



# The Dragon Scoop

## June 2017

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



## Deep Peace of the Running Wave to You



*“Pacific Sunrise” by Diana Hadley, 2016*

Enter the quiet room within.  
Go up the winding staircase  
of your thoughts, up to the  
cupola that looks out to the  
endless sea. Sit in the stillness  
there, until you can hear your  
heart. Let your mind grow as  
calm as the ribbons of sunlight  
across the floor, your breathing  
as steady as the rolling waves  
on the ocean before you.

Listen to the empty space  
around you. Silence is inside  
you for a reason. It is the  
counterpoint you need to  
the noise of the world. Enter  
the quiet room within and  
discover the peace that knows  
your name.

*~ Steven Charleston,  
Facebook, May 15, 2017*

# Rector's Letter

Dear Friends,

Greetings from cool rainy Alabama. I write this from the annual conference of the Global Episcopal Mission Network. The theme for the conference this year is reconciliation. The talks have been terrific. One element concerned the two dimensions of reconciliation. The first dimension is vertical. It is our reconciliation with God. But we do not take the initiative. God does. He leads us to awareness of those things that separate us from Godself and from one another. God then enables us to receive forgiveness, to forgive ourselves, and to forgive the other.

Reconciling with others: family, friends, strangers, or enemies, both individuals and as groups, is the horizontal dimension of reconciliation. In the case of global mission, Americans are usually far more advantaged than those we serve. That's not the fault of anyone in particular. It is part of the disorder of our world. Yet it is still unjust. And it makes people feel uncomfortable. It is harder for us to relate to those who have fewer gifts whether they be near or far. We don't want to give up our advantages. We are tempted to patronize or judge.

We were challenged to simply accept the way things are, to then accept ourselves and the other with love and peace, and then do what we can for one another. Our tendency to excuse or blame needs to be set aside so that we can accept the others, and ourselves, as God loves and accepts us.

All of that can sound like a head trip until we practice applying it in our personal relations and in our understanding of those who are in very different situations near and far.

There will be more to share and to think in Sundays to come.

In the meantime, our congregation has work to do. We need to understand ourselves better, to explore our strengths and weaknesses, our hopes and fears, our styles of being church, and how we relate to those beyond: with local sister churches, our convocation and diocese, the Episcopal Church, and global Christianity, not to mention the people and institutions of Roseburg and Douglas County. Having more understanding of these will prepare us to identify what we will seek in the search for a rector.

**Susan Ladue will be with us again on Saturday, June 3, from 11 to 2 o'clock.** All are welcome. All who have leadership roles should especially try to come. Susan will lead us as we grow in our self-understanding. You will write a prayer for this time of transition. Lunch is provided. Bring yourself. Bring a friend. You will have a fabulous time. And if this is your first time with Susan, you will discover for yourself what an excellent facilitator she is.

In Christ, Fr. Jim

# Episcopal Church Women

by Betty Jo Hoffman



ECW met May 18 and voted this year's officers in for another year. Father Jim and a few of the ladies gave us an update on the health of parishioner Don Witt. We made \$913.51 at the rummage sale, so thank you for all of your donations of time and treasures. We discussed some ideas to change up the rummage sale: a sale with other churches, a percentage off a total purchase, or extended hours on Friday to be available to people who work. Thelma shared a couple of her "pearls of wisdom." We also talked a little about an omnidirectional microphone.

Bill Riley presented our program about his time building a dormitory for Maya Jaguar School in Guatemala. He also spoke about Frances Dixon, a Canadian woman living in Guatemala, who has a huge desire to help the people become educated so they can help themselves have a better life. It was very informative and enlightening. He said the main thing about the people is that "they are brilliant, but need a grubstake and ideas."

Our June 15 meeting will be at Nancy Baum's home.

## FISH Report

Keep these dates in mind:

The next ROSEBURG Food Project pick-up day is Saturday, June 10th.  
Saturday, July 22, is the date of the summer food drive to be held at local grocery stores.

From FISH's Facebook page:

"A very big THANK YOU to the employees at the Downtown Roseburg, Garden Valley and Sutherlin branches of Banner Bank! Saturday 5/20, about 10 Banner Bank employees and some of their family members participated in the Greater Douglas United Way's Day of Caring at The FISH Food Pantry. They scrubbed and cleaned all the produce bins, pulled weeds and worked on other landscape maintenance, and repainted the Pantry restroom. It was really amazing how much they accomplished. Great job!!! Everything looks SUPER!"

The festive day of **Pentecost** is Sunday, June 4.  
Please try to wear **flame**-colored clothing!

