

The Briefly

April/May 2014

The monthly newsletter for the community of
Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church
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2014 Holy Week Schedule of Services

Thursday, April 10:

Passover Seder, 5:30 p.m.

Palm Sunday, April 13:

8 & 10 a.m. services, with procession for 10 a.m. service

Monday, April 14:

Holy Monday Service at noon in the memorial garden

Tuesday, April 15:

Evening Prayer at 6 p.m. & Interfaith Meditation at 7 p.m.; both in the Julian Chapel

Wednesday, April 16:

Holy Communion at 7 a.m. in the Julian Chapel

Thursday, April 17:

The Essence of Christianity at 7 p.m. in the church
April 17th, 9:00 p.m.-April 18th, noon—The Watch

Good Friday, April 18:

Stations of the Cross at noon on the labyrinth
5:30 p.m., Children's Stations of the Cross on the labyrinth
7 p.m., Community Tenebrae Service in the church

Holy Saturday, April 19:

Great Easter Vigil at 7 p.m. in the church

Easter Sunday, April 20:

8 & 10 a.m. services, with Easter party after 10 a.m. service

Rector's Letter

This past Sunday, one of our long time parishioners walked up to me after the service and said, "There are so many new faces here! I can't believe what is happening!" The week before during the peace, I told another parishioner I couldn't find him because he was not sitting in his "regular place." He responded jokingly that the problem was all these people in the church were filling up the pews before he could get there. The week before that, someone told me that we have now become the diverse congregation that we always spoke about being.

In addition to being much larger and more diverse, Grace St. Paul's has also become a beautiful mix of rookies and veterans. Our veteran presence gives us a stability and a tradition that keeps us spiritually rooted and strong. Our veterans also give us a sense of security and the experience to know that we will be successful. Our rookies give us the vitality and energy that brings new life to everything we do. It is that balance of veteran presence and rookie enthusiasm that brings success to any organization.

I am especially mindful of this as we approach the most important time of year for Christians, Holy Week. Our veterans are aware of just how meaningful Holy Week can be, immersed in this ancient tradition of the church from their childhood. But that familiarity can also bring a sense of sameness to these events. It is not that we do not realize the intense significance of our actions. We get that part. The danger is that because the momentous events of these days are so deeply etched in our brains, we will not be able to feel their enormous power anymore. It is no help that our post-modern culture encourages a "been there-done that" thought process. But I would also suggest that part of the blame rests on our church. Often, we have misinterpreted tradition as sameness, making it very difficult for people to hear anew the immensity of what we do together this month.

Our rookies bring no preconceived notions about Holy Week to the table. But who in their right mind would expose themselves to the tradition of going to church for four straight days without having a previous experience of the wonder of it all? Rookies are therefore liable to skip over the whole thing.

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Submissions to *The Briefly*

Please submit articles to Joyce Henderson, BrieflyEditor@grace-stpauls.org. Calendar items go to Wendy Pipentacos at wendypipe@yahoo.com. John Banks receives photos, charts, and graphics at jdbanks@gmail.com.

The deadline for the June 2014 issue will be Tuesday, May 13.

Rector's Letter

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One of the great gifts of Grace St. Paul's is that every year people are moved to tears during the most profound time of the year for us. We never get through a Maundy Thursday or Good Friday service without people experiencing the event so deeply that they openly weep. That happens because our veterans have described to our rookies why Holy Week is so important and what it can do for them. As a result, it is often our rookies who are weeping first, the people who have recently returned to church, or have never experienced the power of these liturgies first hand before. They are the ones who are feeling the intensity and magnitude of what is happening deep in their souls. But the magic thing is when that happens, the veterans are able to see the Holy Week experience anew. They see it through the eyes of the rookie, and then the power of it comes back to them, fully and completely.

That happened last year at GSP in a beautifully, moving way. This year, I expect it

to be even stronger as our mix of rookies and veterans has continued to expand.

That is what I believe you will find in all of our Holy Week services at Grace St. Paul's, whether it be the symbolism of Maundy Thursday when we capture the heart and soul of the Jesus message, or the utter beauty of the sights and sounds of our incredible Good Friday Tenebrae service, or the central service of the entire year captured in one night at the Easter Vigil on Saturday night. Of course, we won't stop there. Our Sunday morning Easter liturgy just may be the most powerful thing we do as a church.

Whether you are a veteran or a rookie, we believe you too will be moved to tears and then utter joy. We simply believe it will change your life, if you give it that chance.

A Blessed Holy Week and Easter to all of you, whether this is your first time or 100th time,

Steve+



The Rev. Steve Kelsey lends a hand at GSP

I was born in Baltimore, Md., in 1952, to the rector of Memorial Episcopal Church and a social worker, welcomed by two elder sisters (Ann & Meg) and a brother, Jim, who'd beat me into the world by ten minutes. I was brought up mostly in New York City and New England, graduated from Colby College, in Waterville, Maine. I took two years after college leading community ministry with a small parish in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont. Then, I returned to NYC for three years at the General Theological Seminary, was ordained in Vermont, and then served parishes and regional ministries in Alaska, New York, Michigan, and Connecticut.

