



The Dragon Scoop

January 2022

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



Silent Night, Holy Night



Christmas Eve, 2021

Pastor Gail's Ponderings

This was a morning devotion on December 21, the Winter Solstice, from R. Rohr.

The Birth of Christ in Us Is What Matters

*Make ready for the Christ,
Whose smile, like lightning,
Sets free the song of everlasting glory
That now sleeps, in your paper flesh,
like dynamite.*

~ Thomas Merton, "The Victory"

Anglican mystic and author Evelyn Underhill (1875–1941) shares her perspective on the importance of Jesus' incarnation and this season in the church's life:

The Christmas Mystery has two parts: the Nativity and the Epiphany. A deep instinct made the Church separate these two feasts. In the first we commemorate God's humble entrance into human life, the emergence and birth of the Holy, and in the second its manifestation to the world, the revelation of the Supernatural made in that life. And the two phases concern our inner lives very closely too. The first only happens in order that the second may happen, and the second cannot happen without the first.

Christ is a Light to lighten the Gentiles as well as the Glory of His people Israel. Think of what the Gentile was when these words were written—an absolute outsider. All cosy religious exclusiveness falls before that thought. The Light of the world is not the sanctuary lamp in your favourite church.

[Underhill] continues by exploring what it means for Christ to be born in our lives:

Beholding His Glory is only half our job. In our souls too the mysteries must be brought forth; we are not really Christians till that has been done. "The Eternal Birth," says [Meister] Eckhart, "must take place in *you*."

And another mystic says human nature is like a stable inhabited by the ox of passion and the ass of prejudice; animals which take up a lot of room and which I suppose most of us are feeding on the quiet. And it is there between them, pushing them out, that Christ must be born and in their very manger He must be laid—and they will be the first to fall on their knees before Him. Sometimes Christians seem far nearer to those animals than to Christ in His simple poverty, self-abandoned to God.

The birth of Christ in our souls is for a purpose beyond ourselves: it is because His manifestation in the world must be through us. Every Christian is, as it were, part of the dust-laden air which shall radiate the glowing Epiphany of God, catch and reflect His golden Light. *Ye are the light of the world*—but only because you are enkindled, made radiant by the One Light of the World. And being kindled, we have got to get on with it, be useful. As Christ said in one of His ironical flashes, "Do not light a candle in order to stick it under the bed!" [Mark 4:21] . . .

When you don't see any startling marks of your own religious condition or your usefulness to God, think of the Baby in the stable and the little Boy in the streets of Nazareth. The very life was there which was to change the whole history of the human race.

Amen
Pastor Gail



In Memoriam

Peggy Marie Reiter
January 19, 1950 - November 30, 2021



Peggy at her Birthday Blessing in 2019



Peggy will be sorely missed at St. George's. As pictured at left, she worked with Thelma Sayers to take on the Children's Giving Tree project. Sadly, COVID made it impossible for her to attend church, and she was not able to continue after 2019. Peggy was also active in the choir, lending her sweet, true soprano to the "joyful noise."

May she rest in peace and rise in glory.



Parish News



Photo by Margaret Thomas

Left to right: Pete Benham, Myana Clark, and Steve Thomas get ready to sing in the Roseburg Concert Chorale/UCC presentation of Handel's *Messiah* on Dec. 5.



Birthday Blessings
for
Nancy Baum (left)
and
Jewell Gates (right)



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

Parish News



Photo by Sue Phelps

Olivia Phelps helped with Advent preparations in the Parish Hall. She also decorated her own nose!

What a blessing to continue to enjoy the serenity of the season in such peaceful surroundings. Thank you, Sue and Jerry—and Olivia.



Photo by Karla Roady



All the Christmas musicians weren't available for this photo at left, kindly taken by Blake Mecham. Pictured are (left to right) Lise Clark—Director, Leigh Van Sickle—Choir, Janet Mecham—Accompanist, David Jones—Choir, and Myana Clark—Choir.

Choir singers not pictured were Pete Benham, Betty Jo Hoffman, Joel Koford, Sue Phelps, and Steve Thomas.

