



Mission Statement:
“Loving God, Loving Our
Neighbors”

The Dragon Scoop

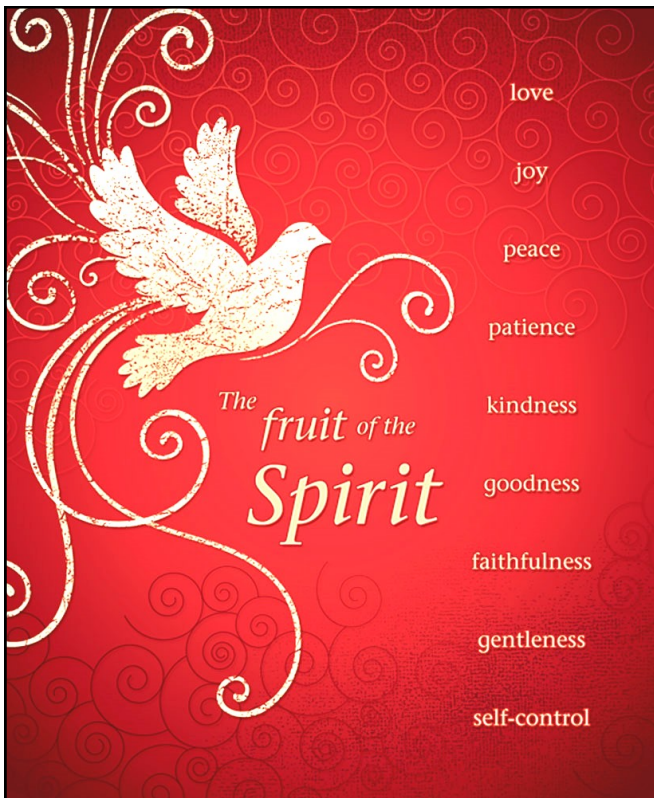
June 2022

St. George Episcopal Church
1024 SE Cass Avenue Roseburg, OR 97470
541-673-4048

The Episcopal Church Welcomes You



Filled with the Holy Spirit



Pentecost

Today we feel the wind beneath our wings
Today the hidden fountain flows and plays
Today the church draws breath at last and sings
As every flame becomes a Tongue of praise.
This is the feast of fire, air, and water
Poured out and breathed and kindled into earth.
The earth herself awakens to her maker
And is translated out of death to birth.
The right words come today in their right order
And every word spells freedom and release
Today the gospel crosses every border
All tongues are loosened by the Prince of Peace
Today the lost are found in His translation.

Whose mother tongue is Love in every nation.

~ Malcolm Guite

from *Sounding the Seasons, Seventy Sonnets*
for the Christian Year, Canterbury Press, 2012.
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Pastor Gail's Ponderings

Acts 2:1-4 "When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability."



The Christian high holy day of Pentecost is celebrated on the 50th day from Easter Sunday. This year Pentecost falls on June 5, 2022. It commemorates the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Pentecost, as described in Acts 2:1-4.

Luke, the author of Acts, begins by noting that the disciples of Jesus "were all together in one place" on the "day of Pentecost." There was a "sound like the rush of a violent wind" and "tongues as of fire" appeared. The gathered disciples were "filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance." This is a reference to the multitude of languages that were spoken by the gathered disciples. In Christian tradition, Pentecost represents fulfillment of the promise that Christ will baptize his followers with the Holy Spirit. The narrative in Acts brings the symbolism of Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River, at the start of his ministry, by explicitly connecting the earlier prophecy of John the

Baptist to the baptism of the disciples with the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. The central role of Christ in Christian faith signifies the importance of the grace of God.

In Peter's sermon in Acts 2 Christ's resurrection is emphasized. In his sermon, Peter quotes Joel 2:28-32 and Psalm 16 to indicate that the first Pentecost marks the start of the Messianic Age. About one hundred and twenty followers of Christ were present, including the Twelve Apostles, Jesus' mother Mary, Mary Magdalene and other women disciples, and his brothers. While those on whom the Spirit had descended were speaking in many languages, the Apostle Peter stood up with the eleven and proclaimed to the crowd that this event was the fulfillment of the prophecy. Acts 2:17 reads: "'And in the last days,' God says, 'I will pour out my spirit upon every sort of flesh, and your sons and your daughters will prophesy and your young men will see visions and your old men will dream dreams.'" He also mentions that it was the third hour of the day (about 9:00 am). "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls." Within a few decades important congregations had been established in all major cities of the Roman Empire.

