



The Dragon Scoop

January 2024

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, 2023



*Silent Night,
Holy Night*

Pastoral Letter

“In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, Magi from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born King of the Jews? For we have observed His star at its rising and have come to pay Him homage.”

(St. Matthew 2: 1-2)

We are a species created to move and explore. It is in our makeup, our DNA. This reality of our existence, it seems, is from our very beginning when cells divide, expand, regroup, and grow. The time arrives and the womb can no longer keep us. There is something else out there ... Birth. Our very bodies and minds sense the rhythm and reject the confines. From baby clothes to toddlers. From Gerber’s mash to solids. From cute bubbles to words and questions. We escape the crib, crawl, and explore the room, then the house. We walk and suddenly the backyard beckons. And so, the journey, the discovery, the birth, begins anew.

Humanity is at its best, we are never more human, more ourselves than when we listen to this ancient call. Herman Melville in his book *Moby Dick* summarized this basic element of us. He wrote, “I am tormented with an irresistible itch for things remote. I love to sail forbidden seas.

And land on barbarous coasts.” How small would we be, what amazing things would we miss, if we were simply content to stay within the confines of our self-imposed boundaries?

The Magi are curious prophets of the Faith and reveal, I believe, what it means, what it looks like, to heed the call of birth.

We know so little of them and their brief appearance gets lost within the Christmas story, regulated to gift giving and heard no more. But WHAT an affront to sedentary faith! They left more than their Homeland. They left the familiar, pulled into mystery by a star that spoke, if you will, with the siren song of “follow me.” And their journey, their birth, leads them to Emmanuel, God with us.

For all the promises that Christmas presents us, this, to me, is the most exciting. It tells us not to be afraid. It calls us to never stop exploring the world around you, the mind inside of you, and the heart within you. I wonder ... what new Bethlehems will the Newborn King beckon you towards in the days to come?

Always stay curious my Friends in Christ.

Rev. Matt Goodrich



James Tissot, *The Magi Journeying* (1886-1894)

In Memoriam

Delpha H. Hammerle

August 2, 1934 — December 1, 2023

Memorial Service and Inurnment — December 11, 2023



Episcopal Church Women

by Betty Jo Hoffman

ECW met with a great holiday feeling meal provided by Faye and Pete Benham.



Due to the rise in the cost of supplies of all sorts, it was decided to send more than 10% of

the rummage sale proceeds to Doctors Without Borders. We will be sending them almost all of the profits.

Another happy report was that the Giving Tree received \$570 for Juliana Marez's Peace at Home clients. Thank you for your generosity!

Jean Bowden has been bringing us "Thoughts of the Day" when Thelma Sayers is not with us. But this month, neither of them was going to be in attendance, so I put out a call for "Thoughts of the Day" to the membership and we got three. One of them shared by Sue Phelps is:

***"Not how long,
but how well you have lived,
is the main thing."***
~ Seneca, Roman philosopher

Karla Roady contributed two more thoughts:

***"The Christian does not think
God will love us
because we are good,
but that God will make us good
because He loves us."***
~ C.S. Lewis

***"Do not have your concert first,
and then tune your instrument
afterwards.
Begin the day with the Word of God
and prayer,
and get first of all
into Harmony with Him."***
~ James Hudson Taylor

Epiphany will be celebrated on Jan. 7, so we will do an old fashioned potluck. Bring whatever you would like! Karla Roady will provide the Epiphany cake with the "surprise" inside.

Join us for our Jan. 18 meeting. Our speaker will be from FARA (Family Faith and Relationship Advocates).

Happy New Year—May God bless 2024!

FISH



FISH Food Pantry has a new Executive Director, Jenn Reida.

Cascade Self Storage of Roseburg donated 75 lbs of food.

Roseburg High School FCCLA (Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America) Roseburg Grocery Outlet donated over 1300 lbs of food.

Roseburg Rotary Club donated 640 lbs of pork.

The December Green Bag collection brought in around 14,000 pounds of food.

Roseburg Cars and Coffee hosted a food drive on Dec. 17, focusing especially on peanut butter and cereal.

Make a Joyful Noise!



St. George's Choir presented a Christmas Eve Concert before the service on Dec. 24. Pictured above, left to right: Lynda Green, Leigh Van Sickle, Lise Clark (Director), David Jones, Zeb Goodlet, Myana Clark, Betty Jo Hoffman, Pete Benham, and Sue Phelps. Janet Mecham accompanied the choir.



Christmas Eve Concert Photos by Haley Roady



Janet Mecham, above, played "O Holy Night" on her cello, accompanied by David Jones on the keyboard.

Below, she sang "The First Noel," accompanied by her husband, Blake Mecham, on guitar.



Many St. George Choir members also participated in the Roseburg Concert Chorale's presentation of Handel's *Messiah*. Above, left to right, are Pete Benham, Myana Clark, Zeb Goodlet, Sue Phelps, Steve Thomas, David Jones,



Blessings



**Birthday Blessings
for
Pete Benham**

**Above:
Anniversary Blessings
for
Aaron and Elizabeth
Heinrich**

And Elizabeth has been accepted into medical school!



