



The Dragon Scoop

October 2013

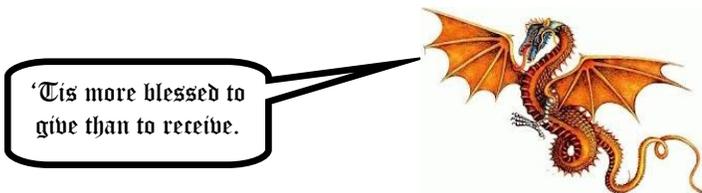
St. George Episcopal Church
 1024 NE Cass Avenue Roseburg, OR 97470
 541-673-4048

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

The Episcopal Church Welcomes You

FALL GIVING

What wonderful opportunities we have for giving this fall! Every one of us can participate.



Start off by cleaning out your closets and donating to the Episcopal Church Women’s Rummage Sale, scheduled for Friday and Saturday, October 4 and 5. Bring your donations to the church by Thursday, October 3. Saturday at noon we will need help packing up leftovers and cleaning up the Parish Hall. Don’t forget to shop at the sale Friday, Oct. 4 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 5, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Then on Saturday, October 19, the Second Annual Harvest Festival Dinner will be held in St. George Parish Hall. Gourmet Chef Diane Clerihue is generously giving her talent and time to work with us to produce a wonderful dinner for folks to enjoy with the proceeds to benefit our Roseburg FISH Food Pantry. Did you know that 16% of Douglas County residents are below the poverty level (Oregon 14.8%), up from 12.5% in 2010? FISH is our major ministry at St. George, and our brothers and sisters here in our community need our support.



October 6 is Baby Sunday—bring baby items for the FISH Pantry!

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STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY



RECTOR'S LETTER

From where does our inspiration come? Without inspiration we are just kind of floating dead in the water, beached on a sandbar, stranded in the wilderness, restless, anxious, and stuck in a kind of wasteland. Inspiration is motivation, it is stimulation, it is encouragement, it is life giving, and it is essential for everything to prosper. In the simplest and clearest sort of way the short answer is, our inspiration comes from God. To have inspiration, to be inspired, is to be *in Spirit*, God's Holy Spirit.

Every Tuesday in our prayer group we end with noonday prayer from the Book of Common Prayer and one of the first options is to pick one of several psalms, including Psalm 121.

- ¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?
- ² My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

Inspiration comes when we do exactly that. We lift our eyes, our sights, our every being and inmost parts to the Maker of heaven and earth. And since God created everything we can find inspiration and the power to be *in Spirit* everywhere. It is in nature, people, situations, emotions, relationships, struggles, joy, love, hope. It is in returning and in rest. It is in every falling drop of rain and every ray of sunshine. It is in the mist and midst of everything. It is everywhere we will take the moment and make the time to lift up our eyes to the maker of heaven and earth.

Being *in Spirit* is not limited, it is abundant, never-ending, all encompassing, and free flowing. Being *in Spirit* is there for the taking and God the Maker of all things is blessed when we ask and search for it.

We end our noon day prayer with the bidding and response of *Let us bless the Lord....Thanks be to God*. And God is truly blessed when we seek to dwell *in Spirit*.

Inspiration is not like ordering an on-demand movie but it does come when we look for it and expect it and patiently wait for it. God does not withhold from those who seek to be *in Spirit*. "Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened." (Matthew 7)

These are powerful words to those who are listening, powerful words to those who are asking, powerful words to those who are searching, and powerful words to those who are knocking. We bless God when we listen, ask, search, and knock. And God blesses us as we receive what we need, and find what we have been searching for and behold doors opening to show us the way.

It is autumn and a most beautiful time of the year here in the northwest. Let us bless the Lord and let the Lord bless us.

~ Rev JoAnne



"Autumn is a second Spring where every leaf is a flower." ~ Albert Camus

When you have reached your own room, be kind to those who have chosen different doors and to those who are still in the hall. If they are wrong they need your prayers all the more; and if they are your enemies, then you are under orders to pray for them. That is one of the rules common to the whole house.

~ C.S. Lewis *Mere Christianity*

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

These days are sure getting to be depressing with all the news of terrorists and other strange people making our lives full of uncertainty and fear. The news seems to really be getting worse with gloom and doom. There are more television programs lately about devastation and destruction. How many of you have watched a television story that has some meaning? There is a channel on television that my wife and I have found that has some excellent movies and short programs with exceptional story lines. It is called Up TV. I hate to sound like a promotional commercial, but they do have programs that are true docudramas about real people with real life problems. I think this is a channel worth checking out.

I recently had a situation where I procrastinated about fixing a piece of equipment. Now I am in

need of its use but have to wait for parts to make repairs. How many of us are guilty of putting things off until it is too late? We don't want this to happen to what is important to our lives. I am hoping that church life is important to all of us. The parts that we need to get for the church are our support and talents.

I will remind everyone again that it is the time of year for our stewardship pledge to our church and you will be hearing more in October about "flourishing in faith." If we procrastinate on our giving and support, we may not have the church when we need it most. We all must remember that if it were not for God giving us the ability and the talents to do what we do, we would not have all that we have. We are all very fortunate.

Respectfully, Jim Eddy

STEWARDSHIP

There are beautiful churches, but what if nobody came? Being beautiful isn't enough. There are two kinds of churches: wise or foolish. The foolish church stays the same. Are they afraid of change? Past accomplishments sometimes are obstacles to future success.

