



# The Dragon Scoop

## September 2022

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



## Holy Baptism

*Pastor Gail Duba baptized Robyn Billington, daughter of longtime parishioner Don Witt, on August 14. Steve Thomas assisted her, and he and Margaret Thomas are Robyn's sponsors.*



Left:  
Pastor Gail writes, "See the water that Steve is pouring into the Baptismal Font? It is the water and the word of God that makes the water holy."

Right:  
As Pastor pours the now Holy Water over Robyn's head she repeats the pouring of the water with the three statements, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."



Right:  
As Pastor Gail seals the Baptism with the oil (given her by our Bishop) she is marking the sign of the cross on her forehead, on her hands and finally on her lips to indicate that Robyn now goes forth to sign the light of God's love on a hurting and needy world.  
Amen.



# Pastor Gail's Ponderings . . . .

## The Holy Cross Keeping Love in Mind

*"For the message about the cross is  
foolishness to those who are perishing,  
but to us who are being saved  
it is the power of God."  
1st Corinthians 1:18*

Wisdom is hidden all around us and sages are found in ordinary places. We learn wisdom from our Elders. We gain confidence from those who take care of us physically—doctors, nurses, P.T.'s, dentists, etc. We learn from our church's Bishops, the learned scholars of the church over the last 2000 years, and from our parish pastors. We regain a sense of wonder, imagination, and awe from our grandchildren's interaction with nature. Just watch a young baby discover her own hands, or a young lad seeing the wonder of a butterfly coming out of its cocoon, or a four-year-old picking a new flower.

Here is a story I read in one of my books. A mother was standing in front of a shelf in a grocery store, intent on price comparison, and her small son sat enthroned in the shopping cart. He was giving her a running commentary on the weather, his desire for a candy bar, the importance of his stuffed bunny, AND the weariness of his task of assisting with the family grocery shopping (when he'd rather be playing outside). Then he paused and remembered what he'd heard last week in Sunday School—LOVE. He asked his mom, "Are we going to see Grandma and Grandpa today?"

Without turning her head his mother replied, "Yes, we are."

"Good," he said with a sigh, "They love me so much; I want to go and be with them."

So here's the question—Do we keep God's love in mind amid the distractions of the world? Do we allow our longing for God's love to guide our work as members, volunteers, and leaders of our church: St. George's Episcopal Church?

As we hear in the passage of 1st Corinthians: **The sign of the cross seems foolish to those who do not understand its message.** We sometimes get so lost in our vital Christian busyness that we forget to keep love in mind. It is God's great love shown through the cross as a sign of death, but we know that it is the sign of a love so amazing that we live in daily gratefulness for its gifts. And so we take a day during the church year—September 14—Holy Cross Day—to meditate on the meaning of the cross of Christ because it reminds us that God's power comes from sacrificial love and forgiveness.

In several recent homilies, I said "We all must gather at the foot of the cross. In humility and gratitude we offer ourselves as instruments of God's love and forgiveness so that the **power of self-giving love can be offered to the world through our lives and through the ministries of our church.**"

Let us pray.

O Creating God,  
by your cross  
you have redeemed the world.  
Keep us close to the cross in our actions  
so we may depend on its power  
more than worldly power.  
Help us keep your love in mind.

Pastor Gail





# In Memoriam

## *Jon Charles Burpee, M.D.* *November 14, 1941 — February 15, 2022*

A Celebration of Life for Dr. Jon Burpee was held at St. George's on August 16, 2022. Pastor Gail Duba presided, and she and friends and family members spoke movingly, remembering him with love.





# In Memoriam

## Donald Warren Witt

May 25, 1930— July 31, 2022



The August 21 Holy Eucharist was dedicated to the memory of Don Witt, to his commitment to serve our church with excellence, and to his faithfulness.

In her sermon, Pastor Gail told the congregation that Don spoke to her of his longing for Holy Communion in both kinds during the COVID-19 lockdown and how she was inspired to make it possible for us to once again safely partake of Bread and Wine.

### Spotlight on Don Witt

Don Witt's radiant smile and distinctive husky voice welcome parishioners and visitors to St. George's on Sundays when he serves as an usher.

Don was born in 1930 in the San Francisco Bay Area in San Leandro, where he grew up. He joined the Navy and served from 1951-1955 as an aviation storekeeper. He spent eight months on an aircraft carrier in the Philippine Sea. Visiting ports of call may have been the beginning of his desire to see the world.

