

The Briefly

February 2015

The monthly newsletter for the community of
Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church
2331 E. Adams • Tucson, AZ 85719
520-327-6857 • www.gsptucson.org

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Rector's Letter

Say it ain't so, Joe! For me, Lent comes upon us early enough, even in years when Easter is relatively late. But wasn't it just yesterday that we were celebrating incarnation? Epiphany shot by us so fast that we hardly had time to see the light. But ready or not, here it comes.

For some of us, including your Rector, we have really had enough Lent recently, don't you think? That however, does not mean that we cannot utilize this season to grow us. In seminary, we used to have a saying about the seemingly unending opportunities for self awareness. We would face another difficult situation and look at one another and say, AFGE. Another Freaking Growth Experience!

Seriously though, I do think that we really need to look at this as a great opportunity to immerse ourselves in what the Lenten journey is really all about. This can be the time of a vision quest in all of our lives. Let us approach each challenge that we experience over the next 40 days in this Lenten spirit.

Before he died last year, My 95-year-old spiritual director, Dr. Al Painter, helped me understand this Lenten perspective. He was describing to me what it is like at this juncture of his life. He had just retired from teaching and released his connections to other community groups. "It's like everyone else is floating down the swift current of a river, with little control over where or if they are going to stop. In the meantime, I am now in a side eddy of still water, observing all that goes by." There is our analogy for Lent. This is our opportunity to sit still for

Only by taking time to reflect can we make good decisions about bringing forth the realm of God...

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Teens from GSP spent a recent weekend exploring *Friends & Faith Across Borders*. See more, Page 5.

Submissions to The Briefly

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

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

The deadline for the March/April (Lent & Easter) 2015 issue will be Tuesday, Feb. 10.

Rector's Letter

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a while and observe closely the world around us. Only by taking the time to stay in this place of reflection, can we make good decisions about how to best care for and bring about the realm of God in the world around us.

Our reflection begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 18. We will have four, count 'em, four services that day at 7 a.m., noon, 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. The 7 a.m. service will be an intimate Eucharistic service. Noon will be a very short meditative service with imposition of ashes only. The 5:30 service is a children's service, that will begin outside and move into the church. The 7 p.m. service is our full service with choir and preaching.

But before any of that happens, we will blow out the season of Epiphany the night before with our fantabulous Mardi Gras pancake and lots of other bad stuff dinner. Get served by the men of the parish, who will finally be working for a living. Celebrate a New Orleans **Shrove Tuesday** with us in McBride Hall. It is one of the best parties of the year. You definitely will not want to miss it. Bring your friends and neighbors and show them what GSP Spirit is all about.

To quote the early explorer, John Wesley Powell, after that, we know not what lies ahead. But that of course, is what Lent is also all about.

Shalom,

Steve +

Ash Wednesday

By The Rev. Steve Keplinger

This year, the season of Lent is not particularly early or late. Ash Wednesday, the first day of the 40-day season, is on Feb. 18. We will have four services on Ash Wednesday, at 7 a.m., noon, 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

In some ways, Ash Wednesday is an uncomfortable day of the church year. After all, the purpose is to begin a season of repentance and spiritual discipline, as well as remind each of us of our own mortality. But in a culture obsessed with avoiding death and making believe it does not exist, Ash Wednesday offers all of us the opportunity to remember that death is a natural part of life.

This year, we will begin to prepare for Ash Wednesday the night before. At the end of our Mardi Gras and Shrove Tuesday celebration, we will all gather on the labyrinth to have a bonfire. That fire will contain the palms from our Palm Sunday service last year. It will be these ashes that will be used the following day to apply to each of our foreheads.

