

The Briefly

March/April 2013

The monthly newsletter for the community of
Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church
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Ashes to Go. Eric Carr and Lynn Hunter provided ashes, prayers, bookmarks, and literature for passers-by at the Ronstadt Transit hub downtown. More photos, Page 10.



Rector's Letter

By The Rev. Steve Keplinger

Sitting in your church office each day, I am privileged to hear the most amazing conversations. All of you should come in some day and sit here with me just for entertainment. Here, for example, is the conversation I heard just as I began writing this column.

Your Parish Administrator, KiKi Fenik, answered a phone call.

KIKI: How may I help you?

CALLER: We would like to use your church to rehearse our...

KIKI: Yes, I would be happy to schedule some time for you in our sanctuary.

When would you like to use our facility?

CALLER: How about the week before Easter? That is when we need it.

KIKI: Well, no, I am sorry. That is the one week a year when the church is not available... That is Holy Week.

CALLER: Holy Week? What do you mean by Holy Week? We can't use the church that week at all? What a bummer.

KIKI: Well, sorry about that. That's kind of what the church does.

KiKi's deliciously facetious response to the clueless caller was exactly right. Holy Week is kind of what the church does. It is the most sacred and important week of the year. It is saturated with intense emotion and the most meaningful liturgies. The services of Holy Week are the crystallization of our faith. I have watched as children began to understand what religion was really all about as they attended a Jewish Seder on Holy Wednesday. I have seen people so moved at Maundy Thursday services over the years that they have been unable to stand up at the end of the night. I have watched people so touched by our Tenebrae Good Friday service that they weeped for an hour after it ended. I have seen folks who have struggled immensely with their faith have a religious experience unlike anything they had previously dreamed of at a Saturday Easter Vigil service. I know people who have come to faith and know God now because of the liturgical experience of Holy Week.

It is always a wonder to behold.

The problem however, is that, as the phone call KiKi fielded points out, no one has a clue about this ancient tradition and what happens here during Holy Week. They, in fact, do not even know what Holy Week means. It is not just unchurched folk that

Holy Week is far and away the most meaningful and faith-filled part of what we do as a church.

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Submissions to *The Briefly*

Please submit articles to Lizzy Gooden, BrieflyEditor@gracestpauls.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 May issue is Monday, April 15.

Rector's Letter

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look at me questioningly when I tell them I am not available to do anything the week before Easter. I get the same response from virtually all Christians who come from non-liturgical traditions. In fact, many mainline Christians have often said to me, "I know Easter is a big day, but why are you busy before Easter comes?"

If I had any doubt about the religious illiteracy of our culture, it is confirmed every year for me at this time. People outside our tiny circle have no understanding why they can't use our church on a day other than Sunday. And people inside? Well, there is a reason why the church decided to add the Passion Gospel to the service on Palm Sunday. Even though it makes no sense to talk about Jesus being killed during the same Sunday when we are waving palms at him, the church knew that if we did not do that, the large majority of practicing Christians would go from Palm-waving to Resurrection with nothing happening in between.

Holy Week is far and away the most meaningful and faith-filled part of what we do as a church. It changes people in profound ways even they have trouble articulating later.

God knows how busy all of us are in the frenetic world in which we live. The days of going to daily worship are gone for all of us, save those in monastic settings. But I urge each and every one of you to do your utmost to experience the power of Holy Week. If you can't do them all, pick Maundy Thursday, my

personal favorite service of the year, or Good Friday, one of the most beautiful liturgies you will ever experience, or our wonderful Easter Vigil, a service like no other. This year, we have even more wonders planned for you in that Easter Vigil Service. I promise that if you attend, you will not be disappointed.

Holy Week though, is just the beginning for us. After our explosions of Easter joy, we have two other major events for your calendar. On **April 13**, we are honored to be hosting the ordination of our friend, The Rev. Ernie Galaz, to the priesthood. That will be a fantastic celebration for our community. The following day, **April 14**, Bishop Kirk Smith will be here for his annual visitation. That also will be a grand celebration, as we officially welcome into our midst those of you who would like to be received into our congregation. If you are one of the folks considering joining us, please call the office or speak to me regarding any questions you have. You can also read elsewhere in this Briefly about the details. We need everyone to sign up in advance for this, so please be sure your name is on one of our lists circulating at the Welcome Table, in the office, at Episcopal 101, or online at gsptucson.org.

Blessings upon all of you as we continue our Lenten journey into the glory and wonder of Easter at Grace St. Paul's.

Steve+

Spring Equinox Liturgy

By the Rev. Steve Keplinger+

On each of the equinox and solstice days of the seasonal calendar, Grace St. Paul's has a special service to mark the day. Our autumnal equinox service marked the day when light and dark were equal. Our winter solstice service was a celebration of the longest night of the year. On March 21, at 5:30 p.m., we will celebrate the vernal equinox, as the light returns.

The liturgy will be an outside service and will include a walk on the labyrinth as we have done previously. The spring equinox service has a much different flavor however, compared to our other solstice and equinox services.

Because we are also situated in the season of Lent, our spring images will be mixed with a very special Stations of the Cross liturgy. This will not be stations

as you remember in your Mother's Episcopal church. They are of a more contemporary nature, with a strong social justice connection, linking us with the suffering of our own time and how we can care for those in need.

The rest of the service will be creation oriented, connecting us with what is going on in the natural world. It is a beautiful mingling of creation with the quiet contemplation of Lent. The service will last about 40 minutes.

Our winter service on the longest night of the year was met with many accolades. Don't miss out on our spring connection.

We hope you can join us for this quiet celebration of spring interspersed with a new way of doing Stations of the Cross. See you on Thursday, March 22 at 5:30 P.M., when we move from winter to spring.

The Gifts of God & the People of God

By *The Rev. Debbie Reynolds*

Each edition of *The Briefly* going forward will include an article, resource or guest perspective about stewardship. Many of you, particularly during our most recent Giving & Receiving campaign, have asked for resources to help you learn and understand the whole concept of tithing and giving in the church.

As a member of The Episcopal Network for Stewardship, we have tremendous access to a treasure of resources. Some of you have participated in the Diocesan sponsored

Stewardship University and will have an opportunity to share what you have learned as we continue to journey together as a congregation of sharing the gifts that God has made possible in all of creation. Your comments and feedback is important. Please feel free to share them with me either in person, by phone or email.

As we follow this path towards a better understanding of caring for all that God has made, we will encounter one of the most challenging and commonly used descriptions in the church—the use of the word *stewardship*. The theological basis of all that we do at Grace St Paul's is based on the open-sum thinking of abundance where all that God created

is good *and* equal. Yet the word *stewardship* can imply that we believe that God instituted a hierarchical system in creation where humans have authority over the aspects of creation that are seen as “lower” or “less valuable.”

