

# The Briefly

June 2012

The monthly newsletter for the community of  
**Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church**  
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## Rector's Letter

**A**t last month's parish wellness meeting, our Senior Warden did a great job bringing us up-to-date on the many great things happening in our beloved community. Near the end of the meeting that followed the 10 a.m. service, Dianne Bret Harte shared that she struggles with the amount of background noise in the sanctuary, especially at the beginning of worship. She noted that this disrupts her experience of the service enough that she has considered attending the 8 a.m. service so that she can begin worship in a more contemplative way. Dianne is not alone.

We are a community deeply bonded to one another, and it is natural for us to be enthusiastic when we see each other. This is a great thing and we do not want to lose our camaraderie. However, when socializing diminishes the sacred nature of what happens in worship or distracts us from connecting to God or participating in our beautiful liturgies, then we need to consider a new approach.

**/** The tension between lively sociability and sacred contemplation was one of the first things I noticed at GSP...

The tension between lively sociability and sacred contemplation was one of the first things I noticed at Grace St. Paul's. To address it, we added a statement on the first page of the 10 a.m. liturgy which encourages everyone to move into a quiet space before the service begins. We also changed when announcements are made so as not to disrupt the flow of worship. And while we have discussed this for awhile now, the noise level has not diminished. In fact, it might have increased.

As I think about this, I realize that because I want to bond more closely with each of you I begin services in an informal manner, and that has probably contributed to the problem.

Our liturgy committee has been considering this important matter. We want to ensure that opportunities to show our affection for one another continue. But we believe we can also create a situation where a

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The GSP Choir sang the National Anthem at a University of Arizona baseball game at Hi Corbett Field on May 4. The Choir sang beautifully, and GSP parishioners had tons of fun at the game.



The office & Joseph's Pantry will be closed on July 4th in observance of our nation's Independence Day.

## Rector's Letter

*Continued from Page 1*

sacred quiet is honored as we move into the worship experience. To do that we are going to experiment with a series of verbal and visual cues this month.

Beginning on Trinity Sunday, June 3, you will notice a few changes right before the service begins. A Vestry member and the Celebrant will share announcements as usual but, instead of processing from the back of the church, they will enter from the front. They will be accompanied by the acolytes carrying unlit torches. As soon as the announcements are finished, the lights in the church will dim. This will signal that the service is beginning and it is time to move into quiet. The acolytes will light the candles, and the prelude will begin. This will reinforce that the time has

come for silent meditation. A short silence will follow the prelude and then the opening procession will begin. Throughout June verbal reminders will accompany the visual cues for silence.

It is our hope that these efforts will be another improvement to our wonderful liturgies. As we carry out these changes, I ask you to share with me or any member of the liturgy committee your experiences. At the end of the summer, we hope to make a decision about whether to continue this policy or try something else.

My thanks to all of you for your thoughtful comments about our worship. Your willingness to share them supports the beauty and strength of our worship experience.

*Steve +*



### A very big thank you to generous volunteers!

Not too long ago Dolores Gohdes, Miriam Huber, and Roger and Sue Pierce spent hours giving our kitchen a deep and thorough cleaning. They washed out drawers and cupboards, cleaned all the utensils, scrubbed and polished everything they could get their hands on, and threw away expired food items.

We are very, very grateful for their initiative and generosity!

Another deep cleaning session is being planned; if you'd like to join the crew and help out, please contact Sue Pierce through the parish office.

## Liturgical Discussion of the Month

*By The Rev. Steve Keplinger*

As you know, Grace St. Paul's is on the cutting edge of the liturgical movement within the Episcopal Church and other emerging congregations within the mainline tradition. The overwhelming majority of you have expressed great love for our liturgies. You have stressed how important it is to worship in a place that creates services that hold on to our Episcopal tradition yet also touch your daily lives in the real world. Many visitors to our church take our liturgies home and share them with their own congregations.

The liturgical innovation at GSP is in our DNA and it is one of the major reasons that your search committee and Vestry chose your present Rector. There is no question that we will continue to stay on the forefront of liturgical innovation. But I have also become more and more aware that there are some who feel a sense of loss around the familiar. Some have suggested that a more traditional liturgical alternative should be a part of our offerings. I share this thought.

When I arrived at GSP, the 8 and 10 a.m. Sunday services were identical. Since then, we have made the 8 a.m. service more traditional. That service almost always includes the Prayer

Book Collect of the Day, the Nicene Creed, and the traditional Lord's Prayer. Yet there remains some feeling that the differences between the two services are not great enough.

There is no certainty about what might be the best solution for our congregation. Therefore, we would like to try another experiment.

Beginning June 3 and lasting through the summer, we are going to offer an 8 a.m. service that will be based completely on the Prayer Book. In addition to those prayers already mentioned above, we will also use the Opening Prayer, the Eucharistic Prayer, the Post Communion Prayer and the Dismissal. We will update the inclusive and gender language issues, and—as the Prayer Book suggests—Prayers of the People will continue to be our own prayers. Otherwise, all language used will be from the Prayer Book.

We ask that everyone approach this liturgy with an open mind. As you experience it, we would like your feedback. Specifically, is this alternative helpful to you in your worship experience? Is it an offering we should have consistently? Always?

Thank you in advance for your willingness to be a part of this experiment. Your responses to it will give your liturgy committee members the data they need to make the best decision about our liturgical future.