My passion in ministry has been to support "ministry development" in congregations on the margins, in poor, small, often remote (or inner city) locations. The focus has been on deepening the spiritual lives of all members, thus empowering them to serve the communities in which they were planted more confidently and competently—so that those congregations are defined not by the resources

they lack, but by the gifts they share. I became somewhat of a consultant coordinating educational and "local leadership development" primarily throughout New England, as a collaboration between seminaries, dioceses, and national church officers.

In 2010, I retired to Tucson, where I worked some with the Episcopal Church in Navajoland, and then as a Hospice Chaplain. Meanwhile, and more significantly, my life partner of 30 years, Kathy Barrett, (a social worker, who worked years with the Yale Child Study Center in New Haven) and I have three children and two grandchildren—all out on their own now. Life is good!

Here at GSP, I have agreed to give support to the Pastoral Care Team, which Lynne Albright has led so admirably for years. I am providing a role I call "ministry developer," providing coordination through education, consultation and linkage to ensure that the excellent pastoral care ministries already in place remain vibrant and flourish, as others join them in using their gifts to further deepen the heart of our life together, and expand our mutual caring ministry well beyond our church walls. I will also take my turn, as a priest associate, in worship and preaching.

Holy Week, 2014

By The Rev. Steve Keplinger

If you are new to a liturgical church, Holy Week is something you may have never experienced previously. Not only is it an ancient tradition marking the events leading up to the death of Jesus, it is also the most important week of the year in our worship experience. Nothing says more about who we are than the services of Holy Week.

Holy Week at GSP is both old and new. It is steeped in the ancient worship tradition of the church. But we have also created liturgies that we believe highlight what Jesus wanted us to remember the most about his last week on earth. Our goal is to create liturgies that will be so profoundly moving that it will change you deep in your heart and bring each of you into a closer relationship with one another and with God. Here is the breakdown of services:

April 10 — Thursday before Holy Week — Jewish Passover Seder. This year we have made arrangements with some of our Jewish friends to celebrate a Passover Seder meal with all of us. They will preside for us and be our guests at a complete Seder dinner. This is a gigantic opportunity for all of us to learn and take part in the event celebrating Jewish liberty and freedom. Don't miss out! Seats are very limited. If you would like to attend, please contact our Director of Children and Youth Ministries, Rosalind Garcia. Call the office, 327-6857 or email: rosalind.garcia@grace-stpauls.org. The event is scheduled for 5:30 p.m.

April 13 — Palm Sunday — 8 & 10 a.m. — We will begin the service of Palm Sunday outside, waving our palms and commemorating the day when Jesus is jubilantly honored as he enters Jerusalem. At the 10 a.m. service, those who are able will process around the block. After processing into the church and continuing the celebration, the liturgy will very suddenly turn to a narrative of the Passion Gospel. It is a stunning juxtaposition and a very emotional service.

April 14, 15 & 16 — Holy Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday — Each day leading up to the Triduum (the three days), we will have a special communion service. Each service will build upon the one before, leading us into the beauty and completeness of our Maundy Thursday service and what is to come on Good Friday. Monday's service will be at Noon outdoors in the Memorial Garden. Tuesday's service will be at 6 p.m. in the Julian

Chapel in the church. After Tuesday evening's communion service, there will be a special meditation service for Holy Week. Wednesday's service will be at 7 a.m. in the Julian Chapel.

April 17 — Maundy Thursday — 7 p.m. — Maundy comes from the latin word *mandatum*, where we get the word mandate. It refers to Jesus's mandate to follow the "new commandment," that we love one another. On this night we commemorate Jesus's last night on earth, where I believe he put into one evening the essence of his entire earthly ministry. We will commemorate the last supper as well as Jesus's act of foot washing, reminding each of us how we are to be servants to one another. Our Maundy Thursday service will conclude with the stripping of the altar, symbolizing what will happen the following day. Our special service at GSP will include more symbols to capture the essence of our faith. This service is in my mind the most important worship experience of the year. I have seen it totally change people's lives. If you must choose only one service to attend in Holy Week, this is the one I would personally pick.

Maundy Thursday night until Good Friday Noon — Keeping Watch — Another ancient tradition is for individuals to "stay awake" in the stripped church in a contemplative fashion as Jesus asked of his disciples the night before he was killed. This year we will add the dimension of solemn Gospel readings during the night, punctuated with silence and soft music. There will be a sign up sheet for those of you who would like to be one of the watchers for this all night vigil. Sign up in the office, at the Welcome Table on Sundays or at the back of the church at an usher's station on Sundays. The goal is to have at least one individual in the Chapel during the entire watch. The Watch will end with our first service at Noon on Good Friday.

