

The Briefly

February 2011

The monthly newsletter for the community of
Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church
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INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

**Highlights from
the 20th Annual Parish Meeting**
(pg 3)

**A short biography of your new
Senior Warden, Martha Whitaker**
(pg 3)

A liturgical discussion of Collects
(pg 5)

Episcopal 101 Class
(pg 9)

The New GSP Logo
(pg 8)

Window Restoration
(pg 9)

Weekly Lenten Outdoor Services
(pg 6)

Rector's Message

Let me begin by expressing my heartfelt thanks to all of you for the fantastic Annual Meeting we had on January 23. McBride Hall was full to capacity and the energy and passion each of you brought to the meeting was palpable. I know the meeting went much longer than in the past and I very much appreciate so many of you hanging in there for that length of time. I think everything we did at that meeting was vitally important and I think it went a long way toward bringing us together as we move into our exciting future.

It is now time to live into our legacy together....
How do we best bring that vision to all of Tucson and the country?

I am particularly proud of the care and compassion everyone showed for one another during the by-law change discussion. You were a model of the Episcopal Church at its finest. Each person articulated their own point of view with passion and then turned around and embraced those with whom they disagreed. I think it was a beautiful symbol of the future and how we will work together to grow Grace St. Paul's physically, spiritually and emotionally.

I believe the meeting was also a symbol of the openness and transparency that will mark our lives over the coming years, as well as the shared leadership that we are embracing. Not only that, it was also just plain fun. The laughs we shared as well as the opportunity to thank those who have done so much for us was wonderful.

Most exciting though, was the high drama that came at the end of our meeting. I will not soon forget the second of silence before the eruption of exuberant applause and shouts as your new Senior Warden, Martha Whitaker, was announced. It was more exhilarating than a walk off home run in the bottom of the 11th inning.

It is now time to live into our legacy together. Soon your new vestry will be charting our course for the future. As we do that, we want to hear from all of you. Tell us your thoughts and ideas for how we can best bring about the

Continued on Page 2



by Kathy Conway



Farewell to and from Catherine Penn Williams, and husband Steve. Page 3.

From the (former) Senior Warden

"It doesn't matter how deeply we plant ourselves, hoping to take root in one place forever. Life marches on, and with disturbing frequency, we wake up in a different place, where everything seems different, and we must adapt. So, too, with God. No matter how firm our foundations, God keeps moving and beckoning us onward. And that onward will be a new creation."

—Tom Ehrich, "On a Journey," Jan. 29, 2011

These words from Tom Ehrich's weekly essay for "On a Journey" couldn't be more appropriate as Steve and I prepare to say goodbye to Grace St. Paul's for a full season. As many of you know, I will spend the next year worshipping and volunteering at Church of the Apostles in Oro Valley as part of my discernment of a call to ordained ministry. While Steve and I anticipate and look forward to new worship experiences, friendships and community, we are also very sad to be leaving GSP and will miss our "home church" family very much!

It has been an absolute joy to serve this community as Senior Warden for the last four years. God's infinite love has been so present in all the support and encouragement this community showered on me, the clergy, the vestry, and other parish leaders as we faced the challenges of transition and change together. There are a number of folks who were crucial to my well-being during this time. I especially want to acknowledge the members of the Education for Ministry (EfM) group to which I have belonged since 2000, for their wisdom and faithfulness; previous Senior Wardens Terry Shreve, Lynne Albright and Chris Eastoe, for their wise counsel at so many different junctions; Fr. Harold Clinehens for, among other things, reminding me "it's just church" when I needed to hear that; the incredibly conscientious staff at GSP who pour 100% of their hearts into the work they do; and *every single ministry leader and volunteer* who just kept showing up to do the work to help us all live into our vision and mission as followers of Christ—the list is just too long. I also thank my husband Steve for blessing me with a realized love and companionship that heretofore I could only dream of.

As I wrote for the 2010 Annual Report, I



Thank you, Catherine, for four years of above-and-beyond dedicated service as GSP's Senior Warden! We wish you all the best as you begin a new one-year journey at Church of the Apostles in Oro Valley, and look forward to your return to GSP. Photo courtesy of Martha Whitaker.

encouraged us to look toward 2011 with hopeful hearts. Your new rector, Fr. Steve Keplinger, has tremendous energy and a desire to create—with you—a new vision for the community. Martha Whitaker will serve him well as the new Senior Warden. Linda Hutson will continue to listen and respond to all your concerns in her capacity as Junior Warden. And you have a vestry made up of remarkable and capable individuals who care deeply about this parish and its future. That future now beckons—for each of us. I will keep you in my prayers and ask that you do the same. May the light of God's love lead us forward.

With love and gratitude,

Catherine Penn Williams

Rector's Message

Continued from Page 1

realm of God together. How do we continue to live into the new togetherness we have begun? How do we best bring that vision to all of Tucson and the country?

I am not a Trekkie, but it is difficult at this moment to not utilize the phrase from that science fiction series. Let us boldly go, where no church has gone before! Thank you one and all for being so bold.

Shalom,

Steve +

Briefly Deadline & Editor's Announcement

After serving as editor for the past three years, I am stepping down so that I may focus on my responsibilities as your new Senior Warden. While editing *Briefly* articles, I have especially enjoyed learning more about the many ministries and the people involved in them. It gave me a much deeper appreciation for the number of volunteers at GSP who are inspired to serve the church, build community, and work for social justice. This is an exciting time to be involved as a volunteer as Grace St. Paul's!

The next deadline for *The Briefly* is Tuesday, Feb. 22, for the March issue. Until the new *Briefly* Editor has been determined, please send electronic articles to Kiki Fenik at: ParishAdmin@Grace-StPauls.org. Kiki will forward submissions to the new editor once s/he has been identified.

Either MS Word or Word Perfect format is acceptable, or you may simply paste the article into the body of your email. If you do not have access to a computer, please call the parish office and ask if there is a volunteer who can help you type it into an electronic file.

Please send graphics and photos at the highest resolution your camera provides, without any editing or resizing, in TIFF or JPEG format, directly to John Banks: jdbanks@gmail.com.



