



The Dragon Scoop

March 2014

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

The Episcopal Church Welcomes You

Mission Statement:
**“Loving God, Loving our
 Neighbors”**

Annual Meeting 2014

Twenty-nine congregation members met Sunday, February 23, for the Annual Parish Meeting.

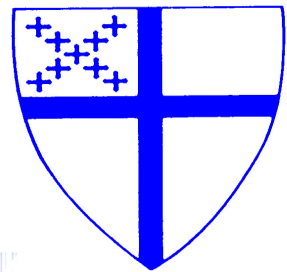
Four new Vestry members were elected so that at last we have a full complement of nine people. Congratulations to Nancy Baum, Faye Benham, and Steve Thomas, elected to three-year terms, and to Betty Jo (BJ) Hoffman, elected to the two-year term.

All the various St. George teams reported on their activities throughout the year:

- ♦ Jean Bowden, Stewardship Team. There were 43 pledges this year, totaling \$85,899.
- ♦ Doug Holloway, Facilities Team. They continue to take care of church maintenance problems.
- ♦ Leigh Van Sickle, Communications. The church website and Facebook pages are increasing their number of views. A webmaster is needed.
- ♦ Donna Litherland, Pastoral Care. They are hoping to expand their program of

sending out cards and making home visits.

- ♦ Margaret Thomas, Hospitality. This team is looking for more ideas, so tell them yours!
- ♦ Donna Litherland, Outreach. They raised \$3100 for FISH from Harvestfest and had a very successful Christmas presents for kids fundraiser coordinated by Thelma Sayers.
- ♦ Mik Carlson for FISH Food Pantry. See a longer report on page 5.
- ♦ BJ Hoffman for Episcopal Church Women. They put on two very successful rummage sales in 2013 and are gearing up for the next one March 2-3.
- ♦ Frank Graham, Treasurer. Frank went over the 2013 budget performance. If you weren't there to get a copy, you can obtain one from the Church Office. There was a generous gift from the Estate of Charles Cornwell for \$165,000. The Rectory has been rented again.



We have Episcopal Shields available for your vehicle.

Daylight Saving Time

Don't forget to set your clocks an hour ahead at bedtime on March 8. Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 9.



To every thing
there is a season .

Inside This Issue

Rector's Report	2-3
Lent	4
Oh, When the Saints?	5
Fish Report	6
ECW Report	6
Outreach Report	6
Just for Fun	7
Calendar & Events	Insert

Rector's Report from the Annual Meeting

At last year's Annual Meeting I invited us to spend the year exploring. To take a look at who we are, to discover where we might want to change, and to make decisions about where we want to excel so we can increase the efforts of our good works. I asked us to be selective, to be smart, and on task and to be inspired and passionate about what we do. And most importantly to remember to draw our energy from the Holy Spirit who gives us the power and the resources to work on our goals.

In a few minutes we are going to hear some brief reports from ministry teams and groups that have been working to do just that. They have been exploring our mission and ministries and setting and achieving goals that further how we increase the energy of our good works. (See page 1 of the *Dragon Scoop* for a summary of those reports.)

Our mission statement is "Loving God, loving our neighbors." Take a look at the bulletin board over there. Above our mission statement are the words, "Building a Community of Love," and as we fulfill our mission statement what we are doing is just that: "Building a Community of Love." For several months our prayer group has been exploring and discussing a book titled *The 8 Habits of Love*, and it just so happens that today the author is preaching and teaching at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Portland. The Rev. Ed Bacon is the Rector of All Saints Episcopal Church in Pasadena California which is a very

successful parish. I wish we could all be at Trinity listening to what he has to say, but in place of that we have his book. The prayer group has been discussing this and is very excited about leading us after Lent to read and discuss it. We hope the outcome will further our commitment to our mission and help us learn how to grow as a community of love.

