



The Dragon Scoop

November 2018

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



It is good to give thanks to the Lord

Our St. George family demonstrates our love for God and for each other in so many ways,

- ♥ By worshipping together
- ♥ By meeting in fellowship
- ♥ By tending the altar
- ♥ By visiting the sick and homebound
- ♥ By studying the Bible
- ♥ By preparing and serving food
- ♥ By providing music
- ♥ By caring for the building and grounds
- ♥ By staffing the office
- ♥ By serving the local community
- ♥ By helping a neighbor get to church

And these are only a few examples. But let's not forget that we need to give back to God with our treasures as well as our time and talents. St. George's needs our money to continue our work locally and in the world.

Read about our November Stewardship Campaign and United Thank Offering Collection on page 4 of the *Dragon Scoop*.



Photo by Karla Roady

Thank you, God, for Father Jim and Pam. They are indeed a reflection of God's love and we very much appreciate them and all that they've done. We love them and thank them.

~ The Congregation of St. George
Pastor Appreciation Sunday, October 14



Step out in faith and give back to God in thanksgiving for his infinite blessings.

Inside This Issue

Rector's Letter	2
ECW and FISH	3
Gratitude	4
FYI	5
Parish News	6-8
Episcopal Church	9

Rector's Letter

Dear Friends,

I write this as we pack for our Diocesan Convention. More on that on Sunday. Also, congratulations to those who made the rummage sale a great success. I was amazed by how much was passed on and how much was earned. St. George's has a remarkable ECW.

The Church year is winding down. We celebrate All Saints on the first Sunday of November, including remembering those saints who have been a particular blessing to each of us. In one sense, all the baptized are called saints. You and I are blessed with a "great cloud of witnesses," as we "run the race" of our lives.

Then the last Sundays before Advent reference the "last things," death, judgement, hell, and heaven. On the last Sunday before Advent, we hail Christ the King.

Our Search Committee has begun meeting. They will consider each aspirant, and check out each rumor of a possible one. Their work is confidential, and we need to be patient for however long or short the search process will be. It is kind of like waiting for the Second Coming of Christ. It is a sure thing, but we don't know when. Keep praying.

Thanksgiving comes on November 22. We count our blessings. Having lived as long as most of us have, we have lots. I especially thank God for the privilege of spending this portion of my life with the people of St. George's.

November is also the month for making pledges of what we plan to share of our money for the work of God through St. George's and the Episcopal Church. It is a good investment. I have been a tither (i.e. 10+ percent of income) all my adult life. It was more when I was a child. Sometimes it has been easy, sometimes not. Now and then I think of what we might have done if Pam and I had kept that money for ourselves. More travel, less secondhand furniture, nicer food. Yet, to reference St. Paul, I count all that as much less than the "incomparable riches" we receive from God.

We finish November with Thanksgiving. As I write this, it looks like Pam and I will stay home and attend the service at St. Luke's in Grants Pass. Any special service or meals at St. George's will be announced on Sunday mornings, or you can call the office to check. Perhaps there will be other churches with a Thanksgiving service, certainly at our local Roman Catholic Church.

God bless us, every one.

Fr. Jim+



Walking, I am *listening* to a deeper way.
Suddenly all my *ancestors* are *behind me*.
Be still, they say. *Watch and listen*.
You are the result of the *love of thousands*.

~ Linda Hogan, Native American Writer

Episcopal Church Women

by Betty Jo Hoffman

We received a great Tools-to-Treasures report. \$2040.39 was taken in, thanks to your donations and hard work (and purchases). We voted to send \$250 of that to Saving Grace Pet Adoption Center. We discussed new advertising and sale strategies.

We also discussed how to help Fir Grove Elementary School with needs that may not have been met with the school supplies we donated at the beginning of the school year. We decided to send them \$225 with a letter of explanation of why we came to this decision. We also talked about having a better connection with Samaritan Inn. Its new director will be our speaker in November.

Jean Bowden and Sue Phelps got together and made fruitcakes for a fund raiser for the FISH Pantry. The congregation will have an opportunity to order fruitcakes too. ECW ladies will get together and bake them. **Place your order by Sunday, November 4. The fruitcakes will be available to pick up on Sunday, December 9.**

We had a nice visit with our cleaning staff—Elva Valencia, Tenaya Wright, and Julie Ortiz—while we ate lunch. Our time was short as we also filled some of the donated pill bottles with shampoo and conditioner and then bagged them with soap and dental supplies. Sue will deliver them.



Photo by Sue Phelps

Please join us November 15 for our next meeting.

~ Betty Jo Hoffman, Vice President

FISH Report

The October 27 Fall Food Drive at local grocery stores brought in 4726 pounds of food and \$727.05 monetary donations. FISH says “We are so thankful to have such a giving community that shows compassion and kindness. Thank you for all the donations that were made today throughout Roseburg.”

And special thanks to St. George parishioners Nancy Baum, Jean Bowden, Mik Carlson, Jewell Gates, Betty Jo Hoffman, and Tricia Holt, the volunteers who staffed Albertson’s that day.

The October Roseburg Food Project collection of donated food brought in 13,057 pounds, collected by 73 Neighborhood Coordinators from 694 food donors. This is the best October collection in the six years of the project.