And Our New Senior Warden is... Martha Whitaker

It is an honor and pleasure to have been asked to serve as Grace St. Paul's (GSP) Senior Warden! Many thanks to all of you who have offered me such warm congratulations and support.

I have been a member of GSP for over ten years, and most of you know me as the mom of almost-nine-year-old twins, Rachel Whitaker and Robert Leenhouts. Many of you also know me as a hydrologist from the University of Arizona, where I teach three undergraduate hydrology classes and advise over fifty undergraduate students in the Department of Hydrology and Water Resources (HWR). As undergraduate advisor, I have helped increase the HWR Department's undergraduate enrollment from 8 to 51 students—an increase of over 600% in just two years.

At GSP I have served as a summer Sunday school teacher, lector, chalice-bearer, subdeacon, and have been active in Sunday school parent-teacher meetings. I have also been the *Briefly* editor for three years.

I very much look forward to working with Fr. Steve and all of you as GSP grows our dreams for the future.

Highlights from the 20th Annual Parish Meeting

By Kathy Creath & Martha Whitaker

On Jan. 23, the Rev. Steve Keplinger opened Grace St. Paul's 20th Annual Parish Meeting with a welcoming theme about "Our Togetherness." This was a fitting theme amid a filled-to-capacity McBride Hall, as parishioners voted in and welcomed new vestry members, said farewell to outgoing vestry members, reviewed the events of 2010, and respectfully discussed conflicting viewpoints regarding potential changes to GSP by-laws. Some highlights from the meeting not discussed elsewhere in the *Briefly* include:

- Delegates were elected to attend the Diocesan Convention: Tricia Galvin, Ernie Galaz, Nanalee Raphael, Chuck Hannon, and Kay Bigglestone. Marilyn Abraham, Karen English, and the other nominees will serve as alternates.
- There was a spirited yet respectful debate regarding a proposal to change the GSP by-laws regarding the nominating process for vestry members. It was noted that changes to the by-laws

must be distributed three weeks prior to the Annual Meeting, and since the proposal was distributed only a few days prior to the meeting, no votes were cast, but it was agreed that more discussion on this topic is necessary.

Article IV, Sec. 4 currently reads as follows:

"Nominations to the Vestry and for Junior Warden shall be made by a nominating committee of no fewer than five persons including two retiring Vestry members, appointed by the Rector each year, subject to the approval of the Vestry. This committee shall report to the congregation six weeks before the annual meeting. Additional nominations may be made to the nominating committee or the Rector up to three weeks before the annual meeting, unless the nominating committee finds it necessary to extend the nomination period. No nominations from the floor will be accepted."

The proposed addition to Article IV, Sec. 4 would add the following text after the sentence, "No nominations from the floor will be accepted."

"All meetings of the nominating committee shall be open meetings, and all discussions of the candidate's qualifications must be conducted with the candidate present and able

2011 Vestry Members

Senior Warden: Martha Whitaker

Junior Warden: Linda Hutson

Treasurer: Richard Shumway

Chancellor: Nick Nickerson

Clerk: Kathy Creath

Marilyn Abraham, Michael Allen, Ann Bates, Lynda Canfield, Joan Cooney, Spencer Hunter, Chris LaBour, Chris Ledyard, Janet Roths, Peggy Scott, Donna Olson Shreve, and Peter Weiblen

to address the committee's concerns. The nominating committee exists exclusively to determine whether a candidate meets the requirements of Article I, Sec. 2 and Sec. 3 regarding their status as a communicant in good standing and qualified member."

• Richard Shumway gave the Financial Report for 2010 and the 2011 Budget, and said he looks forward to the next year with nothing but hope and optimism. While the 2010 income from pledges was under-plan, other sources of income partially offset this, and were sufficient to cover our expenses. Pledges for 2011 are up by about \$25K over last year. This coming year we have increased our advertis-

Continued on Page 7

Notes from the Choir Stalls

By Christina Jarvis, Director of Music



Presiding Bishop to visit Tucson

GSP has reserved 24 seats at the banquet St. Philip's in the Hills is hosting for Presiding Bishop Katherine Jefferts Schori on Sunday, Feb 6, at 6:30 p.m. in the UA Student Union Ballroom.

Although you may only be learning about this now, there may actually be spaces still available because it's scheduled during the Super Bowl!

Contact Kiki to learn if spaces are still available: parishadmin@grace-stpauls.org.

It has been a shocking start to the New Year here in Tucson. How surreal to hear national broadcasters talking about our town and its inhabitants in words of crisis and violence, and to read articles about us on the front page of the New York Times every day for a week! We pray for Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords and the other wounded and hope they are restored to wholeness. May the deceased rest in peace. As Mother Jones suggested, let us pray for the dead and fight like hell for the living. It sure would be nice to see guns out of the hands of the mentally ill, and my biased and unscientific definition of mentally ill is anyone who would want a semi-automatic handgun with a 31-bullet clip. But I'm judgmental on certain topics; I pray about that a lot.

Ash Wednesday and Lent are coming, and we can all contemplate our characters. A friend recently said that our greatest strengths are also our greatest weaknesses, and vice versa. That duality is God's work in us—to ensure we are humble enough to acknowledge our weaknesses and confident enough to trust our strengths, and to flip those suckers like Shrove Tuesday pancakes from the weak to the strong.

It won't be Lent for some weeks yet, however. Epiphany is pretty much as long as it can be this year and there's lots more time for flipping before we hand ourselves over to penitence and the acknowledgement that we burned some of them flapjacks. Epiphany is a prism of the possible. What is possible isn't always easy, as Jesus shows us over and over.

I sure wish it were possible to plan the music for Epiphany without tearing apart the choral library. Boxes are piled in odd corners. The theme for several Sundays in a row seems to be "Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes." I'm like Pavlov's dog, except hopefully for the drooling part—I read that title and hear William Byrd's setting. It really gets in the way of other options. We did that one a couple of years ago, though, and it's too soon to bring it back.

