



The Dragon Scoop

June 2019

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



Loving, Liberating, Life Giving



On May 26, parishioners welcomed back our dear friend from St. Mark's in Medford, Diocesan Consultant Susan Ladue (left). Last year she led us through the congregational development process and has been instrumental in our search for a new rector.

In her sermon, Susan talked about the Episcopal Jesus Movement—the ongoing community of people who center their lives on Jesus, following him into a loving, liberating, and life-giving relationship with God, each other, and creation.

Susan said to us, “Are you loving, liberating, and life giving? *I* know you are, but do *you* know? You are living the Triune incarnate.” What a blessing for her to tell us this! And we will continue to live this way, with God’s help.

Our rector search is bringing us a candidate. The Rev. Peter F. Roberts and his wife, Ann, will be here the week of June 3 to visit with the Vestry and tour the area. On Wednesday, June 5, he will preside over Holy Eucharist at St. George’s at 11:00 and give the homily. A light lunch will follow.

Born in Birmingham, England, and educated in the U.S. and Great Britain, the Rev. Roberts has served in England, Belize, and Dubai. He is currently Rector of St. Luke’s, Merritt Island, Florida.



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Rector's Letter

Dear friends,

June has arrived! And with it, we have three festive Sundays to enjoy. June 2 is Ascension Sunday; June 9 is the feast of Pentecost. Be sure to wear flame colors for Pentecost: red, orange, or yellow. Then, June 16 is Trinity Sunday. We will contemplate the mystery of our Lord's reigning from heaven and also being present to us in the Eucharist. We will celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit, God with us, or the "Go Between God." I will try to preach the mystery of the Triune God, one in three and three in one.

We have another big event on Wednesday, June 5. The priest exploring a call to us will celebrate Holy Communion that day at 11:00. A light lunch will be offered after the Eucharist, and there will be opportunity to talk with our guest and his wife. Do come.

Yet he and we will not depend solely on first impressions. The Search Committee and vestry will talk to various people who know his ministry. Our bishop will talk with his bishop. All will pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

I do hope he and the vestry will affirm a call. We have had a few priests consider St. George's in the last six months. Two were on the verge of arranging a visit, but then decided that Roseburg was not their call.

In any case I will suggest some things to be aware of as a new rector begins his or her ministry at St. George's.

First, give the rector support as he/she, settles in the ministry here. Second, give the new rector the benefit of the doubt. If you see what feels like a major problem, talk first to the rector about it. If you feel shy, ask one of the lay leaders of the parish to go with you. You might want to put your concerns in writing, but take what you write to a personal meeting.

You will notice that the next rector is different from me, and from all previous rectors. That is just the way it is. You will also notice changes in the ceremonial side of our worship. There are lots of ways priests celebrate the liturgy. The root meaning of the word liturgy is the work of the people. True enough, but the ceremonial side, and some of the ritual, are decided by the rector, who is supposed to be attentive to the thoughts of the congregation. Clergy are trained in different places, learned to worship in diverse congregations, and have varied personal styles. The best approach is usually to let it be.

Nonetheless, we are all entitled to an opinion. If you need to share yours, do so gently. In the unlikely event the rector gets truly weird, (such as beer and pretzels for Communion, or not allowing women to be acolytes, or organizing séances, or never singing your favorite hymns) talk to him or her. If need be, tell the vestry your concern. The vestry can talk to the rector, to other folks in the church, and, if need be, can write or phone the bishop, who can advise any of us clergy. (That means the bishop can tell us clergy what to do, though it rarely comes to that. Still the examples I gave are serious enough for a bishop to take action.) Please, don't try to round up people who you can make agree with you. Some are too polite to say no to someone as important as you.

Most likely no need for such interventions will arise. If one does, do it right.

Finally, pray for the new rector and family. I have been upheld by your prayers, and I thank you all.

In Christ,
Fr. Jim+



Episcopal Church Women

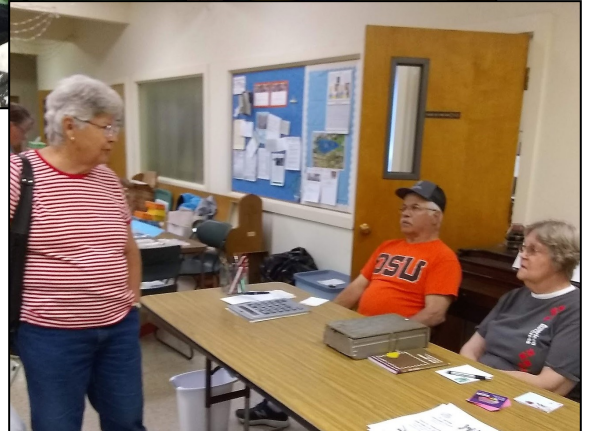
by Betty Jo Hoffman

ECW met for an Italian lunch and the sharing of treasures which brought up the sharing of memories—quilts, pictures, and mementos.

