



The Dragon Scoop

June 2014

St. George Episcopal Church
1024 NE Cass Avenue Roseburg, OR 97470
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The Episcopal Church Welcomes You

Mission Statement:
**"Loving God, Loving our
 Neighbors"**

Pentecost

*"Peace be with you. As the
 Father has sent me, so I send you."
 When Jesus had said this, he
 breathed on them and said to
 them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If
 you forgive the sins of any, they
 are forgiven them; if you retain
 the sins of any, they are retained."*

John 20:21b-23

When we think of Pentecost,
 we tend to remember the account
 given in the second chapter of the
 Acts of the Apostles: a rush of
 violent wind, sweeping through
 the room in which the frightened
 disciples are gathered; tongues
 "as of fire" descending upon their
 heads; men and women filling the
 crowded morning streets of
 Jerusalem, proclaiming the gospel
 fluently in a perplexing array of
 languages. . . .

Lately, when it comes to the
 Holy Spirit, I tend to draw my
 personal inspiration more from
 the version of Pentecost found in
 John's Gospel, Chapter 20. The
 Risen Jesus appears to his disciples
 and, after blessing them with his
 peace, breathes upon them. . . .
 Jesus in-spirits/inspires them with

his own breath/spirit/Spirit—then
 he authorizes them for the mission
 of forgiving sins. . . .

Closer to us than our own
 breath and breathing, the Risen
 Christ fills us with his own Spirit—
 quietly, intimately. With this
 breath, this power, we then go
 about the everyday, unspectacular,
 grubby work (and it is work) of
 forgiveness. Breathe, forgive;
 breathe, forgive; breathe, forgive.

Somehow I find John's
 Pentecost more compelling than
 Acts. Although we often long for
 the dazzling or spectacular, we live
 in a time, a world, in need of people
 who breathe in, regularly, the quiet
 power and grace of Christ's Spirit—
 and people who, likewise, breathe
 out, regularly, the power and grace
 of forgiveness. Our world—so
 spectacularly broken and burning—
 needs people for whom
 reconciliation is as normal and
 natural as breathing.

*"Breathe on us, Holy Spirit.
 Breathe on us breath of God."*

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FIRST DAY OF SUMMER June 21

Now welcome summer
 with thy sunnë soft.

That hast this winter's
 weathers over-shake.

And driven away the longë
 nightës black.

from *The Parliament of
 Fowls* by Geoffrey Chaucer

Rector's Letter

Last week I visited one of the Umpqua Valley's wonderful wineries. I hadn't been to visit this winery for a while and was surprised to see so many of their wines sealed with screw caps instead of corks. I inquired about it with the server. He responded saying they had wanted to try the screw caps but they would be going back to using corks and he further elaborated about why.

He explained how the screw caps stop the wine from developing in the bottle while the cork allows the wine to continue to evolve in the bottle. Some wines are meant to be consumed immediately but some wines if they are allowed to age in the bottle they continue to evolve into something better, something deeper, and more delicious. You've probably heard the saying of how life can be like a good bottle of wine and with age it gets better.

Something to consider about our own lives and our faith in the God of Jesus Christ is offered in thinking about the difference between wines bottled with screw caps or corks. Are we allowing the Spirit to breathe in and through us? Are we evolving? Or are we screwed down and stuck in ways that prevent evolution? Are we evolving as spiritual beings?

The truth is that this is something we are called to pay attention to. And asking ourselves if we are stuck or if we are evolving requires us to be attentive to our thoughts and to our actions. Evolution is a state of mind that drives our thought patterns, our habits, and our actions.

In a letter to the Corinthians the people are being asked to consider their behavior and to change accordingly so that they might evolve as spiritual beings. "And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not

ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarrelling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? (1 Corinthians 3) We also are being asked to consider our behavior and to change accordingly so that we might evolve as spiritual beings.

Back in my San Francisco days I had a friend who is a jazz singer. Kitty Margolis had just released her new CD called Evolution and it is awesome. You can find it on iTunes. I love the entire CD and especially the title track Evolution. The original music and lyrics are by Ivan Lins and Brock Walsh and I share them with you below.