I'm trying to use the heaps of material we have in the library. Among the selections com-

ing up, we will sing a work by an 18th-century Moravian composer. The Moravians, an evangelical Protestant sect, emigrated to the U.S. from Germany well before the Revolution and are present throughout the U.S. today. According to Wikipedia, their motto is: "In essentials, unity; in nonessentials, liberty; and in all things, love." Words to live by, indeed.

Otherwise, the plan continues to be mixing styles and centuries—the Duruflé "Ubi caritas," the Holst "Let all mortal flesh keep silence," a setting of paired spirituals "Peace like a river" with "Kum ba ya"—don't make that noise. "Kum ba ya" is not a punch line, it's a deeply emotional lament, a prayer for God's presence and help in times of trial, which can be defined as just about any time at all, but especially now. Might also pull out Jean Ritchie's "Going to that city" on "love your enemies" Sunday.

We don't yet have a plan for Shrove Tuesday entertainment. I can assure you with some confidence that it won't be mud wrestling or pole dancing. Sights you don't want to see around here, really. No, we'll have a think about it and come up with an appropriate theme. Whatever we do, please come celebrate the abundance of life represented by Fat Tuesday, and then come back on Ash Wednesday to remember, if we need to be reminded, that life has its fleshly end. If all goes according to plan, we will sing an anthem by Jane Click for the evening service: "Have mercy on me, O God".

And so we muddle along, trying to live in love. May we all have peace like a river in our souls. Special thanks to Martha Whitaker, who is stepping down as *Briefly* editor to step up to the position of Senior Warden. She'll be a tough editorial act to follow.

Paz y luz,

Christina

Liturgical Discussion of the Month

By The Rev. Steve Keplinger

Each month, we have been looking at a different part of our Sunday liturgy and discussing the rationale behind its use in our worship. This month our subject is the Collect. A Collect, according to the Oxford dictionary, is a short prayer that is assigned to a particular day or liturgical season. Usually, there are two Collects in our service each week, one following the Chant of Praise, and before the first reading at the beginning of the service. The second follows the Prayers of the People.

The 1979 *Book of Common Prayer* is a useful source for Collects. A separate Collect has been written for each Sunday of the church year. These are used as The Collect of the Day at the beginning of the service. In the large majority of Episcopal churches, these are the Collects that you will hear each Sunday. At Grace St. Paul's, we also utilize these Collects at our 8 a.m. service. However, at 10 a.m., we often use a Collect from a different source. The theory here is that it is important to hold on to our tradition and utilize the words that have become so familiar to many. Some of these Collects are so cherished that long-time Episcopalians can recite them by heart. However, the *Prayer Book* Collects also have a limitation. One is written for each Sunday, but our lectionary readings follow a three-year cycle. The Collects therefore have to be generic enough to work for the different readings that occur over the three year cycle.

This is why at our 10 a.m. service, we also utilize Collects that have been specifically written for the readings for that particular day. You will notice how closely they relate to those texts. The two sources that we most often utilize are Collects written for the Vanderbilt Divinity Library and also ones by an English

clergy person named Steven Shakespeare. Shakespeare's Collects tend to be very earthy and attempt to shake us into hearing the text in a new context. The Vanderbilt Collects are a little more subtle, but very specific. Collects set the tone for the entire service and we try very hard to choose ones that match the theology of our whole liturgy.

There are also eight Collects provided in the *Book of Common Prayer* for use after the Prayers of the People. These Collects were meant to be examples of how to create a Collect, though they, too, are often used at other Episcopal churches on a regular basis. We rarely use them at either our 8 or 10 a.m. service, preferring instead to choose a Collect that matches directly with the Prayers we have just said, or connects with the liturgical season (like the one we are presently using), or links with the readings of the day.

As with every aspect of our liturgy, our Collects are chosen with great care to make each of our worship experiences as seamless, beautiful, prayerful, and thought-provoking as possible.

Training for Healing Services

By Lynne Albright & Kay Bigglestone

The laying on of hands for healing is being offered on the second Sunday of every month. A list of those called to this ministry is being developed and people will be assigned to a Sunday in advance.

Training for anyone interested in pursuing this ministry—including those currently on the list—will be held on Saturday, Feb. 12, at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Fr. Steve will share his vision for this ministry so that we have a consistent approach.

Weekly Lenten Outdoor Services

By Heather Pentland

In keeping with the intention at Grace St. Paul's that liturgy reflect theology, a new outdoor service will be offered weekly throughout Lent. The idea for the service, *A Call to Prayer for Peace and Reconciliation*, is borrowed from the Iona Community and responds to Archbishop Desmond Tutu's prophecy that reconciliation will be the ground of theology in the 21st century. As such, *A Call to Prayer* has particular meaning for us children of God as we begin the second decade of this fragile century and move into the holy season of repentance and promise.

The 20-minute service is adapted from the Iona Abbey Worship Book and expanded by the Society of Companions of the Holy Cross, a community of Episcopal women vowed to ministry in social justice. It includes elements from other times, cultures, and faith traditions. We will be called together by the rhythmic beat of a Native American drum heard as the heartbeat of God, of the earth, and of ourselves in relation to one another. We will gather at the labyrinth, Medieval symbol of a pathway into the heart of God. Our silences during the service will be measured by the receding sound

of a Tibetan singing bowl, an ancient Buddhist tradition.

We will gather at the labyrinth in a close circle, that "sacred round" signifying the image of God's love that has no beginning and no end, and encompasses all directions. We will sing chants from the monastic Taize Community in France that served as a refuge during World War II, and hear prayers from the Iona Community in Scotland which was founded after World War II as an inspired challenge to classism and poverty. We will be mindful that today Taizé and Iona are ecumenical beacons of hospitality, justice, peace, and reconciliation that draw seekers and pilgrims from throughout the world. As children of God called to be peace-makers and agents of reconciliation, we will offer up fervent intercessions, silently and aloud, before disbanding in silence.

This service is offered as both gift and discipline during the Lenten season beginning in March and continuing into April. Please watch for confirmation of the dates and times in upcoming Sunday Bulletins, the GSP webpage, and weekly GSP email updates.