Peter stated that this event was the beginning of a continual outpouring that would be available to all believers from that point on, Jews and Gentiles alike. Let us have a spirit of love, joy, and celebrating that God's Holy Spirit has come to all.

Pastor Gail



A Reflection from Our Bishop

One horrifying event follows another recently. Bishop Diana Akiyama wrote this reflection for the May 19 Diocesan Digest upon reading the newspaper after what she described as an emotionally heavy day:

Within minutes I felt yet another weight descend. Why did I do that? I asked myself. Reading the news didn't help me feel lighter or less worried. The next morning I did what I typically do as part of my devotions, I read something from The Bible. This practice did not function like an antidote – we Episcopalians don't engage the Scriptures that way. I did not instantly feel unburdened. I did, however, return to my fundamental orientation of being grounded in God's unfathomable love.

In times like these, I turn to the Psalms. This has been a practice of mine for decades and one I stumbled upon in my first job after graduating from college. During my lunch hour, I would go to the local Episcopal church (those were the days when the nave was always open), sit in a pew, and flip through the Book of Common Prayer to the Psalms in the back section. There is a Psalm for almost every human emotion.

Today, the verses in Psalm 72 are like a divine friend walking alongside us as we navigate deeply troubling times.

- 11 All kings shall bow down before him,
and all the nations do him service.
- 12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in
distress,
and the oppressed who has no helper.
- 13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor;
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
- 14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression
and violence,
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

Biblical reflection is not like aspirin; the pain isn't removed from simply opening the book and reading a passage. Biblical reflection is more akin to entering into a spiritual reality that reminds us we are not alone; that our times of helplessness are not a measure of whether God is with us.

Theologian Karl Barth famously said that we ought to read both The Bible and the newspaper, but that we ought to read the news through the lens of The Bible. Reading the news alone can make us cynical, fearful, and superficial. Reading The Bible alone runs the risk of losing our grounding in our humanity, our imperfect nature, and our need to return to a loving God in order to repair the world.

There is, every day, some kind of bad news to read in the newspaper. Read it, reflect, and then turn to Holy Scripture and read it twice as long as the news. The Good News of God in Jesus Christ is waiting to meet us and greet us, and will walk lovingly with us even as we bear the weight of difficult times. We are never alone. God is with us.

Blessings,

Bishop Diana



You can view the whole article online here:
<https://diocese-oregon.org/train-of-tears-the-news-and-turning-to-scripture/>

Episcopal Church Women

by Betty Jo Hoffman

We had a nice, informal May meeting with tasty pie provided by Sue Phelps.

We talked about the "Epic Sale." It was successful, entertaining, and fulfilling. We had a lot of donations—money and sale items. We were so thankful that many items went to just the right people, like new parents. A couple of people inquired as to the marital status of two of our members. I believe our final total is \$906. Because we had so many seasonal items left, we will have another sale Oct. 6, 7, and 8, so start putting aside those treasures you are willing to share with others.

A special thank you goes to Bill Riley, who gave us the name of a young man who has a resale store who was willing to pick up our leftover items saving us several personal trips to donation centers. The Dream Center and Heartwood also picked up items.

We also talked about the refreshments for the next three Sundays as we will have special visitors two of those and Pentecost the third one.

There are some 1940 hymnals that we would like to give to whomever would like them.

On future Sundays, we will be putting out, for your enjoyment, albums that contain pictures of past and maybe present members.

Thelma Sayers had two "thoughts of the day":

Never be afraid. Fear is the most useless gift we can ever give or receive.

It isn't the size of the gift we receive that matters, but of the heart that gives it.

We plan to meet again in June.



Diocesan News from Bishop Diana



Dear Friends in Christ,

I am very happy to announce the opening of a second diocesan office location in Coos Bay, Oregon, on June 1, 2022.