We can travel to the planets
Drive a mile through solid granite
Thrive in all extremes of weather
But we cannot live together

We have pondered our existence
Tracked the comets in the distance
But we're overcome with blindness
By an act of human kindness

We have ventured where
None have gone before us
But in matters fundamental
We are patterned on an old design
Welcome back Tyrannosaurus
Evolution is a state of mind

We have filled the halls of science
With the bones of mighty giants
They'd all been there for generations
Buried under our foundations

Continued on page 3

Rector's Letter, continued

It's a page right out of history
Everything is still a mystery
All except for one distinction
We can stop our own extinction

We have set ourselves apart
From all that's gone before us
But in matters fundamental
We are victims of an old design
Here's your chance Tyrannosaurus
Maybe we can get it right this time

Grab a club and join the chorus
Evolution is a state of mind.

So we evolve or we die but mostly we
should know how God loves us so very much.
And as my Dad put it to me recently, if God loves
us and we love one another, how can we go wrong?
Something good will come.

We need to heed the advice to the
Corinthians and we must become a people who are
hungry for solid food. We must replace our screw
caps with corks and become something better,
deeper, and more delicious.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The
Lord make his face to shine upon you and be
gracious to you. The Lord lift up his countenance
upon you and give you peace.

Rev. JoAnne



Episcopal Church Women

ECW had "tea time" on Thursday, May 15.
We brought tea cups and tea and memorabilia
from our pasts along with stories from our pasts.

Thank you again for your labor, donations,
time, and purchases which helped us earn a little
over \$800. Please start putting away items for
the fall rummage sale when we will feature
Christmas.



Join us in June or in September when
we will meet again at 11:00 on the third Thursday.
Nancy Baum will host the June 19 meeting at her
home. We will elect and install officers.

BJ Hoffman and Thelma Sayers, Co-Presidents

In Memoriam



Betty Fretwell

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our sister Betty. We thank you for giving her to us, her family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

There will be a memorial service for Betty on Saturday, June 7, at 11:00. She asked that there be no eulogy at the service, but there will be time afterwards at the reception for reminiscences.

Thank You and Goodbye

Sadly, I have decided my time as Pianist and Choir Director at St. George's has come to an end. Thank you to all of you for making me feel so welcome, and for all the kind words and compliments you have given me. You are a very caring and kind congregation. I hope and pray the best for you!

~ Luella Cox



FISH Report

FISH reduces hunger in our community and responds with compassion to people in crisis.

There were 11,150 pounds of food collected during the April 2014 collection for the Roseburg Food Project. The food was from 725 donors.

Reusable green Food Project bags are available in the Parish Hall. FISH suggests that donors buy one extra nonperishable grocery item each week.

The next Green Bag collection day for St. George is Sunday, June 15.

Our Facebook page has a new, easy-to-remember address. You do not need to have a Facebook account to view the page! facebook.com/episcopalroseburg



St. George Altar Guild

***Worship the LORD
in the beauty of holiness***
Psalm 96:9, BCP

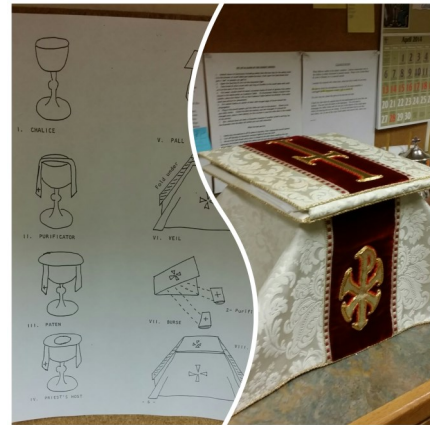
The Altar Guild makes it possible for worshipers to step out of the world and into an oasis of peace and refreshment. Their homely tasks of cleaning and replenishing and placing in order culminate in the serene vision that greets the congregation each week.

What goes on behind the scenes?