How to Meditate

By David Clements

"I can only tell you one thing—meditate." -
Bede Griffiths, OSB

Be seated. Sit still with your spine upright. Gently close your eyes. Sit relaxed but alert. Silently, interiorly begin to say a single word or simply watch your breath. If you do not have a word or mantra, we recommend the prayer-phrase, Maranatha, recited in four syllables of equal length (ma-ra-na-tha). Listen to your mantra as you say it gently and continuously. Do not think or imagine anything during your time of meditation. If

thoughts or images come, these are distractions, so keep returning to your word or mantra.

Physical and mental distractions will occur, so do not berate yourself. Just gently ease back into the recitation of your mantra or observation of your breath. If you are new to meditation, begin with 5 minutes and gradually increase the time by 5 minutes each day until you are meditating for a period of 20 to 30 minutes.

Please join us in the Julian Chapel every Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. for a period of silent, seated meditation.

Young People & Resilience

By Harriet Claiborne

Sitting in the Sunday School hallway two weeks after the Safeway shooting and listening to the children and their teachers talking about hope and helping others as they made cards for Gabby Giffords and decorated bags for TIHAN, restored my own sense of hope as I marveled at their resilience in this dark moment of our local history. I was reminded of Jesus' words in John 12:24: *"Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains only a grain of wheat. But if it dies, it produces much grain."*

Our young people need a firm foundation as they grow up in an often confusing world. Faith is integral to this foundation as it invites us to believe in something greater than ourselves, to believe in themselves, and to trust others.

One of the greatest gifts that we can nurture in our children is resilience; the ability to

recover from events that lead to results which are not what any of us desire and are usually accompanied by pain.

Our Christian faith teaches us that new life comes out of loss and our Episcopal heritage invites us to share the real presence of Jesus with one another in Eucharist. We can have the strength to endure pain until the path of new life presents itself!

Our Sunday School classes have begun again so bring your children to church, and model your own commitment to Christ and his church. Together we can build a better world in which all people and all creation are celebrated and enjoyed, just as God intended.

Blessings to all and remember that "A little child shall lead them." You are welcome to call me at 299-6123 or email me at ChildrenYouth@grace-stpauls.org.

Annual Meeting Highlights

Continued from Page 3

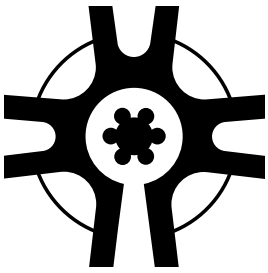
ing budget, and have planned for \$30K as a provision for Staff Growth, which will enable hiring someone part time for the next year. Without these items we would be close to a balanced budget, but we would not have what we need to grow this parish. There remains ~\$20K in outstanding HVAC pledges, which would enable us to pay off the loan.

- GSP's many ministries continue to thrive under ongoing and new leadership and with an impressive cadre of volunteers, and several new ministries have been established to serve God's Creation not just within

GSP, but in the surrounding community as well.

- The Rev. Steve Keplinger honored two people with The First Annual Rector's Awards: **Eleanor Kohloss** for beautifying GSP, and **Tricia Galvin** for her extensive volunteerism.

One of the most impressive aspects of the Annual Meeting was the widespread passion and commitment to participating in our congregation's mission, as we move forward into a new era at GSP. There is important work to be done, and together as a diverse community we will grow GSP's dreams for the future!



The New GSP Logo

By Eleanor Kohloss

The new GSP logo, designed by Eleanor Kohloss and Craig Garver, combines elements of the St. Paul Cross (seen from the parking lot) and the Labyrinth, in an effort to visually reflect GSP's mission statement:

"We welcome into Grace St. Paul's parish all people who seek to love God and participate in an open and supportive community based upon the example and teachings of Jesus Christ. We especially welcome people who feel they may not be welcome in a church because of physical appearance or ability, age, mental capacity, ethnic or religious background, sexual orientation, a sense of past or present personal sinfulness or financial circumstances. We confess that as a community we are not perfected in love. We seek to become more fully loving, and we welcome all who wish to join us in this journey."

The circles echo a Celtic cross, circular paths of the labyrinth, and the Earth. (Laby-

rinth symbolism from Wikipedia: *The labyrinth with its four quadrants is symbolic of Christ's cross. It represents a journey to our own center and back again out into the world. At the center is a rosette design which is symbolic of enlightenment. The entry to the labyrinth is birth; the center is death and eternal life. In Christian terms, the thread that leads us through life is divine grace.*)

The small center circles are like the center of the labyrinth, and can also seem like people joining hands around a table (seen from above). Other symbols are outstretched arms for both giving and receiving, Christ's hands in the world, four compass directions, and all being welcome at our table. The interrupted circle refers to a community of openness as well as incomplete journeys. For those who want to use even more imagination, there is the beam of light, the keyhole, and the steering wheel! Share with others how the new logo speaks to you. Artistry, beauty and interpretation are in the eye of the beholder!

The **Planned Giving** ministry seeks a new coordinator!

Please consider if you may be called to lead this ministry that is so important to the future of GSP. It is an exciting time to be involved at GSP!

Contact Martha Whitaker via email: seniorwarden@gracestpauls.org or leave a message in the Parish office: 327-6857.

Nametags: Elementary, my Dear Watson

By Al Whitehurst

Beam me up, Scotty.

Lucy, I'm home!

Say goodnight, Gracie.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus.

Why do we fondly recall certain phrases?

Often it is because they name someone whom we admire or enjoy. We easily remember con-

versations when we are called by our name. You can ensure that people know your name—and you can speak to others by name—if everyone wears a name badge to church.

If you don't have a name badge, sign up to receive one at the welcome table on Sunday mornings in McBride Hall. In about two to four weeks, you will be sporting your very own Grace St. Paul's name badge. Everyone feels connected if they call each other by name. The evidence is, well, elementary.

Episcopal 101 Class

By The Rev. Steve
Keplinger

On Jan. 30, we will begin a six-week class called *Episcopal 101*. The class is specifically designed for those who are considering becoming official members of Grace St. Paul's or are pondering being received into this faith tradition. However, it is our hope that many more of you will decide to participate, because the class will cover material that many cradle Episcopalians do not even know. In reality, the class is for anyone who would like to learn more about the church, specifically the Episcopal Church and the Anglican tradition, in which we are a part. All of this will come at you from the slant of your fearless Rector.