## Joseph's Pantry open Saturdays!

Joseph's Pantry has extended its hours to include Saturdays. Food and fellowship are available from 9 a.m. to noon.

Volunteers are still needed. If you are interested in working at least one Saturday per month, please contact the church office at 327-6857. All volunteers will receive training.

If you can't donate your time, please consider donating to the pantry's collection basket at the front of the church.

Thank you!

# Liturgy Discussion II

By *The Rev. Steve Keplinger*

Those of you who have experienced other churches know what a gift our service bulletin is. It is one of the most readable, beautiful and well laid-out documents I have ever experienced in a church. Admitting to bias, I think it is the best bulletin I have ever used. We have David Wachter to thank for that.

Given my enthusiasm for the bulletin, you might be surprised that I would like to propose an experiment with it. There are at least two issues to consider. First is the amount of paper needed to produce the bulletin—an ecological concern to this congregation. Second is the hospitality issue.

Grace St. Paul's is working very hard to attract newcomers, especially those who have little or no church experience. Imagine for a moment what it is like to enter a place where you know not a soul and be handed a document you have never seen. You open it up, and try to connect what is happening in front of you to what is printed on the pages. You get to a hymn and look for the words but they are not there. Instead, you see a reference to a book.

You finally find the right book, open it up, and look for the page number. But when you get to that page, you discover two numbering systems and you've chosen to look at the one not being used. Once you find the other song,

you still can't find your place. Your neighbor in the pew explains that there are different hymns, some with an S in front of them and some without an S. At this point, the hymn is over and the congregation is singing another hymn that you're too discouraged to try to find.

What would help reduce the angst and confusion experienced by someone who isn't familiar with a mainline church? Having the hymns printed in the bulletin. While this would be an advantage for a newcomer, it does create some costs. Hymn inclusion is the most time-consuming element of preparing the bulletin's layout. Next, the tactile experience of opening a book containing our musical history would be lost. Finally, printing the hymns is in direct conflict with our desire to reduce our ecological footprint.

All these considerations have been weighed by your liturgy committee, and it has decided that an experiment during the summer months will help answer the following questions: Are there more advantages than disadvantages if we print the hymns in the bulletin? Can we change the layout of the bulletin so we can save pages and not increase its size?

As we conduct this experiment, we need your feedback! Let us know what you think about adding the hymns and the attractiveness of the bulletin. Our goal will be to make a decision by the fall about whether to continue the experiment or not. Good luck, David!

# Summer Solstice Service

By *The Rev. Steve Keplinger*

Don't look now, but the longest day of the year is nearly upon us. On June 21, the sun reaches its northernmost latitude and creates the day with the most sunlight all year. At Grace St. Paul's we are on a quest to connect people with God's creation. By being aware of our natural environment, we become more aware of the presence of God in our lives and the connection between the cosmos and God.

All of this will be celebrated on Thursday, June 21, at 6 p.m. We will come together in the courtyard to thank God for the gift of the seasons and to celebrate God's light in our world.

The service will include prayers and music

meant to link us to the wonder of this day. It will also include a walking meditation (for those who are able) and another opportunity to connect ourselves with God's presence in the world around us. Following the short service, we will share a meal with items from the earth: fruits and vegetables from our own gardens and from the GSP community garden. We celebrate the life given to us through the bounty of God's earth. Bring a natural food to share with all.

On this special Solstice evening, this service will take the place of our regular Spirit Now service. We hope you'll join us for a beautiful evening.

Unless you are planning a trip to Stonehenge, this is the place to be. Complete the cycle with us and connect to God through the Solstice experience.

## Media Library

There are new DVDs in the Media Library:

- Palm Sunday 2012
- Easter Vigil 2012
- Easter Sunday 2012

If you would like to view any of the DVDs, please visit the Weeks room. The DVDs are in a carousel and sign-out cards are inside each DVD. Fill out the card and place it inside the available box before taking the DVD.

The library volunteers thank you in advance for helping maintain their records!



## Notes from the Choir Stalls

By Christina Jarvis, Director of Music

It was the bottom of the ninth and the bases were loaded and... the Grace St. Paul's Adult Choir was relaxing from singing the National Anthem at the University of Arizona baseball game. The baseball game on May 4th was the first one I ever attended. It involved watching the boys in their summer pajamas run around the field and much standing in line to acquire food the doctor warns us against, washed down with pints of beer. The choir sang well, lots of GSP folks came, and it was all extremely fun.

Because we didn't have a *Briefly* last month, I'm looking in the rear-view mirror. The choir season is over. Our winter visitors left and choir numbers dropped, as they usually do by Pentecost. A smart director would have chosen non-threatening anthems. But nooooo. We finished the Easter season with the German baroque "Cantate Domino," by Heinrich Schütz and "Ascendit Deus" by Peter Phillips, a five-part work from the *Oxford Tudor Anthem Book*. (We call it the *Hard Ox*, as opposed to the *Oxford Easy Anthem Book*, which is of course the *Easy Ox*).

We also did "If ye love me" by Thomas Tallis, which is one of the most deceptively simple and profound anthems in all of Anglican music. I was surprised at how long it had been since we last sang it; I always think of it at Pentecost time. Barbara Pritchard sang the Benedictus from Haydn's "Missa brevis Sancti Johanni de Deo," better known as the "Little Organ Mass." (Stop going there right now!) Barbara could give the angels voice lessons.