April 18 — Good Friday Noon — Stations of the Cross

We will have a contemporary Stations of the Cross experience on the labyrinth beginning at Noon. The practice of the stations is another ancient tradition. At GSP, we will reflect on the events of Good Friday from a liberation perspective. This service will include walking for those who are able. The service will last about 30 minutes.

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Notes from the Choir Stalls

By Christina Jarvis,
Director of Music



The forty days of Lent are slipping by and Holy Week will soon be upon us—that rocky journey through the lacrimarum valle, the valley of tears we all want to avoid but cannot. Every heart has its time of wailing, of crying out like a banished child, of stumbling along a rutted path in bare feet. Knowing that Jesus went there also and prepared a way to bring us out of darkness to light is like a song to keep us going. In the end is the promise of renewal and resurrection.

April in Tucson doesn't work well for a spring renewal-of-life metaphor. The flowers are past it and the winter rains, such as they were, are over and long gone. Easter this year is nearly as late as it can be, so Holy Week unfolds under a burnished sun that reminds us summer is just outside the frame. The sun's heat can bring its own valley of the shadow of death, as too many migrants on our border have found to their immense cost.

Our youth will have the opportunity to learn more about the migrant experience by walking along the Devil's Highway through the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge as part of Friends and Faith across Borders. The Zombies as such may not officially participate in this weekend, although a couple of them will be on the trip.

An update on **Lent 5**—the first Sunday in April—which coincides with the visit by Michael Dowd and our celebration of Evolution Sunday: the offertory anthem will be “Now is the cool of the day” by Jean Ritchie, with soloist Allison Dumka. We're sticking with the lectionary for communion—“I am the resurrection and the life” by Thomas Morley.

The following week is **Palm Sunday**, when we will process through the neighborhood banging on things. I'm sure they love us anyway. The Adult Choir will sing a setting of the chorale “Ah, Holy Jesus” by John Ferguson and that *Kyrie* by Palestrina from *Missa de Beata Virgine* (this poor piece has been batted around among the weeks like a cat toy).

Maundy Thursday, one of the oldest services in Christianity, commemorates the Last Supper, when Christ washed the feet of his disciples and commanded them to love as they have been loved. During our own foot-washing service,

the choir will sing “Beloved, Let Us Love One Another” by Gerhard Schroth.

The **Good Friday** Tenebrae service has become a GSP tradition. Once again, we will intersperse scripture, hymns and choir anthems as the candles are extinguished one by one and the church slips into the darkness of the tomb. Anthems include works by Colin Brumby, F. Melius Christiansen, Heinrich Schütz, Leland Sateren, and Roy Ringwald. Lutherans make a fine resource for Holy Week anthems, it must be said.

The **Easter Vigil** has become very much family oriented. I am working to have St. Cecilia and Zombie participation in that service. We'll see what happens. The Adults are scheduled to sing “I believe this is Jesus”, a spiritual arranged by Undine Smith Moore.

For **Easter Sunday**, we will have trumpeter Adam Ackerman with us. The choir will sing a double choir piece by Samuel Scheidt—“Surrexit Christus hodie”—and a piece by Francisco López Capillas—“Alleluia, dic nobis, Maria.” Capillas was one of the most prolific composers of the Mexican Baroque; he was chapelmaster of the Mexico City Cathedral from 1654 until his death in 1673. The Choral Public Domain Library is a marvelous resource, providing access to the cultural heritage of our part of the world. I use it a lot.

The choir does not sing on **Thomas Sunday**—they get a much needed break after the demands of Holy Week and Easter, happy though they are to participate in these services. You are, aren't you choir? I'll be sure to ask you that during rehearsal on Holy Saturday afternoon.

May brings with it the smell of popcorn, hotdogs and Cracker Jack. The choir will once again sing the National Anthem at a UA Wildcats baseball game, this year on **May 9**. Some have asserted that the UA Athletic Department is foolish to have us back, given the last two times we've sung, they lost the game. We'll hope for better luck this time!

The Bishop will be with us on the first Sunday in May, which will be a joyful day at Grace St. Paul's, as he lays hands on our candidates for confirmation and blesses them as members of the body of Christ and the

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Notes from the Choir Stalls

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Episcopal Church. I'm still pondering musical options; it has to be grand enough to match the occasion and yet, because it is right after Holy Week and Easter and the choir's break, we don't have a lot of time to prepare something big. Hmmm. This might call for a reprise of the Stanford *Te Deum*.