We have signed a rental agreement for Shepherd House, the rectory of Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Coos Bay, to house the second office. This space will allow me to have an office space for work and small meetings, and a place to stay when visiting congregations in this portion of the diocese. Our diocesan staff will also be able to utilize this space when they are in the area serving as a resource to our faith communities.

During my first year as your bishop, I discerned very quickly that it is necessary for me to have a presence in the rural part of our diocese. The needs and challenges of rural communities differ from urban communities in significant ways, and I believe it is central to my role and responsibility as your bishop to respond to those challenges by pursuing innovative approaches to meet those challenges. In order to do this, I need to be in residence for longer than a week's time. This move was one that I emphasized in my Address to the Annual Meeting of the Convention last fall. I am delighted that we have been able to confirm our new location relatively quickly.

Our diocesan family has been very clear in expressing a desire to come together across differences and to strengthen our Christian bonds in order to be a living and loving presence of the Body of Christ. While it is true that the Portland Metro area is the population center of the diocese, geographically and historically, we are primarily a rural diocese. This fact is part of our history and identity and it will, I believe, be a vibrant and vital part of our future.

We are in the planning stages for a grand opening of the office this fall, and I look forward to the possibilities this new office has for deepening and enlivening the unity of our diocese.

The Coos Bay Office address is 420 Highland Ave, Coos Bay, OR 97420.

Blessings,
+Diana

<https://diocese-oregon.org/new-diocesan-office-to-open-in-coos-bay-oregon/>

Parish News



***Birthday Blessings
for Steve Thomas***



Photo by Karla Roady

***Birthday Blessings
for Bob Spielman***



Photo by Karla Roady

***Left:
Wedding Blessings
for guests Hiedi Siegrist, bride,
and her mother, Jenny Langley
and
92nd Birthday Blessings
for
Don Witt***

Parish News



May 22 saw the return of former parishioner Jacek Berka. The congregation was delighted to welcome him for a visit. Jacek is now an Associate Attorney at the Law Offices of Rebecca Whitney-Smith in Klamath Falls.

André Unicum of St. John's Episcopal Church in Olympia, WA, was guest cantor on May 29. He sang *Panis Angelicus* for Communion, accompanied by David Jones on the piano.

André was visiting his mother in Camas Valley, and he brought many friends and family members with him to the service that morning. ECW came through with a good brunch!



FISH

FISH delivers emergency food boxes Monday and Thursday (soon to add Friday too!) Call their office to set up a free delivery to those in need.

[The FISH of Roseburg](#) (541) 672-5242

“DoorDash is providing its efficient delivery service to help get our emergency food boxes out to those who are house-bound or unable to drive,” FISH of Roseburg Executive Director David Graham said. “From our standpoint, this is a revolutionary step in broadening access to our community at large, and the fact that DoorDash covers all delivery costs makes this even more exciting.”

FISH does have baby formula and food in stock as well as diapers.

