



The Dragon Scoop

January 2021

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



Christmas Eve 2020



O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Pastor Gail's Ponderings

Epiphany—Navigating by GPS

"In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews, for we observed his star at its rising and have come to pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary, his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh."
Matthew 2:1-2 & 10-11



It was their willingness to ponder the expanse of the heavens that made them wise. Under the panorama of the night sky, they contemplated dark and light, movement and mystery. It all meant something—they were sure of it. But what message did the dark heavens hide? You see, in Jesus' church, we sometimes do our work by starlight.

The Wise Men, foreigners in the story of Jesus' birth, found their way to the Messiah by following a mysterious light that guided them through unfamiliar territory. They navigated by **GPS—God's Peculiar Star**. It was a surprising, uncommon, traveling star. It appeared out of nowhere, but somehow they knew it was a sign from God. It led them to a peculiar place where they found a peculiar scene: a humble child in a home with his mother, Mary. This child, Jesus, was King of the universe, son of God, Prince of Peace, and savior of the world. The Bible tells us that

they were "overwhelmed with joy" as they bowed to worship him.

All of us who put our faith in the Triune God are servants of God. We allow ourselves to be guided by God's mysterious starlight through unfamiliar territory to the places where Christ is revealed. As we move through the darkness of uncertainty, or conflict, or puzzling change, we know that we are headed in the right direction as long as we follow God's light. The manger and the cross are not treasures in the eyes of the world, yet **in God's grace we know that these peculiar gifts come to us bearing eternal life.**

God's guiding starlight is still everywhere in the church and the world. It glistens in the waters of Baptism, illuminates the bread and the wine of the Eucharist, and shines over places of poverty and hopelessness where Jesus lives among the poor. By this light, miracles happen, wounds are healed, the hungry are fed, prayers are answered, leaders are raised up, and reconciliation overcomes animosity. We can feel the joy grow as we find our way closer and closer to the places where God calls us to be the light of Christ. Even though we are sometimes frightened and uncertain as we set out to follow this peculiar light, the overwhelming joy at the end of the journey assures us that it is God who has brought us to this place.

God of Grace, we thank you for starlight and peculiar destinations. Guide us by your mysterious light to the places where you want us to serve. Give us the courage to travel in unfamiliar territory, the wisdom to recognize your light and joy at the end of our journey.

*Amen.
Pastor Gail*



In Memoriam

Don Severson

March 16, 1923 - Dec. 3, 2020



Don Severson passed away at the age of 97. He will be greatly missed. He and his wife, Betty, who died in 2017, were longtime members of St. George's. They were married for 68 years.

Don enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1942 and flew 32 missions over Germany and France, serving as radioman and backup bombardier in a B-24 Bomber.

He taught physical education at Roseburg High School and coached their baseball team as well as the local American Legion team. His baseball players loved and esteemed him

Due to current COVID-19 restrictions, a memorial service will be held in the summer of 2021.

Christmas Eve 2020

On Christmas Eve, Myana Clark's soaring soprano (right) welcomed the congregation as she sang "O Holy Night," accompanied by Roberta Hall, organist. The other cantors, Steve Thomas and Leigh Van Sickle, added their voices that evening, with Pete Benham joining them for Lessons and Carols on Sunday.

Pastor Gail and Dr. David were able to be with us for Christmas after all. COVID-19 concerns in Eastern Washington made it unwise for them to travel to Spokane Valley.



The Gospel was from Luke 2:

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord."

Thank you, Roberta Hall, for playing the organ for us this Christmas season. What a blessing you are to St. George's!



Christmas Eve and Lessons & Carols



On Christmas Eve, Pastor Gail presented Thelma Sayers with a scrapbook of her 100th birthday celebration.



Leigh Van Sickle accompanied herself on the harp, singing "Mary Did You Know" on Christmas Eve.
(photo by David Sayers)



Jill Hammerle, Miggs, and Nancy Baum at Lessons & Carols.

“Coping”with Christmas



Many thanks to Karla Roady for the background research and to David Duba for the photographs.

Pastor Gail wore this beautiful cope on Christmas Eve. Because of damage to the fabric, it hadn't been used for years. In June it was sent to the Diocese of Olympia to be repaired, where the restoration team noted that it was one of the most exceptionally fine vestments they had ever worked on. COVID-19 restrictions made the work take longer than expected.

The cope was purchased by the ECW from a company in Portland in the 1960s or 70s.



Parish News

St. George on YouTube



12/13/20 Holy Eucharist

St. George's now has its very own YouTube channel. Jacek Berka and Kathy Glockner are responsible for filming our Sunday services, and Leigh Van Sickle will post the links to our website and to Facebook. A grant from the Diocese made it possible to purchase the camcorder and laptop necessary.