Our job is not to slip into that process of thinking because of the very real conscious or sub-conscious meaning of a word like stewardship. Rather it is our job to continue to defend a non-dualistic perspective of God's creation and all that is in it. All of creation is sacred and it is through our inter-dependence that we know God and share all that is in God's creation for the good of all creation.

Is Your Cup Half-Full or Half-Empty?

By *The Rev. John D. Talbird, Jr., Episcopal Missioner for the Churches*

Christian stewardship is about conversion. Conversion is such a loaded word. What I mean by conversion is changing one's mental outlook, the way one looks at things.

This conversion is what I call “Jesus economics.” It's changing our view of life from the “cup that is half-empty” to one where we see “the cup is half-full.” That's not just the difference between a pessimist and an optimist—it is the difference between looking at life as scarcity and looking at life as abundance. In the Gospel of John, Jesus says, “I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly” (John 10:10). Jesus wants us to have abundant life. God has given us everything we need. We have abundance. But what we often talk about is what we are lacking: there's not enough money, time energy or people.

Jesus offers us another way of thinking. “Jesus economics” is open-sum thinking as opposed to fixed-sum thinking. Fixed-sum thinking is seeing the resources that are available to us like a pie: there are only so many pieces. If I want to get more pieces out of the pie, I have to cut smaller pieces; therefore each person gets less. Fixed-sum thinking in Christian stewardship looks like this: if I give more of my resources to the church there will be less for me. The church's gain is my

loss. If I give more, I have less. Open-sum thinking looks very different: if I share my resources with others in the community, and my resources are put together with others' resources, there are unlimited possibilities to what we can do. Your gain is my gain is our gain. The classic story of open-sum thinking is the feeding of the 5,000. This is obviously one of the centerpieces of Jesus' teaching because the story appears in all four Gospels and twice more as the feeding of the 4,000.

Jesus is teaching in the wilderness. The disciples come to him and tell him that is has been a long day, and the people are hungry. They tell him to send the people away so they can buy food for themselves. Jesus tells the disciples to feed the people. Notice the disciples' thinking: they say they don't have enough. Jesus says to the disciples, “What do you have? Go and see.” As it turns out, there is more than enough—there is an abundance of food left over. “What do you have? Go and see.” This is abundance thinking. This is open-sum thinking: your gain is my gain is our gain. This is the teaching and the conversion we need as Christian stewards because God has provided us with more than enough of everything we need. All we need to do is look at what we have and how we can put it with what others have. It is more than enough to do whatever we need to do.

Holy Week, 2013

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:

March 24, 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.

March 25, 26 & 27, Holy Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

Each day leading up to the Triduum (the three days), we will have a special communion service. Each worship will be in the sanctuary at the front of the church (the chancel). 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**. Tuesday's service will be at **6 p.m.** and Wednesday's will be at **7 a.m.**

March 27, Holy Wednesday, Jewish Passover Seder

This year we have made arrangements with some of our Jewish friends to celebrate a Passover Seder meal for all of our families with children. They will preside for us and be our guests at a complete Seder dinner. This is a gigantic opportunity for all our children, youth,

and their parents to take part in the event celebrating Jewish liberty and freedom. Don't miss out! At press time, the event is scheduled for **6 p.m.**

March 28, 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' 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. We will have a sign-up sheet for those of you who would like to be one of the watchers for this all-night vigil that will end with our first service at Noon on Good Friday.

March 29, 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.

5:30 p.m., The Way of the Cross

This service is a form of Stations of the

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Notes from the Choir Stalls

By Christina Jarvis,
Director of Music



I hope you all are having a blessed Lent. I made sure to purchase my indulgence at the Shrove Tuesday dinner—I checked the “Sins of Omission” category, because I’m just sure there’s a sin of omission lurking out there for me somewhere.

It’s been a busy time around here. A representative sample of Zombies—Ari, Minda and Noah Dettman, Andrew Gooden, Madison Knutson, and Sarah Lipp—went on the border trip to Nogales, Bisbee, and Douglas, with other teens from Grace St. Paul’s, St. James’s in Tempe, and the Kino Border Initiative in Nogales, Arizona and Sonora. The Zombies sang at El Comador, a KBI-sponsored dining hall for people who had just been deported from the U.S., and for the Sunday morning services at St. John’s in Bisbee and St. Stephen’s in Douglas. Maddie Knutson sang a solo verse of “Soplo de Dios viviente” which was lovely. We were blessed to have Derrick and Amy Ross, *aka* Nowhere Man and a Whiskey Girl, an amazing duo (Google them), as the music team at St. John’s/St. Stephen’s—it was huge fun working with them. Special thanks to our Director of Religious Education, Rosalind García, for organizing that weekend and Fr. Seth Polley for hosting us.

That trip happened on the last weekend of Epiphany, and we are, of course, launched into Lent and headed toward Easter. Musically, Lent will be Anglican, with anthems by Dowland, Clarke, Howells, and C.V. Stanford, but interleaved with anthems from the St. Cecilia’s Choir and the St. Zeno’s Zombie Choir. I am also incorporating as anthems hymns from Hymnal 1982 that we now don’t do or have never done as a congregation, just to keep us in touch with our heritage, “Creator of the earth and skies” (*Uffingham*), “O food to pilgrims given” (*Psalms 6* from *Les cent cinquante Pseaumes de David*, 1564), and “When I survey the wondrous cross” (*Rockingham*), sung by James Neeley. Then for Border Sunday we are singing a piece in Quechua from an early 17th-century collection from Lima Cathedral—“Hanacpachap cussicuinin” by Juan Pérez Bocanegra.

The children sang on Lent 2—a piece appropriately called “Forty Days and Forty Nights” by Becki Slagle Mayo and Paul Adams. Then they are singing on Palm Sunday, and therein was a quandary. The Zombies also have a piece for Palm Sunday. However, both pieces are for the joyful procession into Jerusalem, and both of the anthem slots—offertory and communion—are after the Passion reading, when the service switches to a minor key, as it were. In the past, the children sang at the sequence, so they will do that again this year. We are trying a new thing with the Zombie anthem—they will sing immediately after the Palm Sunday procession. The piece, called “Hosanna in the streets” by Pepper Choplin, is scored for piano, trumpet and percussion, and it will be a rousing start to the service. For the offertory, Barbara Pritchard will sing the soprano solo for “Inflamatus et accensus” from Rossini’s *Stabat Mater*. The styles may be eclectic, but that’s what makes us GSP.