The following week is Good Shepherd Sunday. We will return to our Anglican roots with an anthem by Thomas Tomkins (1572-1656) called "My shepherd is the living Lord," with solos by James Callegary and Michael Gibson. On the Fifth Sunday of Easter, we celebrate programs for children and youth, especially our Rite 13 candidates and those preparing for pilgrimage. This will also be the last Sunday for the St. Cecilia's and Zombie Choirs for the season, as they join the Adult Choir in singing "O Sifuni Mungu" (All Creatures of our God and King) with percussive assistance from Rick Hansen. I don't know what we'd do without him, and I don't want to find out!

Alas, the time has come to find out what we will do without Michael Sugimoto, the assistant director of the Zombie Choir. Michael is in the pre-veterinarian program at the University of Arizona, and he has been offered a wonderful weekend job that will work perfectly for his studies but not so well for attending church. We are deeply grateful for his commitment to us at Grace St. Paul's; he has volunteered his time and talent with a glad heart and glorious voice, and we will all miss him very much. We wish him a grand future full of creatures great and small. Unless I can persuade Michael to clone himself, we are seeking another assistant to continue to develop our children's and youth music program.

Pentecost is June 8 this year. Therefore, I will talk about it in the next *Briefly* issue, along with the summer schedule. As you journey through Lent, may you have time to think about what you want to do with the rest of your life (singing in the choir is good). Then may we all have a glorious and golden Easter, celebrating Christ's resurrection and our work in the world around us.

Peace,

Christina



Holy Week Services in Depth

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5:30 p.m. — The Way of the Cross

This service is a form of Stations of the Cross designed specifically for children. It will also be outside, weather permitting and will be less than 30 minutes.

7 p.m. — Tenebrae Service

Our main Good Friday service will be one of the most moving you might ever experience. A service of Tenebrae is an ancient tradition, but one not utilized often. We will move from light to darkness, both metaphorically and physically as we travel through short Gospel readings describing the events of this fateful day, followed with a musical response to each reading. It is in my mind the most emotional service of the year and one that also changes people.

April 19 — Holy Saturday

In the morning we will gather to physically prepare the church for the big day. Those who would like to assist our liturgical arts committee and altar guild in preparation are welcome to join us.

7 p.m. — The Great Easter Vigil

This is the premier service in the Christian tradition. We begin in the darkness of the world, lighting a primordial fire and working our way through salvation history, suddenly bursting into the grandeur and wonder of Easter. The Vigil captures the length and breadth of Christianity and is a service everyone should experience sometime. In addition to the fire and some beautiful narration, we will have baptisms just like in the ancient church. This year our liturgical team has come up with even more wonder in this incredible worship event. It is the most memorable service in the Christian calendar.

Approximately 9:30 p.m. — Solemn Vigil with Chanting

This will be an intimate service in the Julian Chapel in the church, following as soon as possible after The Great Vigil. It will include formal readings of the biblical lessons of salvation history in a quiet, meditative setting, capturing the most ancient traditions of vigil practice in the church.

April 20 — Easter Sunday — 8 & 10 a.m.

The day arrives. The full wonder, beauty and magnificence of the resurrection experience are captured in one service. An explosion of light and exquisite music complete our journey to the ultimate joy of resurrection and celebration. Following the worship, GSP hosts one of Tucson's most fantastic celebratory parties. *You won't want to miss any of it!*

Holy Week & Easter for Families

Friday, April 18, at 5:30 p.m.: Children's Way of the Cross.

Sunday, April 20, at 10 a.m.: Family Easter service, followed by GSP's annual Easter Party! Bigger and better than ever!

- Food
- Jumping Castle
- Arts and crafts
- Big petting zoo this year
- Creative face painting by Maggie Christy



Children & Youth Enjoy Summer at GSP

Summer Sunday School begins Sunday, June 15, and meets in the St. Jude Room at 10 a.m. with Jean Keplinger and friends. All ages are welcome.

Childcare will be available at 10 a.m. on Sundays in the Nursery.

During summer, Youth Groups meet together in the youth room following the 10 a.m. service.

Some youth will be rehearsing in July for a Coffee Hour Play presentation, "Galaxy Masters and the Saga of the Space Biscuit Drive," by James Gooden.

Friends & Faith Across Borders

A Youth Cross-Cultural Experience

By Rosalind Garcia

Last year, in an article for the Diocese of Arizona, I wrote about our first Friends & Faith Across Borders experience: "[w]e encountered rain, snow, sleet, hail and even a peek or two of sunshine on this cold weekend in February. Despite the desert's determination to introduce us to all possible winter weather events, our weekend on the U.S./Mexican Border was faith enriching and eye opening for all who braved the elements to learn something about the incredibly complex issues that surround the southern Border. The politics and vitriol are familiar to those of us who live in Arizona and in Mexico. We wanted to find out for ourselves what was happening here. We wanted to put a face to the ugly term "illegal alien".