Our first class will be on the history of the church from Jesus to the eighteenth century. (All of that in an hour and a half...amazing). The second class will be history, part II, a look at the church as it developed in America. Class three will be everything you always wanted to know about the *Book of Common Prayer* and our liturgy, but were afraid to ask. Class four will be a discussion of Sacramental theology, and what we mean by Sacrament. Class five will be on Episcopal Church polity, how we get things done and how the church is run. This

class is particularly important to us now as we consider the American politics and also the fragile state of the Anglican Communion. The last class will be a comparison of the Episcopal tradition with other Christian denominations and a discussion about where we go from here.

We are going to cover a bunch in a short time, but we believe the classes will be informative for all and fun, whether you have a doctorate in Anglican studies, (as I know some of you do) or you think that Episcopalian is something that you need to get out of your rug before it stains.

EPISCOPAL 101 CLASS SCHEDULE

(Sundays, 11:45 a.m., Bloom Room)

Jan. 30—Church History to the 18th century

Feb. 6—Church History in America

Feb. 13—The *Book of Common Prayer* and the Liturgy

Feb. 20—The Sacramental Tradition

Feb. 27—American Church Polity

March 6 —A quick comparison of Christian denominations and being an Episcopalian in a pluralistic society

Stained-Glass Window Restoration

By Chris LaBour

Our beautiful stained-glass windows have fallen into disrepair and are in great need of restoration. The vestry has elected to have the necessary work done this year, by a company that specializes in "Preservation of America's Stained-Glass Heritage." Twenty-three of our thirty-four windows will be restored using procedures that include flattening bulged areas, installing steel braces for strength, installing protective glazing, replacing some pieces of stained glass, re-cementing the windows, and scraping and painting exterior millwork.

You have the opportunity to become part of Grace St. Paul's history, by sponsoring a window. Each person who makes a donation will be recognized with their name engraved on a plaque placed at the window of their choice. We will have pictures of windows on a poster in

McBride Hall, along with dollar amounts. You can select your favorite window, decide how much you wish to contribute, and write a check indicating your window choice. When the entire amount has been sponsored the window will be marked as sold. A window can have one or many sponsors, so any amount is welcome. The donation will go into the general window repair fund, as some windows require more work than others, but your sponsorship will be reflected in the plaque at the window you have chosen.

Take some time to look carefully at the windows, choose one that reflects your spiritual journey or a meaningful event in your life, and join us in sponsoring this much-needed project to maintain the beauty of our church. Please direct questions to Dan Misenhimer or Chris LaBour.

Social Justice & Outreach

The **Social Justice & Outreach** ministry seeks a new coordinator! Please consider if you may be called to lead this important ministry. If interested, contact Martha Whitaker via email: seniorwarden@grace-stpauls.org or leave a message in the Parish office: 327-6857. It is an exciting time to be involved at GSP!

Part of the Problem or Part of the Solution?

By Dolores & Paul Gohdes, co-chairs Bridging Borders

Imagine not being able to feed, clothe, or house your own family; not because of anything you have done but because large companies have bought up much of the farm land, and subsidies on foreign goods make yours uncompetitive. And so you travel north where you've heard you can earn enough money to send back and take care of your family.

In another scenario, both parents work in an assembly factory (maquiladora) near the US/Mexico border, earning approximately \$50 each (often for a 6 day week) which means a family income of \$400/month with food prices the same as in the US. What happens to the children?

While long term we can advocate for system-wide change, there are two things we can do right now as a parish:

First: Buy Just Coffee (\$10/pound in a variety of flavors, including decaf). It is raised in the southern-most state in Mexico (Chiapas) by farmers who can keep their land because they earn money from the coffee they grow without the middleman taking the lion's share of the retail price. The coffee is roasted in Agua Prieta, again providing a living for people who



Hogar de Esperanza y Paz

can then stay in their own country. The Coffee Table in McBride Hall is open after both services on the first and third Sundays of each month.

Second: Hogar de Esperanza y Paz (Home of Hope and Peace) in Nogales, Sonora, run by volunteers and partially supported by Borderlinks and a small amount from the Mexican government, provides a noon meal setting for up to 120 children with nowhere to go and no one to take care of them while their parents work. Along with the meals, there are classes in nutrition and on sustainable gardening and water harvesting for both children and their parents. Also involved is a women's empowerment program. Grace St Paul's can help with the meals by donating generously to the food drives scheduled on Sundays, March 6 and 13. Items needed will be listed in the Sunday Bulletin.

Save the date!

Walk in Solidarity

By Dolores & Paul Gohdes, Co-chairs Bridging Borders

The Naco Border Procession will be held on Saturday, May 7, at 2 p.m. Bishop Kirk Smith usually leads the annual gathering. An ecumenical group of parishioners from all over the state of Arizona will come together to demonstrate their belief that "God Has No Borders." The walk begins in Naco, Arizona, and proceeds into Naco, Sonora, where local residents join the walk.

The destination is the plaza adjacent to Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, about six blocks from the Border. Along the way, stops are made at several sites involving migrant



services.

After a program at the plaza, delicious Mexican food items are available at the church, prepared by town residents (there is a small charge). GSP will arrange car pools for those desiring to go, and more information will

be shared as we get closer to the event.

Please plan to join us on this very moving pilgrimage.

Creation Spirituality: Animals & Spirituality Planning Meeting By The Rev. Nadine Martin

If you're interested in being part of the Animals & Spirituality ministry, now part of the newly formed Creation Spirituality group, please join us for one of our planning sessions in February.

The first meeting will be in the Conference Room off the main office area on Sunday, Feb. 6, from 9 a.m. (or immediately after the 8 o'clock service) to 9:45 a.m. The second meeting will be in the Bloom Room on Tuesday, Feb. 8, from 5-5:45 p.m. Each meeting will be identical, so you may choose the one that best fits your schedule.

The purpose of the meeting will be to decide the initial steps and get people signed up for the area(s) that most interest them.

Items we've previously discussed include providing pet food to the food pantry, providing temporary housing for animal companions whose humans are ill or traveling, and accompanying someone to the vet.