Holy Week and Easter services will unfold as in recent years. The choir will sing for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, the Great Vigil of Easter, and two services on Easter Sunday. Our Good Friday service will intersperse readings with choral works and solos by choir members, such as Greg Swanson. For the Vigil, we will do a version of “O sons and daughters, let us sing” harmonized by Stanford. We have our terrific trumpeter, Betsy Bright Morgan, with us again for Easter Sunday. It’s a tradition.

We are pulling a veritable Clydesdale out of the stable for Easter Sunday. We have never done the Hallelujah Chorus while I’ve been here, and we think it will be a lot of fun for all concerned. I know there are a fair few of you in the congregation who could sing along.

The Easter season is wonderful for music. There is no dearth of excellence on the topic of the Resurrection. April 6, the Sunday after Easter, is traditionally off for the choir, so we will have a soloist that week, but the Zombies and I will participate with a number of GSP folks in the Naco border procession, where the Zombies will sing.

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Holy Week, 2013

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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.

March 30, 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.

March 31, 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.

From the Choir Stall

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We are looking forward to the Bishop's visit to Grace St. Paul's on April 14, and we will lay on special music for that service. The current plan is to incorporate movements from Bach Cantata BWV4—*Christ lag in Todesbanden*. For once, the altos will have an interesting vocal line, which I hope won't spoil them for the three notes they usually get. On April 28, the Zombies will sing an

arrangement of "Joyful, joyful we adore thee" by choir member Winifred Williams.

It seems passing strange to wish you all a Happy Easter at the beginning of Lent, but there we are. May we walk resolutely along the path with Jesus through the valley of the shadow to the glorious, golden spring of the Resurrection.

Peace,

Christina

Friends & Faith Across Borders

A Youth Cross-Cultural Experience
By Rosalind Garcia,
Director, Children,
Youth and Family
Ministry

We 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 and 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. Our story of this amazing weekend is worth reading.

We began at GSP on Friday evening, Feb. 8. We shared dinner and got to know each other over the delicious food. Juan Garcia, Professor of U.S. History, Mexican American History and Ethnic History at the University of Arizona, gave us a brief history both of the U.S./Mexican Border and our national fears of "the other," using political cartoons from the 19th to the 21st century and by playing interactive games, including one called "Ho hum, Interesting Fact and That's a Problem," which taught us facts and statistics in really fun ways. The conversation was lively! We learned even more by watching a film called *A Better Life*, a story of a traditional Mexican father, who crossed the Border without documents years before, and his son, who was born in the United States and therefore, an acculturated U.S. citizen. The movie began to help us humanize the issues surrounding undocumented immigration to the United States. After some more discussion, we finished the evening with Night Prayer and a bedtime story (a part of the chapter entitled "Compassion" in Fr. Gregory Boyle's wonderful book, *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion*) before we retired to our various sleeping bags and air mattresses in anticipation of an early morning.

Saturday morning did indeed start early for us with a quick breakfast, clean up and organization of people and cars. We wanted to be on the road to Nogales by nine and we more or less managed that goal. In Nogales, Ariz., we were to be hosted by our new friends from Kino Teens, high school students who live on both sides of the border but attend school at Lourdes Catholic H.S. on the Arizona side of the border, and through their club, work with undocumented migrants who have been deported to Nogales, Sonora.

Our first stop was Kino Border Initiative's (KBI) office in Nogales, Ariz., where we were greeted by Fr. Pete Neeley, our guide for the day. Fr. Neeley helped us unload and organize the warm clothes and food we brought as donations to KBI's border ministry. Then it was time to walk across the Border into Nogales, Sonora. Many of our teens had never been to Mexico and some had expressed some fear about crossing the border. Interestingly, one of the things these teens



Along the border fence in Nogales.

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Across Borders

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later talked about was how their fears had been calmed because of their weekend experiences.

After crossing the border on foot at the DeConcini Port of Entry, Fr. Pete took us on a two-mile walk along the border fence. Most of us were stunned by the sheer size of the fence and several teens commented on how odd the division of one city seemed to them. We ended our walk at *El Comodor* or the Dining Room, which is a food service offered to migrants who have been deported to Nogales, Sonora, from the U.S., often with nothing more than the clothes they were wearing. *El Comodor* offers meals, clothing, minor first aid, phone cards, and help contacting relatives for the thousands of migrants who come to them seeking help each year. Our teens were allowed to help with the serving of a meal and given the opportunity to sit and talk to people, hearing their stories in both Spanish and English, of why they risked crossing the desert for a chance of a better life in the United States.

Most of the adults and a few of the teens crossed the road to the Women and Children's Shelter run by KBI. Here, we heard from five women from Oaxaca, Mexico all of whom had risked crossing more than once, one as many as seven times. We learned about their absolute inability to survive on the average wage of \$8 a day in a place where a gallon of milk costs \$5 and

of their growing debt as they fought to support their families. One woman had a sick child, whose vital medication cost more than she could make in Oaxaca. Meeting these desperate women and the hungry people at *El Comodor* put another face on the issue of undocumented immigration for us.

Fortified with late lunch from a Nogales café, we took a city bus to the DeConcini Port of Entry and crossed back into the United States. Several of the teens later commented on how easy it had been to cross into Mexico and how friendly the people had been to them. Crossing back, however, caused some slight anxiety as our papers were carefully scrutinized by stone-faced border agents and drug dogs sniffed at us. The process, however, was efficient and we were soon on our way to Bisbee, where we planned to spend the night at St. John's Episcopal Church.

In Bisbee, at Gus's Pizzarama, we were greeted by Fr. Seth Polley, Vicar of St. John's, Bisbee, and St. Stephen's, Douglas, who made sure we were fed, before taking us to the Border fence that separates Douglas, Ariz., from Naco, Sonora. We were on public property, but it was cold and dark and we realized that cameras and heat sensors tracked our movements. Just minutes after we arrived, we were aware of the headlights of three trucks coming towards us from three different directions. U.S. Border Patrol agents had already spotted us and were making their way to us to investigate a large group congregating near the Border wall. Realizing we were about to encounter Border Patrol agents made us a little anxious, although we were doing nothing illegal.

The anxiety increased as a Border Patrol agent pulled up beside our group, huddled together in the cold. Seth approached the truck and explained that we were a group of teens and adults from several churches and religious organizations and that we were spending the weekend learning about the Border. We wondered if the agent would ask us to leave, however, instead he asked us if we had any questions for him! Immediately, the level of anxiety in the group decreased. He answered all our questions, at one point even telling one of the young men from Kino Teens to ask his complex question in Spanish, which was



At the *El Comodor* in Nogales.