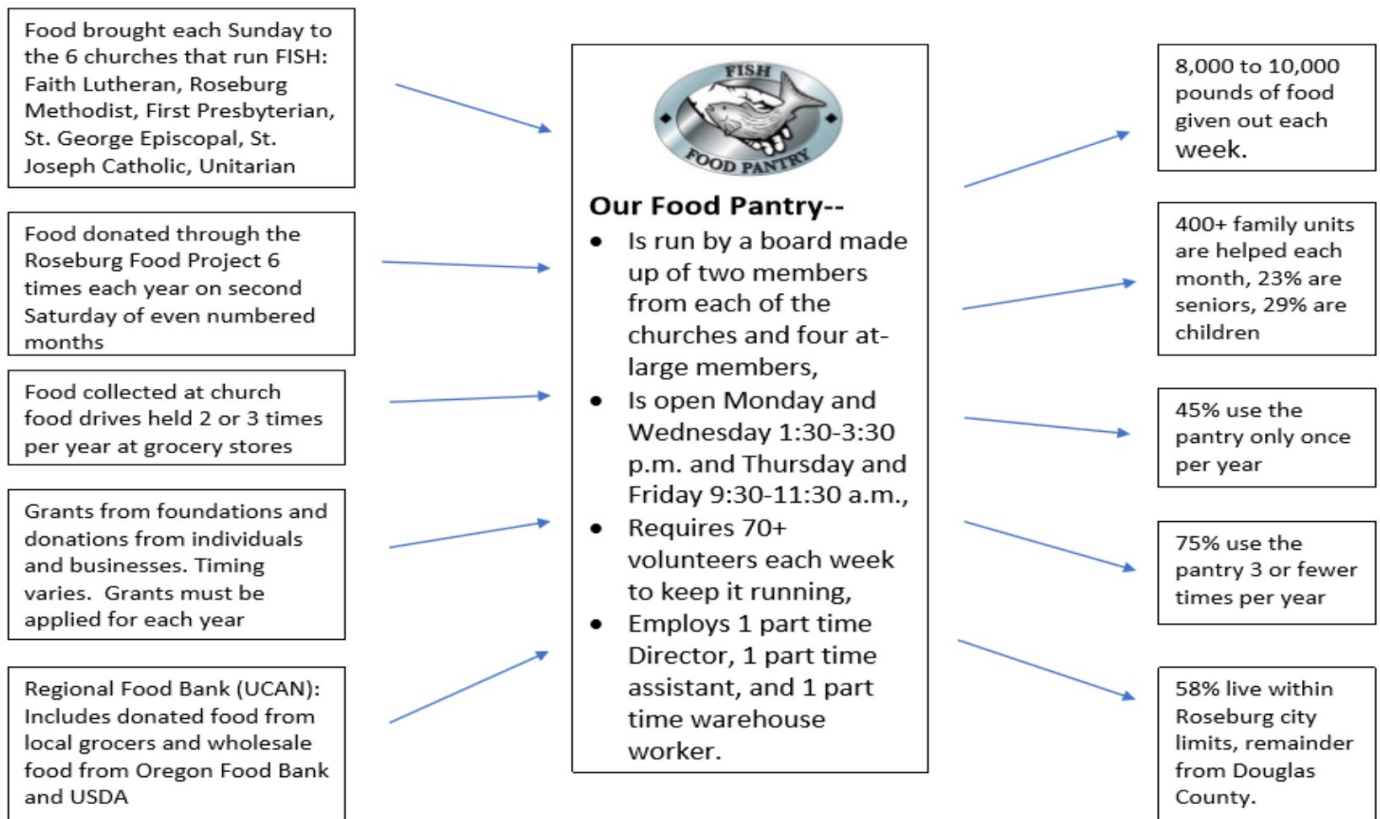
The next Green Bag neighborhood pickup day is June 11. Here are some much-needed items:

Cream soups
Shampoo and conditioner
Laundry soap
Toilet paper
Bar soap
Canned refried beans
Peanut butter
Juice
Crackers
Canned meat
Canned fruit
Pop-top canned goods



THE PROCESS

This is a diagram of how items are cycled from donations to the pantry to the client.



Parish News

Due to popular request, **Morning Prayer** will be held on the last Wednesday of the month throughout the summer: June, July, and August. It will resume weekly in September. Bible Study will be announced, probably in October.

Save the date. A memorial service for **Jon Burpee** is scheduled for **Tues., Aug. 16, at 3 pm** at St. George's. There will be a graveside service at the VA that morning.



Bob Spielman (left) and Bill Riley work on refinishing the bench in front of the church on Main Street.