Please attend on either date (or both if you wish). Signing up is not necessary—just show up with your ideas! If you have questions, please either email Reverend Nadine, nadinemartin@q.com, or call 733-5640.

Thanks for a fantastic Poz Café!

By Jay Elliston & Martha Whitaker

Poz Café is a monthly lunch program held at St. Francis in the Foothills Church, and organized by the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN).

GSP volunteers helped host the Poz Café in January. The HIV 101 luncheon speaker this month was Jay Elliston, and lunch was followed by followed by bingo and raffles.

Volunteers help cook and serve the lunch, help with the bingo game, hand out care

packages of donated personal care items, and help with clean-up. This past month we were very grateful for an overwhelming number of donated personal care items!

Thank you to those who donated items, with special thanks to our GSP volunteers Mother Kate Baird, Beth Banks, Terry Trujillo, Noreen Henderson and Craig Garver!

If you are interested in helping with the next GSP-hosted Poz Café, contact GSP's TIHAN/Poz Café coordinator, Jay Elliston, tcsnjay@aol.com.

Remember Cassette Recorders?

By Lynne Albright

Blind children attending St. Andrew's Children's Clinic can use cassette recorders in their classes so they can listen and take notes later. If you have any cassette recorders or blank tapes to donate, they can be put to good use by these children.

Please leave your donations on the long table in the parish office or see Lynne Albright after a Sunday service. Thank you!

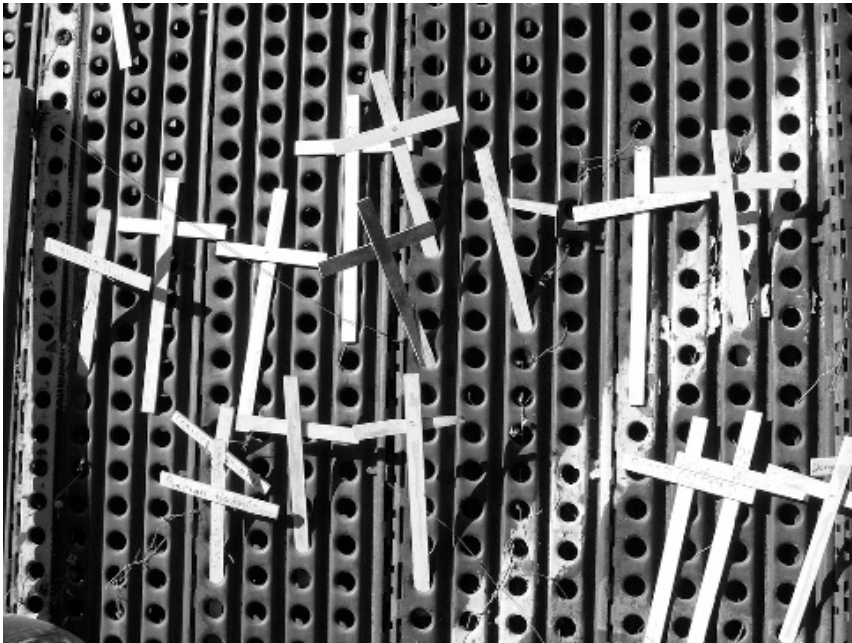


Humanitarian Aid on the Desert

By Gretchen & Walter Collins

Preventing the deaths of border crossers is the common goal of three "boots on the ground" humanitarian aid groups: Humane Borders, Samaritans, and No More Deaths; however, each group has a different approach to accomplishing the task.

Humane Borders identifies areas where migrant trails "cluster", and sets up water barrels in strategic locations. They service these barrels weekly or twice weekly as necessary.



Crosses on the border fence

Samaritans' goal is to staff a patrol each day out in the desert and mountain foothills near the border. We try to have a medically trained person, and another who speaks sufficient Spanish to communicate with the migrants so that they can be provided with what they need to continue their journey. We do this by carrying food packets, water bottles or gallon jugs, clothing, blankets, and first aid.

No More Deaths do all of these things and more, but concentrate their efforts by actively recruiting mostly younger volunteers who camp out in the desert during the hot summer months. They are a much younger group of people who come from all over this country and sometimes from other countries. No More Deaths has a cadre of older mentors who work with and camp out with the younger participants. The mentors may or may not accompany the younger participants on their twice-daily hiking trips. They start out around three or four o'clock in the morning and hike in the desert and mountains with backpacks containing the same supplies that Samaritans use. They return to camp mid-morning, rest, and duplicate the same procedure in late afternoon and early evening.

All volunteers for Samaritans and No More Deaths are required to undergo training before they are allowed to participate. This includes four to six hours of instruction on what they can and cannot do for migrants, how to take vital signs such as temperature, blood pressure, treatment for snake bites, etc.

If you would like to join this important humanitarian ministry, feel free to contact Gretchen or Walter Collins for further information.

Help Us Create a GSP Brochure

We are beginning to create a new GSP brochure to use as a marketing tool at various festivals and events, including the upcoming Tucson Festival of Books.

We need pictures of people having a good time—in church or elsewhere.

Please email your photos to Bruce Anderson: azlizard@comcast.net.

Here are your GSP class listings which include our Lenten practices for your spiritual formation opportunities, social justice issues, an interesting perspective on Animals and Spirituality, and classes for your meditation/contemplation practices. Please note that the class on Conscious Aging requires preregistration by Feb 1 (or as soon as you receive this newsletter!). Also, we have a Saturday-scheduled class for enhancing your Lenten practice (see Encounter the Holy through Icon Painting).

Episcopal 101 for Everyone

**Six Sundays, Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27 & March 6
11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.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 as we share in the journey into the 21st century. In this six-session introduction to the Episcopal Church, we will: discuss 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; explain the structure and organization of the Episcopal Church; and ask what it means to be a member of Grace St. Paul’s Church. In addition, we will answer such questions as: What do bishops do? What is Apostolic Succession? Why do we need priests? In what direction does authority flow? Bring your questions to all the sessions! We’ll use the book *Jesus Was an Episcopalian: A Newcomers Guide to the Episcopal Church* by Chris Yaw which will be available at the Rector’s Bookshelf. Facilitated by **Fr. Steve Keplinger**, Rector of Grace St. Paul’s.