While only the most recent video will be on our website, you can view older ones on YouTube. Go to [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search for "Saint George Episcopal Roseburg." You can bookmark that page and you can also subscribe to our channel.

Parishioners are currently receiving an email when the services are available, so you can also just wait to be notified.

It is our hope that we will soon be able to stream the Sunday service in real time.

2021 Flower Schedule Is Up

Now is the time to sign up for your favorite dates to remember loved ones or events on the 2021 Flower Schedule. You may bring flowers for the Altar Guild ladies to arrange or bring flower arrangements (keep in mind, flowers from your garden are always nice). Or you may donate money and the Altar Guild will purchase and arrange the flowers.

Please indicate which option you plan to use. (You can change your option, if necessary, as the date comes gets closer.)

Episcopal Church Women

There was no December ECW meeting because of COVID-19 concerns. However, they do plan to meet on Jan. 21 at 11:00 as usual.

Pastor Gail Writes,

"Pastor Gail & David want to thank the entire St. George's congregation for the cards & gifts this Christmas. A big thanks to the ECW for the goodie bag filled with delicious treats & the monetary gift. I'll let you know what we decide to get!"

St. George Gives

There was enough money in the Rector's Discretionary Fund for Pastor Gail to write checks to

- ♥ The Dream Center
- ♥ Meals on Wheels (housed at the First United Methodist church)
- ♥ The FISH of Roseburg

The Christmas Giving Tree



Pastor Gail blesses the 2020 Christmas Giving Tree presents.

Thank you to everyone who donated gifts and money
for Christmas presents for thirty children of Douglas County.
Thank you also to Mik Carlson for making the cute tags on the Giving Tree.

December Blessings



Birthday Blessings for Frank Graham (above left) and Pete Benham



35th Anniversary Blessings for David Jones (above) and his wife, Marianne



Birthday Blessings for Jewell Gates and Nancy Baum

(left to right in foreground of bottom picture)

FISH

Roseburg Food Project results are in:

70 Neighborhood Coordinators collected 11,991 pounds of food from 681 Food Project donors. FISH thanks all those who donated food in the green grocery bags and helped with the collection of the bags.

The next collection of green bags for the Roseburg Food Project will be Saturday, February 13.

Ask your Neighborhood Coordinator to give you a blue BottleDrop bag if you want to donate bottle refunds to FISH.

70 Neighborhood Coordinators collected donated food and cash from 695 donors. Total pounds of food collected was 12,014. This is a great result, particularly during COVID pandemic and considering some of our school groups and businesses were unable to participate. Thanks to all who donated and helped with the collection.

December 2020



Stamp Club News

Umpqua Valley Stamp Club presents
the January stamp of the month



January is Blood Donation Month

Issued in 1971 this stamp salutes blood donors.

The Red Cross Donor Service started in 1940 and today needs over 13,000 donations per day to keep up with demand.



Scott catalog #1424 was issued to promote blood donations

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

Hymn for Epiphany

We Three Kings

Pandemic Parody

Words: R. G. Huff

A Serious Hymn-writer Gone Rogue

John Henry Hopkins, Jr.

KINGS OF ORIENT



1. We three kings are six feet a - part. We'll Pur - ell be fore we de - part.
 2. Mel - chi - or is now quar - an - tined! Stuck in Per - sia, so ____ it seems.
 3. Bal - tha - sar has lost ____ his taste. Eat - ing food is such ____ a waste.
 4. Cas - par left the car - a - van. He post - poned his star - gaz - ing plans.



We've been test - ed as sug - gest - ed. Care - ful are we, and smart!
 No more trav - el on a cam - el 'til there's a good vac - cine.
 How dis - quiet - ing, now he's diet - ing. Life now is slow - er paced.
 No more roam - ing; Cas - par's hom - ing, scrub - bing his red - dened hands.

REFRAIN

Sing Only after Stanzas 1 & 4



O ____ Do our masks go with our gowns? Do these face shields hide our crowns?
 Still our masks clash with our gowns! Face shields hide our top - pled crowns!



We've had plen - ty twen - ty, twen - ty! Still we head t'ward Da - vid's town.
 We've had plen - ty twen - ty, twen - ty! Soon we'll head t'ward Da - vid's town.

Optional Stanza 4:

Caspar blames it all on Amahl--
 One night's visit on the long haul.
 Coughs and sneezes,
 Short-breaths, wheezes.
 Li-co-rice cures it all.



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Bibles Needed

**Bibles are needed at the Dream Center.
They are given out as fast as they come in.
If you have one that you are willing to share,
please consider donating it.
Bibles can be purchased at the Dollar Store.**

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. Gail Duba
Senior Warden: Pete Benham
Junior Warden: Sue Phelps
Treasurer: Kathy Glockner**

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

**ST. GEORGE WORSHIP
10 am
Sundays
Holy Eucharist

Wednesdays
Morning Prayer**

January