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Across Borders

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his first language. The agent then translated into English, answered in Spanish and then translated his answer into English for those of us who spoke little Spanish. We were unsure of the agent's name, although he did introduce himself. Several of us noticed that he did not refer to "illegals" or even "migrants." He talked about the "people" crossing the Border, who suffer or die in their attempt to cross. This agent's kindness and clear sense of humanity put for us another face on the controversy that surrounds the US/Mexican Border.

We made our way to St. John's Episcopal in Bisbee where we were to spend Saturday night. Seth led us through a discussion of our day at two different Border locations. What were our experiences? What had we learned? What had we been afraid of? Did our preconceived notions of "the Border" turn out to be accurate?

This turned out to be valuable processing time for all of us. Many of us had realized the issues that surround the question of migration are far more complicated than we had realized and that putting a human face on "illegal" immigration from a variety of interactions made the conversation even more complex.

Finally, where was God in all of this? This brought up a lively discussion of what our role as Christians is in helping to relieve the family

separations, suffering, and death that occur every day because of immigration policy.

After candlelight Evening Prayer around the Altar in beautiful old St. John's, we collapsed on our air mattresses and sleeping bags, for the next day meant another early morning.

We awoke to a quick breakfast and clean up before St. John's congregation began arriving for Sunday morning services. We were welcomed into their congregation with open arms. GSP's youth choir, the St. Zeno Zombies, under the direction of Christina Jarvis, sang during the service, which resulted in joyous clapping and even a little dancing in the aisles. It was a wonderful, joyful service in which Seth masterfully led an interactive sermon with the congregation asking us about the difference between transfiguring moments and transformational experiences and what transfiguring moments this weekend might lead to transformation for us. After the service, we were able to talk to the lovely Parishioners at St. John's before rushing off with Seth to St. Stephen's in Douglas.

Again, in Douglas, we were welcomed like old friends. The Zombies got to sing again to an exuberant congregation that clapped and danced in the aisle. This time Seth talked about the fear the Apostles felt at Jesus' transfiguration and equated that to the fear many of us felt as we came to the Border for the first time. In this interactive sermon, we concluded that conversation and communication (with the Oaxacan women, with the Border Patrol agent, with the people having a meal at *El Comodor*) was the transfigural element that lessened the fear and led to real transformation. These interactive sermons allowed more processing for all of us and were invaluable to our experiences.

After a delicious potluck lunch, offered by the wonderful congregation of St. Stephen's, our group parted ways, with many hugs and exchanges of contact information, to head to our various homes across Arizona. We all agreed this needed to happen again and that our week, full of transfiguring moments, had been truly transformational.



Some of the girls are ready for a bedtime story.



Report on Ash Wednesday Family Service at GSP

Ash Wednesday for families started on the labyrinth with prayer and the mournful sound of a single, slow drumbeat. Forty-six people processed into the Chancel for a gentle, child-friendly service led by Nancy Meister. Rosalind Garcia and the children talked

about the meaning of Lent and why we observe Ash Wednesday. Families were each given a Lenten “brown bag”, which contained items, prayers and short scripture readings that help families with children observe Lent, Holy Week and Easter without the stress of wondering if it’s “right.” Everything they needed was in the bag!

Traditional Family Passover Seder at GSP

Wednesday of Holy Week, March 27, at 6 p.m.

Sunday School children and youth will be preparing for this Seder during Lent

Please RSVP to Rosalind Garcia by Sunday, March 24

This will be a wonderful opportunity to explore our Jewish roots!

Holy Week Family Services

March 29 at 5:30 p.m.: Children’s Way of the Cross.

March 31 at 10 a.m.: Family Easter service followed by G.S.P.’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

Upcoming for Youth

Border Sunday: March 10. The youth and adults who participated in Friends and Faith Across Borders will share their experiences with the congregation at the 10 a.m. service on Border Sunday during a sermon presentation. Eric Carr will facilitate the discussion.

Youth Service Weekend: Watch for the exact date! We’re going to the rain forest bird sanctuary in Benson! Here, we will learn about the rain forest and the effects of modernization and clear cutting on the animals that live there. We will talk about God’s beautiful creation and our responsibility to help protect it. We will also help feed birds, clean cages and perhaps do minor repairs around the sanctuary. We will have more information about this weekend soon.



Pick up your *Briefly* at church, help defray mailing costs

By Martha Whitaker, Senior Warden

Are you looking for another great way to conserve resources and help decrease GSP's mailing costs? Here's a great idea! If you are receiving a paper copy of *The Briefly*, please consider either receiving your *Briefly* electronically, or if that's not possible, consider picking up your monthly *Briefly* copy at church on Sundays in McBride Hall, instead of having it mailed to you. All you have to do is contact the parish office, 327-6857, to let us know what you would like to do.

By May 2013 we are hoping that about 200 of you will either volunteer to switch to receiving an e-*Briefly*, or volunteer to pick up your *Briefly* newsletter on Sundays in McBride Hall. This would cut our mailing costs significantly, save on printing resources, and would be yet another way you would be generously giving of your time to GSP.

If we are unable to reach our goal, we will

be asking asking those who are able to help cover the \$10/ year annual cost of receiving a mailed paper copy of the *Briefly*. Thank you to everyone who is already receiving an e-*Briefly*, and to all of you who volunteer to help us by picking up your paper copy at church every month instead of having it mailed to you.

To sum up, subscribers, please declare your wishes to the Parish Office at 327-6857:

A. I will pick up the *Briefly* at church to save mailing costs. Take me off the mailing list, but include me in the pile of printed copies for pick-up.

-OR-

B. I will switch to the electronic *Briefly* to save mailing and printing costs. Take me off the snail mail list, and I won't need a paper copy. Add me to the list of electronic subscribers, and here is my updated email address.

If you do not call the Parish office, we will assume you wish to **continue** to receive the *Briefly* in the mail. You may be asked to cover the \$10/year mailing costs if you are able to do so.

The Not-So-Briefly Title Contest

By Lizzy Gooden, *Briefly* Editor

The title of the *Briefly* has become ironic, since it has become anything but brief. (Thanks to several alert readers for pointing that out to us.) Can you help us come up with a new title?

Enter the **Not-So-Briefly Title Contest** for your chance to win a \$25 Barnes & Noble gift card, good at the café as well as for buying books and Nook titles. The winner will also have the honor of seeing the title in print each month.

(The worst title idea will be awarded an

Indulgence left over from Shrove Tuesday.)

Keep in mind that while this newsletter provides information and serves as a teaching tool to members and friends of our parish, it also serves as a window to our parish for people who are considering a visit and find the newsletter attached to the website. The ideal title would appeal to all of these readers.