Dying to Live

**Sunday, Feb. 6
9-9:45 a.m., Bloom Education Center**

View and discuss the DVD *Dying to Live* which describes the lives of undocumented migrants. The *Dying to Live* webpage says the following: “...(this powerful DVD) is a profound look at the human face of the immigrant. It explores who these people are, why they leave their homes and what they face in their journey. Drawing on the insights of Pulitzer Prize winning photographers, theologians, church and congressional leaders, activists, musicians and the immigrants themselves, this film exposes the places of conflict, pain and hope along the US-Mexico border. It is a reflection on the human struggle for a more dignified life and the search to find God in the midst of that struggle.” Coordinated by **Bridging Borders**.

Conscious Aging

**Six Mondays, Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28, March 7 & 14
10-11:30 a.m., Bloom Education Center**

Pre-registration is needed by Feb. 1 (or as soon as you receive this newsletter!), through the church office—minimum of 6 students required.

This course offers an insightful new vision of growing older. Learn to bring more adventure, joy, mystery and meaning to your life by undertaking the inner work that leads to personal renewal focused on a new dimension of conscious aging. The class will use *From Age-ing to Sage-ing: A Profound New Vision of Growing Older*, available at the Rector’s Bookshelf. Facilitated by **Tari Muir**, MA in Gerontology, and passionate about exploring the aging journey.

“Let Us Pray”—Now What Do We Do?

**Sundays, Feb. 13, 20 & 27
9-9:45 a.m., Bloom Education Center**

These varied and insightful classes will look at the Biblical and historical examples of prayer postures and gestures during public and private prayer. The first session will be an introduction and “sitting for Worship.” The second session will look at the standing and kneeling postures, and the third session will discuss bowing, prostrating, and other prayerful practices including dancing. Come to one or all sessions and increase your awareness and meaning of your prayerfulness as expressed by action. Presented by **Chuck Dickson**, historian, teacher, and Grace St. Paul’s member.

Adult Spiritual Formation

Sacred Places, Sacred Spaces

Sunday, Feb. 13

11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Weeks Education Room

There are many places in the world that are sacred to people of different faiths. During a recent trip around the world, Grace St. Paul members Rick and Linda Hanson had an opportunity to visit many of them, ranging from Moses' Well in Jordan to the Golden Temple, (which is sacred to Sikhs) in India, to the Chartres Cathedral in France, to magnificent temples in Kyoto, Japan. Come and join in the slide presentation and discussion of these and many more sacred spaces. Facilitated by **Rick and Linda Hanson**, world-wide travelers.

Gong Bath

Two Sundays: March 27 & May 29

11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Bloom Education Center

"A Meditational Bath of Sound Healing, Where Soul Force Merges with Spirit." The Gong is named after the sound that it makes: It "is" what it "does" which is the prerequisite of being considered a shamanic power tool, likened to the mythic philosopher's stone. Immersing in a Gong Bath brings us out of our normal 'awake' brain state, and carries us to a place where transformation and healing can begin. The Gong produces frequencies that induce deep meditation, clarity of mind, and profound intuition. Come join us as we bathe in overtones and journey into positive states of well being. Bring your intentions and an open mind! Facilitated by **Donna Tetreault**, musician, sound healer, and GSP member.

DREAM Act Kids

Sunday, March 6

9-9:45 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Listen to a panel discussion of young people affected by the DREAM Act, featuring some of the children brought across the Border without documentation when they were very young, and who have no experience with their country of origin. There is a controversial interest in sending them back, whether they are in high school or college, or working. If this happens, they are dumped across the border with absolutely no ties to people or culture there. Coordinated by **Bridging Borders**.

Identifying & Treating Depression & Other Mental Illnesses

Sunday, March 6

11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Weeks Education Room

This presentation by a representative of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill in Southern Arizona (NAMISA) will include "Dark Days," a short DVD, and discussion led by two individuals in recovery from mental illness, who will incorporate identifying, treating, and therapy offered for depression in our Tucson Community. Coordinated by **Kay Bigglestone**, co-chair of the Community of Hope, and **George Leon** from National Alliance on Mental Illness in Southern Arizona (NAMISA).

Will We See Our Animal Companions in Heaven?

Sunday, March 13

9-9:45 a.m., Bloom Education Center

"Will I see my pets in heaven?" Some believe we will, others believe we won't, and still others believe that it's a theologically unresolved issue. This class will not provide you with a definite answer, but you're invited to bring an open mind and/or opposing opinions and add your voice to what should be a lively discussion. It is recommended that participants purchase and read *Will I See My Dog in Heaven?* by Jack Wintz, OFM, available in the Rector's Bookshelf. Facilitated by **The Reverend Nadine Martin**, Deacon and Chair, Animals & Spirituality Ministry, and **Fred Masterman+**, Priest Associate.

**Voluntary Simplicity &
New Roads to Authentic Prosperity**
Sunday, March 20 & 27
9-9:45 a.m., Bloom Education Center

There is growing concern over the future of America's middle class after the great Recession. As a Lenten practice, participants will explore if we can find happiness, grow spiritually, and keep a sense well-being by discovering ways to consume less and live within more limited financial means. Participants are recommended to read *Voluntary Simplicity* by Duane Elgin, which is available at the Rector's bookshelf. Facilitated by **Lynda Canfield**, an enthusiastic reader who enjoys discussing books related to new ideas and spirituality.

Encounter the Holy through Icon Painting
Saturdays, March 26, April 2 & April 9
1-3 p.m., Bloom Education Center

Are you attracted by the mystery and beauty of sacred icons? If so, you might enjoy this meditative practice. There will be brief background information, and then we will create our own icons using the ancient step-by-step art form that continues to speak to us today. There is an approximate cost of \$30 for a book and one painting board. Other materials will be provided. We suggest reading and studying a few weeks prior to the class *A Brush with God* by Peter Pearson, available at the Rector's Bookshelf. Facilitated by **Pat Dickson, Alex Kouvel** and **Eleanor Kohloss**—who have begun this journey of painting icons, and welcome all who are interested in learning with us.