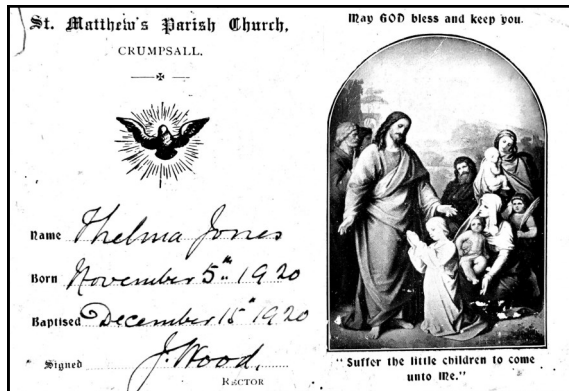




# Bed and Breakfast on Ellis Island

*The Dragon Scoop is delighted to present the memoirs of longtime parishioner Thelma Sayers. Thelma has been a member of St. George's since October 1, 1974. We hope to hit the highlights of her life in an ongoing series in the newsletter.*

Thelma's story begins in Crumpsall, England, a suburb of Manchester. Her father, Alfred Jones, enlisted in 1915 in the Lancashire Fusiliers to fight in World War I. He was medically discharged from the Army in 1917. He married Gertrude Mellor, and Thelma was born in 1920.



Sadly, Alfred died in 1922 of complications from trench nephritis, a new kidney disease that first appeared during the war. Alfred's brothers, Jack and George, had immigrated to America earlier. Knowing that he was going to die, Alfred had arranged with them to take in Gertrude and Thelma after his death. Mother and daughter set sail from Southampton in May of 1923 on the Cunard ship Aquitania (sister ship of RMS Lusitania).



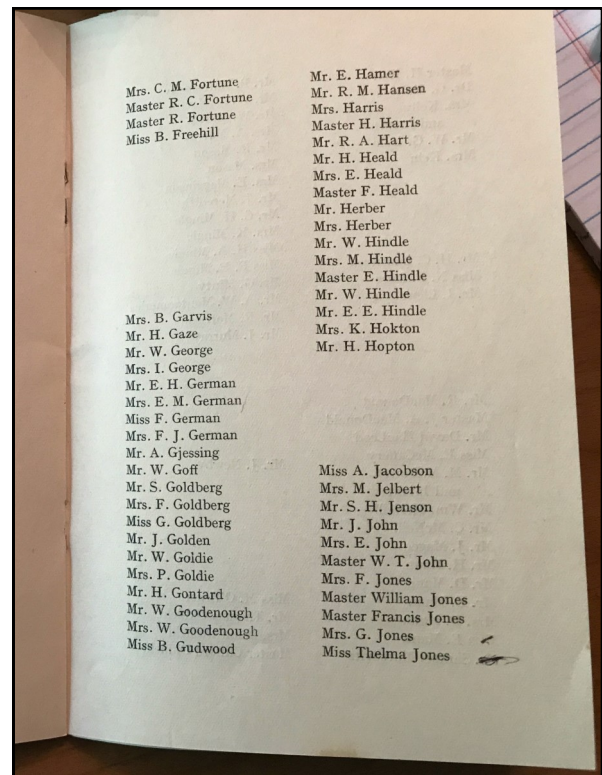
As Thelma tells it, her Uncle George came to meet them at Ellis Island on Friday after they landed, but he was told by the immigration authorities that Thelma and her mother had already left.

In reality, once they disembarked, they had been left quartered on the island with a group of non-English speaking immigrants. Gertrude later said she would have gone crazy without Thelma there to talk to. Uncle George returned to Connecticut, baffled, but Uncle Jack went back on Monday.

He was so persistent and made such a pest of himself that finally the authorities figured out what had happened. There was another women whose last name was Jones who had been met by her family and actually had left on the Friday.

When Jack mentioned that his sister-in-law was traveling with a child, they checked their roster and found Gertrude and Thelma Jones listed.

After spending the weekend not knowing what to do, it was with great relief that they were reunited several hours later. Imagine not being able to contact your family in a strange country and just hoping that someone would come to collect you!



Thelma lived in Plainville, Connecticut, through her high school years. Her mother remarried and her little sister, Doris, was born when Thelma was six. Years later, around 1990, after Gertrude's death, Thelma and Doris traveled to England to try to find the family home in Crumpsall. Thelma had a photo of herself as a small child in front of the house and she knew the name of the street. A neighbor recognized the house number with the help of a magnifying glass and took the sisters there. The current occupant invited them in for tea and cookies and told them that only two other people had lived there since the Twenties.



Thelma was also able to visit St. Matthew's, the church where she was baptized, which was just around the corner. It was closed for repairs but when the custodian heard her story she was invited in. What a wonderful visit to her homeland!

Stay tuned for more of Thelma's adventures.

*Thanks to Thelma  
for sharing her story and memorabilia,  
thanks to Sue Phelps for arranging the interview  
and assisting with this article,  
and thanks to David Sayers for helping with the  
details.*

## ***Ellis Island***

The waiting area in the Registry Room or Great Hall had long metal rails that helped maintain an orderly line as people went through the medical and legal inspections. Officials in the Great Hall decided whether each person could enter the country right away or whether that person's case required further review.