The women of the Altar Guild are responsible for an extraordinary number of things. Their work area is the Sacristy, a small room behind the altar where sacred vessels and vestments are kept.



Guild members work in teams of two or three and are scheduled for two weeks in a row throughout the year.



Everything is clearly labeled and there are detailed instructions so that nothing is forgotten in the physical preparations for both the Sunday and Wednesday services.



Someone has to look for the best deals on communion wine and set aside the appropriate number of wafers for communicants.



The lights need to have oil and properly trimmed wicks.



The altar must be dressed in the appropriate liturgical colors.

Meet the nine members of the Altar Guild (in alphabetical order):

Nancy Baum
Faye Benham
Jean Bowden
Susan Brossia
Mik Carlson
Jewell Gates
Betty Jo Hoffman
Connie Hunnicutt
Margaret Thomas



There is always something involving a ladder: hymn board, cross, lights



Flower arranging takes artistry and muscle.



The silver has to be cleaned and polished.



Final touches require an eye for detail.

Cathedrals of the World

Cathedral of Saint John the Divine, New York

This is the Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of New York and is the fourth largest Christian church in the world.



Construction was begun in 1892 but due to many design changes, interruptions of two World Wars, and a large fire in December 2001, it remains unfinished and is nicknamed *St. John the Unfinished*.

When construction was first started there were considerable extra expenses as bedrock was not reached until the excavations had gone down 72 feet. The massive 130-ton, 50-foot columns took over a year to install.

There are seven chapels radiating from behind the choir and the designs are meant to represent each of the seven most prominent ethnic groups to first migrate to New York City.

The first services were held in the crypt in 1899 but the cathedral was not opened end to end until 1941. Construction of the south tower continued during the 1980s but was then halted for various reasons and the rusting scaffolding was eventually removed in 2007.

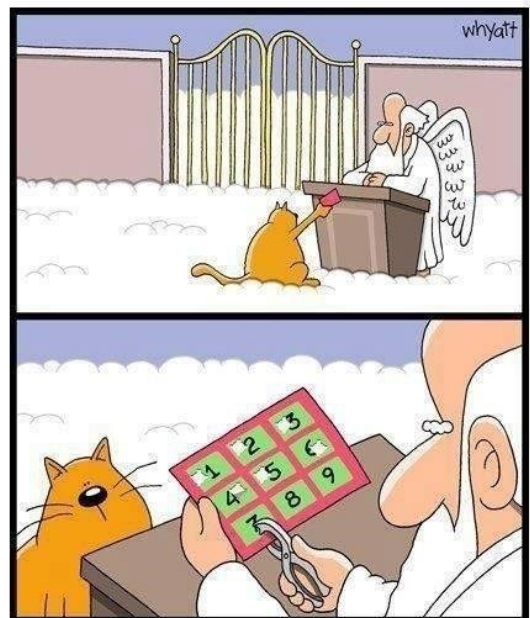
In December 2001 a fire swept through the unfinished north transept and although the organ was undamaged, it had to be laboriously dismantled, cleaned of soot from the fire, and restored. It was not returned to service until 2008.

The Great Organ was built in 1906, enlarged in 1954 and is one of five within the complex. The size of the Cathedral's interior presents a superb level of acoustics and is a major center for musical performances in New York.

~ Doug Holloway

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

~ Maya Angelou,
1928-2014



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Return Service Requested

St. George Episcopal Church publishes THE DRAGON SCOOP monthly. If you would like for something to be considered for the newsletter please inform the office no later than the 10th of the month. Submit irregular information and articles to stgeorge@stgeorgeepiscopal.com or to the parish office by 10 a.m. on the 15th of the month. E-mailed articles are preferred, if you have access to a computer.

Leigh Van Sickles, Editor

Rector: The Rev. JoAnne Bennett
Senior Warden: John Miller
Junior Warden: Donna Litherland
Treasurer: Frank Graham

OFFICE HOURS
10 am—3:30 pm
Open Monday, Tuesday, and
Wednesday.
Please call ahead if you can.

ST. GEORGE WORSHIP

Sunday

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Wednesday

12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