The church of the wise is unafraid of change and charts new courses and works at them. Let's not get stuck in the past. Let's ask the hard questions. How can we improve? Stewardship is time, talent, tithe, community, and environment. Do you have any input? No job is too big or too small. Let's be a **wise** church.

~ Jean Bowden

PASTORAL CARE AND OUTREACH

I have started to assemble a team for Pastoral Care. We had our first meeting, and people have offered to work on several projects for our congregation. But, I could **still** use help for other projects!

Also, I want to start bringing together a team for Outreach. I shall have our first outreach meeting on Wednesday, October 9, at 3:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. I hope to see a number of you in our congregation at this meeting.

If you have any questions or want to volunteer for one of the teams, see me at church or call me at 541-673-5213. I feel our church needs to have projects to work on, needs to continue to develop new projects, and needs to finish the projects we start.

~ Donna Litherland

OH, WHEN THE SAINTS?

Hugh Latimer and Nicholas Ridley, Bishops and Martyrs, d. 1555

Two outstanding preachers of 16th century England were Hugh Latimer and Nicholas Ridley. Both were Cambridge men and social and church reformers. They lived during turbulent Tudor times.



Latimer was one of twelve preachers licensed to preach anywhere in England. He became Royal Chaplain to Henry VIII in 1530 and Bishop of Worcester in 1535, but relinquished his see in 1539 because of Henry's opposition to the progress of the Reformation. Although he continued to preach he never returned to his see.



Nicholas Ridley was attracted to a group supporting the Reformation while at Cambridge. He became Chaplain to Archbishop Cranmer in 1537 and to Henry VIII in 1541. In the reign of Edward VI he was named Bishop of Rochester and participated with Cranmer in the preparation of the first Book of Common Prayer. In 1550 he became Bishop of London. He was responsible for founding three hospitals. He opposed the accession of Mary Tudor, a staunch and unreconciliatory Roman Catholic, to the throne. His refusal to recant his Protestant theology led to his condemnation.

Ridley was burned at the stake along with Hugh Latimer on October 16, 1555. Latimer is quoted as saying, "Be of good cheer, Master Ridley. Today we shall light such a fire in England as shall never be extinguished."

~Betty Fretwell



FISH FOOD PANTRY NEWS

Do you know someone who could use a little extra help? An individual whose annual income is less than \$20,147 is eligible to receive food from the Roseburg FISH Pantry. A family of four making less than \$41,348 could receive food. To see the entire income eligibility list go to www.fishofroseburg.org/eligibility.



People are allowed to visit the pantry once a month. So if you know someone who could benefit from this program, share the information with them.

~ Mik Carlson

THANK YOU!

- To our anonymous donor giving \$2,277 to complete our campaign to raise \$7,747 to install air conditioning and heating in the front offices.
- To Jill Garvin for washing the table cloths after our River Forks Park worship and picnic.
- To Colin Benson for the awesome presentation on his trip to Vietnam.
- To our choir and Director Luella Cox for making beautiful music during our Sunday worship.
- To our team planning for the upcoming Harvest Festival Dinner.
- To Jean Bowden for heading up our Stewardship Team.
- To Donna Litherland for getting the ball rolling on Pastoral Care and Outreach Teams.
- To all of you who contribute in visible and not-so-visible ways to the life and ministry of this congregation.

Choir Practice Starts Sunday, October 6

Over 50 years ago, my Aunt Bertha arranged for me to sing with the St. George Youth Choir. I was new to the Episcopal Church, but I enjoyed the pageantry, the processing, the songs (*All Things Bright and Beautiful!*), and most of all, the little black velvet caps we wore with our choir robes. I only sang with the choir for about a year, but I never forgot how much I loved it. Cut to 2012, when I felt moved to attend the Lessons and Carols Service at St. George. Afterwards Sue Phelps invited me to sing with the choir, and I eagerly returned to what I have since found to be my heart's true home.

There are so many blessings to being in the choir. What a wonderful way to "flourish in faith." As we lift up our voices in praise and thanksgiving, we are showing our love to God, we are serving our fellow parishioners, and we are enjoying the company of good friends and having fun.

Don't feel intimidated if you have never sung with a group. No one has to sing by themselves and music reading or experience is not a necessity.

We're hoping for matching pitch, but Luella Cox, our Pianist/Director, is willing to work with you if you are unsure. We will be doing a wide variety of music to satisfy every taste.

Rehearsals are every Sunday before the service from 9:25-9:40 and again after the service and coffee hour for about an hour. You would be on your way home by 1:00. There are no practices during the week.

Please prayerfully consider joining us. Our first two rehearsals are Sunday, October 6 and 13, after Fellowship. We will sing for the October 20 church service for the first time. You get to sit with friends and family in the Sanctuary except when it's time to sing the anthem. And we'll wear robes and process at Christmas!

~ Leigh Van Sickle

singing with
grace in your
hearts to the
Lord



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

541-673-4048

stgeorge@stgeorgeepiscopal.com
www.saintgeorgesepiscopal.com

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 Sickle, Editor

Rector: The Rev. JoAnne Bennett
Senior Warden: Jim Eddy
Junior Warden: Donna Litherland
Treasurer: Frank Graham
Admin Assistant: Sheramy Barry

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

