

Mission Statement:
"Loving God,
Loving Our Neighbors"

The Dragon Scoop November 2025

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

The Episcopal Church Welcomes You

Sweet Repose

Lori and Walt Combs have gifted St. George's Columbarium with this beautiful angel statue to watch over the remains of our loved ones.



Bob Spielman provided boxwood plants and his daughter, Christina Thomas, spaced the shrubs while her husband, Dan, dug the holes. Then Chris planted them and Bob did the watering, which he described as a real team effort! Bob will be doing the watering and fertilizing when needed.





Rev. Matt's Pastoral Letter

O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? (Habakkuk 1:2)

Let us pray

O God,

I am undone by the weight of it all. The cruelty. The lies. The faces of those who suffer while the powerful satisfy themselves on their pain.

Every headline feels like another blow to the ribs, and I can no longer tell if I am angry, grieving or numb.

I work, I scroll, I watch, I study, I listen, and I cannot turn away.

Children wailing in the dust, the vulnerable being abused, the Earth cracking beneath greed, neighbors despising neighbors, and those who bear your name using it to bless violence.

Where are you, O God of mercy? Why do you seem so silent while the truth is strangled, and justice mocked?

Have you grown weary of our prayers, or are we simply too overwhelmed by it all to hear your reply?

I confess, Lord, I feel powerless. My words fall flat, my strength fails, and my hope flickers like a candle in the wind of this world's madness.

But still,

Even in despair, I will not stop calling your name. I will not stop joining the work of those who insist on loving their neighbors.

You who brought life out of dust, You who split the seas, You who were crucified by cruelty itself Rise again!

Teach us to hope as those who refuse to look away.

Give us courage to love when the world worships power.

And when all strength is spent, hold us in the dark

Until Your light returns.

Amen.

~ Rev. Benjamin Cremer (Oct. 13, 2025)

The People of God have a very long history of going toe to toe with the Creator of the Universe. Jesus, amid breathing his last breath on the cross, was speaking for all the abused, the vulnerable, the lowly, the hurt, the angry, the lost when he yelled ... "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?!?!?"

When answers are few and far, if at all. When the weight of grief falls heavy on our neighbors and on us and all we have is our voice, crying: "Where are you ... Why are you silent ... How long will you seem so far away??" We gather as a community of believers and surround the vulnerable, and each other, with our hearts and our prayers. And as we wait for God's promises to be realized, we gather to do what we can. Life and Faith are a Team Sport. I know our Redeemer lives!! And so shall we.

Rev. Matt

Episcopal Church Women by Betty Jo Hoffman

Walt Combs was the speaker at our October meeting. He told us about various religious Episcopal Brotherhoods and Sisterhoods that men and women belong to. Some live in monasteries or convents and others live in the community. They serve God's people, especially the poor.

He also gave us an interesting piece of information about the service candles that sit behind the altar next to the Tabernacle. There are six and they represent six different church services that we can celebrate.

Thought for the Day from Sue Phelps

"Faith is not belief without proof, but trust without reservation."



Our Fall Sale brought in about \$1100!

Our next meeting will be Nov. 20.

Parish News

In September Steve Thomas visited longtime former parishioner Susan Brossia on his way back from his annual Florida trip. This is St. Thomas Church in Greenville, Rhode Island, where Susan lives.

She sends her love to all her St. George family.



St. Francis Pet Blessing Service 2025



Annual Meeting

The 137th Annual Meeting of the Episcopal Church in Western Oregon was held Oct. 18–19, 2025, at the Salem Convention Center. Over 280 clergy, lay delegates, and guests gathered from across the diocese, from Brookings to Astoria, to do the work of the Church in fellowship, prayer, and discernment.

The gathering began Friday afternoon with a Holy Eucharist, presided over by Bishop Akiyama. In her sermon, the Bishop acknowledged the deep challenges of our current moment, encouraging the gathered body to remain rooted in Christ and committed to justice, compassion, and communal healing. (From the Diocesan website)



Delegates Rev. Matt Goodrich and Rev. Janine Goodrich.



Delegate Mel Wilcox, to the right of Bishop Akimaya.





Foreground: Delegates Rev. Janine Goodrich, Valarie Bruffett, and Sue Phelps



More on next page ~

Annual Meeting, p. 2



Left: Brother Andrew Grimsby

Right: Rev. Matt with our Hope and Fire delegates





Above:

Diocesan Youth Event— Hope and Fire. Two St. George young people attended.

Right:

The entire St. George delegation

Parish News





Photo by Karla Roady

Birthday Blessings for Walt Combs, Gary Flowers, and Margaret Thomas



WARMING RESOURCE CENTER

Donate items through Amazon here: <u>tinyurl.com/SGF-fall25</u>

FISH

A Word from Executive Director Jennifer Lynn Reid

Food is a human right. Not a luxury. Not a privilege.

I'm angry and heartbroken seeing what is happening across our country right now. Families are doing everything "right" —working multiple jobs, stretching every dollar, skipping meals so their kids can eat — and still not knowing how they will put food on the table tomorrow.

If YOU are struggling with food insecurity, please hear me clearly:

- \Rightarrow There is no shame in needing help.
- ⇒ Use the resources available in your community. Nobody should be hungry in the richest country
- ⇒ And if you don't know where to go, message me [on Facebook]. I will help you find support. You deserve to eat. Your children deserve to eat. Your parents deserve to eat.

If you are on SNAP benefits, PLEASE continue reporting as required so your benefits can resume when the government reopens.

It's incredibly important.





And if you are someone who is able to help — through donations, volunteering, or even just spreading awareness — your community needs you more than ever. These programs are keeping families alive in a moment where the system is failing them.

Nobody should be punished for being poor. Nobody should be hungry in the richest country in the world.

Food is a right. Full stop.

MOST NEEDED FOOD ITEMS

Peanut Butter

Cereal
Soup
Ramen Noodles
Canned Beans
Refried Beans
Rice
Oatmeal
Canned Vegetables
Shampoo, Toothpaste,
Paper products

Inspiration

Holiday Host Etiquette

If you're inviting someone to your home and they're grieving, be sure you're inviting their grief to attend, too. It will be there, anyway.

Don't invite someone with the goal of cheering them up for the holidays. Don't expect them to put on a happy face in your home. Don't demand they fake it till they make it or do something they don't want to do, either.

Invite them with the loving intention of offering cheer and companionship and unconditional care during the holidays. To do this, you will need to honor and be responsive to their needs and emotions.

You can do this by privately acknowledging their grief when you make the invitation:

"I know this season is extra hard and your heart is hurting. You and your grief are welcome in our home. Come as you are, we'd be honored to have you with us."

It's also incredibly loving to honor the reality that it's often hard for grieving folks to know what they will want, need, be up for, or be able to tolerate at the holidays.

Giving them an invite without the need for commitment and with permission to change their mind is extra loving:

"You don't have to decide right now. If it feels good to be with us, we will have plenty of food and love for you—just show up! I'll check in again the day before to see if you're feeling up to coming over and if there's anything you'd like me to know about how we can support you."

Your grieving friends and family need attentive care and responsiveness at the holidays, not plans to keep them busy, distracted, and happy.

If they're laughing, laugh with them.

If they're weeping, ask if they'd like your company or your help finding a quiet place to snuggle up alone for a while.

If they're laughing while weeping, and this is more common than you'd think, stay with them—this is a precious moment of the human experience that is truly sacred.

We don't need to protect ourselves or each other from grief at the holidays. In fact, the more we embrace grief as an honored holiday guest, the more healthy, happy, and whole our holidays will be.

~Sarah Nannen



The Preacher & The Teacher

1970, continued

The Tysons will be in England quite a while!

Next day was Sunday and we went to communion at St. Mary Magdalene parish across the street from the hotel. Later, Canon Hammer preached the sermon at prestigious Christ Church Cathedral of Oxford, and of course we had to hear him! Afterwards he took us on a walking tour through the University and showed us the spot, marked in the pavement, where Queen Mary had the three Anglican bishops burned at the stake: Cranmer, Ridley and Latimer. We also visited Blenheim Place and saw the room where Sir Winston Churchill was born, as well as his grave at Bladon Village Church nearby.

Monday I cashed a check and mailed some things home before going to see Eton School and Windsor Castle. At Evensong in the castle we sat in the choir stalls where the Knights of the Garter sit and heard a boys 'choir sing beautifully. We learned afterwards that they were from Ohio! Dean R. Woods took us to his library and showed us the long table on which King Charles' body was laid after he had parted with his head.

After spending the night at Oxford, our tour took us into London for its termination. But before it ended we were taken on a tour of Hampton Court Palace, the gardens and pictures of which were the "finest we had seen anywhere." Lunch at a pub in Chelsea, leaving the tour with some regret at Charing Cross Station and took a cab to the President Hotel on Russell Square.

That evening we visited with my cousin John Tyson whom I had not seen since we met at our Aunt Mabel's condominium on the Mediterranean in 1937—and also to my Aunt Leo, his mother, who had helped our daughter Charlotte out a year or so before when she had had to leave France from her school at Aix-en-Province because of the horrible "general strike" there.

Wednesday we walked around Russell Square area, seeing the Church of the Holy Sepulcher where Captain John Smith is buried. Then to Old Bailey, the highest court in England (except for the House of Lords) and St. Paul 's Cathedral. Then to All Hallows across the street from the Tower of London which "we toured with 9,000 other people." We took a boat ride up the Thames to Westminster Bridge where we got off and took the underground back to Russell Square and our hotel.

We talked to Sally Hill on the phone. She was from Roseburg and had played the organ for us at St. George's. The following evening we got together with her for dinner and had a wonderful visit. In between, on Thursday, we took the underground to the Thames and took a boat to Putney Bridge, where John and Aunt Leo lived since 1930. He had a marvelous career during WWII, having escaped at Dunkirk, again in Greece, and had fought against Rommel under the famous English Field Marshal Montgomery.

It was Saturday evening when we arrived at Canterbury and were assigned our rooms in the dormitory. CANTESS meant Canterbury Ecumenical Summer School but most of us were Episcopalians from the United States. Fr. Albert Sayers and Thelma arrived that evening and we all attended a concert in the Cathedral by the monastic choir of the Abbey of Notre Dame du Bec, along with the choir of the Convent of St. Frances of Rome and the vocal Ensemble of Stéphane Caillot. By chance we ran into Fr. Paul Wessinger, a monastic from the Diocese of Oregon who is spending three years in England with the English branch of his Order. Of course, the concert was extraordinarily fine.

The Preacher & the Teacher: the story of our years at St. George's as told by Father Alfred S. Tyson



Cathedrals of the World by Doug Holloway

St. George's Cathedral, Jerusalem, Israel

The Cathedral Church of St. George the Martyr is the seat of the Bishop of Jerusalem.



The church was built by Bishop George Blyth in the late 19th century and was officially established in 1899. Because he only had limited use of an Anglican church situated in the Old City of Jerusalem, the Bishop bought land and built a cathedral and a missionary college—both called St. George's.

Wishing to restore good relationships with the local Orthodox Church and having a deep respect for its patriarch, Bishop Blyth incorporated a pool in his church to enable baptisms by immersion—a rarity in Anglican churches.



St. George's Cathedral, Georgetown, Guyana (Caribbean)

St. George's in Guyana is an Anglican cathedral and is the tallest wooden church in the world. It is the seat of the Bishop of Guyana.