**Right:
Birthday Blessings
for
Nancy Baum,
Richard Finn,
and
Jewell Gates**



Inspiration

*A group of professional people posed this question to a group of 4 to 8 year-olds: "What does **love** mean?" The answers they got were broader, deeper, and more profound than anyone could have ever imagined!*

"When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore... So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love."
Rebecca—age 8

"When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth."
Billy—age 4

"Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs."
Chrissy—age 6

"Love is what makes you smile when you're tired."
Terri—age 4

"Love is when my mommy makes coffee for my daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him, to make sure the taste is OK."
Danny—age 8

"Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and just listen."
Bobby—age 7

"If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate."
Nikka—age 6

"Love is when you tell a guy you like his shirt, then he wears it every day."
Noelle—age 7

"Love is like a little old woman and a little old man who are still friends even after they know each other so well."
Tommy—age 6

"During my piano recital, I was on a stage and I was scared. I looked at all the people watching me and saw my daddy waving and smiling. He was the only one doing that. I wasn't scared anymore."
Cindy—age 8

"My mommy loves me more than anybody. You don't see anyone else kissing me to sleep at night."
Clare—age 6

"Love is when Mommy gives Daddy the best piece of chicken."
Elaine—age 5

"Love is when Mommy sees Daddy smelly and sweaty and still says he is handsomer than Robert Redford."
Chris—age 7

"Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day."
Mary Ann—age 4

"I know my older sister loves me because she gives me all her old clothes and has to go out and buy new ones."
Lauren—age 4

"When you love somebody, your eyelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you."
Karen—age 7

"You really shouldn't say 'I love you' unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget."
Jessica—age 8

And the final one: The winner was a four year old child whose next door neighbor was an elderly gentleman who had recently lost his wife. Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old gentleman's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there. When his mother asked what he had said to the neighbor, the little boy said, "Nothing, I just helped him cry."



The Preacher & The Teacher

Excerpts from 1954

St. George's was always a cosmopolitan parish, with people from all walks of life rubbing shoulders happily with one another. It was a really catholic communion rail, with truck drivers, teachers and generals kneeling alongside each other in their common worship of God.

Also, on January 28, 1954 I met with Fred and Shirley Bernau. They were anxious for us to continue our missionary expansion. Now that we had Fr. Lauren McReynolds in the field at Myrtle Creek and Riddle, the Bernaus suggested we look toward Sutherlin. They wanted to revive the defunct Church of the Holy Spirit, which had been lost as the result of a bank failure, mortgage foreclosure, and suicide of the Church treasurer (who was also the bank manager) during the Great Depression. There had been no services held there for 17 or 18 years, and our old Church building was being used as the "shop" by the Sutherlin High School. It was agreed that if enough interest could be raised to guarantee an attendance of at least 12 to 15 people on a Sunday evening, I would agree to start holding services there.

Fred and Shirley spent every Sunday afternoon and evening during February and March, calling on former members of the Episcopal congregation there, and on others who they thought might be interested, with the result that on the last Sunday in March 1954, we held the first service for the resurrected Church of the Holy Spirit. Evening Prayer was held in the American Legion Hall with attendance of 52!

While our attendance dropped off slightly from the initial 52, it ran generally in the 40s and efforts were soon under way to build us a new Church building of our own, rather than having to sweep out beer bottles and trash from the Legion Hall every week after the lady wrestlers had performed there on Saturday night.

It was in March of 1954 that Pat Mayo, choir member, spearheaded a fund drive to buy a pipe

organ, which culminated in the purchase [the next year] of a six-rank Moeller pipe organ. (*They were currently using an old two-manual reed organ.*) Part of the funds came from the sale of a grand piano left to the parish by Minnie Ritter in her will. Her widower, Merrill, threatened to sue the parish to back "his" piano, but the daughter-in-law and Merrill's own lawyer all sided with St. George's, and the storm blew over. The piano was sold to the Methodist Church for use in their worship services, and the proceeds provided the down payment to buy our pipe organ.

At the Diocesan Convention in April, Bishop Dagwell appointed me Dean of the Southern Convocation. . . . Five days later, another extremely successful parish Carnival was held, and on that next Thursday, May 11, 1954, Bishop Dagwell confirmed a class of 38, the largest in the history of the parish. The following night he confirmed eight at Ascension, Riddle for that congregation and for the new mission of St. Anne's in Myrtle Creek. Then, on Sunday the 16th, we rented a school bus and filled it, plus two cars with kids for the Deanery Mite Box presentation service at St. Luke's Grants Pass.

That same month of May, Frances Micelli held a fabulous "tea" at her luxurious home for our Altar Guild, and I played music on a borrowed Baldwin electronic organ. We had both the well to do, and the poor, all working together side by side.

*From The Preacher & the Teacher:
the story of our years at St. George's
as told by Father Alfred S. Tyson.*

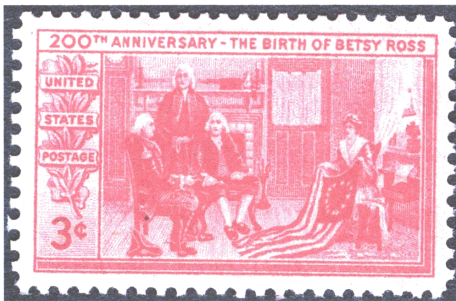


Stamp Club News

**Umpqua Valley Stamp Club presents
the January stamp of the month**



Issued to commemorate Betsy Ross' birth one day after her 200th birthday . The stamp pictures Betsy Ross



Scott #1004 On January 2, 1952,
in Philadelphia, PA

showing the flag to the Flag Committee, General George Washington, Robert Morris, and George Ross. Betsy was raised in a Quaker household and learned to sew from her great-aunt.

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

Humor





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St. George Episcopal Church publishes **THE DRAGON SCOOP** monthly 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

Co-Rectors: The Revs. Janine & Matt Goodrich
Senior Warden: Pete Benham
Co-Junior Wardens:
Bob Spielman & Sue Phelps
Treasurer: Kathy Glockner

OFFICE HOURS
10 am—2 pm
Monday through Friday

ST. GEORGE WORSHIP
10:30 am
Sundays
and
10 am
Wednesdays

