. In a dead wall a new window opens, in dense darkness a path starts to glimmer, and into a broken heart healing falls like morning dew. It is ironic that so often we continue to live like paupers though our inheritance of spirit is so vast. The quiet eternal that dwells in our souls is silent and subtle; in the activity of blessing it emerges to embrace and nurture us."

So it is that I am blessed by all of you. I encourage you to resolve to daily bless one another. We will continue to need the inspiration and energy of the Holy Spirit in the days ahead. It is my prayer that "we all receive blessing upon blessing." May the Holy Spirit work through us with power to bless, to heal and renew one another.





# Cathedrals of the World

by Doug Holloway

## Portsmouth Cathedral, Portsmouth, England

The Cathedral Church of St. Thomas of Canterbury, known as Portsmouth Cathedral, is a Church of England Cathedral and is the seat of the Bishop of Portsmouth.



In 1180, land was given by a wealthy Norman merchant to the Augustinian canons of the local priory so that they could build a chapel dedicated to St. Thomas of Canterbury, who was assassinated and martyred ten years earlier in Canterbury Cathedral. This chapel was enlarged to a parish church in the 14th century and then became a cathedral in the 20th century. The first building was dedicated in 1188 and the tower was used as a lookout point and lighthouse.

In 1449 the Bishop of Chichester was murdered by local sailors, resulting in the town's inhabitants being excommunicated and the church closed. The church sustained heavy damage during the next 200 years and it was not until 1683 that rebuilding of the tower and nave was started. After 1693 there were many additions and extensions to the buildings, including a ring of eight bells in 1703 and extensive foundation work in 1902.

The Diocese of Portsmouth was established in 1927 and the parish church was upgraded to a cathedral. Portsmouth (population 210,000) then became home to two cathedrals – the other being the Roman Catholic Cathedral which was opened in 1882.

Work to enlarge the building to suitably become a cathedral progressed until 1940, when, due to World War II, all work stopped. During the war the cathedral suffered only minor damage although the surrounding City of Portsmouth was heavily damaged.

In the 1960s, efforts to finance and complete all outstanding work were unsuccessful but eventually in the mid-1980s there was enough interest to finish the plans and the completed building was consecrated in 1991.



*Portsmouth Cathedral organ*



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St. George Episcopal Church publishes THE DRAGON SCOOP each 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

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**Interim Rector: The Rev. James Boston**  
**Senior Warden: Pete Benham**  
**Junior Warden: Steve Thomas**  
**Treasurer: Kathy Glockner**

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

## **ST. GEORGE WORSHIP**

**Sunday**  
**10:00 am**

**Holy Eucharist**  
**or Morning Prayer**