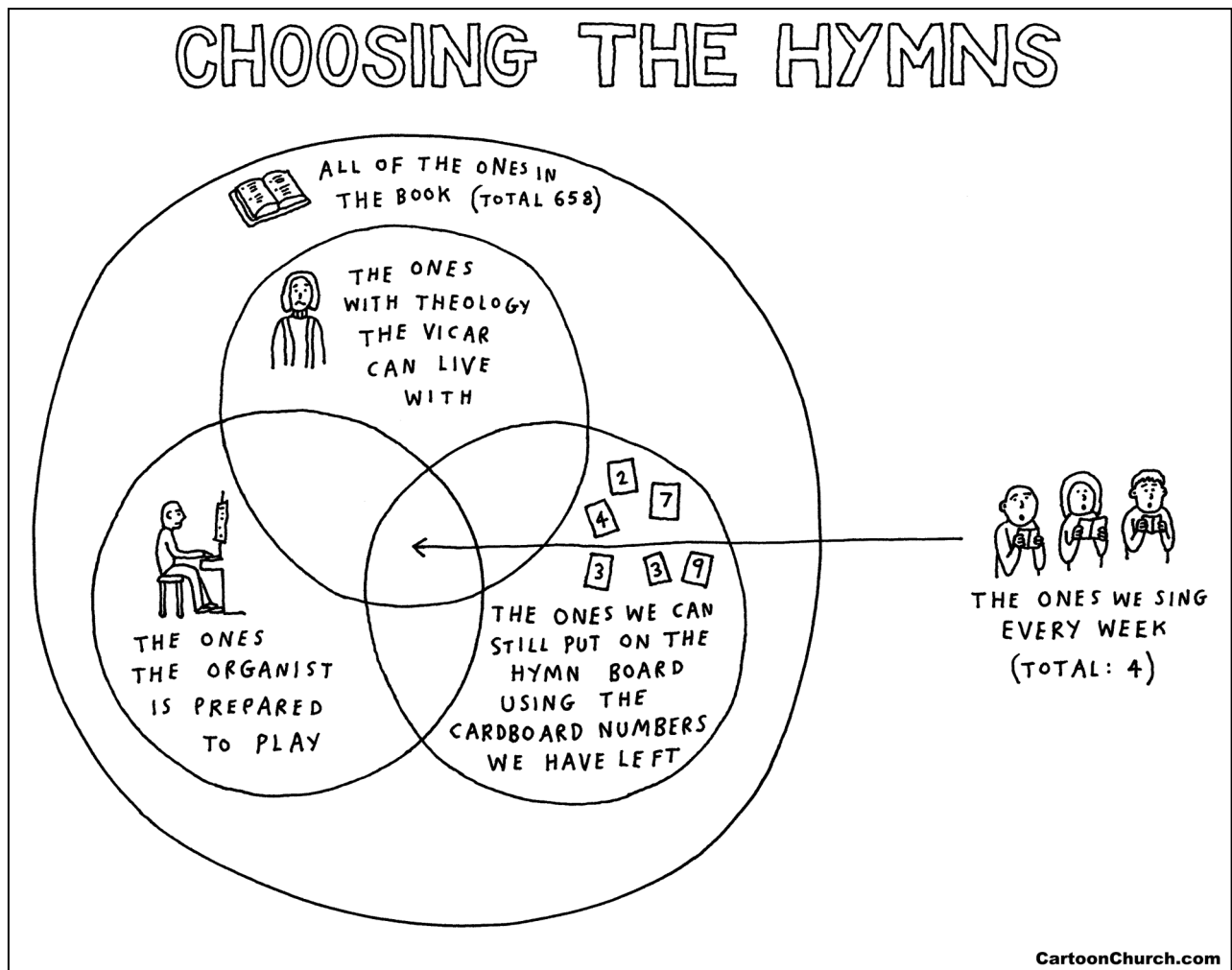
Music at St. George's



Did you know we have a committee that selects the hymns? Headed by Pastor Gail (right), the other members are Jean Bowden (left), David Jones (center) and Lise Clark (not pictured). It's not an easy task. The hymns are chosen according to the season of the year, the readings, and in some cases, the skill of the accompanist.

