



The Dragon Scoop

February 2019

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



Give, and it will be given to you.

On Wednesday, January 30, St. George’s hosted a Point of Time homeless count for HUD led by UCAN (United Community Action Network), which serves Douglas and Josephine Counties.

The count determines which individuals are in need of safe, permanent housing. Information and referrals as well as winter essentials were provided. A hot meal was served as well.

ECW’s pill bottle project provided about 75 personal care products to be distributed. The entire congregation contributed by saving and donating their pill bottles, giving everyone a chance to help with a project that didn't mean donating money.



Photos by Juliana Marez



Let us love, not in word
or speech, but in truth
and action.
1 John 3:18

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Rector's Letter

Dear Friends,

Several weeks ago a small metal cross, with the body of Jesus on it, mysteriously appeared above the credence table in the chancel of St. George's. It is very simple and Jesus is somewhat stylized, suggesting both our Lord's death and resurrection. At the next Vestry meeting, Bill Riley reported the incident. We had a little discussion about whether Episcopal churches have crucifixes. A few of us reported that they are very common in Episcopal churches.

I confessed that I had placed the crucifix above the credence table. I had not talked about it before, curious as to how people might respond. Bill Riley proposed that a little plaque be placed by the crucifix, and the Vestry agreed. (My feelings on plaques are mixed.) I was asked to write something for the newsletter on the subject. So, here it is:

Church décor has two purposes. One is to create a comfortable and appealing place of worship. The other is to teach. Our stained glass windows are a wonderful teaching tool, depicting events in the Old Testament, in the life of Christ, and at the beginning of the Church. Candles provide light and also suggest that we have been around for a long time. (In the early Church it would have been oil lamps.) The altar suggests both a dining table and a tomb. In the catacombs of Rome, Christians celebrated Eucharist on the tombs of martyrs.

Images of the crucifixion show up only occasionally in the first few centuries, but by the Middle Ages were standard in church décor, and often in homes. They became much less common after the Reformation in Protestant churches. Lutherans kept using them a lot, and in the Church of England,

many (but not most) churches kept their depictions of the suffering and death of Jesus. Some Protestants feared they were objects of worship, even idols. (Not true.)

In the 1800's the Anglo-Catholic movement restored the centrality of the Eucharist among Anglicans and also made crucifixes more and more common, and not just in "high" parishes. I personally believe that every church should have at least one image of the crucifixion as a reminder that we were "bought for a price," and that the risen Lord still bore (and bears) the scars of the nails on his hands and feet and a pierced chest from a Roman soldier's spear.

Jesus was, and is, true Man and true God, as we confess at almost every service. He suffered, died, was entombed, and was raised from death. He preached Good News, and he lived it, especially from Maundy Thursday to Good Friday and Easter.

The cross, with or without Jesus on it, invites us to take up our own crosses, to offer the most and best love we can muster to both God and our neighbors, including those we find most challenging, day by day. And even when we cannot love as well as we (or God) would desire, we know that God's forgiveness and love will never give up on us.

In the words of tiny Tim, "God bless us, every one!"

Jim+

God is
Good
ALL THE TIME



Photo by Bill Riley

In Memoriam

GORDON HAMMERLE
April 22, 1933—December 28, 2018



Gordon Hammerle's Memorial Service was held at St. George's on January 4, 2019. His daughter, Jill Hammerle, gave the eulogy. A reception followed the service.

Gordon was married in 1956 to Delpha, his true love and soulmate. Jill talked about her father as a man of principle, a force to be reckoned with, who touched so many lives (as teacher, father, coach, friend, and confidante) by just being him. Gordon passed on a love of play—win or lose—to his children. What mattered was how you played, and although he did play to win, he was a gracious loser. He loved the outdoors and being active and was always happier when accompanied by his family.



Episcopal Church Women

by Betty Jo Hoffman

At our January meeting we started with a thought:

"God heals hearts, but he needs all the pieces. Save all the pieces."

Delpha and Jill Hammerle provided a lunch that filled us up!!!

The Tools-to-Treasure/Fine & Fancy event will be May 2-4. Be sure to start putting aside those items you would like to pass on to others who are in need. Shrove Tuesday (otherwise known as Fat Tuesday) is coming March 5.

All of the women of St. George's have been invited to a Valentine Bingo Social at Holy Spirit in Sutherlin on Saturday, February 16, 1-2:30. There is no charge, no work, no planning—just fun, fun, fun. BJ gave out invitations/reminders

and will pass more out on Sunday. We must RSVP by February 9., so contact BJ soon.

We enjoyed the movie *Heaven is Real*.

Please join us February 21 for our next meeting. The program has not yet been determined.



*Finished personal care packets for the homeless.
Photo by Nancy Baum.*

FISH Report

From KQEN TV, January 28, 2019:

The FISH Food Pantry of Roseburg will get a \$10,000 grant from First Interstate Bank.

A release from the bank said the money is being provided to help with energy efficiency upgrades. An upcoming project is intended to reduce ongoing equipment maintenance and utility costs for The FISH. That includes the installation of a 17.5 kilowatt solar electric roof mount system and two energy efficient refrigeration systems at its emergency food pantry. The refrigeration systems will provide for more energy efficient storage of eggs and dairy items, as well as expanded space for frozen foods, such as meat, meat alternatives, and vegetables, according to the release.

Gary Collins, Market President of First Interstate, said the bank is proud to support The FISH "as it works to enhance its facilities to better serve our neighbors in need." Collins will present the check to Nis Jesson, Board President of The FISH, at the food pantry on Jerry's Drive Monday evening at 7:00 p.m.