In regards to our mission there are two people whom I would like to recognize this morning for their commitment and their devotion to making our church a community of love. I have the privilege as Rector of witnessing behind the scenes the many things that folks do here, and there is a lot that happens. Things are organized, phone calls are made, prayers are spoken and held in loving hearts, and so much more that is done with tender loving care by these two ladies. I would like us to honor today BJ Hoffman and Jean Bowden.

In honor of you both I have purchased with my Rector's Discretionary Fund three items from Episcopal Relief and Developments "Gifts for Life." The first item is Disaster Relief Kits which provide life-saving necessities in times of crisis. The second item is the Training of Community Healthcare Workers who help spread life giving information and education, and the third is Vocational Training which will help young people pursue a brighter future. (*Applause*)

(continued on page 3)

Rector's Report, continued from page 2

And speaking of a brighter future, I think we too have a brighter future. The Holy Spirit is here giving us the energy and the resources to continue to worship, to keep on growing, and doing ministry. We are truly blessed in many ways and I am extremely happy to report that this year we will receive a huge financial gift from the estate of Charles Cornwell. He has left to us a 50% share in his estate along with a 20% share in an IRA Vanguard account. By conservative estimates we will receive upwards of \$165,000 dollars as his estate is settled and I imagine that Charles is somewhere dancing in that place we call heaven smiling at us and hoping we will continue to trust that God is with us and for us. I think with one loud voice we should proclaim our gratitude by saying, "Thank you Charles."

possibly imagine. So let's do just that. Let's make 2014 an exceptional year of living by the power of the resurrection.

~ Rev. JoAnne

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.
Philippians 4:13



Author and inspirational speaker Dr. Wayne Dyer said to his audience once. "When we change the way we look at things, the things we look at change." I think as human beings we often want to settle into what is familiar and limited. We get stuck in the way we see things. My prayer for 2014 is that we change the way we look at things and we find new ways to trust that God is with us and to find new ways to love. A question for you to think about is, "What can we do to make this an exceptional year?" When we live in the realm of the exceptional we live as people of the resurrection. We live not by our limits but by the power of God to do more things than we can



Lent

We begin our Lenten Season on Ash Wednesday with this invitation given by the priest from page 264 in the Book of Common Prayer.

“Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith. I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.”

Socrates, the Ancient Greek philosopher who died in 399 BC, left to us an oft-quoted and comparable perspective. He said that “the unexamined life is not worth living for a human being.” I compare Socrates’ perceptions to our Christian need to continually renew our repentance and faith and our Lenten observance of self-examination.

Repentance calls us to turn away from sin because we have a sincere and genuine desire to change. The way to repentance is through self-awareness and self-examination. An unexamined life keeps us stuck in a cycle of sinfulness. So Socrates was right: “The unexamined life is not worth living.”

As you prepare for Lent please ask yourself about your desire to change. Examine yourself deeply to find that place where God’s light needs to be let in. New life awaits those who are willing to be changed.

May God bless you and keep you during your Lenten journey. And may God’s light shine in your darkness with the promise of resurrection.

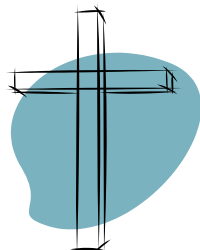
Rev. JoAnne

The Walk

Those of us who walk along this road
do so reluctantly.
Lent is not our favorite time of year.
We’d rather be more active—
planning and scurrying around.
All this is too contemplative to suit us.
Besides we don’t know what to do
with piousness and prayer.
Perhaps we’re afraid to have time to think,
for thoughts come unbidden.

Perhaps we’re afraid to face our future
knowing our past.
Give us the courage, O God,
to hear your word
and to read our living into it.
Give us the trust to know we’re forgiven,
and give us the faith
to take up our lives and walk.

~ Ann Weems



Oh, When the Saints?

Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, d.604

Gregory the Great was one of only two popes to be called “the Great.” He was born into a patrician Roman family around 540. As a young man he entered the services of the State and became prefect of Rome.