Please send your title ideas to the Not-So-*Briefly* Contest at BrieflyEditor@grace-stpauls.org or fill in an entry form at the parish office. The winner will be announced in the May issue.

The Bishop is coming!

The Bishop is coming!

Buildings & Grounds Committee hosts church-wide spring cleaning

Date: Saturday, March 9

Time: Coffee/Juice + pastries/bagels at 8:30 a.m. Folks will divide into teams and begin work at 9 a.m.

Who: All ages are invited

Cleaning supplies will be provided. Volunteers are invited to bring their own gloves, brooms, and any favorite cleaning solutions.

Please sign up at the church office or call Mark Drew or Sue Pierce so we know how many supplies to have on hand.

Questions: Please call Mark Drew (882-4106) or Sue Pierce (219-9952).

It's Finally Time! Join the Body of Christ

Reception, Confirmation & Reaffirmation of Vows

By The Rev. Steve Keplinger

It has been a year and a half since our last official Bishop visitation at Grace St. Paul's. This year that visit will be on Sunday, **April 14**.

One of the main purposes of the Bishop's visit is to confirm or receive people into the church. Confirmation or Reception is the way you officially become a member. If you are new to the Episcopal church, or if you have been here for years but have never had hands laid upon you by a Bishop, you can and should be received into our communion. If you have been waiting to be an official member of our community, the time is now.

Our Episcopal 101 classes are continuing each Sunday through March 17 for those who want as much information as they can get about our tradition. The class on **March 3** will be specifically geared toward Sacramental theology, which is when we will talk about Confirmation and Reception. This is a very helpful initiation into the church and the process, but if you are not able to attend those classes, you can still be part of Confirmation or Reception. Please call the office or let me know and we can speak about this individually to prepare you for this sacred and wonderful event.

The actual process when the Bishop visits is very simple. You can review it on page 309 and 310 of the prayer book. Basically, the Bishop lays hands on your head and says the following prayer for Reception into the church: "We recognize you as a member of the one holy

catholic and apostolic Church, and we receive you into the fellowship of the Communion. God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you. Amen." That is all there is to it.

If you have already been received into the church but would like to reaffirm your commitment, you can also do so at this service. We do need to prepare in advance for everyone who wants to be received, confirmed or reaffirmed in the church. This means that you must sign up in advance. You can do so at the office, at the Welcome Table on Sundays, at Episcopal 101 or by doing it online at gsptucson.org. Please talk to me if you want any more information or have any questions about this process.

Confirmation or Reception is available to everyone who has been baptized in any Christian tradition. Therefore, if you are considering joining the church and you have not yet been baptized, please contact me so we can schedule a baptism before the Bishop's visit. Easter is of course, the most opportune time to be baptized, which is another reason why we have moved the Bishop's visit to Spring.

Remember that official Bishop visitations only happen once a year, so please take advantage of this opportunity. It is going to be a glorious day as so many of you become part of the Body of Christ!



Live Jazz, men in the kitchen, wine, indulgences for sale, rich desserts, dancing, fun for the kids, and an evening ending with a beautiful liturgy where we burn last year's palms to make Ash Wednesday's ashes. What's not to love about Shrove Tuesday at GSP?

A Lively Shrove Tuesday

By Martha Whitaker

Live Jazz, men in the kitchen, wine, indulgences for sale, rich desserts, dancing, fun for the kids, and an evening ending with a beautiful liturgy where we burn last year's palms to make Ash Wednesday's ashes. What's not to love about Shrove Tuesday at GSP?





Mark Osler Forum now available on YouTube, DVD & Blu-ray

By Martha Whitaker, Senior Warden

Mark Osler's Sunday Forum from Feb. 3, 2013, "Civil Discourse and Social Justice Advocacy," is now available as a YouTube video.

If you missed this excellent forum, just go to: [youtube.com/watch?v=c-s25HjEJZQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c-s25HjEJZQ). It's even available in HiDef! If you do not have Internet access, a regular DVD and Blu-ray are available to check out from the parish office or library.



New Hiking Group

By Virginia Zuelow

Join us for our first GSP Hike on Friday, March 1. We will meet at the GSP parking lot at 8:30 a.m. to carpool to Sabino Canyon Recreation Area where we will gather in the area in front of the Visitor's Center and begin our hike at 9:15 a.m. You can meet us there rather than at GSP if you wish.

This will be a short hike during which we will take a snack break where we can talk about plans for future hikes. Bring a hat and a bottle of water and shoes you feel are comfortable and safe for desert walking. Trekking poles and a snack are optional, as well as any other supplies

you like to take on a hike.

Call Virginia Zuelow, 615-2913 or 403-4342, or Jill Jackson-Mandel, 749-6577, if you have questions or plan to meet with the group at Sabino Canyon so we don't leave without you! You can also email Virginia at zuelows2@aol.com and Jill at busy@slednam.us.

Note: Sabino Canyon Recreation Area does charge a parking fee unless you have a National Forest/Park pass, either regular or senior. Golden Age Passports are accepted as well. Several of us have passes so no one should have to pay a fee.

GSP Dinner Theatre

By The Rev. Debbie Royals

Back by popular demand! GSP dinner theater on Friday, March 15, at 6 p.m. in McBride Hall. We'll have an evening of fun, food, and fundraising! The play, "When the Angels Cried," tells the biblical story of Abraham and Isaac with a few twists, some borrowed from Jewish folk legends and others from Jewish-American comedian shtick. Think: Abraham and Isaac meet Mel Brooks.

The story dips into the timeless question of man's relationship with God. A near-sacrifice is not, on the face of it, a promising vehicle for humor, but laughter is a traditional method for dealing with things beyond tears.

Centuries-old Jewish folk legends provide some of the material for the presentation.

These tales often differ from the biblical account. According to the folktales, Adam had a first wife whom he divorced before marrying Eve. Cain is forgiven. Moses visits hell and paradise. And angels are uppity beings who argue with God and tell him it was a mistake to create man. They annoy him with an eternal 'I told you so!' each time we do something dumb.

Despite these differences, both the biblical version and the folk tales probe our deepest hopes and fears and explore how we use religion to make sense of our lives and to soldier on in the face of adversity.

Tickets are \$15, cash or checks accepted. Tickets are sold after each Sunday service or during office hours.

Parish Renewal Day by Roger Pierce

If prayer is mystical, magical, mind-boggling, or monotonous, you will be happy to find a very simple and practical way to pray... if you attend the Parish Renewal Day at the Redemptorist Renewal Center, Saturday, March 23 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Roger Pierce will facilitate. Cost is \$35 per person and registration in the Parish Office is required.