Come join the celebration Tuesday, Feb. 17 from 6 to 8 p.m. as we chow down on loads of fat before Lent arrives. We will have a live Jazz band for Mardi Gras fun. Hang around

for the bonfire at the end of the evening and then choose which Ash Wednesday service is best for you. Our 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. services will be traditional Ash Wednesday services. Traditional is not a word you often hear when speaking of Grace St. Paul's worship, but we really mean traditional. For the one and

only time in the entire liturgical year, these will be Prayer Book services. All of us will have the opportunity to balance our Prayer Book and Hymnals in our laps. Consider it a lenten discipline and an educational experience as we honor our historical tradition. The 7 a.m. will be a said service, set in Lenten simplicity, and the 7 p.m. will be a full service with choir and preaching. Our 5:30 p.m. service

will start outside and move into the sanctuary. It will be geared specifically for children. The noonday service is not actually a service at all. It will be a very short set of prayers with imposition of ashes only. It is geared for those who just cannot make one of the other services but want to experience this important day.

If you would prefer one of the evening services, but do not drive at night, please do not hesitate to contact Steve Williams, our transportation director or call the church and speak to our parish administrator, Jean Smart. We will come pick you up!





Bill Moore, Junior Warden

24th Annual Parish Meeting

By Roger Pierce, Senior Warden

The room was packed and the energy level over the top. There was even dancing in the aisles, standing ovations, and joyous laughter...and it was an Annual Meeting of the church. Not your typical motions and seconds kind of Annual Meeting, but a GSP Annual Meeting filled with celebration, praise, and joy!

Here are some highlights:

- New Vestry Members: **Jim Franks, Stephen Hymel, Carrie Kube, Carol Forshey, Julie Gasaway, Miriam Huber, Brianna Devereux and John Banks.** Special thanks to **Steve Williams, David Clements, and Chris Eastoe**, who finished their terms.
- Our new Junior Warden: **Bill Moore**, who takes over from **Mark Drew**. Congratulations!
- Diocesan Convention Delegates elected... 10 in all. Delegates: **Wesley Hunter, Sue Pierce, Kyle Devereaux, Nanalee Raphael and Jim Zuelow.** Alternates: **Noah Dettman, Amy Comode, Nancy Barton, Margaret Moore and Karen McVean.**
- Rector's Awards to **Sue Pierce** for her many contributions to GSP in 2014 and to **Jim and Virginia Zuelow** for outstanding leadership in so many ministry areas.
- A Financial Report from Treasurer **Tom Pitello** demonstrating the strength and health of Giving and Receiving. We're on the way!
- Celebrations of ministries well done by outgoing leaders and warm welcomes to new folks who are stepping up to keep those ministries strong and effective.

All in all, it wasn't your typical Annual Meeting. It was a GSP ANNUAL MEETING! **Alleluia! Alleluia!**

New Vestry Members



Jim Franks



Stephen Hymel



Carrie Kube



Carol Forshey



Julie Gasaway



Miriam Huber



Brianna Devereux



John Banks

Notes from the Choir Stalls

By Christina Jarvis,
Director of Music



February is the Twilight Zone of the church year. Not that there are creatures on the wings of our planes, no. It's that crepuscular time when Epiphany yields to Lent. Ironically, the days are getting longer and the wildflowers are blooming, and it's hard to feel all Lenten in Tucson with that going on. Think about the weeds you'll be pulling; that makes for a good Lenten practice. I know what some of you are saying. You don't need another Lenten practice—your penance is singing all the new hymns I'm picking. Hey, if I want to hear that kind of talk, I'll go to choir practice. Ask them about their anthems.

It's true, we have been exploring our hymnals pretty thoroughly these days. Fr. Steve told me that after one Sunday processional, four ordained priests came up to him and said they'd never sung that hymn in their lives. First, I think it's pretty cool that we have (at least) four ordained priests in our congregation. Second, I say it's about time they did, then. It was a nice hymn, not too difficult, but admittedly obscure, unless you're a hymn geek like me. If I find a tuneful hymn with decent words that work for Grace St. Paul's and fit with the lectionary readings, I do my happy dance and a little magical thinking that everyone can cope.