In 573 he sold his property and founded six monasteries in Sicily and one in Rome and gave much of his wealth to the poor. A year later he entered his own monastery as a monk. After the death of Pope Pelagius of the plague in 590, Gregory was elected to the papacy. He accepted reluctantly, not wishing to leave the contemplative life of a monk.

During his papacy he vigorously organized a defense of Rome against the Lombards and negotiated a permanent peace. He fed the starving out of the papal granaries in Sicily. He wrote books, the most important being “Pastoral Care,” which became a textbook for medieval bishops. Being a monk, Gregory promoted monasticism, the liturgy, and church music — in particular plainsong, which came to be known as Gregorian Chant.

In 596 he sent Augustine and forty monks from his own monastery to evangelize the pagan Anglo-Saxons in England. He later made Augustine Archbishop of the English.

Gregory, who referred to himself as the “servant of the servants of God,” died on March 12, 604.

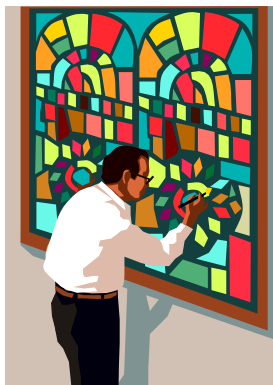


“The proof of love is in the works. Where love exists, it works great things. But when it ceases to act, it ceases to exist.”

~ St. Gregory the Great

~ Betty Fretwell

Bob Robins will present a program on the history of St. George Episcopal Church’s stained glass windows on Sunday, March 9, after worship.



There is a clipboard over the drinking fountain in the church hallway for recording any maintenance problems that members may find. The Facilities Team will monitor this board and make any repairs as necessary.



FISH Food Pantry News

Each month over 1000 households (over 4000 people, one-third of whom are children) receive food from FISH. This month St. George collected more than 2000 pounds of food for the project.

Questions about FISH?
Call Mik Carlson at 541-464-0634

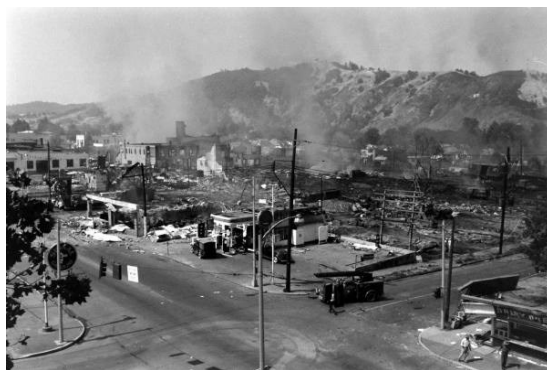


Episcopal Church Women

The Episcopal Church Women have purchased a new vacuum cleaner for the church.

February's ECW program was an extremely interesting one given by Marcia Jackson on the Roseburg Blast of 1959. Bill Riley and David Jackson also contributed memories of their experiences at the time.

~Thelma Sayers



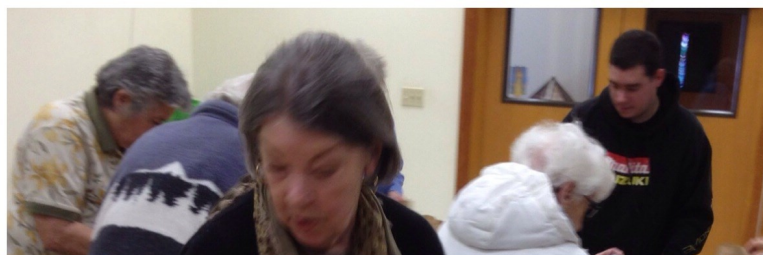
Photographer: N. R. Farbman

Outreach Team

On February 19, twelve people helped pack Snack Bags for the Hungry in the Parish Hall. Some of the bags were distributed to the congregation on the next Sunday to be given out to those in need. The rest of the bags will be in the Parish Hall.