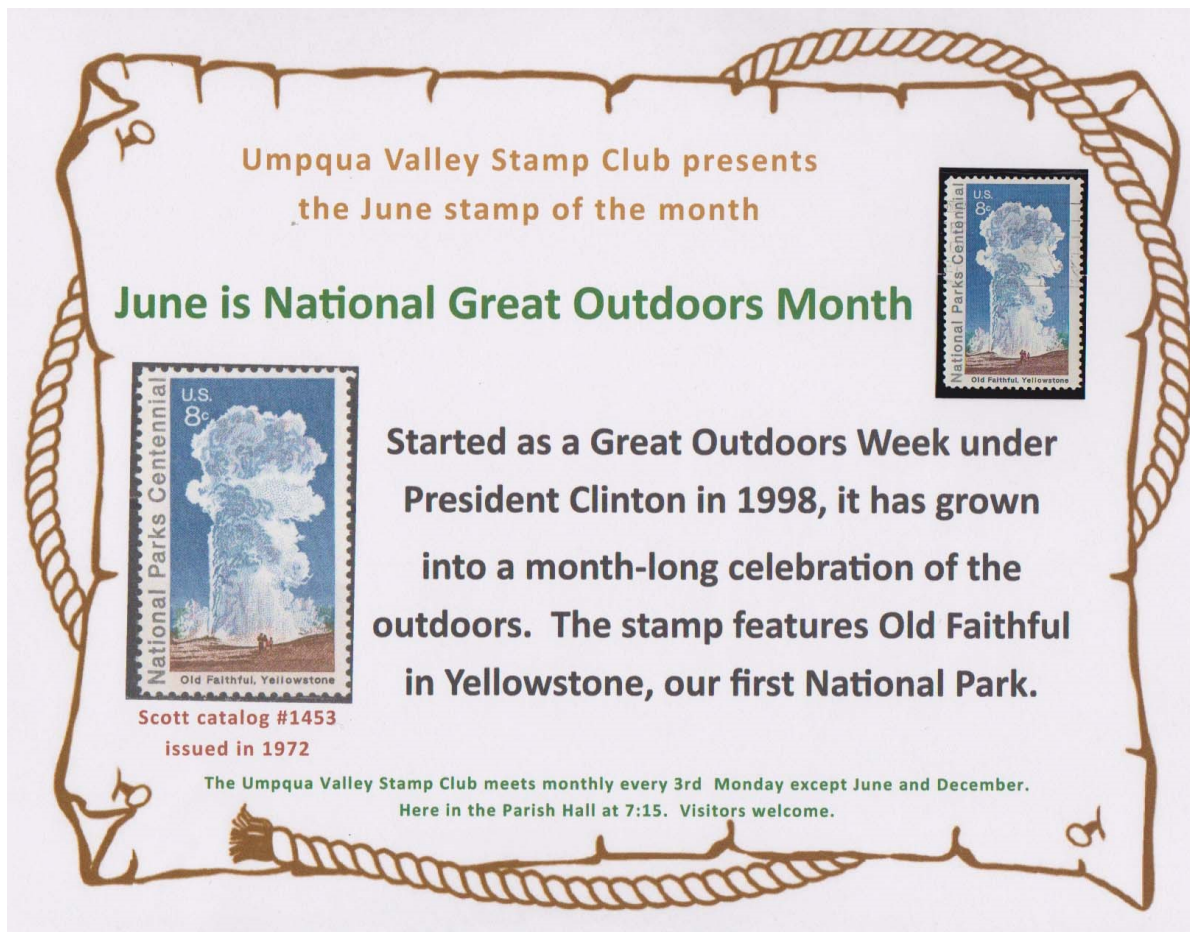
If you have a particular hymn you would like to be considered, check with one of the committee.

The cartoon is just for fun!



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Stamp Club News



Poster by Clarence Adams, Umpqua Valley Stamp Club

Prayer for the End of Gun Violence

God, giver of life, you intend for humans to live together in peace. In this time of grief over gun violence, we pray for your presence among us. That, trusting in your mighty and gentle healing, we may live in hope, we pray:
make us instruments of your peace.

God of resurrection, we remember before you those who have died, children, teachers and staff of Robb Elementary School, in Uvalde.

We commend them to your eternal love.

Grant healing and wholeness to the survivors who are wounded or traumatized and restore all whose spirits are maimed by such violence. That we may serve as your arms of care to those in distress, we pray:

Make us instruments of your peace. God of true might and redemptive mercy, receive our prayers, and grant us to become your instruments of peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." Christians and those of other faith traditions are called to be prophetic voices of vision and conscience while working for the common good from an ethic of love. Voices of young leaders in our state and nation are speaking out with the same clarity and power as those before them and are saying enough is enough and now is the time to end the gun violence.



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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

Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Gail Duba
Senior Warden: Pete Benham
Co-Junior Wardens:
Bob Spielman and Sue Phelps
Treasurer: Kathy Glockner

OFFICE HOURS
10 am—2 pm
Monday through Friday

ST. GEORGE WORSHIP
10 am
Sundays
and
Last Wednesday of the Month