The music for Pentecost involved all the GSP Choirs—St. Cecelia's, the Zombies, and the Adults—ending the season with an Intergenerational service. The children sang "Those who love and care for me," by Vicki Hancock Wright. The Zombies sang verses of the Taizé "Veni Sancte Spiritus" with the Adult Choir as doo-wop backup on the four-part *ostinato*. "Ostinato" by the way means

"stubborn" in Italian. It refers to a musical phrase that is repeated over and over until you want to throw something at it. (Just don't hit the kids!) The Adult Choir sang "Christ sends the Spirit" by Richard Proulx, with Elizabeth Gooden on flute. Elizabeth is one of GSP's moveable feasts; she does a lot of cool things. (And I'm not just saying that because she's my editor now.)

On Pentecost, all the choirs were recognized for their service to the parish. The children and youth received choir pins, and the adults were given roses. This year, the adult choristers were highlighted in the bulletin with the number of years they have sung for Grace St. Paul's. Some people have volunteered for so long that they sang originally for either Grace or St. Paul's, before the parishes merged. Have a look at those numbers and think about the dedication it takes to show up for nearly 40 years, Sunday after Sunday, season after season. God bless them. They deserve to have the summer off.

The summer music line-up is coming together. We have some lovely folks who will perform on Sundays in exchange for having used the church for recitals earlier in the year. Our first guests will be Francisco Renteria and Mike Becker. We also have soloists from the choir and congregation. I am doing my annual music class at 9:00 a.m. on June 17th this year: Anglican Hymnody: The Saga Continues—Nineteenth Century to Now. Last summer we ran out of time just as we engaged the Methodists. With luck, we'll make it to the present day in this year's class.

In the meantime, may the Holy Spirit enrich and enliven our lives and fire us up to do all kinds of good things this summer. The possibilities always seem limitless when the temperature is in the '80's. We'll see how we feel when it's 110. Oops – it's already been that hot!

Peace,

*Christina*

## Highlights from the May 6th Parish Wellness Meeting

By Martha Whitaker, Senior Warden

If you missed the meetings, download the entire presentation from the GSP web site. Topics not discussed elsewhere in this issue are listed here.

### Changes in ministry leadership:

- Peggy Scott and Roger Pierce are the new Adult Educational & Spiritual Formation co-chairs. Thank you to Chris LaBour and Chris Ledyard for many years of excellent leadership and service!

- Johanna Rentschler resigned as Vestry Clerk, and LouAnn Bieging began as the new Vestry Clerk at the May 22 meeting.

- The 20s & 30s group is now being led by Holly Shinn and Mariel Watt.

### Ministry News highlights:

- Social Justice & Outreach
  - ¶ On average, Joseph's Pantry feeds 250 people per week. It is open 9 a.m.-noon. Monday-Saturday. Additional volunteers are needed for Saturdays. If you are interested, please contact the church office, 327-6857.

- ¶ Joseph's Pantry now offers haircuts on Thursdays and by appointment on Mondays, courtesy of parishioner and Vestry member Janet Roths!

- ¶ The Social Service Ministry is open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-12 noon. Volunteers connect people with local agencies and churches to obtain identification documents, access medical care, receive mental health services, and to assist with rent, utilities, and transportation.

- ¶ GSP (via The Rev. Debbie Royals+) has been awarded \$2,650 from the New Opportunities Native Ministry grant fund with additional funds from the diocese promised.

- ¶ The April 26 Spirit Now service hosted a Navajo Medicine Man as a special guest who incorporated elements of a traditional Navajo ceremony. About one-third of those who attended were new to GSP.

- Two highlights among the many upcoming Adult Ed & Spiritual Formation classes:

- ¶ Video streams from Trinity Institute about equipping the church for social change, and from the Richard Rohr Webcast Series about prayer, contemplation and personal spiritual growth.

- ¶ Visit by special guests, Dr. Robert Jonas and The Rev. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas, for presentations on spiritual growth (the weekend of June 9th).

- We need help! Volunteer Opportunities in Congregational Development abound:

- ¶ Planned Giving Ministry Leader
- ¶ Photographer for various events
- ¶ Tucson Festival of Books Coordinator (March 9-10, 2013)

- ¶ Volunteers for the Greeters and Welcome Table ministries

- ¶ Volunteers for the Giving & Receiving Ministry

- ¶ Interested? Please contact Al Whitehurst, Congregational Development Chair.

- Building and Grounds:

- ¶ The yuccas in front of the church obscure the beautiful church entrance. We will replace them with drought-tolerant, low maintenance, blossoming plants with a lower profile.

- ¶ Many more pew spaces are available for people with wheelchairs and other mobility aids. Thank you James White for making this happen!

- Children, Youth & Family:

- ¶ Since January we have had four Intergenerational services, including Youth Recognition Sunday on Pentecost, May 27th.

- Financial update:

- ¶ As promised, we are adjusting the budget every quarter. Our next adjustment will take place this month.

