



# The Dragon Scoop

## July 2015

**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**

## Local News from South Sudan

*Jessica Carlson is the daughter of Mik and Jay Carlson. For over a year she has been working with the Danish Refugee Council in South Sudan, a country so torn by civil war that they have had no agricultural growing season for two years.*

**M**y first big task in my new position as Food Security and Livelihoods was to oversee a massive distribution of seed kits to 22,000 families from Blue Nile State in Sudan, who are living as refugees in South Sudan. We planned 4 days of distribution in two camps (but ultimately had to add a 5th day of catch-up due to heavy, heavy rains and floods on the second day of distribution). People received a mix of treated sorghum, maize, tomato, cowpea, red bean, sesame, and arugula seeds depending on how large the family was. There was no fighting, or security problems; lines moved quickly. The only major problem was the flooding, which was no one's fault; so all in all, I feel really happy with it. . . and took some photos to share! My favorite is the three girls holding their seed bags. Thank you for praying for me and the people in South Sudan.

Jessica Carlson



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# Letter from Bishop Neff

Dear Friends in Christ,

This summer we are listening to the story of King David. It is a remarkable and compelling story unique in scripture and all ancient writings in its presentation of the life of a man from youngster through mature adulthood, decline and death. The narrative opens in the First Book of Samuel with the call of the prophet Samuel, runs through the story of Saul, the first king of Israel, continues through the Second Book of Samuel, and concludes in the first two chapters of the First Book of Kings with the death of David and the beginning of the reign of Solomon.

The story of David can be seen as “holy historical fiction” written probably shortly after the time of David using earlier documents and first or second-hand accounts from actual witnesses. I have enjoyed reading *The David Story: A Translation with Commentary of 1 and 2 Samuel* by Robert Alter along with the biblical story. Since we only read small bits this summer, I invite you to pick up your Bible and read through the whole story.

On another subject, I find myself haunted by the killings in Charleston, South Carolina, where a white youth sat through a Bible study class in an African Methodist Episcopal Church before shooting and killing the pastor and eight other people. I am troubled and I grieve. Someone called racism “America’s original sin,” and I am aware that Oregon is not immune from this sin both in our history and in pockets to this day. We are a nation steeped in racism. I hope that we are slowly getting better, and I think we are, but the trail to wholeness seems to be long and bitter. I am encouraged by the forgiving faithfulness of the members of the congregation and the victims’ families as well as the outpouring of love and support of the faith community throughout this country. In the end God will prevail. Let us all pray for the souls of those murdered, for their families, and for the soul of the young man who committed this hateful crime.

On yet still another subject, our Episcopal Church’s triennial General Convention meets this summer in Salt Lake City. General Convention is part family reunion, part county fair, and part state legislature. We meet to enjoy the company of old friends and make some new ones. We browse and buy and explore in the exhibit hall. We will pass a budget. The most controversial subject we will address is how to respond to the changing landscape in this country regarding same-sex marriage. In addition, we will debate and pass resolutions of policy and amendments to our constitution and canons.

One major piece of action that will make a difference in the life of the Episcopal Church is the election of a new Presiding Bishop. Our own Katharine Jefferts Schori, sponsored by Good Samaritan, Corvallis, and ordained deacon and priest by Bishop Ladehoff, is retiring at the end of her nine-year term. A Presiding Bishop does not have a lot of actual power, but the Presiding Bishop sets a tone for the broader church. The Presiding Bishop is the public face of the wider Episcopal Church.

In all that we do we prayerfully seek to make the Episcopal Church a little bit better and a little closer to the angels as we live and spread the gospel and God’s love for all people. First, last, and always we pray and we worship. We do great worship. The worship is excellent. Especially the singing and the preaching. There are a number of proposals to try to streamline and make the Episcopal Church more nimble and responsive to the modern world. I applaud the efforts. We will try hard in good faith to do the right thing and we will seek to do no harm. I will give you all a report when we return to St. George’s Sunday, July 19.

It remains an honor to serve with you all. Dorothy and I hold you in our prayers every day.

Grace and Peace,

+Neff

# Flag Day Celebration

*Marcia Jackson sent this letter of appreciation to the congregation. What she will not say is that she herself is the guiding light behind the celebration. It would not have happened without her ideas, planning and hard work.*

June 15, 2015

Dear Members of St. George  
(and I still want to put 's on it),

Just wanted to send a thank you and I am so sorry about yesterday. The main thing we meant to do was to ask all our veterans to stand together so we could take a picture of you for the church scrapbook. I must admit I got busy with things and didn't think of doing that until most of you had left. I was quite frustrated about that when I realized my forgetfulness because you are all well remembered in our hearts.

Special thank yous go out to our American and Episcopal Church flag bearers for the church service. When I was younger the flags always came in with the beginning of the service. So between Wally Hunnicutt and Bob Spielman being our flag bearers and the beautiful rendition of "God Bless America" by Leigh Van Sickle I had tears to begin the service. Think maybe some others did too.

