

ST. JOHN'S COMMUNITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
UNION GAP, WASHINGTON

Dear Friends:

That the first Episcopal Church service in Union Gap since 1885, a celebration of the Holy Communion, was held in St. John's Church on Christmas Day, and that there have since been, regular services of the Holy Communion and of Morning Prayer, and sessions of the Church School, have been the result of the interest, the gifts, and the work of many interested people, individually and in groups.

The congregation of St. John's Church, which is a "chapel of ease" of St. Michael's Parish, an integral part of the life of the Parish, is sending this news letter to all of you who receive "St. Michael's News" and to others for two reasons: (1) to express our thanks to all those who have assisted in building and furnishing the chapel, and (2) to let all of you know to whom we are indebted for work and gifts; so you may share our happiness and gratitude.

All the members of St. Michael's Church have participated in building St. John's Church through the Rector, who initiated and encouraged the movement for extending the work of the Church to Union Gap, and who has given invaluable advice on planning and financing the building. Without our Rector's interest and help, and his encouragement of others to assist, there would be no St. John's Church.

The Wardens and Vestrymen of St. Michael's Parish have approved the construction and financing of the building, from the stage of what seemed wishful thinking to the stage of virtual completion.

All persons who contributed to the Growth Fund of the Parish contributed to the prorated amount which was set aside for St. John's. They cannot, of course, be singled out by name, but each one has his part in the building program.

St. Clare's Guild has been the nucleus of the efforts in Union Gap for the building of a chapel and parish hall, and they are helping to furnish the kitchen. Mrs. Everett Melville has been "Superintendent" of the Church School for the past four years, and has opened the Melville home to the school during that time.

Miss Louise Gridley has assisted in establishing the curriculum for the Church School, and has also given a bell, which we hope to hang soon and to ring before services as a sign to the people of Union Gap that St. John's welcomes them into fellowship with us. Miss Gridley has also given a picture which will be hung in the "Children's Corner".

On alternate Sundays, Tom Bauman and Mart Craft have played the piano for Morning Prayer, solving a problem that arose when Sherrin Melville returned to the University.

Of course Bill Nettleship was one of the most important men in our work of building. The simple, functional design was Bill's first contribution, worked out in consultation with and by Jack Nettleship. (Have you seen the beamed roof? or the redwood "east" end?) The whole bold design, approved by the Rector, was turned into a beautiful building under Mr. Nettleship's direction by his workmen. Mr. Nettleship has also given a double sink for the kitchen.

The Granger Clay Products Company (the Corbetts) contributed the blocks for the walls.

To reduce the cost of building, several men and boys volunteered to do the necessary excavating and levelling of the grounds, painting, and nailing on wall board. Everett Melville, Jake Stapleton, Everett Schell, Earnie Mathews, Henry Walkenhauer, Don Stapleton, Gerald Wheeler and Joe Walkenhauer sweated it out under the August sun to do this work. Several of these same men moved the piano, a gift of St. Michael's Church, from Yakima.

Frank Abbey gave his labor in installing the plumbing.



The furnishings of the Church were gifts of the following persons or groups:

The altar, the altar linens, the vestments for the altar vessels, and the candelabra came from the Children's Chapel of St. Michael's where they had been replaced with new furnishings. Our hymnals are also a gift of St. Michael's, and we are temporarily, we hope, using chairs and Prayer Books loaned us by the Parish.

Mrs. Norman Masterman has made us new white, green, and purple vestments for the altar vessels and has given us a beautiful altar cross.

Mrs. Jake Stapleton gave us the silver plates which are used to hold the Communion breads and as an offertory plate.

St. Michael's Altar Guild has provided us with candles and altar breads, and Mrs. Burt Harris met with the members of St. Clare's Guild for instruction in the care of the altar.

The pulpit and the altar book stand were made and given by Roy Mashburn.

Everett Melville, who has been the spark plug of the building program in Union Gap, gave the altar rail and kneelers for the congregation and provided us with a stove and electric heaters.

Jake Stapleton made the altar rail kneeler.

Everett Schell varnished the rail and other woodwork in the Church, and Mrs. Schell's father, John Emmons, built the platform in the pulpit.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Blevens have given an electric stove for the kitchen. (As soon as the kitchen is complete, we hope to have a parish supper.)

With the advent of the cold, the really cold weather, our heating proved inadequate, but Fred Greenough loaned us an oil heater, and Bob Johanson came to our help with a "space heater" for use over the weekends. So now we are comfortable.

We hear that St. Michael's Woman's Auxiliary is having a silver tea in the Church sometime in April.

You see, although much has been done, much remains to do if the Church is truly to be St. John's Community Episcopal Church in Union Gap.

Have you seen your new Church? We will be happy to have you attend one of the services some Sunday, either Holy Communion at 8:00 a.m. or Morning Prayer at 11:00 a.m. (There is a nursery at the Melville's at eleven.)

All of you who have helped in building and furnishing St. John's, please accept our heartfelt thanks.

EVERETT MELVILLE  
On behalf of the Congregation

THE REV. FRANK J. PALMER  
Rector's Vicar