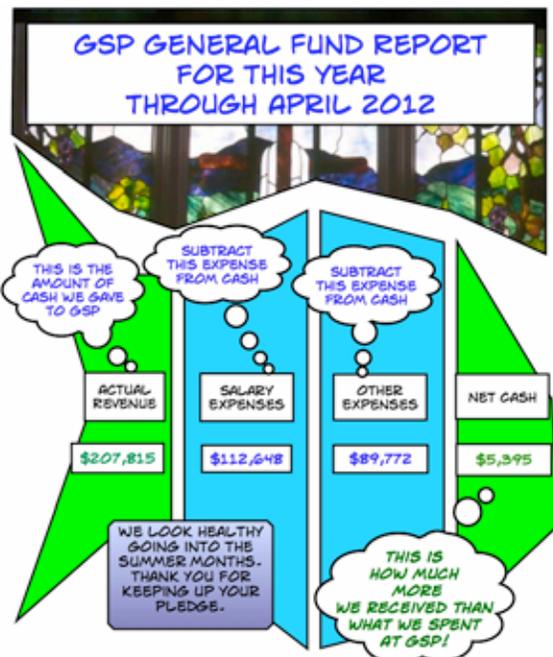
- Liturgy & Music:

- ¶ Experimental liturgies such as liturgical drama are different ways to respond to the Word. These experiments continue to evolve and remain on the cutting edge of the Emerging Church Movement, of which GSP is a leader.

- ¶ Healing services (the 2nd Sunday of each month) continue to be valuable to the community.

- ¶ We're exploring the possibility of

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## Arts for Summer 2012

### *'The Gifts of God for the People of God'*

By Rosalind Garcia

June 4–8 will mark GSP's second annual Arts for Summer camp for children K-3rd grades and 4th-8th grades. This year's theme reflects a natural progression from last year's Creation based camp.

This year we will explore God's gifts to us through the visual arts, musical arts and Dojo karate, as well as through nature, scripture and children's literature. We will create beautiful puppets out of paper mache, paint, and fabric. The puppets will be used in a musical that the children will write based on their understanding of God's gifts to us.

On Friday, June 8th, everyone is invited to McBride Hall to be entertained by the children as they perform a musical and demonstrate karate moves. Their artwork from the week will also be on display. Hors d'ourves will be served and a good time is promised!

There is still time to register, either by visiting our website at [www.gsptucson.org](http://www.gsptucson.org) or by calling the church office at 327-6857.

## Upcoming Sabbatical for Rosalind Garcia

As many of you know, Rosalind Garcia began working with GSP's youth last fall. Since then she has helped raise the profile of the Children, Youth & Family Ministry by introducing a summer camp, increasing the number of youth leaders, creating youth groups, and helping develop intergenerational services. She has shared her enthusiasm and energy with us and we are very grateful.

What many of you might not know is that Rosalind took only a weekend off between leaving her position at St. Philip's in the Hills and beginning her work at GSP. We needed her services and she responded by rolling up her sleeves and jumping right into the work. This demonstrates Rosalind's love for what she does but it also underscores her need to take an extended rest.

Following the Summer Arts camp, Rosalind will use the upcoming summer months to spend time with



her family, rejuvenate, and discern her calling to this ministry. We wish her well, and anticipate her return in September.

During Rosalind's absence, the youth leaders will continue to work with the youth groups and Jean Keplinger will lead Sunday School. Volunteers are always needed and the slower pace of summer might be the perfect time to explore helping this ministry.

If you'd like more information about volunteering, please contact Jean Keplinger at 327-6857. If you have questions about Rosalind's sabbatical, please contact our parish administrator, KiKi Fenik, at 327-6857.

### **Jean Keplinger to lead Summer Sunday School & other changes**

Back by popular demand! GSP will offer a one room Sunday School for children ages 3-11 during the 10 a.m. Sunday service. Class will be held in the undercroft and will be led by Jean Keplinger and others.

Youth groups will meet as a single body after the 10 a.m. Sunday service. Youth leaders in town will lead the gatherings.

Childcare will continue throughout the summer from 9:45 a.m. until the 10 a.m. service is finished.



## Youth Mission Trip to South L.A., July 22–28

By Rosalind Garcia

For the first time in many years, GSP youth will participate in a mission trip. David Christy, Kelsea Cordero, Minda Dettman and Lu Pipentacos, along with their leaders Mariel Watt and Kevin Wadlow, will have an exciting urban immersion experience through Sierra Service Project. The group will stay in Vermont Square United Methodist Church.

Volunteers from around the country will gather in South L.A. for four days to repair homes. Typical homeowners helped by the volunteers are elderly people who have lived in their neighborhoods for decades. Projects will include painting, building wheelchair ramps,

building community gardens, and repairing drywall.

Much of our non-working time will be focused on learning about Los Angeles and the people who live there. Most evenings during the week we will visit places like the Watts Towers, downtown, skid row, the area where the 1992 riots started, as well as other locations that serve as important symbols when discussing Los Angeles' history and challenges.

Wednesday will be devoted to visiting social agencies that serve the needs of the city's homeless and working poor. That evening we'll enjoy a barbeque at the beach. We expect our missionaries to return home tired but fulfilled. We look forward to hearing about their experiences!

### Youth Leaders Attend Conference in L.A.

By Rosalind Garcia

On May 17th, Youth leaders Mariel Watt, Michael Sugimoto, Alice Garcia, Brian Fairbanks and Kevin Wadlow, and I drove to Los Angeles to attend Reload, an exciting urban youth ministry conference. The gathering attracted youth ministers from around the country, and offered a rich exchange of ideas between participants. The seminars focused on ministering to urban youth, but also contained a self-care component for youth ministers. As we arrive at the end of the program year this class was particularly welcome.