We also discussed Tools-to-Treasure results: after expenses, \$1149.44. We talked about some ideas for the next sale, which will be the first weekend in October. One of the ladies took some newly crocheted lap pads that had been donated to the sale to Rose Haven. We will discuss more ideas and possible adjustments at the June meeting.

We also tried to come up with some ideas for fun events/activities during the summer that would be held after church. If you have thoughts on this or for the Tools-to-Treasure please let us know.

Officers were elected and will be installed in June at Nancy's home. Please note, that meeting will be **June 19**. That is a **Wednesday**; it is not our normal meeting day, so be sure to mark your calendar.



Tools-to Treasures Workers

Left: Margaret Thomas and Peggy Reiter

Above: Thelma Sayers and Nancy Baum

Judy Thayer

Kathy Glockner, Jerry Phelps, and BJ Hoffman

Photos by Sue Phelps

Episcopal Church Women

ECW members brought personal treasures to their May meeting and shared the stories behind them. Thanks to Sue Phelps for the photos!

Below: Marcia Jackson holds a portrait of her grandfather, Jakab Welsch, who specialized in building everything from barns to coffins. Read more about Jakab in next month's newsletter.



Above: Thelma Sayers shows off an antique match case. She also brought a small silver box and a cameo her father gave her mother before they were married.



Right: Margo Wilkins (assisted by Jean Bowden at left) holds up the 80-year-old quilt made by her mother. It is still in pristine condition.

Episcopal Church Women



Above: Faye Benham brought a quilt made by her daughter, Cheryl. The individual squares are replicas of messages for those traveling the Underground Railroad.

Below: BJ Hoffman holds a photo of her treasure—her family.



Above: Nancy Baum's treasure is her nurse's cap, its design signifying she graduated from St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing, New York City

Below: Connie Hunnicutt (at left) shows off her two old Blazer tickets that she bought at the time for only \$5. Jewell Gates (center) and Delpha Hammerle look properly amazed!



Southern Convocation Notes

by Margaret Thomas

The Southern Convocation (Douglas, Jackson, and Josephine counties) of the Episcopal Diocese of Oregon met on May 25, 2019 at St. Luke's in Grants Pass. Margaret and Steve Thomas and Father Jim Boston attended.

Diocesan Budget: Hana Ruben (St. Luke's, Grants Pass) is our representative.

- It's still a working budget; there's no narrative yet.
- The 2020 budget will be cut about 10%.
- It will be \$63,000 less than the 2019 budget.
- There will be a 2% across-the-board cut for all programs.
- No new programs will be funded.
- They may need to take a different look at the budget formula.
- COLA and health insurance are where cuts will come from.
- A large parish is having problems and can only afford to pay 10% of their DPA.

We want representation from the southern parishes to elect the new bishop. If you are interested in being on the Search Committee for the new bishop you can apply online on the diocesan site. The profile will be presented at the Diocesan Convention this fall. Voting for the new bishop will be on June 27, 2020, in the cathedral in Portland.

We received a report from a DPA Task Force member on a proposal for revisions of the Diocesan Program Assessment (DPA). Parts of it may be shelved because of the Diocesan Budget. However, they are committed to working with parishes that can't meet their current DPA so that they don't fall deeper in debt.

At the 2017 Diocesan Convention a Commission for Sanctuary was created to provide guidance on implementing the Biblical imperative to welcome the stranger. A representative from St. Michael's and All Angels in Portland is on the Commission

and he spoke to us on "Who is my Neighbor?" Their parish has a lot of immigrants and he talked about how their church has actively supported them when they have problems with requests for asylum, and other problems, by sending letters to judges, showing up at court hearings, etc. In many cases it has resulted in those parishioners being allowed to remain in this country and put on a path to citizenship. Some are now citizens.

St. Luke's has a very active outreach program. Hana mentioned several activities, but the only one I remember is their "Theology in the Pub" gatherings. She said they have had some very interesting conversations.

Trinity Ashland will have a Celtic Service, called "Sacred Joy," on June 16. Once a month they have a Children's Service. Over 300 people attended both services on Easter Sunday. An outreach program raised close to \$20,000 this year for grant distribution. Also, in outreach, they hosted the Ashland Winter Shelter for 34 guests two nights a week this past winter.

St. Mark, Medford has a very active food pantry. And they are impatiently waiting for the remodel of their church to be completed in July.



Photo by Margaret Thomas

*Steve Thomas with
Deacon Meredith Pech of Trinity, Ashland*

Parish News



Left: Travel blessings on May 12 for Jill Hammerle and Miggs.

Right: Father Jim and Bill Riley examine the new bulletin board, "Where in the World Have You Lived?" Be sure to take a look and mark your own abodes!



Above: Blessings from Fr. Jim (far left) for (clockwise) Sheila and Frank Glass (34th anniversary as well as a birthday for Sheila), Don Witt (89th birthday), and Margaret and Steve Thomas (16th anniversary).



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What's your favorite hymn?

Send in your hymn request this summer and fall, even if it's not in the 1982 Hymnal. Those "Green" Sundays before Advent are a good time for singing popular hymns.

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

