



# The Dragon Scoop

## February 2018

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



### Fr. Jim's 40th Priesthood Anniversary



God and Father of all, we thank you for your Church.

Forty years ago you made Fr. Jim a priest in the Church. We thank you for calling him, and for equipping him to be faithful to that calling.

He has been a faithful pastor, a patient teacher, and a wise councilor. He has been faithful in prayer, in proclaiming the Gospel, and in rightly administering the sacraments. He has sought to build up and strengthen your people and to love them as you love them. He has worked to bring about justice and mercy in the larger world, and to make your ways known. He has sought to be an advocate for those most vulnerable in our world today.

As we celebrate the anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood, we ask your blessing on him. Let Fr. Jim know your joy as he serves, your pleasure in his service, and remind him today that he is your beloved child. Grant him peace in his heart and a renewed assurance of your delight in him.

We pray this through Jesus Christ your Son, in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Prayer by Pam Boston*

*See also page 3*

# Rector's Letter

Dear Friends,

First, thank you for your love and affirmation last Sunday, as you celebrated and blessed the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood. I was moved.

Second, thanks for your patience as Pam and I were slowed down for about six weeks with a persistent cold marked by congestion, coughing, and persistent fatigue. We seem to be all recovered.

Looking forward, we are almost into Lent. The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper is on February 13, and we observe the start of Lent with Ash Wednesday on February 14. Ash Wednesday, with Good Friday, is one of the two official fast days of our church. That may be a little tricky with it also being Valentine's Day. Do what you can. There are many forms and degrees of fasting. Just make it noticeable to yourselves.

There are a lot of Lenten program on offer to Episcopalians:

- Forward Movement has ***Lent Madness***, a chance to learn about 32 remarkable Christians as many of us vote for whichever saint will win the "Golden Halo." We have ten copies of the *Saintly Scorecard* for Lent Madness on hand. Forward Movement also offers at least 14 different devotional books for the season. More at [www.forwardmovement.com](http://www.forwardmovement.com).
- The Good Book Club is offering a journey with Luke, reading the Gospel of Luke in Lent and Acts in Easter season. It has a number of different sponsors and a variety of aids. Just start out at [www.goodbookclub.org](http://www.goodbookclub.org).
- Our diocese is encouraging parishes and individuals to consider ***Becoming the Beloved Community***, a program addressing racism and other things that divide humans. There are weekly suggestions for prayer, study, and action. More at [www.diocese-oregon.org](http://www.diocese-oregon.org). I plan to bring some of this into our Sunday services.
- After coffee hour on Sundays you are invited to join me for discussion of the ***The Path***, a journey through the Bible. Or read it on your own, or discuss it with one or more friends. We are out of copies at the church office, but can get more. It is about the path of God and humanity from creation to the new creation. Most is straight Bible text, with interesting comments and thought provoking questions.

**Here are some basics for Lent:** Watch less TV. Consider some type of food discipline. Be intentionally kind and generous in concrete ways. God will provide opportunities, trust me. Pray more. Read the Bible more. Study more. Reconnect with people who would love to get a note or call from you. Show up at church on Sunday, always. If you already do that, consider attending the Wednesday 10 a.m. service. Just do what you can, what works for you.

At the annual meeting on February 11, after Eucharist and some coffee, we will receive reports on our life in 2017, review the budget for 2018, elect members of the Vestry, and discuss our life as a parish of the Diocese of Oregon and of the Episcopal Church, serving in Roseburg and Douglas County. Do try to be present.

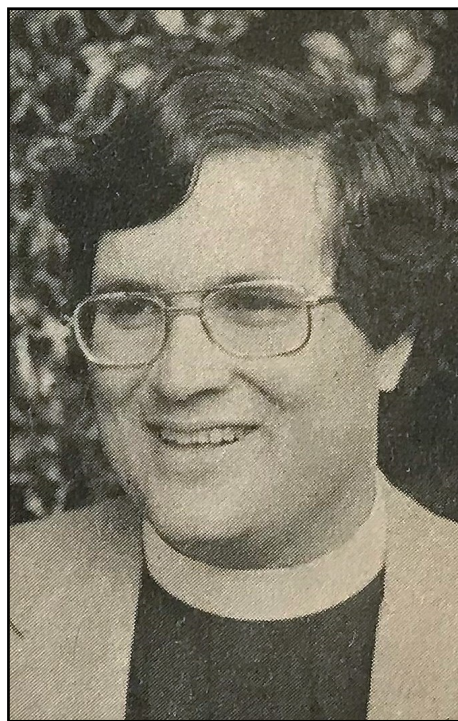
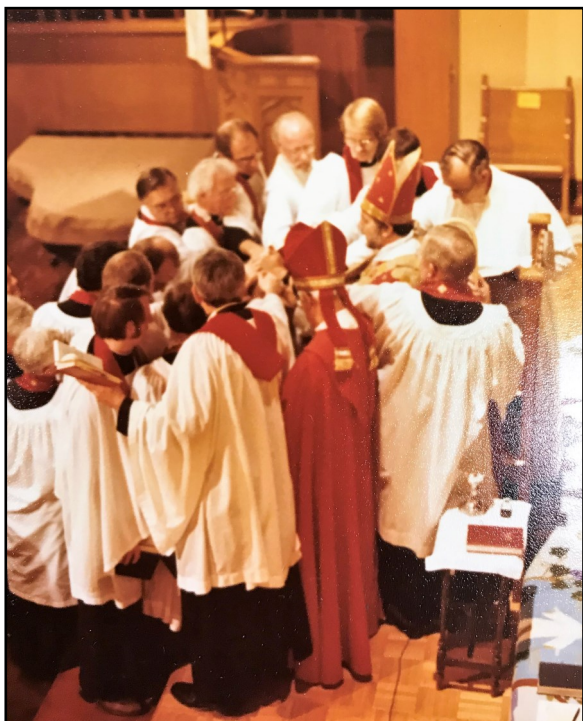
It is a joy for me, and Pam, to serve with you all.