Attending conferences such as Reload helps us invigorate our ministries with ideas and practices that keep us excited and refreshed. Because so many attended, we were able to have someone participate in

every workshop. We returned with invaluable information and training to share with our youth groups.

We are grateful to GSP and Steve Keplinger for making it possible for us to be a part of this important event.

The workshops we attended were:

- *Angry Ministry: What Do You Do When A Student Shows Up At Your Program More Angry Than Happy Every Week?*
- *Building Blocks of Urban Youth Ministry (First Two Years)*
- *Core Values of a Youth Worker*
- *Feeding Father Hunger: Understanding And Ministering To The Fatherless Generation*
- *Call of Duty: Building Assets Every Student Needs (Junior High Adult Leader Track)*
- *Teen Track: A Facebook Without Love*



## Quilting Ministry News By Judith Turner

The quilting ministry began in October 2011. Members make quilts for St. Andrew's Children's Clinic in Nogales, shut-ins, residents of nursing homes, and for every child baptized at Grace St. Paul's.

This year to date, we have sent 32 quilts to the clinic and donated five baptism quilts. Our current goal is to make 100 quilts by December for St. Andrew's Children's Clinic to have for Christmas gifts.

We quilt every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in McBride Hall. Stop by; we would love to have you join us!



Anne Sawyer, Steve Keplinger, and Debbie Royals bless quilts and prayer shawls during the 10 o'clock service.



## Vestry News

By Martha Whitaker, Senior Warden

Interested in what happens at Vestry meetings? There are several ways to find out.

Come to a meeting! The Vestry meets the fourth Tuesday of every month (except December) from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Weeks room. Everyone is welcome.

Agendas are posted on the Vestry News

bulletin board in McBride Hall the Sunday before each meeting.

If you can't attend a meeting, you can always review the Minutes. They are posted in McBride Hall on the Vestry News bulletin board or you can have them emailed to you. Please contact KiKi Fenik at ParishAdmin@Grace-StPauls.org to be added to the mailing list.

## Vestry Vacancy Filled by Holly Shinn

By Martha Whitaker, Senior Warden

Owing to personal/family issues, Donna Shreve resigned the remainder of her term on the vestry. Thank you, Donna for your two years of service!

The Vestry discussed possible candidates, and voted to ask Holly Shinn to fill the vacancy through the end of Donna's term, January 2013. Holly accepted and attended her first vestry meeting as a voting member in May.

Welcome and thank you, Holly!

## Lou Ann Bieging elected 2012 Vestry Clerk

By Martha Whitaker, Senior Warden

**C**ongratulations and thank you to Lou Ann Bieging who has agreed to serve as the 2012 Vestry Clerk. Lou Ann recently completed Year 1 of Education for Ministry (EfM), and currently volunteers with Joseph's Pantry, the Office Welcome Team (OWel), and the Quilting/Prayer Shawl Ministry. She has 10 years of nursing experience and 15 years experience in elementary education.

Lou Ann was spotlighted as a GSP volunteer on Sunday, April 1. Visit our website and click on "Volunteer Spotlight" to read her full interview.

Currently, the position is a one-year term, with no more than five consecutive years of

service. In general, the Clerk is responsible for taking notes during Vestry and Executive Committee meetings, and prepares the Minutes in a timely manner. The Clerk also assures that notes are taken and Minutes prepared during annual and special meetings of the congregation.

Johanna Rentchler, who served as Clerk for a month and a half, requested that we accept her resignation because of unanticipated demands on her schedule. A spirited thank you to Joh for her service!





### GSP's Community Garden

By Angel Wang

Summer is a new season at the GSP Community Garden! The produce we grow supplements the food boxes distributed by Joseph's Pantry; we help increase the variety of items and nutrition that people receive.

The first six months of our initiative offered valuable experience in growing winter-spring vegetables. Angel Wang, Jane Conlin, and Joan Cooney harvested the last of the delicious,

fresh, organic winter-spring vegetables.

Our plot has been retilled and the soil refreshed by volunteers Jill Clement, Eric Carr, and Kitt and Kayla Cordero. Thanks to Gene Zonge of Tucson Community Gardens, we hope to produce even more fresh veggies in the next harvest.

This season we are using the square-foot intensive planting method, and also growing plants vertically with trellises and cages. Our plot is freshly replanted with tomatoes, zucchini and peppers.

Because of GSP volunteers who share their boundless energy and enthusiasm, we hope to produce so many vegetables and herbs each week that we will be able to serve *all* the Joseph's Pantry families!

Let's feed our lambs, let's feed our sheep.

### Solar Energy Committee

By Angel Wang

GSP's Episcopal brethren at St. Michael's and All Angels are the latest to install a solar energy system for their school and church (800+ photovoltaic modules)!

After a year of researching solar photovoltaic systems, GSP's emphasis has turned to pursuing affordable solar energy systems without having to either pay a hefty upfront fee or mounting a significant capital funding campaign. Our vision for our church encompasses stewardship of the earth, savings on monthly electric power costs, protection against utility rate increases for 20 years, and enjoying 40+ cool, shaded, parking spaces in desert summers to come! Together with earthbox gardening on the church grounds, a solar energy installation would be tangible proof of our commitment to living in harmony with Creation.

As we have learned from the past year's experience, procuring the most advantageous TEP solar incentive rate is dependent on applying sooner rather than later. The various Tucson solar installers we have worked with have all significant portfolios that demonstrate their successful projects working with non-profit organizations and churches.