Dr. Robert Jonas, retreat leader and biographer of Fr. Henri Nouwen, leads a two-day workshop on "The Trinity as Modes of Consciousness." Dr. Jonas and his wife, the Rev. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas, have adopted GSP as their Tucson church home when visiting the city.

Rector's Bookshelf Closed

By Roger Pierce

The Rector's Bookshelf ministry has served the parish well for a number of years, but the ministry is now discontinued. Many thanks to Marilyn Abraham whose leadership in the ministry made it a very valuable asset for the church.

Given the growing use of e-readers and the ease of obtaining books through local distributors and online sources, it was decided that the Bookshelf had served its purposes and thus would be closed. However,

anyone who needs assistance in ordering books for personal use or Adult Ed classes can simply stop by the Parish Office with cash, check, or personal credit card and we will be happy to assist in placing the order.

Watch Out for a Huge Book Sale!

Yes, with left over new books and lots of gently used books, we will announce a *huge book sale* in the very near future.

Again, thanks to Marilyn for her dedicated leadership and commitment to this special ministry.

Ash Wednesday Report

By Martha Whitaker

GSP held four Ash Wednesday services, including a gentle Ash Wednesday service for children and families

GSP also went out into the community: Eric Carr and Lynn Hunter provided ashes, prayers, bookmarks, and literature for passers-by at the

Ronstadt Transit hub downtown. Later, they were joined by The Rev. Nancy Meister.

It's important that we meet the needs of everyone in the community, especially those who may be members of the "church alumni association," to let them know they are welcome and loved, and are made of the dust of the stars, which is as everlasting as God's love for us.



Lent Madness 2013

The Saintly Smack Down

By Tim Schenck

What do you get when you combine a love of sports with holy saints? Lent Madness, of course. Based loosely on the wildly popular NCAA basketball tournament, Lent Madness pits 32 saints against one another in a single-elimination bracket as they compete for the coveted Golden Halo. But it is more than that: Lent Madness is really an online devotional tool designed to help people learn about saints.

Lent Madness began in 2010 as a fun, engaging way for people to learn about the men and women comprising the church's calendar of saints. Starting last year, Lent Madness went viral, reaching over 50,000 people and getting mentioned in everything from the *Washington Post* to *Sports Illustrated* (seriously).

Here's how it works: on weekdays during Lent, information is posted about two different saints on lentmadness.org and then participants vote to determine who goes on to the next round. Each pairing remains open for a set period of time—usually 24 hours—and people vote for their favorite saint. Sixteen saints make it to the Round of the Saintly Sixteen; eight advance to the Round of the Elate Eight; four make it to the Faithful Four; two to the Championship; and the winner is awarded the Golden Halo.

The first round consists of basic biographical information about each of the 32 saints. Things get a bit more interesting in

the subsequent rounds as we offer quotes and quirks, explore legends, and even move into the area of saintly kitsch. It's fun, it's informative, it's the saintly smack down!

To win in 2013, will take grit, determination, holiness, and perhaps some good old-fashioned luck. This year Lent Madness features a slate of saints ancient and modern, Biblical and ecclesiastical, including John the Baptist, Martin Luther King, Hilda of Whitby, Luke, Dorothy Day, Benedict of Nursia, Martin Luther, and Harriet Tubman as they vie to fill the shoes of 2012 winner Mary Magdalene.

This all kicked off on "Ash Thursday," Feb. 14, and continues through the season of Lent. To participate, log onto lentmadness.org where you can also print out a bracket and fill it out to see how you fare or "compete" against friends and family members. Like that other March tournament, there will be drama and intrigue, upsets and thrashings, last-minute victories and Cinderellas.

If you're looking for a Lenten discipline that is fun, educational, occasionally goofy, and always joyful, join the Lent Madness journey. Lent needn't be all doom and gloom. After all, what could be more joyful than a season specifically set aside to grow closer to God?

What is CREDO?

By *The Rev. Debbie Royals*

CREDO is a benefit of the Church Pension Fund, provides a holistic approach to health and wellness and serves pension plan participants (lay and ordained), active and retired, through a wellness program referred to as the CREDO Benefit.

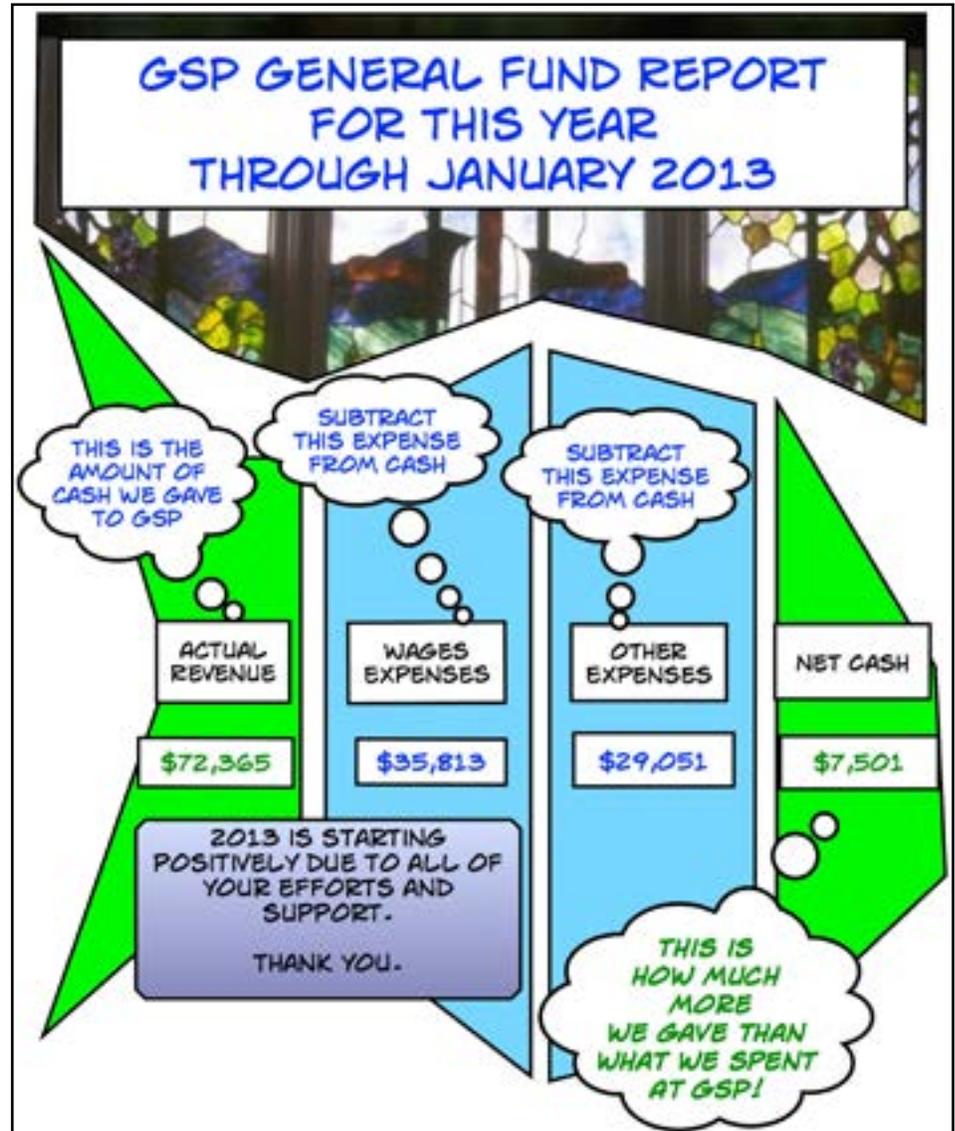
The CREDO Benefit provides an array of conferences and post-conference resources that help eligible pension plan participants examine, evaluate, and re-energize their health and wellness.