In Christ,  
Fr. Jim+



# Happy 40th Anniversary!

Fr. Jim was ordained on January 24, 1978, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Salem, Oregon. St. George's celebrated his 40th anniversary as a priest on January 28, 2018. Thank you for serving us so faithfully, Fr. Jim!



*Left: 1978 Ordination*

*Right: Fr. Jim in 1980*



*Cake and fellowship after the service*



# Episcopal Church Women

by Betty Jo Hoffman

ECW ladies enjoyed a reunion with Vicki Murray at the January meeting. She told us about the Boys & Girls Club of the Umpqua Valley. We learned that it is a great passion of hers because of the wonderful benefits and programs they have to offer the boys and girls of this area. It is not a day care center but it is a place where they can spend time after school for fun, relaxation, learning, and homework.

We also discussed the Shrove Tuesday Dinner. It will be on February 13, 5-7 p.m. The cost is \$5 per person and \$12 per family. There will be eggs, sausage, pancakes, orange juice, and coffee. We will do more intense advertising this year.

We discussed BJ Oswald's memorial potluck and learned that Virginia Skala had also passed away. And we have received more items for our Fine & Fancy Boutique at the Tools to Treasure sale. Be sure to start putting items away for that sale in May.

Please join us on the third Thursday each month, August through June.

## FISH Report

The pantry does not need any more baby items for a while. Dog and cat food will be a focus in the coming months.

The Pantry thanked Faith Lutheran Church for their fantastic effort with the Christmas season's "Meals at the Manger" donation of 1,086 pounds of food and over \$1,000.

<http://fishofroseburg.org/>

AN IDEA WHOSE TIME HAS NOT YET COME: LENTEN GREETING CARDS





# Parish News

## Upcoming Special Events

Sunday, February 11 — the Annual Meeting will be held after the worship service. Don't miss it!

Tuesday, February 13 — Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper from 5-7 p.m. Cost is \$5 per person or \$12 per family. Invite your friends!

Wednesday, February 14 — Ash Wednesday service with Imposition of Ashes at 4 p.m.



## Profile Committee

On January 7, the Profile Committee was commissioned during the worship service to begin the process of hiring a permanent rector. Members include Co-Chairs Tricia Holt and Sue Phelps and members Jean Bowden, Mike Brossia, Mik Carlson, Kathy Glockner, and Leigh Van Sickle.

The group met first with Susan Ladue, St. George's congregational development facilitator, on January 20. Susan outlined the path needed to come up with profiles of our congregation and of the priest we want. The first step is a questionnaire that will go out to all parishioners so that everyone has the opportunity to participate.

The Committee is currently working on this questionnaire.

## Jinny Skala

Virginia (Jinny) Skala, longtime St. George parishioner, passed away on January 18, 2018. She had a long decline into dementia and was in a care facility in her last years. We will have prayers for her, and a witness to her life, at a Sunday Eucharist in February. Her ashes will be placed in our columbarium.

# In Memoriam

## Betty Jane (BJ) Oswald October 6, 1924—January 17, 2018

On January 24, BJ's family and friends gathered at St. George's to participate in a beautiful memorial service presided over by Father Jim Boston.

BJ's sons "Hoppy" and Kenn Parry spoke at the reception of their mother's passion for life. Born in Coos Bay, BJ came from the town's founding family. She gardened, cooked, hunted, and had a wonderful 30 years with her husband Bill Oswald. One of her favorite memories was of the New York World's Fair in 1940, when she participated in the opening ceremonies as a majorette. (Close-up photos below show her at the Fair and in 1961 and 1995.)

BJ will be sorely missed at St. George's. Her sparkling personality and her glorious altar arrangements will linger in all our memories.



# Letter from Rick

*Parishioner Rick Williams sent the following letter, full of his usual courage and humor, to his St. George family.*

Dec. 21

Dear Ones,

Sorry not to have written in such a long time, but much of it has been spent in the VA hospital, and I really didn't feel like writing, but things are much better now. My last evil exam showed my bladder still free of growths and when they checked my kidneys (something done with gun and camera through the bladder – don't ask!), what had appeared on the CAT scan to be a nascent tumor was not. There's still the slow-growing cancer on the one kidney, but unless it starts growing rapidly, they will leave it alone. (It's on the backside of the kidney, and I guess it would be a tricky operation.)

Most of my time in the hospital has been with bouts of water retention (like gaining 8 pounds in a single day). Every time the retention acts up it puts pressure on my heart. They slap me in the hospital for 3 or 4 days, and fill me with lasiks (I don't know how it's spelled, but that's how it sounds), which makes me pee like crazy.

Don't tell anybody, but this week I gained 9 pounds, but my heart has been happy, so I'm not saying anything (I don't want to be in the hospital for Christmas!)

I was so sorry to hear about Betty – I always loved her chuckly laugh. She could have cheered up Digby O'Dell. For those of you who are too young to remember when radio had actual programs, he was "your friendly Neighborhood Undertaker."

Well, I'm afraid I have to sign off, or this won't get in the mail.

May your season be full of Joy,  
and your joy be seasoned with grace.  
(That's original.)

Love,  
Rick

*You can write to Rick here:*

Rick Williams  
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Beaverton, Oregon 97007







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*Sign up in the office to  
provide altar flowers.*

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 Sickle. E-mailed articles and photographs can be sent to [saintgeorgepix@gmail.com](mailto:saintgeorgepix@gmail.com).

Leigh Van Sickle, Editor  
541-391-0814

**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**