The next RFP pickup day will be Saturday, December 15.



Give Thanks in All Circumstances

Stewardship Drive

Each November Episcopalian parishioners make a financial commitment to their church. We pray and reflect in order to come to a spiritual decision about how much to give.

By promising to donate regularly, we show that we are committed to God's work and that we are not afraid we won't have enough for ourselves. We demonstrate our love and gratitude to God in a tangible way.

Consider tithing (10% of what we earn) as your pledge. But in any case, realize that proportional giving is the biblical standard—those who have more are expected to give back more. Often, the smallest gift is the largest, as told in Luke 21:1-4, the story of the Widow's Offering.

If you haven't already received your pledge envelope, check with the office. The forms need to be returned by the end of **November**. And remember, a stewardship commitment can be changed at any time.



Stewardship is about being grateful, responsible stewards of the gifts we receive from God. The Episcopal Church sees stewardship as more than simply contributing money to the church; it's also about contributing time and talents, and volunteering for ministry and mission. It's about reaching out to build relationships from a perspective of abundance instead of scarcity.

from <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/stewardship>

The November 2018 United Thank Offering Gratitude Challenge

The Gratitude Challenge funds grants to support innovative mission and ministry throughout the Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion. 100% of the received funds are distributed.

Take a moment each day to reflect on what you experienced throughout the day for which you are grateful—sunshine, breakfast, gas in the car, a child's hug, a spouse or friend's smile, clean clothes Then toss some change into your UTO box to express your gratitude. (Boxes and a calendar of gratitude ideas are available at the church.)

At the end of November, write a check and place it in the UTO envelope. Be sure it is at church by **Sunday, December 2**. If necessary, cash in the envelope is okay also. We must have the donations by **December 2** to meet the deadline of **December 20** for the 2018 inclusion.

Keep your box and keep counting your blessings and we will have another ingathering in the spring or next fall.

Give thanks for all good things.

~Betty Jo Hoffman

For more information, you can go to episcopal-church.org/united-thank-offering



FYI

Advent is Near

The first Sunday of Advent is December 2. Whoever can help put the greenery in the Sanctuary and other decor in the hall on **Saturday, December 1 at 10:00** will be greatly appreciated. There will be refreshments. Thank you for everything everyone does for our church. ~ BJ

Southern Convocation Report

Steve and Margaret Thomas, Jean Bowden, and the Rev. Jim Boston attended the October 6 meeting in Grants Pass. The attendees reviewed the proposed 2019 Diocesan budget and the proposed changes to the Canons. They will be voted on at the Annual 130th Diocesan Convention, November 1-3, 2018 in Seaside, OR. ~ Margaret

Search Committee

The Search Committee met for the first time on October 27 in anticipation of a couple of candidates for the half-time Rector position. They will be meeting once or twice a month, as necessary. Per the Diocese, the Committee has to keep confidential any details about applicants. The congregation is invited to pray for the Search Committee members.



Jesus never called us to build bigger churches. He called us to create opportunities for people to meet the risen Christ, grow in his grace and share the overflow of that with others.

~ Karl Vaters

October Blessings



Happy Birthday to Hilary Hall



Happy Birthday to Margaret Thomas



Happy Birthday to Anita Blair



Blessing of the Animals at UCC on October 7, presided over by the Rev. Nancy Gallagher and Pete Benham

Parish News



The City of Roseburg removed the tree that had damaged the sidewalk on the south side of the church. Before, during, and after pictures clockwise from the top.

Photos by Bill Riley



And also shared by Bill:

Did You Hear About . . . the cowardly dragon who didn't observe the Sabbath? He only preyed on weak knights.

from Readers Digest, April 1991, p.155.

Parish News



Elise, granddaughter of Sue and Jerry Phelps, visited on October 7. She is shown surrounded by her admirers: left to right, Frank and Sheila Glass, Jean Bowden, and Pam Boston.

Photo by Karla Roady



The Tools-to-Treasures and Boutique Sale filled the Parish Hall and brought in over \$2000.



Charles Van Sickle is digging up rocks, concrete, and clay to prepare for planting trees in front of the office.

Holy Eucharist Offering for the Clergy of Cuba

by Pam Boston



One of the most moving moments of General Convention 2018 was the readmittance of the Diocese of Cuba to The Episcopal Church. This led the Rt. Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, former Presiding Bishop and current Assisting Bishop in the Diocese of San Diego, to challenge the House of Bishops to help fund the pension gap for clergy who have served the Diocese of Cuba since they were pushed out of this Church.

Bishop Katharine writes,

Clergy in Cuba have no access to state pensions or any equivalent of social security, for their service to the church is not recognized as employment, which is a function of the Cuban government. Their “retirement” requires enormous creativity and often means penury beyond what most Cubans already endure The pension gap is approximately \$800,000. Given

the current census of Episcopalians, the need amounts to about \$0.50 per member of this Church. I write to ask you to offer a “mite” to aid the aged and aging clergy of the church in Cuba.

Bishop Michael has decided that the offering collected during the Holy Eucharist at our Diocesan Convention will be given toward the retirement fund set up specifically for clergy in Cuba, to support closing this pension gap for those who have served so long and faithfully.





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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



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