Thank you to my David and son, Matt Jackson, for helping set up on Saturday night. Family is good.

Thank you to those who brought memorabilia: Jon Burpee, Frank Graham, Doug Holloway, Wally Hunnicutt, Bill Riley, Bob Spielman, Margaret Thomas, Tony Buxton, and our family collection of things. Speaking of Tony Buxton—he had a hat on that Steve Thomas told me said USAF 62SS. Now our curiosity is up. We want to hear his story. Hope I didn't leave out anyone. Rick Williams told me his story about returning home from Viet Nam, which also brought us both to tears. It never should have happened that way.

Thanks to Father Jim Boston for his wonderful sermon and self and his delightful wife, Pam.



Thank you Donna Litherland for that beautiful flag cake. It was beautiful and tasted good too.

Thank you to Sue Phelps for providing the great patriotic music in the parish hall. It was a great touch.

Thank you to Jean Bowden for the coffee setup and details she does every Sunday, the faithful Altar Guild ladies, and all who came to our Flag Day Picnic in the parish hall. Besides the Veterans' picture I had planned on having little black plastic ants running along the picnic food and forgot them too.

Special thanks to my daughter, Juliana Marez, and Virginia "Jinny" Skala for all their precision clean up afterward. That Jinny is a perfectionist. In my next life I am aiming to be like her.

St. George is on its way back up as illustrated by the wonderful cooperation, inspiration and participation of our members who helped make St. George's recognition of our Veterans and Flag Day a great day to remember.

Best Wishes,

Marcia



# Flag Day Celebration



Flag Day fellowship is pictured here on page 4, with memorabilia shown on page 5. More photos can be seen on our Facebook page: [facebook.com/episcopalroseburg](https://www.facebook.com/episcopalroseburg). Anyone can view the page—you don't have to make a Facebook account.







## Episcopal Church Women

Nancy Baum opened her home to our ECW ladies for the last meeting of the term and provided a quiche tasting. We installed next term's officers. We voted to use 10% of our rummage sale proceeds to purchase school supplies and to donate \$100 to the summer lunch program if it can be done without interfering with state funds.

We talked about how the congregation could celebrate special days, events, themes, etc. Some ideas include

- pick a Sunday and decorate
- do special food to celebrate a milestone such as Graffiti Weekend or the 4th of July
- celebration of the arts by having people bring samples of their artistic endeavors
- a soup or salad potluck Sunday or a picnic

There are endless ideas: let your imagination run wild. One idea is meeting for breakfast at a restaurant before church and another, having a brunch after church on the mornings we have Morning Prayer or having decor and root beer floats on Graffiti Weekend. If you come up with an idea, run it by some of your friends so they can help you and check with Donna just to be sure someone else is not doing something similar. Sign up on the coffee hour signup sheet. Then have fun and run with it.

Before leaving the meeting we sang "Happy Birthday" to Betty Severson.

Our next meeting will be Aug. 20 at Jewell Gates' home. We will be gearing up for the October rummage sale. Be sure you are putting items away. It will be October 2 and 3.

Happy summer,

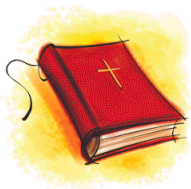
~ Betty Jo Hoffman, Co-President

## FISH Report

Mother's Day won the baby item competition! That Sunday brought in 70 pounds of supplies as well as \$200 in cash.

Father's Day gave us 50 pounds of supplies and \$183.12 in cash.

Thank you to everyone for your generous support of the FISH Pantry. Our Douglas County babies are the winners!



Our Senior Warden wants you to know:

When you carry the Bible, Satan gets a headache.

When you open it, he collapses.

When he sees you reading it, he faints.

When he sees that you are living what you read, he flees.

# Wonderful World

by Bob Robins

## FASCINATING LUCERNE

Lucerne is the most populous city in central Switzerland, with about 80,500 inhabitants. It is in the German speaking area on the shore of Lake Lucerne, a popular tourist attraction. One of it's famous landmarks is the Chapel Bridge and Water Tower, where the waters of the Lake flow into the River Reuss. The wooden footbridge was first erected in the 14th Century, and it is the oldest covered bridge in Europe, named after the nearby St. Peter's Chapel. The bridge is unique in that it contains a number of interior triangular paintings, hanging in the overhead trusses. Originally 158 in number, many of the paintings were destroyed by fire in 1993. The remains of 47 have been collected and replaced, together with some held in storage from an original longer bridge structure.

The Tower takes it's name from the fact that it is standing in the water. It was originally a part of the fortifications of the City of Lucerne.

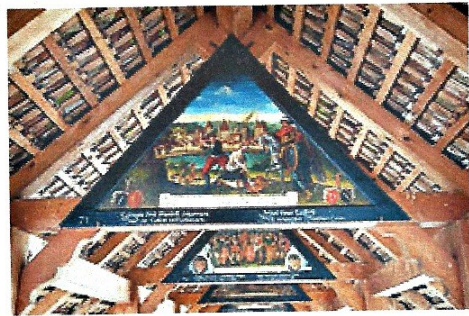
The famous wooden Chapel Bridge at Lucerne.