"Friends & Faith Across Borders (FFAB) grew from the relationship between Tucson's Grace St. Paul's Episcopal (GSP) Church's youth group and Kino Border Initiative's youth club, Kino Teens (KT), which began at Lourdes Catholic High School in Nogales, Ariz., but is spreading to other schools in Arizona and even to California. The idea was to offer teens a cross cultural/cross Border experience that allowed all the participants to see and begin to understand life near our southern border. Youth from St. James Episcopal Church, Tempe, and youth leaders from Tanque Verde Lutheran Church (TVLC), Tucson, joined us on this great adventure."

On March 28-30, we offered our second Friends & Faith Across Borders experience. Like last year, we spent our first night at GSP, learning more about people living on the Border between the US and Mexico. This year, Juan Garcia, Professor of History at the UA, talked to us about life, history and politics on the US/Mexico Border. Using the film, "Under the Same Moon," Dr. Garcia helped us understand many of the motivations behind



Douglas/Naco Border Fence as we saw it on Feb. 9, 2013

those who choose to cross the Border without documentation. This discussion began to put a face on the issue of undocumented immigration and helped make the rest of the weekend more powerful.

On Saturday, we went to Nogales, Ariz. There we hiked the "Devil's Highway," which used to be a common night-time pathway for migrants to cross into the US from Mexico. It is not used often anymore, because it is well patrolled, but one still sees a lot of evidence of the migrants' passage this way. It was an interesting and emotional experience. The highway goes through a nature preserve, so it was a lovely hike. We had a picnic lunch there, too.

From Nogales, we continued on to Bisbee, where we walked to the border wall at Naco and had pizza with our friends from St. John's Episcopal, Bisbee. Then, at St. John's, we met for a debriefing about our day with Fr. Richard Aguilar, the new Vicar at St. John's Bisbee and St. Steven's, Douglas. Fr. Richard has lived and served in Texas and Florida and has a deep understanding of undocumented migration.

On Sunday morning, we attended worship at St. John's and met with their congregation, and then moved on to St. Steven's, Douglas, for worship conversation with members of the congregation.



Bishop Smith celebrates the eucharist during an earlier visit to GSP.

GSP Welcomes Bishop on May 4

In the Episcopal tradition, it is a right and a joyful thing, as we say, to welcome our Diocesan Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Kirk Stevan Smith, for an official visit each year. These visits are the times when individuals have the opportunity to be confirmed, received or reaffirm their baptismal vows.

While all who receive communion here three times a year and are pledgers of record are technical members of the church, the Bishop is the one, since the very earliest days of the church, who makes this official through the

laying on of hands.

We have been preparing for the Bishop's visit in a number of ways, including our Inquirer's class for adults, and confirmation class for youth. This year, the Bishop's visit is scheduled for **Sunday, May 4**. Everyone in the congregation who has never been officially received into the church by the laying on of hands by a Bishop, is asked to prayerfully consider being received this May. In addition, this is the perfect opportunity for those who would like to reaffirm their commitment to this church to step forward.

To prepare all of you for that and to help you discern whether you would like to take this step, we are having our popular **Episcopal 101** class that began on Sunday, March 2, and continues on through April 6 and 13 (yes, the 13th, even though that's Palm Sunday).

This 90-minute class is taught by the Rector. It spans the wide breadth of Christian history, the Prayer Book, the liturgy, the Sacramental tradition, how we govern ourselves as a church, a comparison of Christian denominations, the present issues facing the Episcopal Church, and a discussion of what it means to be Episcopalian in what may be a post-religious age.

The class is recommended for those of you who have come to this tradition for the first time, as well as anyone who wants to learn more about the church. *See the article on Page 11 for the schedule.*

The Gifts of God for the People of God

Did you know . . .

. . . that you can make a gift to our church that will cost you no money in your lifetime?

All that we are, all that we have, comes from God and will one day return to God. For a brief period we are given time, energy and resources. What we do with these gifts

ultimately defines the character of our life and the depth of our spiritual understanding.

Planned giving is one expression of the wise use of the personal resources God has entrusted to us. In the coming months you will be hearing more about the act and intention of making a gift now that will be given in the future.

—Peggy Scott, co-chair of the
GSP Giving and Receiving Ministry



Earth Day! @ GSP on April 22

by Catherine Penn Williams

Just two days after Easter, on Tuesday, April 22, Grace St Paul's will host an all-ages "Earth Day! @ GSP" from 5:30-8 p.m.

The festivities will include a Tucson Food Truck Coalition Roundup at the intersection of Adams St. and Norton Ave., with dining on the labyrinth accompanied by the Out of Kilters, a local Celtic band.

McBride Hall will be the site for exhibitions on energy conservation and other sustainable practices and there will be Earth Day activities for children—as well as free t-shirts!

At the end of the evening we will gather in the rear parking lot for a blessing of our new solar panels.

Hosted by GSP's Green Ministry, we are inviting the entire Blenman-Elm neighborhood to join us for this fun, festive and informative event!

