



# The Dragon Scoop

## May 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



# Food and Fellowship on Easter Sunday



*Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts.  
Acts 2:46*



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# Rector's Letter

Dear friends,

Easter was wonderful at St. George's. Christ is risen! The Lord is risen indeed!

Thanks to the choir and Hilary Hall for leading us in glorious music, to the Altar Guild and BJ for beautiful lilies and an immaculate altar setting, to our faithful Eucharistic ministers, altar servers, readers, and ushers, and to Margaret Thomas for the bulletin.

One of the delights of the day was to welcome five children to St. George's. I invited them to join me at the altar for the Eucharistic Prayer and Holy Communion. Another delight is that some men who appear to be homeless have become regulars at worship. That means we are seen as safe. Often churches are seen as not safe by those who live difficult lives. We show enough love to feel relatively safe. And you welcome them.

We are told that perfect love casts out fear. I still have fears, and imagine the most of you do also. I have been working towards that perfect love, or at least more love, for many years. Doing so has brought me many blessed encounters with a wide variety of people.

If you who are reading this have not been to St. George's for a while, you will be warmly welcomed. People will be glad to see you and connect with you. If you are shy, they will give you space. If you are eager to share, they will listen. You will be grateful to share in our worship and our fellowship. Do come.

***Alleluia!***  
***Christ is risen!***  
***The Lord is risen indeed!***

Fr. Jim+

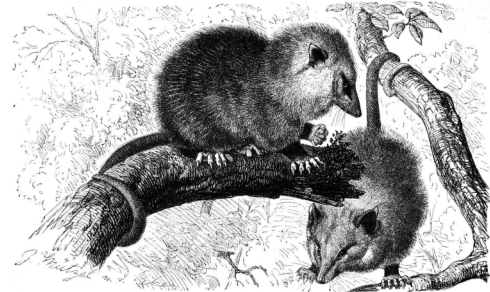
God is  
Good  
ALL THE TIME



# Episcopal Church Women

## by Betty Jo Hoffman

At our April ECW meeting, we learned how much we really don't know about Mother Nature. After reviewing some items from past meetings, gearing up for Tools-to-Treasure/Fine & Fancy sale, lunch, and getting commitments to bring hot cross buns for Easter, Sue and Jerry Phelps challenged us to a presentation of



### "How Well do you Know Mother Nature?"

Do you know what an owl pellet is? If you know what hibernation is, what is estivation? What is Oregon's own marsupial? (Hint: we see many dead on the road.) How do male night crawlers find a female to mate with? How do bees communicate with the hive when they have found a food source?

Next month we have been invited to bring one of our most treasured items to tell others about. That will be May 16. Please join us and bring one of *your* treasured possessions.

## United Thank Offering

The United Thank Offering (UTO) Ingathering is set to award \$1,535,740.55 in 2019, thanks to increased giving by people from across the church in 2018. UTO funds are granted on an annual basis to support mission across The Episcopal Church and throughout the Anglican Communion.

The UTO 2018 Ingathering reflects an increase in giving of \$15,495.15 over the 2017 thank offerings. Fifty-three Episcopal dioceses increased their giving.

"We are so very grateful for everyone who participates in UTO each year," shared UTO staff officer, Heather Melton. "Not only because your thank offerings go on to fund innovative mission and ministry in The Episcopal Church through UTO grants, but also because we believe that gratitude is an important and needed expression of faith in the world today. If you think about the Ingathering as an expression of the good things God is doing in the midst of us, then at a dime

apiece, that means Episcopalians experienced almost 11 million blessings in 2018."

Since 1889, UTO has collected and granted \$138,629,911.07 in thank offerings to support innovative mission and ministry in The Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion through 5,257 grants. The 2019 grants, funded by the 2018 Ingathering, will be announced mid-June 2019.

UTO was founded to encourage Episcopalians to notice the good things happening in their daily lives and make small thank offerings in a UTO Blue Box or through the UTO Blue Box app. The following year, 100% of those thank offerings are awarded as grants.

From the April 15, 2019 [Episcopal Church Public Affairs Office report](#).

# Spotlight on Don Severson

St. George parishioner Don Severson was born in 1923 and grew up in Minnesota, one of six children. He and his twin sister, Dorothy, were the youngest in the family. They lived on a lake where Don loved the winter and fishing. He motorcycled every chance he had, and once he and Dorothy won a motorbike with a sidecar by collecting the most bottle caps and bread wrappers for a contest. The bike got 100 miles to the gallon!