Following a presentation to the Vestry in May, a single vendor has been selected to continue further discussions with the Buildings and Grounds committee, the Long-Term Planning committee and the Vestry.

### Bridging Borders: Migrant Packs

By Lynne Albright

While the number of migrants crossing the border has decreased, many still attempt to cross the desert to find work and earn money for their families. These people travel long distances in the summer heat without adequate food and water, and often find themselves in difficult situations.

Volunteers search the desert and provide emergency supplies which prevent illness and death. Among the supplies are packs filled with healthy

food. Many migrants have run out of food by the time they meet volunteers, and the packs can hold them until they reach a place where more food can be provided.

In the past, Grace St. Paul's has been extraordinarily generous in helping provide these migrant packs. On Sunday, June 24, we will ask for your donations. There will be deposit boxes at the church and parish hall entrances.

The following items are needed for the packs. No metal containers are allowed and everything must be in its

original container; no repackaging is permitted. Check the expiration date of food items before donating. Water is provided separately.

- Meat or tuna in plastic pouches (no cans)
  - Nuts, salted (individual packages)
  - Applesauce cup or fruit cup
  - Dried fruit and raisin packets
  - Pudding cups
  - Breakfast or granola bar
  - Energy bars (Cliff bars, not really sweet ones)
  - Cheese-filled crackers packets
  - Cookies in individual packages
- THANK YOU!**

## **Spirit Players: A Play Reading Experience**

**Fridays, June 1, July 6 & Aug. 3**

**6:30 p.m., Bloom Education Center**

Everyone is invited to participate in the wonder of play reading...no theater experience required. Non-readers can be the audience, too. Play readings are followed by discussions that examine family, class and cultural conflict in America. Plays to be read include *You Can't Take It With You*, *Fires in the Mirror*, *The Search for Intelligent Life in the Universe*, and *Cat On a Hot Tin Roof*. Readings are open to the public.

Led by Nanalee Raphael and Halsy Taylor. Both are employed in professional theatre and love to introduce others to a variety of scripts.

## **Liturgy—Worship or Dance?**

**Sunday, June 3**

**9 a.m., Bloom Education Center**

What are the interpretations of the Liturgy? According to Wikipedia, "Typically in Christianity, the term 'the liturgy' normally refers to a standardized order of events observed during a religious service, be it a sacramental service or a service of public prayer." What goes in on planning this weekly event at Grace St. Paul's? What changes would you like to see made to the Grace St. Paul's Sunday Eucharistic Celebrations? This class will provide a forum for learning and discussion on this important presentation of our faith and beliefs.

Facilitated by Beth Miksa, Verger at Grace St. Paul's, who has a life-long fascination with Liturgy.

## **Readers Group**

**Sunday, June 3**

**11:45 a.m., Bloom Education Center**

A gathering of people interested in forming a monthly or quarterly reading group to read and discuss books, chosen by the group, for ongoing growth in our personal/spiritual life. Books could be fiction or nonfiction, but with a goal to bring topics that stretch us as Christians and human beings in the world in which we live. Participation is open to the public.

Facilitated by Linda Hutson, long time EfM mentor and avid book reader.

## **The Heart Is Where Democracy Begins**

**Mondays, June 4, 11 & 18**

**7-8:30 p.m., Bloom Education Center**

Parker Palmer's book, *Healing the Heart of Democracy*, examines what it will take in the 21st century to create a politics worthy of the human spirit. Examining public discourse and decision making during these challenging times, Palmer proposes practical ways to hold our tensions in compassionate dialogue in order to rediscover a government "of the people, by the people, and for the people." Six participants need to begin the class; copies of the study book at The Rector's Bookshelf. Please register through the Church Office by June 1.

Led by Brian Arthur, Courage and Renewal Facilitator and member of GSP.

## **Unopened Letters: Using Biblical Dreams to Unlock Your Own Nightly Dreams**

**Wednesdays, June 6, 13, 27, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29**

**Sessions at 10-11:30 a.m. or 7-9 p.m., Bloom Education Center**

Using Rev. Robert Haden's book *Unopened Letters from God* we will explore a significant Biblical dream each week and learn strategies to help us interpret our own dreams, the movement of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Minimum of three participants to hold a class. This book is available at the Rector's Bookshelf. Registration through the Church Office.

Led by Chris LaBour, skilled facilitator and eternal dreamer.

## **Bridging Borders Movie Night**

**Fridays, June 8, July 13 & Aug. 10**

**7 p.m., McBride Hall**

This movie series is sponsored by Bridging Borders. The series selects movies that tell the stories of migrants, their families, their lives at home and the challenges presented by U.S. border policies.

Facilitated by Nancy Meister Book, GSP Deacon.

## **Beauty of the Beloved:**

### **The Life & Vision of Henri Nouwen**

**Saturday, June 9, 9:30-Noon, McBride Hall**

**Sunday, June 10, 9 a.m. Bloom Education Center**

Dr. Robert Jonas, the workshop presenter, was a close friend of the late Fr. Henri Nouwen and served on the Board of the Henri Nouwen Society for seven years. He will lead the workshop's reflection, prayer, and discussion based on Nouwen's work and will present a video of Nouwen preaching at the Crystal Cathedral in 1992.