ALL-CHURCH CLEANING DAY

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

8:30 a.m.-Noon

It's that time of the year, our semi-annual cleaning of our church buildings!

The Buildings & Grounds Committee invites you to join us as we vacuum, polish and clean to

prepare the facilities for Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

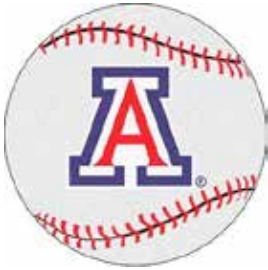
- Everyone invited.
- Pastries and coffee served.
- All cleaning supplies are provided.

If you are willing to bring a vacuum cleaner or a carpet cleaner, please let Mark Drew or one of the B&G Committee know.



On Feb. 8, 2014, The Rev. Ernie Galaz was installed as Rector of St. Andrew's in Nogales. The Rev. Ernie is yet another priest raised up at Grace St. Paul's! It was a joyous occasion and we are all so proud of him and happy for the congregation of St. Andrew's, Nogales.

GSP friends stand with Rev. Ernie during his ordination at Grace St. Paul's about a year ago.



Take Me Out to the Ball Game (Reprise)!

We've been invited back! The Grace St. Paul's Adult Choir is singing the National Anthem at the University of Arizona Wildcats baseball game at 6 p.m., Friday, May 9, at Hi Corbett Field, next to Gene C. Reid Park.

We will have 75 tickets this year, first-come, first-served, so get them while they're hotter than hot dogs. They will be on sale for \$6 each starting on Monday, April 14, and will be

available through the church office.

Those lucky parishioners scoring tickets should meet promptly at 5:30 p.m. of game day by the box office at the stadium so that everyone from Grace St. Paul's can sit together. The UA Athletic Department no longer allows block booking, so we can't have a section to ourselves.

Swarming together builds community, so don't be late!

Next Newcomer Dinner, April 5

Grace St. Paul's members, Eric Carr and Richard Rhoads, are hosting another newcomers' dinner (vegetarian potluck) at their home, on Saturday, April 5, at 6 p.m.

If you would like to attend, please call the church office at 327-6857 to RSVP.

Parish Wellness:

A Snapshot of our Community

By Roger Pierce, Senior Warden

Someone asked me recently, "What is 'parish wellness'? Are we taking our temperature?"

Well, in a sense...yes.

Twice each year we meet to review our life together, receive up-to-date

information, explore ministry activities, and take a peek into the future. And, don't forget the good fellowship—being together is, in itself, a blessing and an encouragement.

Please draw a circle around **Sunday, May 18**. That's the day we will celebrate our life together as a parish. From all indications, the pulse is strong and the body is full of energy!



Lighting candles at the end of the Spring Equinox service, on Thursday, March 20.

Adult Spiritual Formation

The Future Is Calling Us to Greatness: Coming Home to Reality

with Michael Dowd, author of *Thank God for Evolution*
Sunday, April 6, 4:30 p.m.
in McBride Hall



Science and religion are not enemies; indeed, they must work together if humanity is to survive the 21st century. Given our impact on Earth's climate, the seas, and other species, humanity is about to experience what could be called *The Great Reckoning*. The good news is that this may also come to be known as *The Great Homecoming*.

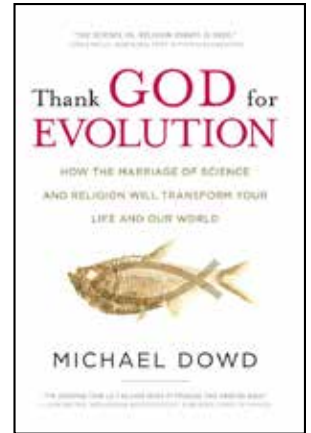
A worldwide movement has been emerging for decades, largely unnoticed, at the nexus of science, inspiration, and sustainability. Beliefs are secondary. What unites us are a pool of common values, priorities, and commitments regarding the importance of living in right relationship to reality and working together in service of a just and thriving future for humanity and the larger body of life.

Michael Dowd's presentation on **Sunday, April 6**, at 4:30 p.m., in McBride Hall, will focus on six points of agreement held in common by tens of millions of religious and non-religious people across the globe.

This program, geared for adults and teens, expands on material in his best-selling,

bridge-building book, *Thank God for Evolution: How the Marriage of Science and Religion Will Transform Your Life and Our World*, which was endorsed by six Nobel laureates and other science luminaries, including noted skeptics, and by religious leaders across the spectrum.

Dowd is one of the most inspiring science-honoring speakers in America today. He and his wife, Connie Barlow, an acclaimed science writer, have spoken to more than 1,800 groups since launching their itinerant ministry in 2002. Their work has been featured in *The New York Times*, *LA Times*, *Washington Post*, *Newsweek*, *Discover* magazine, and on CNN, Fox News, and ABC News.