After graduation from high school, Don joined the Air Force in 1942. He was a radio operator on a bomber and flew 32 missions in Europe, bombing airfields in Germany. As radio operator, he was the only one who could walk around during the flights. His plane was named Stinky 2 (Stinky 1 was shot down).



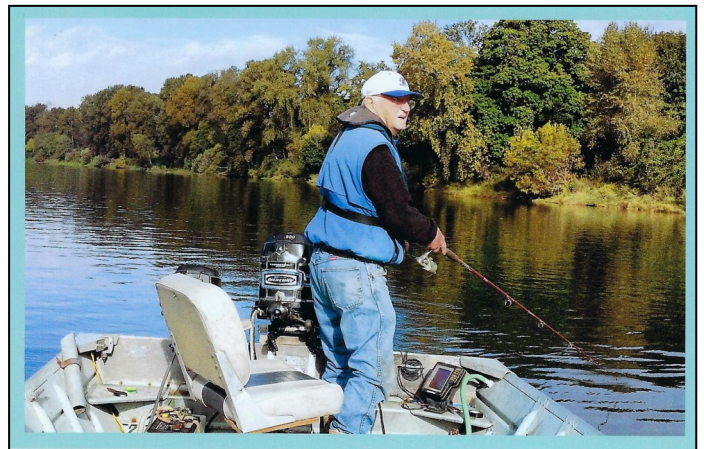
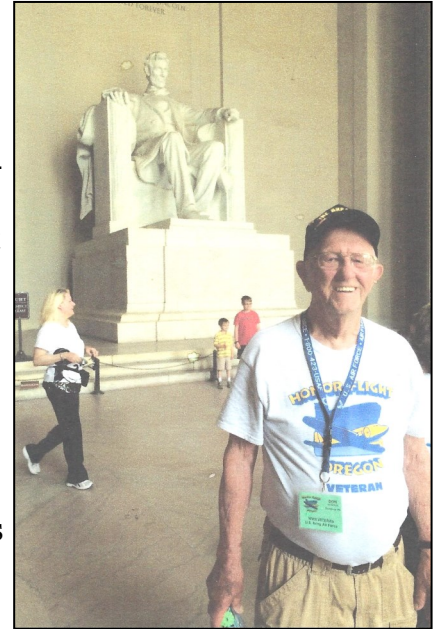
When the war was over, Don moved to Valsetz, Oregon, where his parents were living at the time. He started college at the University of Oregon in Eugene, and that's where he met his wife, Betty – at a “Hello Dance.” Betty had completed two years of college already and then worked, so they graduated together.

They moved to Roseburg, where Betty was a substitute teacher and Don accepted a position as head of the P.E. Department. He coached football, tennis, and baseball at Roseburg High School for 32 years. His baseball teams went to the National Finals twice. He also coached Doc Stewart teams for 14 years.

Don was raised a Baptist, Betty an Episcopalian. Coincidentally, her Hillsboro church was where Father Chet Falby was from. Don went to church with Betty at St. George's.

Don and Betty had three sons. Ken, a mechanic, lives here in Roseburg. Ron is a professor in Eugene and Gay lives in Bend. For a brief time Gay played the organ at St. George's and his boys were acolytes. Don is now kept company by a fine dog named Gracie. She was a rescue from Saving Grace.

In 2014 Don and Ken flew out of Portland on an Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. to visit and reflect at WWII memorials. (Honor Flight Network is a non-profit organization created to honor veterans for all their sacrifices.)



*Don demonstrating his love of fishing. He and parishioner Wally Hunnicutt were good fishing partners for many years.*

Many thanks to Don for his stories and photos, and a special thanks to Sue and Jerry Phelps, who interviewed him for this article.

# The Preacher's Wife

In our Transitional Prayer, we ask that God's will, not ours, be served. This is true. But one lady in church recently commented that it would be nice if God sent us a Priest with a wife or husband as spouses do contribute a lot.

People still talk about Henrietta Smith, wife of the Rev. Perry Smith who was at St. George from the early 1930's until he left to become an Army Chaplain about 1943. Charlotte Tyson played a vital role in organizing programs and activities for the young girls of our congregation during the many years that the Rev. Alfred S. Tyson was with us.

Although Fr. Sayer was not a full-time rector of St. George, his wife Thelma must not be overlooked. She was President of the ECW for years and was and is still active in providing school supplies and Christmas gifts for local school students. And Brandy Stroop was not only active in our religious activities but also a major factor in teaching English as a second language to our Spanish visitors. The Rev. Susan Hazen's husband, Rev. Albie, being an ordained Lutheran Minister, often pitched in to help.