**Pancakes & Penitentials:
Anglican Lenten Traditions**
Sundays, April 3 & 10
9-9:45 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Rejecting the belief of self-denial in that the only thing somebody can be sure of is that he or she exists, and that true knowledge of anything else is impossible, Anglican Lenten practices have long emphasized inner spiritual development through the embrace of community and others as a means of progress toward God during Lent. A rich vein of Anglican Lenten tradition stretches from the Celtic principle of the Anamchara or soul-friend through to the saintly Bishop Thomas Ken of Bath and Well, who urged his diocese to welcome Huguenot refugees for the Lent of 1687. So much more than mere remote historical markers, openness to others through mutually supportive spiritual development and the embrace of refugees can be vibrant, living corner-stones to Lent in a progressive Episcopalian community today. Facilitated by **Peter Foley**, Ph.D., Assoc. Prof. of Anglican Studies at UofA, and GSP member.

**Housemate
sought**

Share a home on the desert close to Saguaro National Park East. Bedroom suite includes private bath with shower, 13' x 15' bedroom, walk-in closet. Garage, DirecTV, plus kitchen & laundry privileges. \$550/mo. Al Whitehurst, 647-3630.



Grace St. Paul's

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

What's Happening at GSP in February

- 1st** 6 p.m., Evening Prayer & Eucharist
6:30 p.m., EfM Year 11 group
7 p.m., Meditation group
- 2nd** 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist
9 a.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)
6 p.m., Global Chant
6:30 p.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)
- 3rd** 9 a.m., Conversational French Class
3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
6 p.m., M3M
- 4th** 9:30 a.m., Qigong class
- 5th** 8:30 a.m., Coffee at Epic Café
- 6th** 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
9 a.m., Child Care
10 a.m., Sunday School
10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
11:30 a.m., eYouth13@gsp
- 7th** 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
- 8th** 6 p.m., Evening Prayer & Eucharist
6:30 p.m., EfM Year 11 group
7 p.m., Meditation group
- 9th** 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist
9 a.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)
6 p.m., Global Chant
6:30 p.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)
- 10th** 9 a.m., Conversational French Class
3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
6 p.m., M3M
- 11th** 9:30 a.m., Qigong class
- 12th** 8:30 a.m., Coffee at Epic Café
- 13th** 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
9 a.m., Child Care
10 a.m., Sunday School
10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
11:30 a.m., eYouth13@gsp
- 14th** 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
- 15th** 6 p.m., Evening Prayer & Eucharist
7 p.m., Meditation group
- 16th** 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist
9 a.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)
6 p.m., Global Chant
6:30 p.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)
- 17th** 9 a.m., Conversational French Class
3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
6 p.m., M3M & 3rd Thursday Potluck
- 18th** 9:30 a.m., Qigong class
- 19th** 8:30 a.m., Coffee at Epic Café

- 20th** 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
9 a.m., Child Care
10 a.m., Sunday School
10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
11:30 a.m., eYouth13@gsp
- 21st** 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
- 22nd** 6 p.m., Evening Prayer & Eucharist
6:30 p.m., EfM Year 11 group
7 p.m., Meditation group
- 23rd** 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist
9 a.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)
6 p.m., Global Chant
6:30 p.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)
- 24th** 9 a.m., Conversational French Class
3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
6 p.m., M3M
- 25th** 9:30 a.m., Qigong class
- 26th** 8:30 a.m., Coffee at Epic Café
- 27th** **Food Ministries Sunday**
8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
9 a.m., Child Care
10 a.m., Sunday School
10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
11:30 a.m., eYouth13@gsp
- 28th** 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic

Looking forward to March

- 1st** 7 p.m., Meditation group
- 2nd** 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist
9 a.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)
6 p.m., Global Chant
6:30 p.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)
- 3rd** 9 a.m., Conversational French Class
3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
6 p.m., M3M
- 4th** 9:30 a.m., Qigong class
- 5th** 8:30 a.m., Coffee at Epic Café
- 6th** 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
9 a.m., Child Care
9 a.m., DREAM Act Kids
10 a.m., Sunday School
10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
11:30 a.m., eYouth13@gsp
11:45 a.m., *Episcopal 101 for Everyone*
11:45 a.m., *Identifying & Treating Depression*
- 7th** 10 a.m., *Conscious Aging*
7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic

- 8th** 6 p.m., Evening Prayer & Eucharist
6:30 p.m., EfM Year 11 group
7 p.m., Meditation group
- 9th** **Ash Wednesday**
7 a.m., Holy Eucharist
9 a.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)
6 p.m., Global Chant
6:30 p.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)
- 10th** 9 a.m., Conversational French Class
3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
6 p.m., M3M
- 11th** 9:30 a.m., Qigong class
- 12th** 8:30 a.m., Coffee at Epic Café
- 13th** **First Sunday in Lent**
8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
9 a.m., Child Care
9 a.m., *Will We See Our Animal Companions in Heaven?*
10 a.m., Sunday School
10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
11:30 a.m., eYouth13@gsp
- 14th** 10 a.m., *Conscious Aging*
7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
- 15th** 6 p.m., Vestry Meeting—open to all
6 p.m., Evening Prayer & Eucharist
7 p.m., Meditation group
- 16th** 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist
9 a.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)
6 p.m., Global Chant
6:30 p.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)
- 17th** 9 a.m., Conversational French Class
9:30 a.m., *Write a Will Workshop*
3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
6 p.m., M3M & 3rd Thursday Potluck
- 18th** 9:30 a.m., Qigong class
10 a.m., Community of Hope, Circle of Caring
- 19th** 8:30 a.m., Coffee at Epic Café
- 20th** **Second Sunday in Lent**
8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
9 a.m., Child Care
9 a.m., Voluntary Simplicity
10 a.m., Sunday School
10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
11:30 a.m., eYouth13@gsp
- 21st** 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
- 22nd** 6 p.m., Evening Prayer & Eucharist
6:30 p.m., EfM Year 11 group
7 p.m., Meditation group
- 23rd** 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist