



The Briefly

The newsletter for the parish community of
Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church
2331 E. Adams • Tucson, AZ 85719
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October 2017

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From the Associate Rector

'Speak the Truth in Love'

THIS PIECE OF ADVICE Paul wrote to a struggling church (*Ephesians 4:12*) rings true to me. It holds true in any wisdom tradition applicable across cultures and time. Now comes the hard part. It ain't easy.

Truth is also subjective. My perspective may be, and is most likely, different from yours. Brené Brown has just published a book on this hot topic, *Braving the Wilderness: The Quest for True Belonging and the Courage to Stand Alone*. If you are not familiar with Brené Brown, stop reading this and YouTube her name so you can directly experience the sensitive fierceness in this woman.

The full birthing of all of us is a lifelong task. There is always more potential inside waiting for the right conditions to spark the new. Carl Jung calls this individuation. Epistles in the New Testament call this sanctification. Archetypal psychology refers to the hero's journey. One begins by knowing one's truth and daring to speak it.

I grew up in a family that seemed afraid to talk about what was real and present. My older siblings had moved away when I was little. I could feel the tension at the dinner table from many things not talked about—the proverbial elephant in the middle of the living room analogy. I made up an excuse to go watch a TV program so I could feel more relaxed. I later learned that all systems, organizations and groups inevitably face the same challenge—how to talk about the elephant. How do we push back on the fear that blocks progress, unfolding and movement—speaking the truth in love? How do we create community that supports all its members to speak?

Brown notes that cyber community is no community at all. Cyberspace is great for communication but not so great for connection. One study shows that loneliness increases directly with more time spent on Facebook.

She also notes that Americans by and large have turned away from one another. Fear drives disconnection. Civility has plummeted and people seek refuge in factions in a bunker mentality. Now connection is based on "common enemy intimacy" which is neither connection nor intimacy. This rings true for me in the felt boredom of continually complaining about *You Know Who*. I catch myself getting caught up in this pastime that definitely does not foster true belonging.

Dr. Brown separates belonging from fitting in. I learned to

Continued on Page 2



The Animal Memorial Garden crew, getting the garden cleaned-up and putting in new plants. Thanks to Angel, Gail, Rita, Terri, and Chris!

Submissions to **The Briefly**

Please submit articles to
Joyce Henderson, BrieflyEditor@grace-stpauls.org.

John Banks happily receives
photos, charts, and graphics at
jdbanks@gmail.com.

**The deadline for the
November 2017 issue will
be Tuesday, Oct. 10.**

From the Associate

Continued from Page 1

fit in by keeping my mouth shut. I am grateful that I found communities whose membership was not contingent on an unspoken orthodoxy wherein fixed agreement was required. Not speaking one's truth becomes a betrayal of self.

Healthiest relationships and communities encourage each to be oneself and to be in uncertainty over finding oneself. We are at our best when we truly know and get that others are different. I stand for myself and wish the same for the other. I speak my truth and want you to do the same.

Brown sees social media as a dumping ground for pain and misery disguised in meanness and ugliness. People are emboldened by their anonymity and release cruelty here they would never do face to face. In these cyber slug fests, individuals and groups are dehumanized, pushed out and beyond the realm of humanity. Dr. Brown sounds the alarm that this is always the beginning of genocide. If any group can be labeled with hate and venom, then why not liquidate and eliminate?

She deals with the challenge of facing

groups that will not allow difference. There are primitive and tribal mentalities who will physically threaten or emotionally batter the non-compliant. One has no choice but to resign, leave or flee such abuse. Many cannot do this alone. Support is the needed ingredient to bring about liberation from slavery—enslavement that is too costly to remain. Asking for help and seeking assistance is a sign of strength and courage.

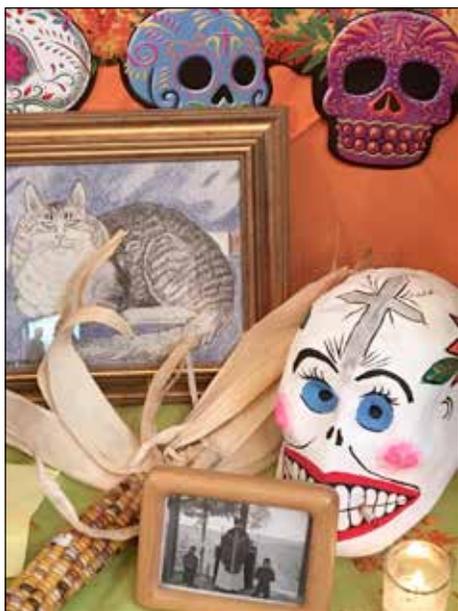
Perhaps Brené Brown chose her title, *Braving the Wilderness* partly from her Christian background. The escaped slaves from Egypt first had to brave the wilderness before getting to the promised land. They had to pay a price, the price of individuation, the price the hero pays when she/he steps out of a comfort zone that no longer offers Life.

No one can fully speak one's truth without connection. Connection is the web of life itself and from it each of us can emerge more fully formed as each continues to speak the truth in love. Such is the way out of bunkered down living and is how to brave the wilderness.

Richard

Vivan los muertos... Long Live the Dead!

By S. Morrison & Steve Kelsey



A detail from the *ofrenda* at GSP in 2016.

AS IN PAST YEARS, Grace St. Paul's will be observing traditions of "The Day of the Dead" as part of our All Saints' observances.

An annual holiday devoted to communing with departed spirits, *el Dia de los muertos*, or "Day of the Dead," is known throughout the Spanish-speaking world but honored most elaborately in Mexico. It embraces beliefs and practices associated with folk Catholicism and All Souls' Day as well as Mexico's rich indigenous past.

This year at Grace St. Paul we shall devote part of the

Sunday services on Nov. 5 to commemoration of *el Dia de los muertos*. Among other things, we shall invite worshipers to contribute items to the small *ofrenda* we shall assemble on **Thursday, Nov. 2**, at 6 p.m., in the chancel to remember and honor loved ones who have died.

If you wish to commemorate the life of a departed relative or friend, please bring a photo and /or other mementos. That might be a stuffed animal, a model representing the person's occupation or hobby, a bottle of wine, or whatever else serves as a reminder that s/he is remembered.

The phenomenon of death is omnipresent. As Christians we seek to come to terms with it. Join us on Nov. 2 and Nov. 5. The tradition of the Day of the Dead offers much to help us in our journey.

Liturgy
Discussion of
the Month
By The Rev. Richard
Mallory

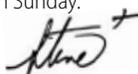
Creation Season 2017

Beginning Sunday, Oct. 1, Grace St. Paul's will be the only place in Tucson to experience Creation Sunday and the Season of Creation that follows.

I firmly believe it is the impetus we need in the environmental movement to change the world's attitude about climate change and all the issues we face from the degradation of the planet. And we have now made such an impact, that the Episcopal Church will include the Season of Creation in our new *Book of Occasional Service*.

Every year we have done something very special on this day when we connect the wonder of creation with our experience of the Living God. This year there will be a Jazz Eucharist with some of the finest musicians Tucson has to offer. Whatever you do, don't miss out on this spectacular day as we celebrate the beauty of God's Earth and also blow the roof off the joint. Be sure to invite the world this day.

And then come back at 5 p.m. with your goats, guinea pigs, lizards, and maybe dogs and cats, too, for our **Annual Blessing of the Animals**. It is always one of the more fun services of the year and the perfect way to end Creation Sunday.



Where Are You With Sin?

MOST SUNDAY MORNING services across the entire swath of Christianity include a confession and absolution. Other language may be employed but the intent is the same. Even the most non liturgical traditions will still deal with sin/forgiveness, sin/grace or sin/acceptance in congregational reciting of what is called "The Lord's Prayer." So what is your current relationship with sin? What does it mean?

A Buddhist once said to his Christian dialogue partner with wry humor, "You Christians must be very bad people since you're always confessing wrong doing."

I wonder what is going through the minds of people when we say, "we have sinned against you(God) in thought, word, and deed..."(7:45 a.m.) or "...yet we resist your help and the change you offer... When others challenge us, we grow defensive..."(10 a.m.).

A teacher of mine remarked that many people want to be preached at and have guilt incited and shame inflamed on a weekly basis. Without this continual rekindling of guilt, they will go elsewhere to find reinforcement of internal badness. Episcopalians mostly reject this kind of religion. Once a man stood on a busy street in downtown Chicago and would eagle eye a passer-by and point the pointy finger with a blast of "You're guilty." Folks reacted with anger or fear and sped on their way. One man, upon receiving the pronouncement remarked to his friend, "How did he know?"

There is always something that we can use against ourselves in our own internalized courtroom or sanctuary. So what's the purpose of using this word "sin?"

In the second quarter of the twentieth century, the concept was practically obliterated in some church circles with the advent of psychology and the social sciences. Norman Vincent Peale was the most well known proponent of "The Power of Positive Thinking." Therapy replaced the confessional. Psychological explanations superseded centuries old religious ones. A relative of mine got caught fleecing a cousin out of some money. When he was confronted, his excuse was "... 'They' told me I needed to see a psychiatrist." He avoided responsibility and accountability with a slippery rationalization and justification by referencing feedback he

had been given by a professional which he transposed into non-accountability: "Whoopee, since I 'need to see a psychiatrist,' I'm free of all constraints. I think I'll indulge myself!"

Pushing back against excessive psychologizing, a mental health leader no less than Dr. Karl Menninger wrote a book in 1975, *Whatever Became of Sin?* The champion of using psychoanalysis to better serve the incarcerated and mentally ill perceived the wisdom embodied within "sin" was losing out to cultural influence. Invoking the admonition of Paul Tillich("There are no substitutes for words like 'sin' and 'grace'"), the psychiatrist took a stand for keeping "sin" in the public lexicon.

My oh my, has that word been misused. Let me share a story printed in the *NY Times* some years ago about a funeral service in my home state of Alabama. A preacher was presiding at a funeral. He began to enumerate the "sins" of the deceased and got so inspired that he began accusing various members of the congregation of their "sins" until several congregants rushed the pulpit for the ensuing fist fight!

The church has often pushed a moralistic approach to sin and sacrificed meaning in favor of pettiness. For Baptists, dancing and drinking are sins. By particularizing specific behaviors, sin gets trivialized. Oh yeah, and then there's cussin'! A person might condescendingly remark to a clergy, "Oh, sorry, Father, I shouldn't talk like that around you"—and you thought that clergy never cuss?

For me, the confession is an invitation for me to drop down into the truth of my humanity. I am flawed. I separate myself from others, God and myself. I identify with "all we like sheep have gone astray." I can admit my humanity (i.e. imperfections) and take in the reality of acceptance, grace, forgiveness and belonging. Only I can prevent and block the deeper message of living in a world of grace. It is a dogged and stubborn claim. Forgiveness trumps judgment in the way of Christ. The world of grace is always bigger than my little conceptions.

I like the way Richard Rohr sums this up in his daily meditation of Sept. 13, "God has persistently broken the rules to love me at the level I needed, could receive, and was able to understand throughout my life. The magnanimous nature of divine love keeps liberating me at deeper levels where I'm still entrapped."

Notes from the Choir Stalls

By Christina Jarvis,
Director of Music



HOPE YOU'RE ENJOYING those 106° fall days. We are lucky to live where regular weather events don't devastate us as they do other parts of the country (God bless and protect them), but the collapse of the electrical grid at the wrong time of year could kill a lot of people around here, too. And isn't that the perfect segue to discuss the Season of Creation? Let's take care of creation before it takes care of us.

The plan is that the Season of Creation at Grace St. Paul's will be bookended this year by ensembles. On Oct. 1, the Tucson Jass Ensemble—Jason Carder, trumpet; Jeff Haskell, piano; Daniel Slipetsky, tuba; and Fred Hayes, drums—and fabulous vocalist Dawn McMillan join us to present special music. The choir will sing “Aquarius/Let the Sunshine In” for the offertory anthem. No, I'm not kidding. You'll see; it works. The choir loves rehearsing it, bunch of (mostly) boomers that they are! Dawn will sing “I can see clearly now.” It's going to be a bright, sunshining day.

For the last Sunday in Creation, on Nov. 26, we are making arrangements with Johanna Lundy, principle French horn player with the Tucson Symphony Orchestra (and daughter of parishioners Laura and Don Lundy), who received a 2017 Artist Research and Development grant from the Arizona Commission on the Arts to develop collaborative new works. Among these, she has been presenting a piece entitled “Canyon Songs” composed by our organist, Dr. Pamela Decker, for the Season of Creation last year. Originally for horn and organ, the piece has been arranged for horn and string trio; it is performed as a series of canyon images are projected on a screen. I saw it at MOCA—very cool. We are fortunate to have access to such interesting creative projects. And if all works well, we will have Robert Chamberlain with us on cello for a reprise of “Boat on Tai Lake” for the communion anthem.

While it can sometimes be challenging to weave together themes from the lectionary and ongoing concerns with social justice and care for Creation, because all are based in the scriptures, it really isn't much of a stretch.

Seeking new ways to present these themes is my task.

I've been feeling new energy since I've spent so many hours cleaning up the choir office. I chucked old bulletins back to 2008. Grateful thanks to Wendy Pipentacos, who took some hours from her valuable day off to help me put away one-off copies of scores! There's more to do but *poco a poco seguimos adelante*.

Other music for the month of October includes “Kol han'shemah t'halel yah/Psalm 100 (Let everything that has breath praise God),” “This is my Word” (Pepper Choplin)—a piece originally requested by Joe Smith for Claranel's memorial, “Rejoice in the Lord Always” (Henry Purcell), “I sat down under his shadow” (Edward Bairstow), “Just a closer walk with Thee” (arr. Mark Hayes), “Let all creation bless the Lord: A song of creation” (Para.: Carl P. Daw, Jr.; Music: William Bradley Roberts), “Until all are fed” (Words: Bryan Field McFarland; Music: Bryan Field McFarland and Tommy Brown)—this hymn was suggested by choir member Dick Kelbaugh to be sung in conjunction with CropWalk, which is Oct. 29. The Youth Arts Council will also present the offertory on Oct. 22. We are in process regarding what that will look like, but it will be amazing.

As you can see, we continue our eclectic approach to nutrition in our musical food for the journey. We hope you will feel the presence of the Holy Spirit working in our midst. Let's enjoy the cooler weather that is bound to come our way. Eventually. And perhaps consider getting solar panels.

Peace,

Christina

Nourishing Spirits Returns! GSP's Small Groups for 2017-18

Whether you are a newcomer or old-timer, would you like to deepen your roots at GSP? Make new friends or create a support system? What feeds you spiritually? Do you have questions about Christianity? Do you wonder how other people feel about religion and the Bible?

Belonging is a basic human need, as essential as food and shelter. Yet, achieving a sense of belonging often requires intention and practice. The Nourishing Spirits program, returning after a successful start in 2016, is designed to help participants find a greater sense of belonging and to feel more rooted at GSP. As before, small groups will gather six times (approximately once a month) between October 2017 and May 2018 for shared dinner and discussion. Here's how it works:

People sign up to be in a group that is coordinated by an identified host. Each group will stay together for the next six months.

The size of each group will be limited and will close after the first meeting.

Each group will meet for the first time for dinner at the home of their coordinator/host sometime in late October or early November.

For the subsequent five meetings, group members determine the dates, locations and how to handle the meals.

Each group meeting will include a discussion about a spiritual topic.

We're in the process of forming new groups. Please email us if you are interested in participating. Be sure to let us know how many people (single person, couple or family) and which day you would prefer for an initial meeting—Friday, Saturday, Sunday or Monday.

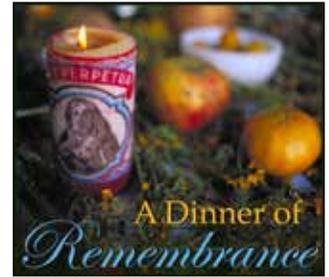
Contact **Catherine Williams** at adulted@grace-stpauls.org if you have any questions!

Dinner of Remembrance/Parish Potluck

Friday, Oct. 27, 6-8:30 p.m., McBride Hall, Labyrinth & Memorial Garden

AS WE MOVE INTO a season where the veil between worlds grows thin—Halloween, All Souls, Dia De Los Muertos, All Saints—we invite the parish family to come together for a Dinner of Remembrance where we will break bread and remember those who have gone before us. Participants are encouraged to bring a dish to share that honors a loved one(s) and during the meal, we will take time to tell our stories of those we remember. In addition to the potluck, the Labyrinth will be lit for meditative walking and there will be an opportunity for a guided personal ritual of

remembrance in the Memorial Garden and the Animal Memorial Garden. This event will be family-friendly, with activities for all ages. Please join us for what promises to be a moving and meaningful evening of congregational fellowship and connection with those we see no more.



Spirituality in the 2nd Half of Life Ministry Event

Saturday, Oct. 28, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., McBride Hall

WE ALL OPTIMISTICALLY embark on a new phase of our lives in our 50s as we begin to contemplate retirement and a whole new way of living. But this exploration of new ways continues into our 90s and beyond—seemingly ever changing.

Linda Williams PhD, CSD, and The Rev. Ann Johnson, coordinators of this new ministry for the Diocese of Arizona, will spend the morning with participants to consider what we want this second half of our lives to look like—and how God desires to enter into both the adventure and the challenges—and how we, as a community of faith, can share the journey

together—perhaps deciding together on a variety of stage- and age-related activities and gatherings.

Please join us to explore ideas for the Grace St. Paul's "family of sages". We will take two hours for thinking and planning together, followed by lunch together at 11:30.

Everyone is welcome and there is no fee. RSVP by calling the church office at 520-327-6857 or email to adulted@grace-stpauls.org.



An Intimate Evening with Death, Herself

Saturday, Oct. 28, 7 p.m., McBride Hall (reception following)

DOUGLASS TRUTH'S CRITICALLY acclaimed solo show, *An Intimate Evening with Death, Herself* will make its return to Tucson with two performances at GSP! *An Intimate Evening with Death, Herself* is a one-woman show about Dorothy, a middle-aged waitress who meets Death in a bar, and 49 days later, replaces him. After a bad day on the cafeteria line, Dorothy goes into a bar where she meets Tod, who turns out to be the Grim Reaper. In the course of an understated, unpretentious, poignant and tender, droll and massively ambitious performance, Dorothy helps her audience relate to death without flinching and with abundant amusement. Audience members have called Douglass, "the love-child of Eddie Izzard and Lily Tomlin" and "funny, engrossing, heretical, beautiful." Others noted, "So glad I was able to witness this amazingly hilarious, poignant, insightful performance. Who knew that Death Herself would turn out to be so life-affirming?"



The production, appropriate for all ages, has played to audiences nationwide, with performances in California (winner of 2017 Best of Nugget Fringe

Festival), New York City, Arizona, Colorado, and Massachusetts. *Warning: everyone who sees this show will someday die.*

All are welcome. Donation of \$10 at the door is suggested but no one will be turned away. A second performance is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 4, at 7 p.m., in McBride Hall.

Contact Catherine Penn Williams at adulted@grace-stpauls.org if you have any questions.

Senior Focus

Mary Fitzgerald: Opera Singer

By Ann Schlumberger



Mary Fitzgerald

MARY ELIZABETH Fitzgerald was born on March 25, 1944, in Pittsfield, Mass. She was to live in Massachusetts most of her life. Mary was the eldest of six children, and while she was growing up, she was a caregiver to her four brothers and one sister. After 12 years of Catholic school, she graduated high school. While attending school, she also worked at a local supermarket, being in charge of the bakery section. There she met a stock boy, Robert Gero, who was 10 years older than she. They married when Mary was 19. She had two daughters, Kelly and Jennifer. Her marriage would last 17 years.

While married, Mary started working for GE during the company's heyday in plastics. GE recognized Mary's

potential and paid for her to get a bachelor's degree in marketing at North Adams State College and an MBA at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. The company was very supportive, allowing her to take off time if one of her daughters was sick and encouraging her creativity. She worked for GE for 15 years, eventually serving in its advertising department, where she did events planning, slide presentations, and press relations.

Mary then took a job in press relations at the Electric Power Research Institute in Lennox, MA, but was laid off a year later. She next worked for a small employment agency, then a GE facility in Schenectady, NY. All her jobs involved public relations other than one: An animal lover herself, she opened and ran a boutique for animal lovers in the late 1980s. It

carried animal themed items (jewelry, china, etc.), but it closed after only a year.

During her working years, Mary also cultivated her musical talents. She had sung her first solo in a school production in the sixth grade, and while she was married, she had taken part in Pittsfield's semi-professional Town Players, for which she was the female lead in *The King and I*. She sang in operas in the Pittsfield/Lennox area, having no trouble mastering Italian and German lyrics, although she confesses that French was difficult for her. Her range of music spanned from Bach to the modern works of Samuel Barber.

Mary's singing was the catalyst for her becoming an Episcopalian: She was taking singing lessons at a Congregational Church when the organist for St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Pittsfield overheard her and recruited her to be a paid singer. Mary was invited to accompany this organist whenever the organist transferred to new congregation.

Mary moved to Tucson about ten years ago to work for a small advertising agency doing press relations and to be near her elder daughter. Coming out here from the green landscape of Massachusetts, she said that at first the Arizona terrain seemed like a "moonscape" to her. It has taken her a while to appreciate the subtleties and moods of her Sonoran desert surroundings, but over time she has become used to them. After trying several different churches, she felt that GSP was "just right" for her. She feels her voice isn't up to its past performance peak anymore, so she is more comfortable with GSP's quieter 7:45 service than with the musicality of the 10 o'clock service.