Each arriving steamship's crew gave officials at Ellis Island a list of names of the passengers onboard. The manifest, as this list was called, had the name and a description of each passenger. One by one, the passengers were called forward to speak with a uniformed inspector seated on a tall stool behind a high desk. Interpreters helped the immigrants communicate.

Twenty-nine questions were asked of every immigrant. They included:

Where were you born?  
Are you married?  
What is your occupation?  
Have you ever been convicted of a crime?  
How much money do you have?  
What is your destination?

An immigrant could be detained for further inquiry if his or her answers differed from the answers listed on the manifest.

from <http://teacher.scholastic.com>



*The Great Hall on Ellis Island*



# On Being Poor

by Sally Appell

St. George's Facebook page shared a post called "Poor People Deserve to Taste Something Other Than Shame." (<https://theestablishment.co/poor-people-deserve-to-taste-something-other-than-shame-90eb3aceabf9>) The author wrote that when she was growing up, she was so ashamed of being poor that she didn't think her family should be allowed any treats. St. George Parishioner Sally Appell wrote an inspiring response to this post, and she is allowing the Dragon Scoop to publish it here.

We were poor, and I didn't feel like the writer. Every so often we did get to indulge, and we were happy for it. Nearly all the people with whom I grew up were poor but we all appreciated what we had. Our dad worked hard, and at the time I didn't understand how hard our mom worked to make miracles with what his salary gave her. It may have been embarrassing to be poor but I somehow didn't feel it. Later when I had my own family, I understood just how poor we were, but I have to give credit to my parents: despite our poverty we had what they could afford and it was not looked down upon. I was ashamed of my dad because he was so old and spoke another language, but despite this, he made sure his family was taken care of. Being poor helped me to appreciate whatever my husband and I could manage for our children, and I may have wanted more material things but knew that in order to achieve them, I had to work as my dad did and to stretch my dollars as mom did, so no, I was not embarrassed to be poor.

Many people who are "poor" these days are so because they were not taught to do the best with what they have and to strive to make life better when they had the chance, many are involved in drugs and alcohol, and the majority of them have no type of spiritual foundation. I don't look down my nose at them – they buy what they need and every so often they are entitled to splurge. I always pray that they find a way to leave poverty and live a better life, especially because there are more opportunities today for all than there were when I was growing up, or even raising my own kids. With God, all things are possible. I am grateful for what I learned from growing up poor, and regret is just an excuse to stay in the past and not move forward and succeed.

I don't have the authority to judge, nor does anyone else, and if you take what someone says personally, that is all on you. If I had not had a firm spiritual foundation growing up, and even today, I would be so lost. God does for us what we humans cannot do for ourselves. Indulgence can happen, not just with food but with, for example, laughing at something simple with your loved ones and good friends, or perhaps basking in the sunlight and truly appreciating God's gifts to us here on Earth. Pessimism doesn't get anyone anywhere, and I don't feel sorry for anyone who chooses to stay in the past and be pessimistic. Life is too darn short to be negative.

Therefore, I don't judge what people buy with their food stamps. Nobody should because you never know when you could possibly be in the same situation. I am not here to judge, I am here to live my life and enjoy the gifts of God, my friends and my family. If anyone has time to do such tedious crap like judge what is in someone's cart and even watch how someone pays for their food, then it is not the person that is being judged that has something wrong with them, it is the person who is judging that needs a reality check..... just sayin'..... Striving for happiness is far greater than judging others.



# Cathedrals of the World

by Doug Holloway

## Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, England

Christ Church Cathedral is the cathedral of the diocese of Oxford as well as being the chapel of Christ Church College at the University of Oxford. This dual role as both a cathedral and a college chapel is unique in the Church of England. For many years it was the smallest cathedral in England, until several parish churches were elevated to cathedral status in the 20th century.



The site was the original location of a nunnery founded by St. Frideswide. Frideswide was born around AD 650 and founded this priory at Oxford, of which she was the abbess until her death in AD 727. The abbey was destroyed in 1002 but the present buildings were built on the same site.

The monastery church was built in 1180 and Frideswide was declared the patron saint of both the City of Oxford and of the University of Oxford. In 1546 the monastic church became the cathedral church of the Oxford diocese.



A rich vaulted ceiling was added to the nave around 1500 and many historic memorials within the building date from 1557. However, the centerpiece of the cathedral is Frideswide's shrine (pictured above), which dates from 1289 and consists of 13th century carvings of miniature faces peering out from stone folds.

There has been a choir at the cathedral since 1526 when the first organist was appointed by Cardinal Wolsey. The current choir is made up of 12 men and 16 boy choristers. The organ is relatively new and is a four-manual and pedal instrument built in 1979.





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Did you notice the missing dead tree near the door to the narthex?  
Thank you, Charles Van Sickle,  
for removing it.

There is no unsightly stump  
and grass will soon cover the  
remaining scar.

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. James Boston**  
**Senior Warden: Pete Benham**  
**Junior Warden: Steve Thomas**  
**Treasurer: Kathy Glockner**

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

## **ST. GEORGE WORSHIP**

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

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

*June*