The project is being completed in collaboration with Douglas County Smart Energy and the United Community Action Network.

<https://kqennewsradio.com/2019/01/28/fish-food-pantry-receiving-10000-from-first-interstate-bank>

Memorial Plaques



Have you taken a good look at the plaques in the hallway by the Sacristy? They were created and built by the late Troy Bowman. He was a very

skilled carpenter who completed many projects for St. George's.

The plaques were designed to act as memorials for deceased church members, and they go back to 1860 when our church was first built.

At right, Delpha Hammerle looks on as her daughter, Jill, points out Gordon's name plate.



Thanks to Bill Riley for this information and the photo above.

Upcoming

Annual Parish Meeting and Potluck , Sunday, February 10, after the service.



Oregon Episcopal Cursillo

Growing Christ Centered Leaders

ULTREYA—A gathering of Cursillistas and all those interested in attending a Cursillo Weekend.

Come join us for a time of joy-filled singing, fellowship, group reunion, and Holy Eucharist.

Date: **Sunday, February 24, 2019**

Where: Holy Spirit Episcopal Church
120 South Umatilla Street
Sutherlin, OR 97479

Time: 2 pm – 4 pm

RSVP Contact: Rev. Anne Abdy
Church: 541-459-4697 (leave message)

Spotlight on Don Witt

Don Witt's radiant smile and distinctive husky voice welcome parishioners and visitors to St. George's on Sundays when he serves as an usher.

Don was born in 1930 in the San Francisco Bay Area in San Leandro, where he grew up. He joined the Navy and served from 1951-1955 as an aviation storekeeper. He spent eight months on an aircraft carrier in the Philippine Sea. Visiting ports of call may have been the beginning of his desire to see the world.

Once out of the Navy, Don took advantage of the GI Bill and attended the San Francisco Academy of Art from 1955-59. Afterwards he moved to New York City and worked in commercial art for three years. He returned to California and was employed by the Incandescent Lighting Company in San Leandro as a graphic artist for their catalogs and other publications.

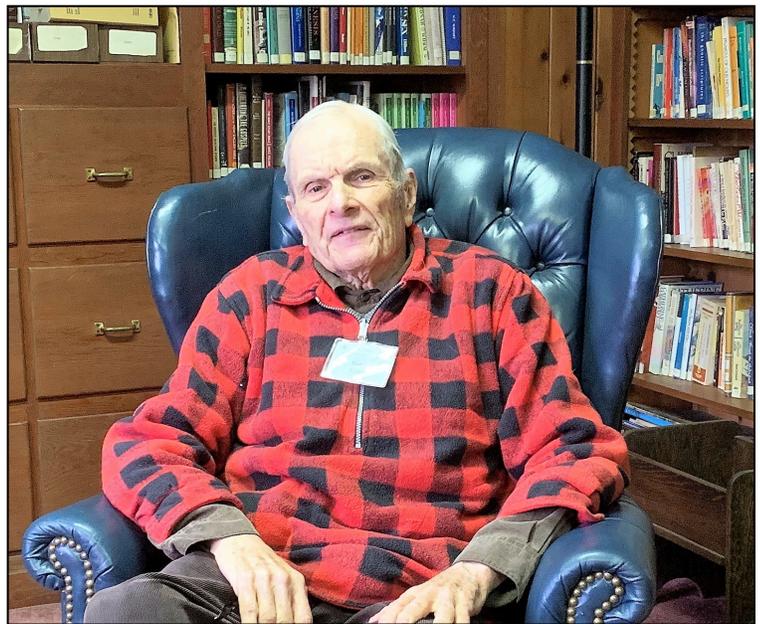
Don pursued his love of travel by going on tours. He met his former wife in Madrid: German-born Kai who was familiar with the Bay Area because she had attended UC Berkeley. They were married in 1968 and had one daughter, Robyn.

Taking early retirement at age 62, Don was able to do what he loves best, traveling. He prefers guided tours so he can just enjoy seeing new places and new people. In 2002 Robyn, who was living in Roseburg, enticed him to come live with her in Oregon. He joined St. George's in the middle of 2003. Slowly, he embraced more of church life and is now an usher, although he regrets he didn't get involved in the Vestry.

(Editor's note: It's not too late to get involved in the Vestry!)

A bad wreck in 2017 put him in Callahan Village Assisted Living for two and a half months. His back was seriously injured. He is thankful for the good support his church family gave him at the time (Nancy Baum and Karla Roady even rounded up furniture for him). His back still gives him some problems, but he does well for the most part.

Don and Robyn have two cats. He says, "We've always had cats—not that there's anything against dogs!"



Thank you, Don, for your service to your country and to your church!

Sue Phelps and Leigh Van Sickle plan to continue this series focusing on individual members of St. George's. Let them know if you would like to be featured or want to suggest another parishioner.

Parish News



Epiphany Potluck, January 6, 2019



Happy Birthday to Peggy Reiter!



Service dog Miggs Hammerle can't take Communion when he accompanies his human to the altar rail, but he does appear to worship God in his own way.



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A Thank You Note

Thank you to all of you who pitched in to prepare for our celebration of Christmas, from the beginning of Advent through Epiphany. You decorated, baked and cooked, sang and played instruments, and celebrated at various services. You provided physical as well as spiritual support to each other. Our worship is enhanced by all everybody contributes.

A Valentine Thank You,
BJ Hoffman

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.

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