Since she has retired, Mary has had to deal with physical issues and failing eyesight, but she is philosophical about her challenges. She says the key is to "keep on keeping on," and she always has a warm smile for those whom she meets.



Giving & Receiving
is what life is all
about.

—More to come!

GSP's Stained Glass, Part IV

By Joyce Henderson, Briefly editor

ONE OF THE SIDE BENEFITS of these columns has been new information. In the previous column I talked about the Harvard Music window. Well, Bruce Anderson provided me with a bit more history.

The window, donated by Grace Hardell, (Aunt Gracie to parishioners) aunt of the Rev. Robert (Bob) Williams, was dedicated to her deceased husband. The musical score is "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" (1863), based on a poem written by H.W. Longfellow after the death of his son during the Civil War.

The last windows of this series are in the balcony. Aha! Some of you did not know we have two windows up there! One is an interesting part of the history of the Episcopal Church in Arizona.

The window on the east side is labeled in the archives, "Boat." It is dedicated to Johann H. and Robert H. Hansen, both brothers and fishermen. The image is a boat in full sail on a background of dark blue, stormy clouds. There is a definite stressing of the mast as a Chi-Rho cross using color and line. Beneath the boat, three fish appear in the water. The iconography of this window reflects several passages in the NT that deal with fishermen. As you look at this window note the small white dot in front of the boat's prow. This has been rumored to be a bullet hole! Check the detail and decide what you think.

The last window is on the west side of the balcony. This window, donated and dedicated

to the memory of Matthew and Carmen Leman by their children, is said to represent the altar of the second Grace Episcopal Church (1913-55). The first church (1894-1913) was located at Stone and Camp (Broadway). Moving a couple of blocks north on Stone to University the second church was built with most of the stones from the first church.

The image is of an altar within an architectural niche. There is a cross with flanking candlesticks in front the carved wall. On each side of the niche are the following words: Faith, Hope, Love on one panel; and: The Greatest of These Is Love on the other.

The image between the panels is a large cross with rays and a complicated cross image in the middle. Research has not given me an explanation for this particular cross—especially the reason for an interlocking "S". (See detail.)

The table is covered in a green cloth with a cross and fleur-de-lis pattern. The front of the table has a center panel with a radiant cross in the center with four crosses surrounding.

This is the last of this series on the 10 clerestory windows. I hope you have enjoyed the tour of these windows and have taken some time to search them out. Looking forward to your comments and maybe an interest in any of the other windows.

PS: It has been suggested that the mystery above the altar cross is the symbol "IHS." Comments?





Blessing of the Animals 2017

By *The Rev. Chris Ledyard*

ATENTION ALL CREATURES great and small (including *all*, not only dogs, cats, hamsters, turtles, birds, snakes, and horses). Every day we receive a special kind of unconditional love from our pets no matter how big or small. Just as we receive blessings for ourselves, don't our other family members deserve them too? In addition to their unconditional love, they provide a window to God's love for Creation.

On **Sunday, Oct. 1, at 5 p.m.**, on the labyrinth, we will observe and celebrate a Grace St. Paul's custom with the blessing of animals on the First Creation Sunday and The Feast of St. Francis.

Our Animals and Spirituality Ministry has grown through the support of this congregation. This Ministry includes the

Animal Memorial Garden, along with Celebration of Life memorial services, Food Collections, accompanying one on the Grief Journey on the loss of a companion animal, and our blanket/towel collections for the animals at Pima Animal Care Center. If you wish to be on the email list for this ministry, contact Reverend Chris at mach8350@hotmail.com.

Mark your calendars and let's join together at the beginning of next month with our faithful animal companions for a service of blessing and thanksgiving. It's important to note that if your animal companion has transitioned, bring a favorite toy or a picture (if you have one) of your companion animal.

Come and celebrate all of God's beautiful creations!

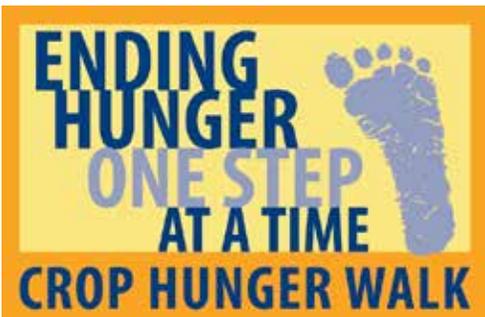
GSP Community Burial Ceremony

By *The Rev. Chris Ledyard*

LET'S HONOR OUR deceased companion animals during the season of Creation by burying your animal's cremains/ashes in our Animal Memorial Garden. We will have a community burial ceremony on **Saturday, Oct. 21, at 4 p.m.**

The Animal and Spirituality Ministry will provide for the memorial plaque for the memorial wall if the \$40 cost is a concern.

Please call the church office at 520-327-6857 and let people know the name(s) of your companion animal(s), and to indicate you'll be present with the cremains/ashes on Saturday, Oct. 21.



Tucson Crop Walk is Oct. 29

By *Richard Kelbaugh*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR and hold the afternoon of Sunday, Oct. 29, for bringing GSP's presence to the 2017 Tucson Crop Walk.

CROP Walk is a major source of funds for the work of Church World Services (CWS) to feed people around the world including those in Tucson. Walking is often a family activity, and we hope you'll consider making Crop Walk a family affair. By our presence we stand for people of the world who need help finding food or clean water.