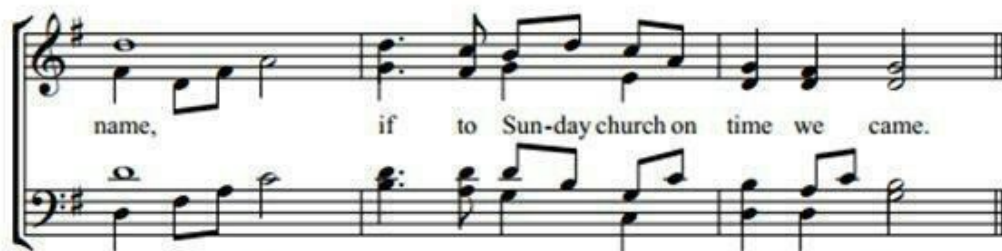
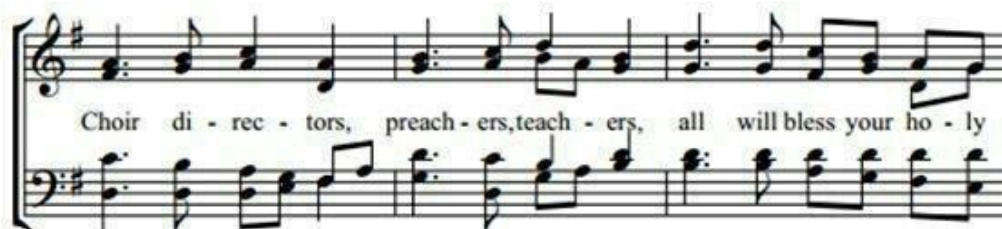
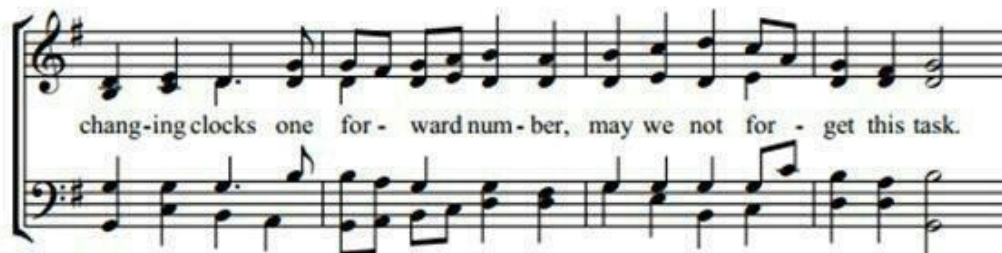
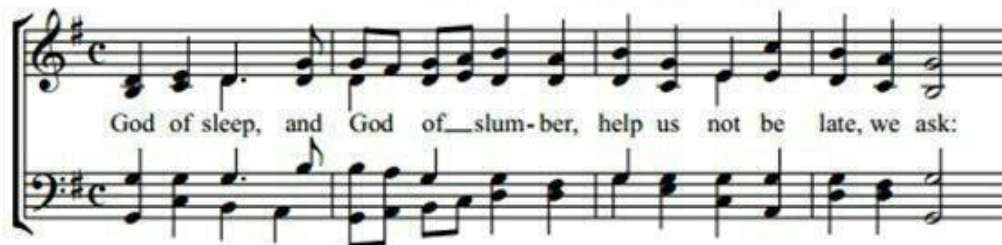
Each bag contains a bottle of water (refillable), peanut butter or cheese, tuna or chicken, crackers, cookies, raisins, and applesauce cups. A prayer written by Rev. JoAnne is included. The team ended up 50 bags.

~ Donna Litherland



May this food you receive today remind you that you are loved. May God bless you and keep you, comfort you and guide you, nourish you and sustain you. We hope along with you that one day no one will suffer from hunger. Please remember that you are loved. Amen

Time Change Song (Spring)



WORDS: Dean McIntyre, 1995
MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONDDA
87.87.89

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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
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