Once out of the Navy, Don took advantage of the GI Bill and attended the San Francisco Academy of Art from 1955-59. Afterwards he moved to New York City and worked in commercial art for three years. He returned to California and was employed by the Incandescent Lighting Company in San Leandro as a graphic artist for their catalogs and other publications.

Don pursued his love of travel by going on tours. He met his former wife in Madrid: German-born Kai who was familiar with the Bay Area because she had attended UC Berkeley. They were married in 1968 and had one daughter, Robyn.

Taking early retirement at age 62, Don was able to do what he loves best, traveling. He prefers guided tours so he can just enjoy seeing new places and new people. In 2002 Robyn, who was living in Roseburg, enticed him to come live with her in Oregon. He joined St. George's in the middle of 2003. Slowly, he embraced more of church life and is now an usher, although he regrets he didn't get involved in the Vestry.  
(Editor's note: It's not too late to get involved in the Vestry!)

A bad wreck in 2017 put him in Callahan Village Assisted Living for two and a half months. His back was seriously injured. He is thankful for the good support his church family gave him at the time (Nancy Baum and Karla Roudy even rounded up furniture for him). His back still gives him some problems, but he does well for the most part.

Don and Robyn have two cats. He says, "We've always had cats—not that there's anything against dogs!"



Thank you, Don, for your service to your country and to your church!



91st Birthday Blessings  
Don Witt



Janet Mecham made her singing debut at Don's memorial with J.S. Bach's soprano solo, "My Heart Ever Faithful," accompanied by Lise Clark.



# Upcoming

## CHOIR PRACTICE begins Sept. 4

Choir, under the direction of Lise Clark, will meet downstairs **every Sunday at 9:30** to rehearse. No more climbing those pesky stairs in order to sing!

## MORNING PRAYER Weds., 10 am

Morning Prayer will resume weekly beginning **Sept. 7**.

## SPECIAL NOON SERVICE Sept. 25

We will have **Morning Prayer for most Sundays this month** except for **Sept. 25**, when we will host the Rev. Chris Craun. She will be visiting from the Diocese of Oregon, where she is the Missioner for Thriving Congregations.



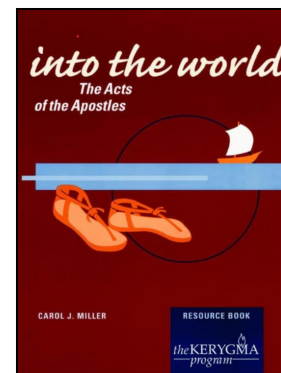
Photo from diocese-oregon.org

On the **25th** we will have Holy Eucharist at **noon**, followed by a **potluck**.

On **Sept. 11** Cathy Gomez will be our featured speaker, and on **Sept. 18** Dwayne Brown, VA Chaplain will give the sermon.

## BIBLE STUDY Wed., Oct. 19—March 29, 10:30 following Morning Prayer

Pastor Gail will begin a 20-week Bible study on the Book of Acts. We will use the resource *Into the World: the Acts of the Apostles*, written by Carol J. Miller and published by the Kerygma Program. Contributions can be made for the cost of this guide.



## COLUMBARIUM FENCE

The Vestry has voted to purchase a wrought-iron fence to enclose the Columbarium and Sacristy steps. This will enhance the experience of visiting one's loved ones and will provide a quiet place to stop and think. Happy Hills Tree Service will trim the branches of the two trees in what will be our "Meditation Garden."

Bids from local businesses Quality Fence and Performance Fab were submitted and the Vestry chose Performance, who included a non-profit discount for a total of \$21,675. The cost will be taken out of the Charles Cornwell Memorial Fund and a plaque in his remembrance will be placed on the fence. Work will not begin until October, and a dedication of the fence will take place after church when the project is completed.