Be a part of the Grace Saint Paul's delegation for this event. Stop by the Crop Walk registration table in the breezeway to McBride Hall during October and pick up a donor packet, or just to let us know you'll be there, and mark your calendar for the walk. More details on the walk schedule will be forthcoming throughout October.

If you can't walk, stop by the table and make your pledge to support the work of CWS. Watch for more information about the walk in the coming weeks.



Celebrate 6 years of play reading

JOIN THE FUN as the GSP Spirit Players celebrate six years of First Friday Play Readings, on Friday, Oct. 6, at 6:30 p.m., in the Bloom Room!

Since our beginning in 2011 we have read close to 80 scripts, some hysterically funny and some that brought us to tears, shared discussions, made other thespian friends, and had a chance to show our “acting chops.” We’ve grown from an average attendance of 7 to 25—even 32 on a couple of occasions!

For this Anniversary evening we’ll be reading short scripts and scenes from plays, many of which we’ve enjoyed reading in past years. Authors include David Ives, Anton

Chekov, Monty Python, Peter Cook and Dudley Moore, Alan Ayckbourn, Christopher Durang and even a bit of Shakespeare. Topics range from divorce, auditions, train robbery, Christmas tree fooling around, to monkeys trying to write Shakespeare and shows that never begin.

Please join us in this celebration on Oct. 6. Attendees can read if they wish or participate as “audience.” Scripts are provided.

This evening is appropriate for high school and older readers.

Sharon McKenzie and Nanalee Raphael are the facilitators, both long-time theatre aficionados.



Join the Sunday Hospitality Ministry

IF YOU AREN’T ALREADY in a GSP ministry, then this article is for you. Some of our Sunday morning Hospitality ministries are small groups.

We would like to put together two groups of people who could help the smaller ministries on their particular Sunday. Group members would be on call to donate food items and/or help serve on Sunday mornings.

This is the perfect opportunity to be part of the church family without making a huge commitment of your time. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet and greet your fellow parishioners.

If you would like to join an On-Call Group to assist with Sunday Hospitality, please contact our Parish Administrator Pam Spears at 520-327-6857 or parishadmin@grace-stpauls.org.

We Want to Hear You

A survey of assistive hearing devices at GSP

A number of months ago we installed some assistive hearing devices in McBride Hall and the Bloom Room. We have had problems with the equipment but there has not been an ongoing need that we have perceived. If you have used or would like to use assistive hearing devices in any area at GSP please complete this survey. *Thank you!*

Has the inability to hear speakers kept you from attending any classes, lectures or meetings? YES / NO

If YES, name area: _____

Have you used the assistive device in the Bloom Room? YES / NO

Did you experience difficulties with the system? YES / NO

If YES, describe: _____

Have you used the assistive device in McBride Hall? YES / NO

Did you experience difficulties with the system? YES / NO

If YES, describe: _____

Do you use the assistive device in the sanctuary? YES / NO

Have you experienced difficulties with the system? YES / NO

If YES, describe: _____

List any other areas where you have experienced difficulties hearing. Detail any other information that you think would be helpful in our planning.

Do you have any other suggestions to make our learning areas more accessible to you?

If you would like assistance in learning how to use these devices, include your name and you will be contacted: _____

PLACE THIS SURVEY IN THE OFFERING PLATE OR DROP IN THE OFFICE.

EXPLORING OUR FAITH: SUNDAYS @ 9 & 11:45 a.m.

Care of Creation—Care of the Poor

Sunday, Oct. 1, 9 a.m., Bloom Room

In the recent papal encyclical *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis noted that “a true ecological approach always becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates about the environment, so as to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.” Join us for a thoughtful conversation about these important issues.

Angel Wang is a co-leader of the Green Church ministry at GSP and a member of the Pima County Interfaith Council Green Action Team. Rev Chris Ledyard is a Deacon at Grace St. Paul's and co-facilitator of the Animals and Spirituality Ministry.

Exploring Today's Lectionary

Sunday, Oct. 8, 9 a.m., Bloom Room

One Sunday a month we provide an opportunity to discuss the Bible readings for that day in more depth in a small group setting. Come join us for a thoughtful but always lively conversation about scripture.

Vicki Stefani is a member of the Adult Spiritual Formation team and a frequent presenter at GSP.

Hymns Through the Ages

(with actual singing by all those attending!)

Sundays, Oct. 8 & 15, 11:45 a.m., Bloom Room

Part 1: The Beginnings of Christianity

What is a hymn? What is an authorized hymn? What is the New Testament authority for singing hymns in church? What is a canticle? What are our earliest hymns? Who are the most influential hymn writers in the

early church?

Part 2: Medieval & Modern Christianity

What are the significant early Irish hymns? How did Luther recover congregational singing and how did Calvin restrict it? What were the early modern English hymns like and who is the most influential hymn writer of this period? How did English hymns evolve and who is the most influential hymn writer making this change? What are gospel songs? What was a missionary hymn like? What is the philosophy behind our current hymnal? What are our most popular hymns?

Presented by Dr Chuck Dickson, retired history professor and a frequent presenter for GSP's adult spiritual formation programs.

Undoing Erasure Missiology

Sunday, Oct. 15, 9 a.m., Bloom Room

Christendom has a history of erasing cultures, societies, and identities. This forum will look at alternative ways of going about mission in our communities that emboldens a diversity of identities to proclaim god's love in their lives instead of expecting these identities to conform to longstanding expectations of Christian Culture. It will be based on an article published in the Spring 2017 *Anglican Theological Review* by the same name.