The Latin word, CREDO, can be translated as “I believe,” but it has a much deeper meaning. Literally translated, it means, “I give my heart.” CREDO encourages participants to rediscover the passionate essence of their life and ministry in the context of their faith, their relationships, and community.

The mission of CREDO is to provide opportunities for people to examine significant areas of their lives and to discern prayerfully the future direction of their vocation as they respond to God’s call in a lifelong process of practice and transformation.

The CREDO experience provides a profound opportunity for participants to reflect on their journey, discern God’s presence and calling deep within themselves, and renew, reaffirm, and recommit their passion and conviction for their authentic vocation.

CREDO is more than a single conference experience. Through the strength of a holistic approach to wellness, participants are invited to examine their minds, bodies, spirits, and hearts by examining four significant areas of their lives—spiritual, vocational, health, and financial.



Through a post-conference curriculum of wellness resources, Episcopal Church clergy can continue and deepen their patterns and commitment to lifelong wellness.

The Rev. Debbie Royals has been a faculty member with CREDO since 2007, first teaching HEALTH in Spanish, then SPIRITUALITY for CREDO I participants and is now a HEALTH faculty member for CREDO² and RETIRED CREDO. Rev. Debbie currently teaches at eight-day conferences twice a year—once in the spring and once in the fall.

Vestry Report February 2013

*Adult
Education
& Spiritual
Formation*
By Roger Pierce

Adult Education & Spiritual Formation is co-chaired by Peggy Scott and Roger Pierce. This Ministry Group provides a wide variety of classes, courses, and special events for Grace St. Paul's parish and the local Tucson community. The intent of the offerings is to enhance and expand the spiritual growth of parish members and friends of Grace St. Paul's.

During 2012 the Ministry Team provided more than 40 classes and events with an average attendance of 20 persons per event. Some of those events included: the Setting Our Hearts series, discussion groups focusing on the writings of popular authors in the Progressive Christian movement, and a presentation by Dr. Robert Jonas, director of a contemplative center in Northhampton, MA. Issues addressed in the classes and events included biblical studies, social justice and cultural issues, distinctly Episcopalian subjects, the importance of liturgy and worship, individual and corporate spirituality, and other similar subjects.

Of particular interest is the decision, late in 2012, to discontinue the Rector's Bookshelf ministry. It was felt that the ministry had served a beneficial purpose in its history but was no longer effective because of the ease of personal book orders and the growing popularity of electronic reading devices. Marilyn Abraham is to be congratulated for her faithful service in the leadership of Rector's Bookshelf for the last several years. Books remaining in the Bookshelf, along with selected books from the Parish Library, will be sold during 2013 at a public book sale. The relocation of the Parish Library into the Rector's Bookshelf space in McBride Hall is under consideration.

Two new emphases will be addressed in 2013 in an attempt to fulfill the ministry goals of the Team and to support the vision of the parish. First, the Ministry Team will work toward establishing a "two-track approach" to its work. There will be intentional efforts to build a distinct Spiritual Formation emphasis to include retreats, renewal days, and experiences that are not focused on "learning" as much as "experiencing."

The Parish Renewal Day scheduled for March 28 is an example of that new emphasis. We have a strong ministry of classroom type learning, but could benefit from developing the experiential formation emphasis.

Second, because several local congregations are attempting to do adult education and spiritual formation as we are, and because all might benefit from conversations about sharing events and resources, the Ministry Team will attempt to help establish a Spiritual Formation Consortium in Tucson. The consortium could be instrumental in sharing information, resources, talent, and leadership for the larger Tucson community.

The Ministry Team welcomes comments and creative ideas from the Vestry and members of the parish community. Everyone is invited to the scheduled planning meetings at which events are coordinated and new ideas offered.

Theology & Spirituality & Sex, Oh My!

Susan Howatch's Starbridge Series Book Group

By Catherine Penn Williams

Join us for a monthly book group to read and discuss **Susan Howatch's Starbridge Series**, six novels that trace the history of the 20th century Anglican Church. This series is placed in the fictional Diocese of Starbridge, set in the west of England. The first three books of the series (*Glittering Images*, *Glamorous Powers*, *Ultimate Prizes*) begin in the 1930s, and continue through WWII. The second three (*Scandalous Risks*, *Mystical Paths*, *Absolute Truths*) take place in the 1960s.

We'll read the novels in order and discuss one each month, beginning with a discussion of *Glittering Images* on **April 15**. We will utilize a discussion guide to help focus our conversation on the themes of theology and spiritual development in each book.

The books are readily available from Amazon.com in paperback, Kindle and used editions (starting at \$.01).

When: The third Monday of each month, beginning April 15, from 7-8:30 p.m.

Where: The group will meet at the home of Catherine Penn Williams, about four blocks from GSP. Please call Catherine (520-275-8478) for directions.

Spirit Players: A Play Reading Experience

March 1 & April 5 at 6:30 p.m., Bloom Room

If you love the theatre this 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 for these unrehearsed readings on the first Friday of each month.

For more information contact Nanalee Raphael or Halsy Taylor, or the church office.

Film & Fellowship

March 8 & 22 & April 12 at 6:30 p.m., Bloom Room

You are cordially invited to a potluck meal and a great movie! Here you will find wonderful fellowship and lots of discussion about the movie theme for the evening.

March 8: *Under the Tuscan Sun*; March 22: *Chocolat*.