### THE LION MONUMENT

The Lion Monument is a sculpture hewn in 1820-21 in commemoration of the massacre of the Swiss Guard mercenaries, slain during the French Revolution, when the revolutionaries stormed the Tuileries Palace in Paris. Mark Twain praised the sculpture as "the most mournful and moving piece of stone in the world."

Lucerne is a marvelous place to visit. Surrounded by Alpine mountains, which are accessible by cable car, there are hotels right along the Lake front, a marvelous Swiss Transport Museum, tours on the Lake, a colorful Old Town area, and more things to be enjoyed.



The Lion Monument at Lucerne.



# Matthew 19:14

by Juliana Marez

*Juliana reflects on the June 17 shootings at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, S.C.*

**T**he model of grace and forgiveness, yielding to God's word despite the pain and anguish of the recent event, is an inspiration. Their pastor Clementa C. Pinckney was born on July 30th, 1973. He would have turned 42, the son of Mr. John Pinckney and Mrs. Theopia Stevenson. He leaves behind a wife Jennifer and two daughters Eliana and Malana. The eight other victims were in the church in prayer that day. They continued to pray with their last breath.

The families of those victims have asked that no violence occur in their town. They publically forgave the shooter to tend to their own healing. The church intends to continue services uninterrupted. They will count on God's power to lean on as they go about cleaning and restoring the church and the congregation. Wiping away the blood and tears together will strengthen them. This is courage and the faith of a child.

The Rev. Clementa Pinckney, 41  
Cynthia Hurd, 54  
The Rev. Sharonda Coleman-  
Singleton, 45  
Tywanza Sanders, 26

Ethel Lance, 70  
Susie Jackson, 87  
Depayne Middleton Doctor, 49  
The Rev. Daniel Simmons, 74  
Myra Thompson, 59

*The history of Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church reflects the development of religious institutions for African Americans in Charleston. Dating back to the fall of 1787 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Richard Allen founded the Free African Society, adhering to the Doctrines of Methodism established by John Wesley.*

*In 1822 the church was investigated for its involvement with a planned slave revolt. Denmark Vesey, one of the church's founders, organized a major slave uprising in Charleston. Brown, suspected but never convicted of knowledge of the plot, went north to Philadelphia where he eventually became the second bishop of the AME denomination.*

*During the Vesey controversy, the AME church was burned. Worship services continued after the church was rebuilt until 1834 when all black churches were outlawed. The congregation continued the tradition of the African church by worshipping underground until 1865 when it was formally reorganized, and the name Emanuel was adopted, meaning "God with us."*

*The magnificent brick structure, completed in 1891, was restored, redecorated and stuccoed during the years of 1949-51 under the leadership of the Rev. Frank R. Veal.*

*History taken from the church's website at [www.emanuelamechurch.org](http://www.emanuelamechurch.org)*

Juliana works with Homeless and Runaway Youth Services and Native American Services for Roseburg School District 4. She has chosen Matthew 19:14 for the title of her column:

*but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs."*



# Cathedrals of the World

by Doug Holloway

## Cathedrals of the World Westminster Abbey, London, England

**W**estminster Abbey is a Gothic church in the City of Westminster, London. It is one of the most notable religious buildings in Great Britain and is the traditional place of coronations and burials for British monarchs.



There has been a church on the site since early 600 AD and the first coronation was held there in 1066. Construction of the present church was started in 1245 and continued until 1517. Later additions included the two western towers, which were added between 1722 and 1745.

Between 1540 and 1556 the abbey had the status of a cathedral but since 1560 it has been classed a “Royal Peculiar” – a church responsible directly to the Sovereign, rather than to a diocesan bishop and is governed by a Dean and Chapter of Westminster, as established in 1560.

Surprisingly the abbey suffered only minor damage during World War II.

King Edward’s Chair (below), the throne on which British sovereigns are seated to be crowned, has been used at every coronation since 1308.



The organ is relatively new, having been built in 1937 and the ring of bells consist of 10 bells cast in 1997.

Since 1100 there have been 16 royal weddings held in the abbey – the latest being that of Prince William to Kate Middleton in April 2011. In the floor of the nave is the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior and is the only grave in the abbey on which it is forbidden to walk.



*The Royal Couple is pictured above stepping around the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior.*



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**Return Service Requested**

St. George Episcopal Church publishes THE DRAGON SCOOP on the last Sunday of the month. 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

**Priest-in-Charge: The Rt. Rev. Neff Powell**  
**Senior Warden: Donna Litherland**  
**Junior Warden: Steve Thomas**  
**Treasurer: Frank Graham**

**OFFICE HOURS**  
**10:00 am—2:00 pm**  
**Monday through Friday**

**ST. GEORGE WORSHIP**

**Sunday**  
**10:00 am**

**Holy Eucharist**  
**or Morning Prayer**