And then there is Pam Boston. We are blessed to have her with us. No matter what our concern, she is there to listen and help. When you are talking with Pam, her whole attention is on you. You really matter to her. A more versatile person we have never known.

But Pam was not always the wife of a minister. In fact, in the 1990's she was serving in Pokhara, Nepal. She worked in Personnel at the headquarters of the International Nepal Fellowship (INF). The INF is an international, interdenominational medical mission. Pam's job was to obtain medical and other personnel, shepherd them through their first three months of language school, and support them in any other way needed while they were in Nepal. She received and supervised short-term volunteers. Pam also assisted the local church with Sunday School and had a youth group for the expatriate youth.

Pam's pull to Nepal began in college after seeing slides of Nepali children. Something struck a chord in her. At the Lutheran Bible Institute of Seattle (LBI), she completed her BA in Biblical Studies, with a minor in Missions. Pam was then accepted by the World Mission Prayer League (WMPL), a Lutheran mission agency. When Pam met with the WMPL Home Council, she told them of how her heart desired to serve in Nepal. They agreed. While waiting for her Nepali visa, she worked a year in the WMPL Home Office as assistant to the Director of WMPL.

Pam learned a great deal in Nepal – about people, about herself and about God. She saw what being a Christian meant in the world's only official Hindu kingdom. And she saw the power of God at work. Pam fully expected to spend the rest of her life in Nepal. God had other plans.

In 1986, Pam was on Christmas break from LBI, visiting her parents in Grants Pass. Pam's mom asked if she would like to help paint the new rector's house. Pam agreed. She met Fr. Jim Boston for the first time. Whenever she visited Grants Pass, she attended St. Luke's and got to know him better.

*(continued on page 6)*

*Pam greeting newcomers Darrell and Judy Thayer following pot luck Sunday, April 7, 2019.*



# The Preacher's Wife, continued

*(continued from page 5)*

In 1990, when Pam was getting ready to go to Nepal, Fr. Jim asked Pam what it would take to get her to stay home from Nepal. Thinking he was looking for a Sunday School teacher, Pam replied, "A postcard directly from God himself!"

In 1994, while on a 7-month home assignment (furlough), Fr. Jim and Pam got to know each other better. Then God made it clear that she was to remain in the US to resume her old job at the Home Office of WMPL. They continued their relationship via telephone, letters, and visits. Fr. Jim proposed in August of 1995. They were married at St. Luke's in November of 1995, with Bishop Bob Ladehoff performing the ceremony.

Pam's love for Nepal, the lessons God taught her there, and the global worldview she gained remain with her.



*Pam serving on the altar.*

***This article was a joint effort by Bill Riley, who wrote the first part, and Pam Boston, who provided the details about her life.***



*Pam preventing a toddler escape on Easter Sunday.*

## Upcoming

**Bill Isakson** will lead a **Thursday Bible study beginning on June 6**. The classes will last for 45 minutes, starting at noon. The study will focus on the disciples of Christ. Please contact Jean Bowden for more information.



You are invited to share stories of friends or family members who inspired you on your faith journey. Do not feel you have to write the article yourself, although you are certainly encouraged to do so! If you prefer, you can tell me the story and I will transcribe it. If you have a photo or two, I would love to use those as well.

~ Leigh Van Sickle, Editor

## FISH Report

FISH is looking for more volunteers for the Roseburg Food Project to take green collection bags to residences and businesses and then collect the bags every other month. From May 4-18, volunteers wearing green shirts will be canvassing Roseburg neighborhoods to sign up new coordinators.

Coordinator Karla Roady [of St. George's] says the Roseburg Food Project has about 70 neighborhood coordinators and around 700 donors in Roseburg.

"What's so great about this is that it gives us an ongoing amount," Roady said. "We can now predict that we'll get 10,000 to 13,000 pounds — however, we give out 40,000 pounds each month."

from ["Roseburg Food Project Looks for More Donors"](#) by Dan Bain of the News-Review

On April 28, The FISH of Roseburg Facebook page reported that "70 neighborhood coordinators collected food donations from 708 food donors that totaled 11,051 pounds. It was the second largest April collection we have had since the Roseburg Food Project started in 2012."