The Rev. Ben Garren is the Episcopal Chaplain to the University of Arizona.

Luther, the Reformation & Pastoral Care

Sunday, Oct. 22, 9 a.m., Bloom Room

We often hear about the theological changes that Martin Luther initiated. For example, he insisted that trusting in God (or not) really was a big deal. On the other hand, when was the last time we heard why Luther launched his changes? The reasons were pastoral. Come find out what some of those pastoral changes were.

The Rev. Thomas Morrison is an ordained minister in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Before retiring, he worked for his bishop in congregations that were changing from one pastor to a new one, served as clinical therapist for people with severe psychiatric issues, and taught biological statistics.

Sermons on Tap

Sunday, Oct. 22, 11:45 a.m., Bloom Room

Ever leave worship on Sunday and wish you could talk about the sermon with others? Why not join like-minded folks for an open discussion of the day's sermon over beer and sandwiches?

This small group is for anyone with a desire to connect more deeply with others and a willingness to explore their own questions about how we live into the “good news” as preached at GSP. The setting will be informal and relaxed. No need to register, come anytime. All are welcome!

Beer, iced tea, and a light lunch will be available. Donations are accepted to cover the costs of lunch.

Facilitated by Brian Arthur. Brian is a member of the Adult Spiritual Formation ministry team.

SPECIAL EVENTS IN OCTOBER! *(see details of these programs on Page 5)*

Dinner of Remembrance (Parish Potluck)

Friday, Oct. 27, 6-8:30 p.m., McBride Hall, Labyrinth and Memorial Garden

Spirituality in the Second Half of Life Ministry Event

Saturday, Oct. 28, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., McBride Hall

An Intimate Evening with Death, Herself

Saturday, Oct. 28, 7p.m., McBride Hall (reception following)

THIRD FRIDAY FILMS @ GSP

Fall Film Series: Stories of Reconciliation, Redemption & Hope

Join us for a free film and discussion on the third Friday of each month. “If we really want to love we must learn how to forgive.” —Mother Teresa

Forgiveness: A Time to Love and a Time to Hate (2011)

Friday, Oct. 20, 6:30 p.m., Bloom Room

Forgiveness: A Time to Love and a Time to Hate provides an intimate look into the spontaneous outpouring of forgiveness: from the Amish families for the 2006 shooting of

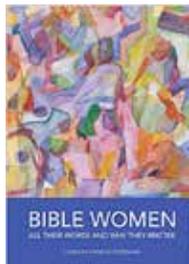
their children in Nickel Mines, Pennsylvania; the struggle of '60s radicals to cope with the serious consequences of their violent acts of protest; the penitential journey of a modern-day Germany, confronting the horrific acts of the Holocaust; and the riveting stories of

survivors of the unimaginably, brutal Rwandan genocide; and others. Once a uniquely religious word, forgiveness now is changing and there is no consensus about what it is and what it is becoming. This film asks why is forgiveness in the air today; what does that say about us and the times we live in;

what are its power, its limitations and in some instances its dangers; has it been cheapened or deepened...or both?

Hosts Jim Franks, Steve Williams and Catherine Penn Williams are all film buffs.

UNDERSTANDING SCRIPTURE: BIBLE STUDY @ GSP



Bible Women

Fridays, Oct. 6 & 20, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Weeks Room

Where are the voices of women in the Bible? What do they have to say to us about our own lives? This class studies the Bible through the words of women in the Old and New Testaments. The focus is on actual scripture and its contexts; an optional text, *Bible Women: All Their Words and Why They Matter* by Lindsay Hardin Freeman, is available from Amazon in softcover (\$22) or Kindle (\$9.99). The group meets twice a month on the first and third Fridays. No registration is necessary and participants are welcome to join the group at any time.

For more information contact Vicki Stefani, 520-743-3978 or vstefani@email.arizona.edu.

For Everyone: Coffee, Bagels & Bible Stuff

Thursdays, Oct. 26, 7:30-8:30 a.m., Weeks Room

Join a diverse group in a discussion of scripture. In our third year, many are attending their first bible study and are enjoying the attempt to put the weekly readings into historical perspective while finding current application. Drop-ins are welcome, and we start and end on time. Formerly a group for men, this class now welcomes everyone!

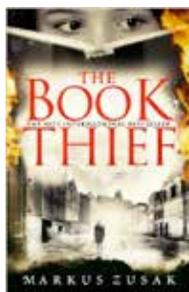
Please note: This group will end on Thursday, Oct. 26.
Bill Moore, GSP Junior Warden, is the group facilitator.

MAKING CONNECTIONS: SMALL GROUPS @ GSP

Nourishing Spirits Returns!

GSP's Small Groups Program for 2017-2018

(see details on Page 5)



GSP Readers Group:

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

Friday, Oct. 13, 9:30 a.m., Bloom Room

It is 1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier, and will become busier still.

Liesel Meminger is a foster girl living outside of Munich, who scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist—books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement.

In superbly crafted writing that burns with intensity, award-winning author Markus Zusak's unforgettable story is about the ability of books to feed the soul.

For more information, please contact Vicki Stefani at 520-743-3978.

we do not impose any doctrine or dogma on members of our group. Recommended reading: *Natural Spirituality* by Joyce Rockwood Hudson (revised edition) and/or *Inner Work* by Robert Johnson. All are welcome. No registration is necessary. This group meets the first Saturday of every month.