Adult Spiritual Formation: Report to the Vestry of Grace St. Paul's

February 25, 2014

Our mission for the Adult Spiritual Formation

Ministry is to:

- Cultivate a culture of life-long deep spiritual formation at GSP
- Translate the Christian tradition for 21st century people of faith
- Articulate a progressive Christian faith to a non-church world
- Inspire a passion for ministry and assist people in identifying their individual gifts for ministry

To fulfill this mission, we propose the following ministry initiatives in 2014:

- Change the name from "Adult Education & Spiritual Formation" to "Adult Spiritual Formation" (ASF), recognizing that "education" is a necessary but not a separate component of ongoing adult spiritual formation.
- Leadership of ASF consists of three co-chairs: **Margaret Moore, Margaret (Peggy) Scott** and **Catherine Penn Williams. Roger Pierce** will coordinate experiential programs such as quiet days, retreats and Taizé-style worship.
- The ASF Ministry will sponsor educational programming for Christian faith formation (classes, workshops, small groups), opportunities to encounter the Holy in experiential settings (quiet days, retreats and contemplative Taizé-style worship), and

occasional special events for the wider community beyond GSP.

- Adult Education courses will continue to be offered on Sundays at 9:00 and 11:45, as they can be scheduled. In an effort to extend the reach of adult education, ASF will also experiment with offering occasional classes on Wednesday evenings at 7:00. Participation in all classes will be tracked so that the success of these efforts can be evaluated at year's end.
- ASF will also administer online learning as "GSP Academy." Online classes, prepared and sponsored by ChurchNext and funded through the Diocese of Arizona, will begin to be offered in a "soft" rollout over the summer, with a much bigger push to encourage participation to begin in the fall of 2014.
- ASF would also like to identify two special events (special speaker/mini-conference) to be developed as an outreach and evangelism tool of progressive Christianity to the wider Tucson community in 2015/2016.
- The co-chairs will communicate ASF's activities via *The Briefly*, social media, a bi-weekly e-newsletter begun in Jan, and other marketing tools as appropriate.
- ASF will also offer support and resources—as requested—to associated ministries such as Film & Fellowship, Spirit Players, the Archives and Media Library, EfM, and GSP Library.

Classes & Courses, April-May 2014

Spirit Players: A Play Reading Experience

Fridays, April 4, May 2 & June 6, 6:30 p.m., Bloom Education Center

If you love the theatre, this experience is for you! Join us as a reader or an observer as we give voice to comedies, dramas, social commentaries, and more. Scripts are available at these unrehearsed readings on the first Friday of every month. Readings are open to everyone.

Coordinated by Nanalee Raphael and Halsy Taylor, career professionals in theatre design, direction, and performance who love to introduce others to a variety of scripts.

The Last Week—What Really Happened!

Sunday, April 6, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Insights from Marcus Borg and Dom Crossan about the events in the last week of Jesus' life.

Scripture study and discussion led by Roger Pierce.

Episcopal 101— for Everyone

Sundays, April 6 & 13, 11:45 a.m., Bloom Education Center

All inquirers and current members wanting a “refresher” are invited to learn more of the joy and highlights of the Episcopal path and sharing your journey in the 21st Century. This introduction to the Episcopal Church discusses basic Episcopal liturgical practice, the idea of liturgy, and the Book of Common Prayer; offer a history of the Episcopal Church, its roots and sense of tradition—including where things stand in the church's most recent controversy; and explain the structure and organization of the Episcopal Church; and what does it mean to be a member of Grace St. Paul's Church? What do bishops do? What is Apostolic Succession? Why do we need priests? What direction does authority flow? Bring your questions to all the sessions! We use the book *Jesus Was an Episcopalian: a Newcomers Guide to the Episcopal Church* by Chris Yaw.

Facilitated by Fr. Steve Keplinger, Rector of Grace St. Paul's.

ANIMATE: Faith Development for Progressive Christians

Wednesdays, April 2 & 9, 7-9 p.m., Bloom Education Center

“I love GSP but am I really comfortable calling myself a Christian?” Every Wednesday evening in Lent we will gather as a community to explore some central topics of Christianity (God, religion, Jesus, salvation, the cross, the Bible, and church) and how they speak to 21st century people of faith. In each session, the group will watch a short video from Animate: Faith featuring a leading voice from the emerging church movement, spend time on personal reflection/journaling, and share ideas in a small group. Video presenters include: Lillian Daniel, Bruce Reyes-Chow, Nadia Bolz-Weber, Lauren Winner, Shane Hipps, Mark Scandrette and Brian McLaren.

Facilitated by Catherine Penn Williams and Linda Hutson, both experienced small group and retreat leaders. A simple soup/salad dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m., prior to the beginning of each class.

An Integrated Approach to Taking Care of Ourselves—God's Way

Sunday, May 11, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

When we see ourselves as God does, it can transform the victories and jolts of life; and how we treat ourselves. We will look at spirituality through the lens of scripture, and pair it with practical ideas for our lives. This is an invitation to expand our capacity to take care of our mind, body and spirit.