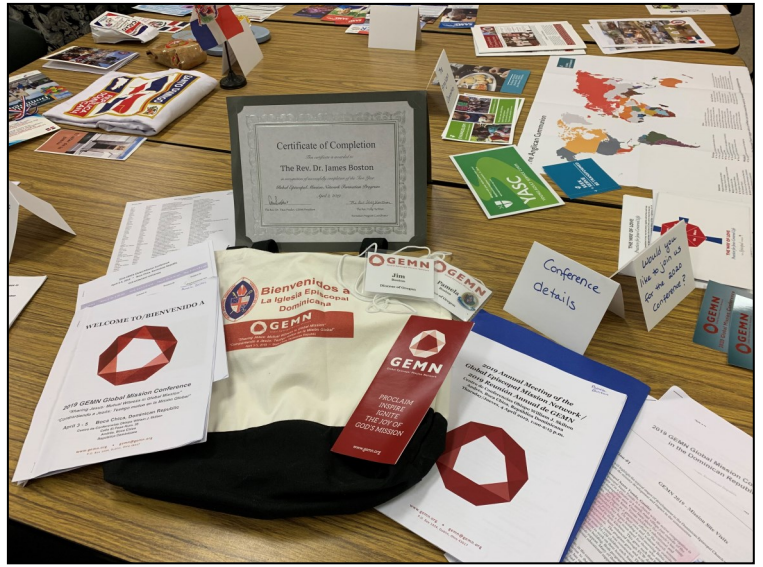
If you're interested in becoming a neighborhood coordinator, call 541-673-9804 or email [thefishrbg@gmail.com](mailto:thefishrbg@gmail.com).



# Parish News



*The Rev. Canon Neysa Ellgren Shepley, visiting from the Diocese of Oregon's headquarters in Portland on April 7, presided over Holy Eucharist and spoke with parishioners after the service.*



*Father Jim and Pam brought back memorabilia from their early-April visit to the Dominican Republic to participate in a meeting of the Global Episcopal Mission Network.*



*Above: Start of the Palm Sunday procession as the congregation follows into the sanctuary.*



*Right: Palm crosses made by parishioners, looking almost like a stained glass window.*

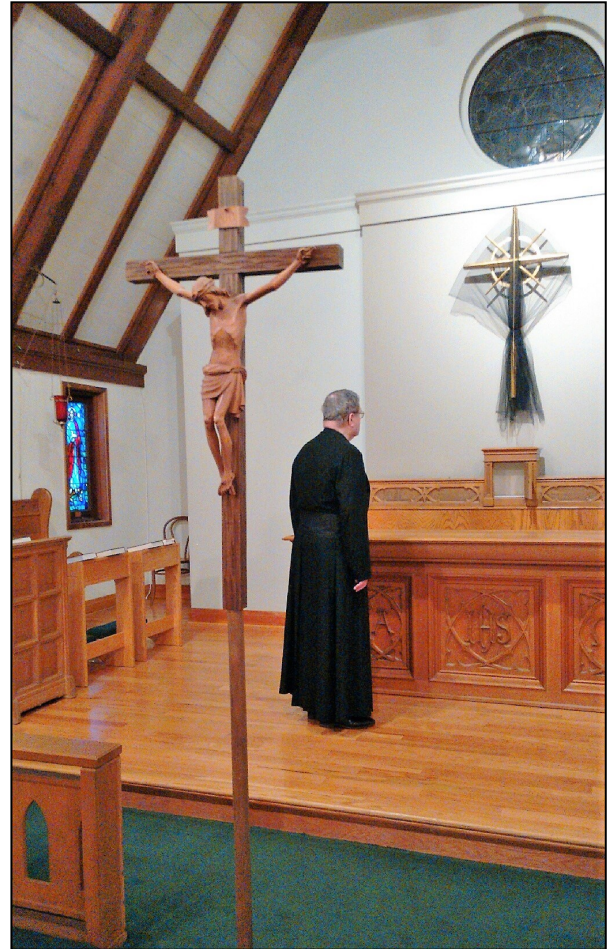


# Parish News



*Gordon Hammerle's ashes were placed in the Columbarium after the Palm Sunday service.*

*Left to right: Pam Boston, Fr. Jim Boston, Bill Riley, Jill Hammerle, and Delpha Hammerle.*



*Above: Fr. Jim presiding over the Good Friday service.  
Photo by Pete Benham.*



*Left: Fr. Jim bestows birthday blessings on Steve Thomas (center) and Charles Van Sickle.*





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**Sign up  
in the Office  
to provide flowers for  
the altar in May.**

**The Easter lilies were  
glorious!**



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](mailto: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**