# **Southern Convocation Report**

## **by Margaret Thomas**

### **Southern Convocation Met August 13, 2022 at St. Luke's in Grants Pass.**

- The main business was to review and vote on the proposed 2023 diocesan budget.
- The convocation unanimously approved the budget to go to convention. This year's convention will meet by Zoom on October 29.
- Gwen Best from Holy Spirit in Sutherlin is on the budget committee and said that it is a balanced budget. The total is a little over \$2 million, which is \$93K more than last year; it's all covered, and dedicated to services throughout the diocese.
- The diocese's goal is to get more parishioners, to get more income.
- There are reserve funds for congregations that can't meet their DPA; and those congregations are in conversation with the diocese.
- Rev. Ernestine Flemister at St. Luke's wants the southern convocation churches to find ways to be in community more often, and to connect with each other. There will be a common worship service (not a Eucharist) and picnic meal on Sunday, October 23, at 2:00 p.m., for all the churches in the convocation at Rinehart Park in Grants Pass. The theme will be Unity and Healing. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided by St. Luke's; the rest will be potluck.
- St. Mark's, Medford, is in transition with no interim priest yet. Rev. Tony Hutchinson, retired from Trinity, Ashland, is their supply priest.
- Trinity in Ashland's interim is Rev. Janell Monk, with the ELCA—like our Pastor Gail.
- Holy Spirit in Sutherlin is still looking for a 1/4 time priest. They also are searching for an organ—it has to have buttons.
- Someone mentioned that the bishop said the Episcopal Church is a target; that there should not be more than one point of entry to a church/building, and the buildings should have safety doors.
- There will be a Saturday, December 3rd convocation meeting in Roseburg. Convocation President Hana Rubens would like it to be fun and party-like. It would be great if our congregation would come and meet the folks from down south!



## Parish News

### GRAFFITI NIGHT CRUISE

Jean, Nancy, Karla, Mel, Zack, and I gathered on the church lawn on July 9 to offer popcorn and pop for sale to cruise attendees.

The fellas provided muscle and tech support. Karla was the popcorn popper; Jean and Nancy did the cashiery and pop. I spelled them now and then and did other miscellaneous things.

Sue had pulled everything together in the library so we just showed up. She was out of town so we were on our own, and thanks to her, most everything was all ready to go outside. According to Sue, this project is not meant to make money, but to draw attention to our church.

We were blessed with a donation from one of our parking lot renters, LAMONTE Real Estate Professionals, to provide popcorn for children. Other people also made donations with and without purchases.

~ Betty Jo Hoffman



*Above, left to right:  
Karla Roady, Nancy Baum, Mel Wilcox, Betty Jo Hoffman, Zack Hoffman, Jean Bowden.*



*Above, left to right:  
Jean Bowden, Mel Wilcox, Betty Jo Hoffman,  
Karla Roady, Zack Hoffman.*

Thank you, Karla Roady,  
for the popcorn and pop photos!



## Parish News



**52nd Anniversary Blessings  
for Barbara & Bill Riley (left)  
and  
Birthday Blessings  
for Kathy Glockner (right)**



***Birthday Blessings  
for  
Myana Clark***



Photo by Karla Roady

***Birthday Blessings  
for  
David Duba***

Thank you!!!! Thank you to the members of St George's Episcopal Christian Women's group for your gift cards that made our projects possible from the residents and staff of Peace at Home Domestic Violence Prevention Shelter.





## Parish News



Once again Kathy Glockner graciously hosted the annual parish picnic at her home. Janet Mecham (right) led the singing, accompanied by her husband Blake on the guitar. We had a wonderful time!





## Parish News

On August 20, St. George parishioners had the pleasure of attending an adoption benefit concert at Faith Lutheran Church. Pastor Gail had arranged for her dear friend, pianist and composer Cheryl Green of Spokane, to come to Roseburg and present works from her latest album, *Raven Girl*.



Sharing her life story from its heartbreaking beginnings to the enduring hope and trust in Jesus her adoptive parents gave to her, Cheryl took her listeners on a journey in words and music that kept her audience enthralled.

Attendees were able to purchase CDs, and 100% of the sales and donations went directly to support Life Song for Orphans charity. The Dubas bought multiple copies of *Raven Girl* to give to parishioners who weren't able to attend the concert, so check with Pastor Gail to see if there are any left.



# Financial Report

## by Kathy Glockner

	June	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Pledges	\$ 6,482	\$ 5,484	\$ 41,742	\$ 32,905
Other Income	4,097	3,758	37,388	22,550
Total Income	10,579	9,242	79,130	55,455
Expenses	9,590	9,477	54,314	56,952
	<u>\$ 990</u>	<u>\$ (235)</u>	<u>\$ 24,816</u>	<u>\$ (1,497)</u>
	July	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Pledges	\$ 6,035	\$ 5,484	\$ 47,777	\$ 38,389
Other Income	4,196	3,758	41,584	26,308
Total Income	10,231	9,242	89,361	64,698
Expenses	9,507	9,477	63,821	66,429
	<u>\$ 724</u>	<u>\$ (235)</u>	<u>\$ 25,540</u>	<u>\$ (1,731)</u>

We are halfway through the year. You and our church family are keeping up with our pledges. Thank you so much for that.

The year to date is looking very good. We are in the black by a good amount. Our staff does a good job of keeping our costs down and I thank them for that.

Yay, team!

## Inspiration

Funerals, in fact, are one of the most powerful examples of collective pain. They feature in a surprising finding from my research on trust. When I asked participants to identify three to five specific behaviors that their friends, family, and colleagues do that raise their level of trust with them, funerals always emerged in the top three responses. Funerals matter. Showing up to them matters. And funerals matter not just to the people grieving, but to everyone who is there.

The collective pain (and sometimes joy) we experience when gathering in any way to

celebrate the end of a life is perhaps one of the most powerful experiences of inextricable connection. Death, loss, and grief are the great equalizers.

An experience of collective pain does not deliver us from grief or sadness; it is a ministry of presence. These moments remind us that we are not alone in our darkness and that our broken heart is connected to every heart that has known pain since the beginning of time.

~Brené Brown

# FISH

## FISH reports on Facebook:

Another successful Green Bag Day! Our last event was Saturday, Aug. 13th and the results are in! Over 11,000 pounds of food, from over 600 Green Bag Donors! These results are tremendous, especially during August—typically a slower month for donations!

Thank you all for your support, your donations, and your Green Bag!

### August 2022 Summary

Date: 8/27/22

#### **Final Results**

#### Businesses, Clubs, Schools, Groups

Time Frame	Number of NC's	Weight (lbs)	Donors	Remarks
Early Drop-off	1	82	6	
August 12 & 13	2	328	22	
August 14 and after	0	0	0	
<b>TOTALS</b>	3	410	28	

#### Neighborhoods (NC's) & Individuals

Time Frame	Number of NC's	Weight (lbs)	Donors	Remarks
Early Drop-off	0	114	2	
August 12 & 13	57	10,766	604	
August 14 and after	0	93	6	
<b>Totals</b>	57	10,973	612	

#### **Totals - All**

	Number of NC's	Weight (lbs)	Donors	Remarks
<b>Totals</b>	60	11,383	640	

**Notes:** Includes 833 bags. Includes both cash only and food donors as record by NC's on their tally sheets.





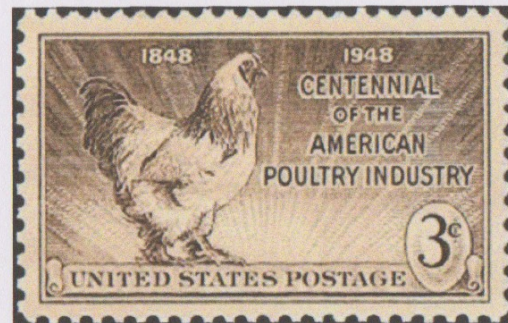
## Stamp Club News

**Umpqua Valley Stamp Club presents  
the September Stamp of the Month**



### September is National Chicken Month

Chicken consumption has increased nearly every year since the mid 1960's. Today Americans consume 8 billion chickens a year or, 21,917,808 per day, that's over 80 pounds per person each year.



Scott catalog #968, issued Sept 9, 1948 to celebrate the Poultry Industry Centennial and features a Light Brahma Rooster.

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*

## Inspiration

Who knows the real you? Who knows your whole story? Most of us have people who are close to us, people we love and trust, who know a great deal about us. The majority of people, of course, know very little about us, even though they may think they do.

But there is one person who knows the real story of our lives, who knows even our secret hopes and private fears. The Spirit knows each one of us. Personally. Deeply. And with a profound compassion.

~ The Rt. Rev. Steven Charleston



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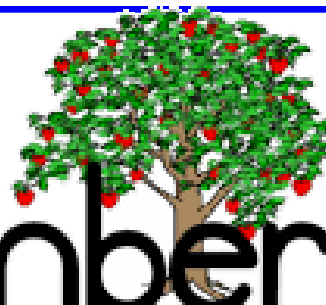
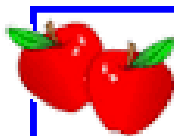
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St. George Episcopal Church publishes **THE DRAGON SCOOP** monthly except for a combined July-August issue.  
If you would like something to be considered for the newsletter please talk to Leigh Van Sickle, Editor—541-391-0814  
E-mailed articles and photographs can be sent to [saintgeorgepix@gmail.com](mailto: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**



**September**