Catherine Penn Williams has been a student of her own dreams for nearly 30 years. A longtime member of GSP, she is a Jungian psychotherapist in private practice and an experienced group leader.

Sharing Our Spiritual Journeys

Mondays, 10 a.m.-12 noon, Bloom Room

In this small discussion group, we focus on a different intersection between spirituality, religion, and culture. For the summer months we will focus on developing a contemplative practice using the breath and sound, utilizing a variety of approaches. Each session stands alone and all are welcome. No registration is necessary.

Co-facilitated by Brian Arthur, Jim Franks and Catherine Penn Williams. Brian, Jim and Catherine are all longtime contributors to the Adult Spiritual Formation ministry at GSP.

Saturday Java Jive: Coffee & Conversation

Saturdays, 8:30-11 a.m., Epic Café, 745 N. Fourth Ave. (at University Blvd.)

Want to meet and get to know folks in a relaxed and friendly environment? All are welcome to join this long-running motley crew that meets every Saturday morning for coffee and conversation. We never know who will show up, the topic is always up for grabs and hilarity often ensues.



Monthly Dream Group:

Discovering God's Forgotten Language

Saturday, Oct. 7, 10 a.m.-12 noon, Bloom Room

In this ongoing monthly group, we'll support each other in understanding our dreams through the lens of the work of psychologist Carl Jung and his understanding of the human psyche. We'll look for the ways in which our dreams form a bridge between our conscious waking self and the Self that is present in the deepest part of ourselves, a collaboration that can guide us on the path of individuation. While we are part of and sometimes use the language of a Christian community,



Grace St. Paul's

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

WEEKLY SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

Sundays

- 7:45 a.m., [Holy Communion](#)
- 9 a.m., Coffee & Conversation
- 9:45 a.m., Child Care
- 10 a.m., [Holy Communion](#)
- 10 a.m., Sunday School
- 11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
- 6 p.m., Youth Group

Mondays

- 11:30 a.m., Spiritual Direction
- 4 p.m., Spirit Dojo
- 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic

Tuesdays

- 6 p.m., [Evening Prayer & Communion](#)
- 6 p.m., Arts & Crafts for Adults
- 7 p.m., Interfaith Meditation

Wednesdays

- 7 a.m., [Holy Communion](#)
- 9 a.m., Desert Angel Quilters
- 4:30 p.m., Spirit Dojo

Thursdays

- 7:30 a.m., *Coffee, Bagels & B.S. for All*
- 10 a.m., Bridge Group
- 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
- 5:30 p.m., [Spirit Now—An Emerging Worship Experience](#)
- 7 p.m., AZ Welcomes Refugees

Saturdays

- 8:30 a.m., [Saturday Java Jive](#)
- 9 a.m., Altar Guild

What's Happening in October 2017...

1st CREATION SUNDAY

- 9 a.m., *Care of Creation, Care of the Poor*
- 5 p.m., **Blessing of the Animals**

2nd 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*

3rd 5:30 p.m., *Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World*

4th 12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry 7 p.m., **Green Church Committee**

5th 5:30 p.m., TIHAN Faith Community Liaison Meeting 6 p.m., **Spirit Song**

6th 10 a.m., TIHAN Faith Community Liaison Meeting 10:30 a.m., **Bible Women** 6:30 p.m., Spirit Players Play-Reading

7th 10 a.m., *Discovering God's Forgotten Language*

8th 9 a.m., *Exploring Today's Lectionary* 11:45 a.m., *Hymns Through the Ages*

9th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*

10th 5:30 p.m., *Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World*

13th 9:30 a.m., **GSP Readers Group**

14th 10 a.m., Southern Arizona Friends of Jung

15th 9 a.m., *Undoing Erasure Missiology* 11:45 a.m., *Hymns Through the Ages*

16th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*

17th 5:30 p.m., *Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World*

18th 12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry

20th 10:30 a.m., **Bible Women** 6:30 p.m., **Film & Fellowship**

21st 4 p.m., Community Animal Burial

22nd 9 a.m., *Luther, the Reformation & Pastoral Care* 11:45 a.m., *Sermons on Tap* 1 p.m., Mother's Kitchen (Primavera)

23rd 3 p.m., UA Symphonic Choir & Arizona Choir Concert

23rd 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*

24th 9 a.m., Primavera Cooks! Group 5:30 p.m., *Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World*

6:30 p.m., **Vestry Meeting**

26th 6 p.m., **Spirit Song (special date)**

27th 6 p.m., **Dinner of Remembrance**

28th 9:30 a.m., *Spirituality for the Second Half of Life*

5 p.m., *An Intimate Evening with Death, Herself*

29th 9 a.m., Coffee & Conversation

30th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*

31st 5:30 p.m., *Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World*

Coming Up in November 2017...

1st 12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry 7 p.m., **Green Church Committee**

2nd 6 p.m., **Dia de los Muertos**

3rd 10:30 a.m., **Bible Women** 6:30 p.m., Spirit Players Play-Reading

4th 10 a.m., *Discovering God's Forgotten Language* 5 p.m., *An Intimate Evening with Death, Herself*

5th 9 a.m., Coffee & Conversation

6th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*

7th 5:30 p.m., *Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World*

10th 9:30 a.m., **GSP Readers Group**

11th 1 p.m., *Southern Arizona Friends of Jung*

12th 9 a.m., Coffee & Conversation

13th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*

14th 1 p.m., TIHAN Orientation 5:30 p.m., *Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World*