Facilitated by Cheryl Austin, who was raised in the Anglican tradition in Canada and has a master's degree in Theology from Fuller Theological Seminary, a multid denominational Christian seminary.



For updates on Adult Spiritual Formation classes and courses, check the links on the GSP website, and watch for announcements in email and on Facebook.



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 April 2014

WEEKLY SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

Sundays

- 8 a.m., [Holy Communion](#)
- 8 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
- 11:30 a.m., Youth Groups

Mondays

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

Tuesdays

- 9 a.m., Spiritual Book Discussion
- 6 p.m., [Evening Prayer & Communion](#)
- 7 p.m., Interfaith Meditation

Wednesdays

- 7 a.m., [Holy Communion](#)
- 10 a.m., Quilting Ministry

Thursdays

- 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
- 5:30 p.m., [Spirit Now—An Inclusive Communion](#)

Saturdays

- 9 a.m., Altar Guild

- 2nd 9 a.m., E/fM Class
- 12 p.m., Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 7 p.m., E/fM Class
- 7 p.m., *Animate: Faith Development for Progressive Christians*

- 4th 6:30 p.m., Spirit Players Play Reading

- 6th **Fifth Sunday in Lent**
- 9 a.m., *The Last Week: What Really Happened!*
- 11:45 a.m., *Episcopal 101*
- 4:30 p.m., *The Future is calling us to Greatness*

- 7th 7 p.m., [Green Church Committee](#)

- 8th 6:30 p.m., E/fM Year 13 Group

- 9th 9 a.m., E/fM Class
- 7 p.m., E/fM Class
- 7 p.m., *Animate: Faith Development for Progressive Christians*

- 11th 6:30 p.m., Lenten Film Series

- 13th **PALM SUNDAY**
- 11:45 a.m., *Episcopal 101*
- 6 p.m., [SpiritSong: Worship & Prayer in the style of Taizé](#)

- 16th 9 a.m., E/fM Class

- 17th 7 p.m., E/fM Class

- 17th **MAUNDY THURSDAY**
- 7 p.m., *Maundy Thursday: The Essence of Christianity*
- 9 p.m., The Watch

- 18th **GOOD FRIDAY**
- The Watch *continues*
- 12 p.m., Stations of the Cross

- 7 p.m., Community Tenebrae Service

- 19th **HOLY SATURDAY**

- 7 p.m., Great Easter Vigil

- 20th **EASTER SUNDAY**

- 21st **Parish Office Closed**

- 23rd 9 a.m., E/fM Class

- 7 p.m., E/fM Class

- 29th 6:30 p.m., **Vestry Meeting**

- 30th 9 a.m., E/fM Class

- 7 p.m., E/fM Class

- 7 p.m., Sonora Winds Concert

What's Happening in May

- 2nd 6:30 p.m., Spirit Players Play-Reading

- 4th **Bishop Smith Visits GSP**

- 5th 7 p.m., [Green Church Committee](#)

- 7th 9 a.m., E/fM Class

- 12 p.m., Prayer Shawl Ministry

- 7 p.m., E/fM Class

- 9th 6 p.m., [GSP attends UA baseball](#)

- 11th 9 a.m., *An Integrated Approach to Taking Care of Ourselves*

- 12 p.m., Lay Minister Training

- 6 p.m., [SpiritSong: Worship & Prayer in the style of Taizé](#)

- 12th 7 p.m., Joseph's Pantry meeting

- 13th 6:30 p.m., E/fM Group Year 13

- 14th 7 p.m., E/fM Class

- 16th 6:30 p.m., Film & Fellowship

- movie & potluck

- 17th 10 a.m., VBS Diocesan Training

- 18th **YOUTH APPRECIATION SUNDAY**

- 9 & 11:30 a.m., **Parish Wellness Report**

- 21st 12 p.m., Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 7 p.m., E/fM Class

- 25th 1 p.m., Mother's Kitchen (Primavera cooking team)
- 3:30 p.m., E/fM Graduation & Reception

- 26th **MEMORIAL DAY**

- Parish Office Closed**

- 10 a.m., E/fM Post Graduate Forum

- 27th 9 a.m., Primavera Cooks! Fourth Tuesday Primavera Meals Group

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

- 7 p.m., Interfaith Meditation Group

- 28th 7 p.m., E/fM Class

Looking Ahead to June

- 2nd 7 p.m., [Green Church Committee](#)

- 4th 12 p.m., Prayer Shawl Ministry

- 6th 6:30 p.m., Spirit Players Play-Reading

- 8th **PENTECOST SUNDAY**

- 12 p.m., Lay Minister Training

- 6 p.m., [SpiritSong: Worship & Prayer in the style of Taizé](#)