The present church was consecrated in 1894, but there had been an Anglican presence in Guyana since 1781. The first church was erected in 1810 and then a larger one was built in 1842. This was designated as a cathedral and the Diocese of Guyana was created. However, due to a faulty construction, this building was later dismantled.

A new church to be built of stone was designed but as this was deemed to be too heavy and too costly, the plans were changed for it to be built of wood. Local wood was preferred but a certain amount of pitch pine was imported for the ceiling.



The stained glass windows depict scenes from the Crucifixion, Ascension and the Book of Revelation. A large chandelier hanging prominently in the cathedral was a gift from Queen Victoria.

This article was first published here in the March 2015 issue and has been updated slightly.

Financial Report by Kathy Glockner

		Finances 2025		
	August	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Pledges	\$ 8,209	\$ 7,169	\$ 59,747	\$ 57,351
Other Income	3,396	2,318	27,396	18,547
Total Income	11,605	9,487	87,143	75,897
Expenses	11,784	14,283	108,378	114,260
	\$ (179)	\$ (4,795)	\$ (21,235)	\$ (38,363
	September	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Pledges	\$ 9,276	\$ 7,169	\$ 69,023	\$ 64,520
Other Income	2,943	2,318	30,339	20,865
Total Income	12,219	9,487	99,362	85,385
Expenses	12,999	14,283	121,377	128,543
	\$ (780)	\$ (4,795)	\$ (22,015)	\$ (43,158

The biggest items over budget in the last couple of months are utilities, because of increased usage, and payments for conferences. I guess we were still budgeting for one but we have two. And that is a good thing. Our pledges were above budget for the last two months, which I am so pleased that it occurred in a summer month. Thank you for catching up on your pledges. Our DPA continues to be paid in full. Though our actual expenses are less than the budgeted amount we continue to have a deficit, but we are doing better than what we budgeted, so thank you for the pledges and thank you staff for keeping our expenses to a minimum.

Please return your 2026 pledges if you haven't already done so!



Stamp Club News





The 85th Anniversary the Gettysburg Address



Scott catalog #973, issued on November 19, 1948 Gettysburg, Pennsylvania To honor establishment a national cemetery to bury the soldiers who died in the battle. Edward Everett, a famous public speaker of the time, spoke for two-hours while Abraham Lincoln's memorable speech lasted for a little over two minutes.

The Umpqua Valley Stamp Club meets monthly every 3rd Monday except for June and December

Here in the Parish Hall at 7:15. Visitors welcome.

Poster by Clarence Adams, Umpqua Valley Stamp Club

Humor

TODAY'S SHORT READING FROM THE BIBLE

From Genesis: "And God promised men that good and obedient wives would be found in all corners of the earth." Then he made the earth round and He laughed and laughed.

Thank you, Margaret Thomas!

KIDS' MISAPPREHENSIONS AT CHURCH

My daughter heard "I'm in" instead of amen.

My chorister kid on being told he was going to be the "main angel" in the Nativity play: "You mean, I'm going to be Hark?"



St. George Episcopal Church 1024 S.E. Cass Avenue Roseburg, OR. 97470

541-673-4048

stgeorge@saintgeorgesepiscopal.com www.saintgeorgesepiscopal.com www.facebook.com/episcopalroseburg www.youtube.com/@episcopalroseburg

Inside This Issue			
Pastoral Letter	2		
ECW	3		
Parish News	3-7		
FISH	8		
Inspiration	9		
History	10-11		
Financial Report	12		
Stamp Club	13		
Humor	13		

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, Editor

Co-Rectors: The Revs. Janine & Matt Goodrich Senior Warden: Pete Benham Co-Junior Wardens: Bob Spielman & Sue Phelps Treasurer: Kathy Glockner

OFFICE HOURS 10 am—2 pm Monday through Friday

ST. GEORGE WORSHIP
10:30 am
Sundays
and
10 am
Wednesdays