"One of the most spectacular sermons I've ever heard," according to Dr. Jonas, founder and director of a contemplative sanctuary in Massachusetts. Dr. Jonas is a Nouwen biographer and writer in his own field of Christian contemplation.

Reservations requested through the Church Office by June 5; no registration fee.

## **Ecology & Spirituality:**

### **Seizing Hope in a Season of Despair**

**Sunday, June 10**

**11:45 a.m.; Bloom Education Center**

The Rev. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas is a noted writer and retreat leader whose intent is to awaken people to the sacredness of Creation and the call to heal the Earth. She was principal author of the Pastoral Letter: "To Service Christ in All Creation" issued by the Episcopal bishops of New England and has been a leader in Religious Witness

for the Earth. Her latest book, *Joy of Heaven, To Earth Come Down*, an Advent/Christmas devotion focusing on Creation, will be available in the Fall.

The Rev. Bullitt-Jonas joins her husband, Robert, for this remarkable GSP weekend. She is currently the Priest Associate of Grace Church, Amherst, MA.

## **Film & Fellowship Festival**

**Fridays, June 15, July 20 & Aug. 17**

**6:30 p.m., Bloom Education Center**

The Potluck starts at 6:30 followed by the evening's excellent film at 7 o'clock. It's a great time for discussion and sharing on themes ranging from social justice to romance. The group selects each month's film, so think of your favorite!

Led by Kit Cordero and Eric Carr, active GSP members and film facilitators.

## **Anglican Hymnody:**

**The Saga Continues—19th Century to Now**

**Sunday, June 17**

**9 a.m., Bloom Education Center**

Where did all those hymns come from? If we ignore them, will they go away? Yes, is the short answer; every day another old standard gives a despairing cry and falls into obscurity. What is taking its place? Do you want to know? Last summer we looked at hymnody from the early church to the beginning of the 19th century. This year we finish the job.

Led by Christina Jarvis, GSP's Magical Music Director.

## **Dragon Breath: Spiritual Journaling –**

**Sundays, June 17 & 24**

**11:45 am, Bloom Education Center**

The dragon is part of Chinese mythology and spiritual journaling is a traditional element of the Christian experience. So, bring them both together and you have an opportunity to explore creative journaling as a means of expanding and enhancing your spiritual development. Exercises to develop present-moment awareness and discussion about ways to release the flow of ideas. Bring your own writing notebook and pen or a tablet/notebook.

Led by Elizabeth Gooden, GSP member and long-time creative writer.

## **The Art of Spiritual Discernment**

**Sunday, June 24**

**9 a.m., Bloom Education Center**

Discernment is a way to make decisions based on a model found in scripture and in the history of the Christian church. It works for churches and for individuals, so come and explore the method of decision making that is grounded in prayer, reflection, information gathering, and the principles of an age-old model. (Not every decision has to be made by Roberts Rules of Order!)

Facilitated by Roger Pierce, discernmentarian and GSP member.

**“Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life” by Richard Rohr**  
**Sundays, July 8, 15 & 22**

**9 a.m., Bloom Education Center**

This book discussion will consider Rohr's idea that everyone experiences life in two halves, one that is absolutely necessary to establish personal identity—climbing, achieving, and performing—and the second half that is more concerned with letting go of assumed certainties and integrating life with wisdom experiences. The first half of life builds the container, the second half fills it. Highly recommended that attendees read the book before sessions begin; book available at Rector's Bookshelf.

Led by Roger Pierce, GSP member and ordained clergy.

**Revelations: Visions, Prophecy & Politics in the Book of Revelation**  
**Sundays, July 8 & 15**

**11:45 a.m., Bloom Education Center**

As one of the world's foremost religion scholars, Elaine Pagels has been a pioneer in interpreting the Gnostic gospels and illuminating their place in the early history of Christianity. Her new book, however, tackles a text that is firmly, dramatically within the New Testament canon: The Book of Revelation, the surreal apocalyptic vision of the end of the world . . . or is it? In this startling and timely book, Pagels returns The Book of Revelation to its historical origin, written as its author John of Patmos took aim at the Roman Empire after what is now known as “the Jewish War,” in 66 CE. Militant Jews in Jerusalem, fired with religious fervor, waged an all-out war against Rome's occupation of Judea and their defeat resulted in the desecration of Jerusalem and its Great Temple. Pagels persuasively interprets Revelation as a scathing attack on the decadence of Rome. Soon after, however, a new sect known as “Christians” seized on John's text as a weapon against heresy and infidels of all kinds—Jews, even Christians who dissented from their increasingly rigid doctrines and hierarchies. In a time when global religious violence surges, Revelations explores how often those in power throughout history have sought to force “God's enemies” to submit or be killed. This book study is for those who want to understand the roots of dissent, violence, and division in the world's religions, and to appreciate the lasting appeal of this extraordinary text.

Facilitated by Brian Arthur, member of GSP, avid reader and student of Gnostic literature.