The monthly event is led by Kitt Cordero and Eric Carr.

Episcopal 101

Mar 3 & 10 at 11:45 a.m., Bloom Room

Fr. Steve Keplinger will lead us through historical perspectives and discussions of current topics and issues in the Episcopal Church in this series. This is a wonderful way to learn about the Episcopal Church and to prepare yourself to become a member of this parish.

Call the Parish Office for more information. No registration is required.

Writings & Ministry of Steven Charleston

March 3, 10 & 17 at 9 a.m., Bloom Room

Steve Williams will lead a discussion of the writings and ministry of the Rt. Rev. Steven Charleston, Bishop of Alaska, and citizen of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

Gifted by Otherness

Mar. 6, 13 & 20 from 7-9 p.m., Bloom Room

Chris Eastoe, long-time member of GSP and former Senior Warden, leads us through 3 more weekly sessions in an experience of sharing our own stories, recognizing our spiritual gifts, interpreting spiritual writings within Progressive Theology, and affirming our roles as people of faith. This course is intended for gay and lesbian people but is open to all who are contenting with spiritual issues relating to sexuality and who have a willingness to respect the many facts of human sexual orientation.

Spiritual Renewal Day

March 23 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Redemptorist Renewal Center (Picture Rocks) in Tucson

If you are interested in a quiet day of spiritual reflection focused on a practical application of prayer, then this day is for you! Registration is limited to 20 people and the cost is \$35 per person. Cost includes use of the beautiful facilities in the western foothills of Tucson and a delicious lunch.

Renewal Day Leader will be Roger Pierce, GSP member and contemplative seeker.

Register in the church office; contact Roger at 219-9952 for further details.

101 Reasons to be Episcopalian

April 7 at 9 a.m., Bloom Room

Join Roger Pierce to reflect on the little book 101 Reasons, a collection of interview responses from people who are now Episcopalians... and proud of it! The reasons are funny, insightful, and should generate some interesting conversation.

Stewardship of Water in an Arid Region:

Caring for Tucson's Water Supply

April 21 at 9 a.m., Bloom Room

The Colorado River is the life source for Tucson and the Southwest, and the big question is how long will that crucial water supply last. Join Dr. Chris Eastoe, Staff Scientist at the UofA, in thinking about this huge ecological issue in relation to the Christian faith and ethics.

Factory Farming & the Presence of God

April 21 at 11:45 am, Bloom Room

Factory farming is becoming a controversial method of providing food to the world. However, there is an organizing inter-faith prophetic response to this. After viewing two short videos from the Humane Society of the United States, we will discuss this important topic and answer "where is God in all this?" and what is our role as Episcopalians?

Facilitated by The Rev. Nadine Martin, deacon and chair person of Animals and Spirituality, and by Chris Ledyard, TSSF and deacon postulant.



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 March 2013

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

Wednesdays

- 7 a.m., Holy Communion
- 10 a.m., Quilting Ministry

Thursdays

- 5:30 p.m., Spirit Now—An Interactive, Inclusive Communion Celebration

- 1st 6:30 p.m., *Spirit Players: A Play Reading Experience*
- 2nd 9:30 a.m., Learning Day

- 3rd 9 a.m., *Writings & Ministry of Steven Charleston*
11:45 a.m., *Episcopal 101*
- 4th 7 p.m., Green Church Committee
- 5th 7:30 a.m., Morning Prayer
- 6th 12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry
7 p.m., *Gifted by Otherness*
- 10th 9 a.m., *Writings & Ministry of Steven Charleston*
11:45 a.m., *Episcopal 101*
- 11th 3 p.m., GSP Reading Group
7 p.m., Joseph's Pantry Meeting
- 12th 7:30 a.m., Morning Prayer
1 p.m., TIHAN Training
- 13th 7 p.m., *Gifted by Otherness*
- 15th 9:30 a.m., Community of Hope
6 p.m., "When the Angels Cried"—Dinner Theatre & Show
- 17th 9 a.m., *Writings & Ministry of Steven Charleston*
11:45 a.m., *Episcopal 101*
- 19th 7:30 a.m., Morning Prayer
- 20th 12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry
7 p.m., *Gifted by Otherness*
- 21st 5:30 p.m., Equinox Service
- 23rd 1 p.m., TIHAN Training
- 24th **PALM SUNDAY**
- 25th 12 noon, Holy Communion

- 26th 7:30 a.m., Morning Prayer
6 p.m., Holy Communion
6:30 p.m., Vestry Meeting
 - 27th 4:30 p.m., Seder for Families
 - 28th **MAUNDY THURSDAY**
7 p.m., The Essence of Christianity
9 p.m., The Watch
 - 29th **GOOD FRIDAY**
11 a.m., The Watch ends
12 noon, Stations of the Cross
5:30 p.m., Children's Way of the Cross
7 p.m., Community Tenebrae Service
 - 30th **HOLY SATURDAY**
7 p.m., Great Easter Vigil
 - 31st **EASTER SUNDAY**
- #### Coming Up in April
- 1st **EASTER MONDAY**
Church Office & Social Service Ministries Closed
7 p.m., Green Church Committee
 - 3rd 12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry
 - 5th 6:30 p.m., *Spirit Players: A Play Reading Experience*
 - 8th 3 p.m., GSP Reading Group
7 p.m., Joseph's Pantry Meeting
 - 11th 5:30 p.m., TIHAN Congregational Liaison Meeting

- 12th 10 a.m., TIHAN Congregational Liaison Meeting
- 13th 10:30 a.m., Memorial Service & Reception
5 p.m., Ernie Galaz Ordination & Reception
- 14th **BISHOP SMITH VISIT**
- 17th 12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 19th 9:30 a.m., Community of Hope
6:30 p.m., *Film & Fellowship*
- 21st 11:45 a.m., *Factory Farming & the Presence of God*
- 22nd 3 p.m., GSP Reading Group
- 23rd 6:30 p.m., Vestry Meeting
- 27th 9 a.m., Parish Fun Night Group

Looking Ahead to May

- 1st 12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 3rd 6:30 p.m., *Spirit Players: A Play Reading Experience*
- 5th 9 a.m., Scripture Class
- 6th 7 p.m., Green Church Committee
- 12th 9 a.m., Scripture Class
- 13th 7 p.m., Joseph's Pantry Meeting
- 15th 12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 17th 9:30 a.m., Community of Hope
- 18th 8:30 a.m., TIHAN Training
1 p.m., TIHAN Training
- 19th 9 a.m., *Spiritual Approaches to Chronic Illness & Death*
- 27th 3 p.m., GSP Reading Group