Myana's Communion solo of "O Holy Night" was outstanding.

While not church related, David gave a terrific performance as Santa in UACT's production of *Elf the Musical*.

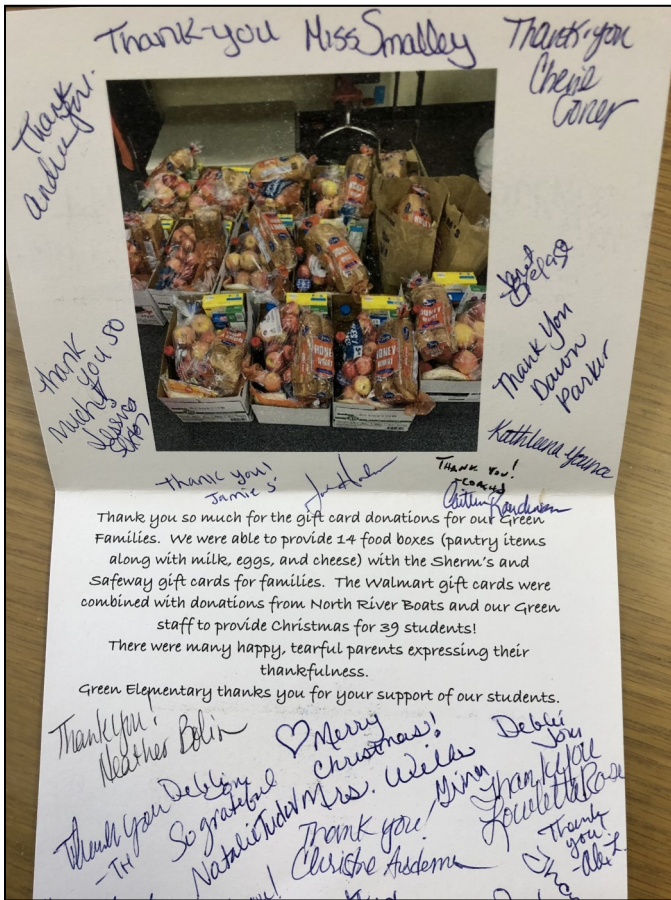


Due to heavy snowfall, Lessons and Carols on Dec. 26 had to be cancelled. Many thanks to Matthew Jackson for this picture of a snowy St. George's on that day!



Photo by Matthew Jackson

Parish News



Thank-you cards from Green and Winchester Schools for our fall contributions of gift cards.

Dear Saint George Episcopal Church members,
Thank you so much for your amazing gifts of generosity for many of our Winchester families. The families were truly blessed and were touched by these gifts of love during a difficult season. We appreciate you!
Winchester Staff
Rick Snyder, Principal
Thank you! Marcena Robbins

So many presents for local children! Pictured with the Giving Tree gifts are a few of the givers: left to right, Kathy Glockner, Betty Jo Hoffman, Pastor Gail Duba, Faye Benham, and Jean Bowden.



FISH

Preliminary results for the December collection of donated food for the Roseburg Food Project:

68 Neighborhood Coordinators collected 13,615 pounds of food from 824 Food Project donors.

Thank you to all those who helped with the collection of the green bags.



Stamp Club News



Umpqua Valley Stamp Club presents
the Stamp Of The Month

January is National Hobby Month

Number 2200 features stamps from Sweden as the subject and is part of a 4 stamp set dedicated to Stamp collecting. This was a joint issue with Sweden that featured U.S. stamps as the subject on one of the Swedish stamps.

The Umpqua Valley Stamp Club will gladly assist anyone who wants to start stamp collecting as a hobby.



Scott catalog #2200, issued on
January 23, 1986

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



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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.

Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Gail Duba
Senior Warden: Pete Benham
Junior Warden: Bob Spielman
Treasurer: Kathy Glockner

OFFICE HOURS
10 am—2 pm
Monday through Friday

ST. GEORGE WORSHIP
10 am
Sundays
and
Wednesdays