# Grace St. Paul's

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## Grace St. Paul's: A Progressive Community—Loving God, Serving Others, Journeying Together

### What's Happening in June

#### WEEKLY SERVICES

##### Tuesdays

6 p.m., Evening Prayer & Communion  
7 p.m., Interfaith Meditation

##### Wednesdays

7 a.m., Holy Communion

##### Thursdays

6 p.m., Spirit Now

##### Sundays

8 a.m., Holy Communion  
10 a.m., Holy Communion

**1st** 9:30 a.m., Qigong class  
6:30 p.m., *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*—A Play Reading Experience

**3rd** 3 p.m., Musica Sonora Summer Concert

**4th** 9 a.m., Arts for Summer camp  
5:30 p.m., Spirit Dojo Karate class  
7 p.m., *The Heart is Where Democracy Begins*

7 p.m., Green Church Committee meeting  
7:30 p.m., Healing Touch clinic

**5th** 9 a.m., Arts for Summer camp

**6th** 9 a.m., Arts for Summer camp  
10 a.m., Quilting ministry

10 a.m., *Unopened Letters: Using Biblical Dreams to Unlock Your Nightly Dreams*

Noon, Prayer Shawl ministry  
5:30 p.m., Spirit Dojo Karate class  
6:30 p.m., Nutrition class

7 p.m., *Unopened Letters: Using Biblical Dreams to Unlock Your Nightly Dreams*

**7th** 9 a.m., Arts for Summer camp  
9 a.m., French class

11 a.m., Bridge group  
3 p.m., Healing Touch clinic  
6 p.m., Tucson Adoption Reunion Support Group

**8th** 9 a.m., Arts for Summer camp  
9:30 a.m., Qigong class

**9th** 9:30 a.m., Henri Nouwen workshop

**10th** 9 a.m., Henri Nouwen workshop  
11:45 a.m., *Ecology & Spirituality: Seizing Hope in a Season of Despair*

**11th** 5:30 p.m., Spirit Dojo Karate class  
5:30 p.m., Congregational Development Committee meeting  
7 p.m., *The heart is where democracy begins*

7:30 p.m., Healing Touch clinic

**12th** 7 p.m., Mental Health Task Force meeting

**13th** 10 a.m., Quilting ministry

10 a.m., *Unopened Letters: Using Biblical Dreams to Unlock Your Nightly Dreams*

Noon, Prayer Shawl ministry  
5:30 p.m., Spirit Dojo Karate class  
6:30 p.m., Nutrition class

7 p.m., *Unopened Letters: Using Biblical Dreams to Unlock Your Nightly Dreams*

**14th** 9 a.m., French class  
11 a.m., Bridge group

3 p.m., Healing Touch clinic

**15th** 9 a.m., Qigong class  
6:30 p.m., *I Am, The Documentary*; Film & Fellowship

**16th** 10 a.m., Jeanne Erickson's funeral service & reception

**17th** 11:45 a.m., *Dragon Breath: Spiritual Journaling*

**18th** 5:30 p.m., Spirit Dojo Karate class  
6 p.m., Primavera Kitchen

7:30 p.m., Healing Touch clinic

**20th** 10 a.m., Quilting ministry  
10 a.m., *Unopened Letters: Using Biblical Dreams to Unlock Your Nightly Dreams*

Noon, Prayer Shawl ministry  
5:30 p.m., Spirit Dojo Karate class  
6:30 p.m., Nutrition class

**21st** 9 a.m., French class

11 a.m., Bridge group  
Noon, Prayer Shawl ministry  
3 p.m., Healing Touch clinic

**22nd** 9:30 a.m., Qigong class

**24th** 9 a.m., *The Art of Spiritual Discernment*

11:45 a.m., *Dragon Breath: Spiritual Journaling*

1 p.m., Primavera Kitchen

**25th** 11:30 a.m., Spiritual Direction  
5:30 p.m., Spirit Dojo Karate class

7:30 p.m., Healing Touch clinic

**26th** 9 a.m., Primavera Kitchen

**27th** 10 a.m., Quilting ministry  
10 a.m., *Unopened Letters: Using Biblical Dreams to Unlock Your Nightly Dreams*

Noon, Prayer Shawl ministry

5:30 p.m., Spirit Dojo Karate class  
6:30 p.m., Nutrition class

7 p.m., *Unopened Letters: Using Biblical Dreams to Unlock Your Nightly Dreams*

**28th** 9 a.m., French class  
11 a.m., Bridge group

3 p.m., Healing Touch clinic

**29th** 9:30 a.m., Qigong class

### Parish Wellness Highlights

*Continued from Page 5*

developing a (non-Sunday) communion service based on the 12 Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous. We're also considering developing an "Instructive Eucharist" on Sunday. It would offer descriptions of what is happening throughout the service and be followed by an educational class afterwards so people could ask questions.

We welcome your feedback and invite you to participate in the weekly Liturgy Meetings on Wednesdays 1:30-3:30 p.m.-ish in the Bloom Room.

The Parish Wellness meetings also included a discussion about the use of technology in church. The topics

included:

- The pros and cons of photography during church worship
- GSP policy for posting photos on the GSP Facebook and web pages
- Using iPads in the pews and in the chancel
- Having the Sunday bulletin available on the GSP website in downloadable PDF format
- Using video clips to complement the sermon

While many parishioners are excited about using 21st century technology in church, others prefer that church remain a sanctuary where we can connect with the Holy without electronics. For some, technology can be distracting during worship;

for others, it enhances the worship experience. Privacy concerns were raised: how safe is it to post images and information on Facebook or the GSP website? Issues of class and privilege arose: who can afford the technology? And the question of trust was expressed: will users stay focused on worship or will they "surf" the web?

Thank you to everyone who stayed for the discussion and shared thoughts with us. This is an important step in moving forward as an Emerging Church in the 21st century. The next Parish Wellness meeting is scheduled for early fall, most likely mid-September.