It's tough to find a good balance with choir anthems, as well. We've had a lot of folks invalidated out in the last couple of months, several with serious illnesses, others with colds and flu, none of it conducive to choral singing. I bagged one anthem recently because we lacked the critical mass of singers. Luckily, the members of Grace St. Paul's choir are remarkably flexible and willing to give things a go, but without enough singers to support the sound and provide confidence in numbers, learning new music is more difficult. Then there's the rehearsal time issue. Christmas and New Year's Day both fell on Thursdays, which is our rehearsal night, so the choir didn't have practice before the Jan. 4 Epiphany service. Next year will be just as bad—Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve will be Thursdays. I'm thinking good thoughts about Wednesday rehearsals on Dec. 23 and 30 (just FYI, choir).

Still, we press on with hope in our hearts. It feels amazingly good to be walking again without feeling like Tiny Tim; I'm looking forward to actually processing without crutches. Provided that folks stay healthy, we have some lovely anthems coming up for the last weeks of Epiphany and the beginning of Lent, one new, some already in the choir's repertoire. The new anthem is "Cherokee Traveler's Greeting" by Kevin Memley; I've wanted to schedule it for a while. Others include "Behold, God is my help" by Alan Hovhaness, and "Alleluiah! Praise the Lord most holy" by J. S. Bach (for the last Sunday in Epiphany). The St. Zeno's Zombie Choir will sing "Yo soy la luz del mundo/I am the world's true light", which they sang with other members of the youth group on the *Friends & Faith Across Borders* trip at St. John's Bisbee and St. Stephen's Douglas. Wes Hunter led them so that I could stay at GSP and direct the Adult Choir. Not that I don't love you, but I wish I could have gone! I could never have hiked out to the water tanks, though.

Shrove Tuesday is on Feb. 17—mark your calendars and prepare to be jazzed. We will have the usual Dixieland ensemble. Every year it's a slightly different box of chocolates, all of them tasty. For **Ash Wednesday**, we'll sing an anthem we haven't done for a while, a John Ness Beck setting of the John Donne poem, "Wilt thou forgive that sin, where I begun" for the offertory, coupled with a 17th century communion anthem, "Why art thou so heavy, O my soul?" by Henry Loosemore. Loosemore was a contemporary of Orlando Gibbons, and this anthem was attributed to Gibbons for many years. Not a lot of Loosemore's work survives, so it's good he's got it back. For Lent 1, we'll repeat the Beck piece and add "A Lenten Walk", a setting of the spiritual "Jesus walked this lonesome valley" by Hal Hopson, for communion. We'll repeat the Loosemore the following week, but that's March, which is another edition of the *Briefly*.

Before you head off to pull weeds, I'd like to inaugurate a new portion of the *Choir Notes* by introducing you to the wonderful

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realities of life in Mexico and Central America. They began to understand the dynamics that can force families into making the dangerous decision to send their children to the US without proper documentation and without familiar adult presence. Sometimes, the children make the decision themselves to leave often driven by a difficult home life, impossible economic conditions, unemployment and an unrealistic grasp of American society.

We began our weekend on Friday night watching *Which Way Home*, a documentary that follows the journey of young Guatemalan boys, ages 9-17, who are making their way into the United States alone by riding the rails. They travel, eat and sleep on top of the rail cars, sometimes falling off in their sleep. Children die every day trying to make the journey. Just viewing the film was a revelation for our teens.

The real learning, however, came as we met children at an orphanage in Naco, Sonora. We brought the 15 children who lived there lunch and a piñata. We played games and got badly beaten at soccer. Best of all, the teens got to talk with the resident children. Those who spoke Spanish translated for those who did not. It was a remarkable cross cultural experience and our teens want to go back.

We also got to take part in Naco Wellness Initiative's weekly clinic. We hiked to water tanks set up in the Mexican desert and spoke to Border Patrol. On Sunday, we worshiped at St. John's, Bisbee and St. Stephen's, Douglas, visiting with people in the congregations who have spent much of their lives on the Border.

This yearly trip offers our teenagers real insight into a complicated problem that many adults do not fully grasp. Please stop a teen or a youth leader and ask them about the impact of these weekends. Find out how GSP is preparing this generation to more compassionately solve the myriad of difficult issues surrounding immigration in the United States.

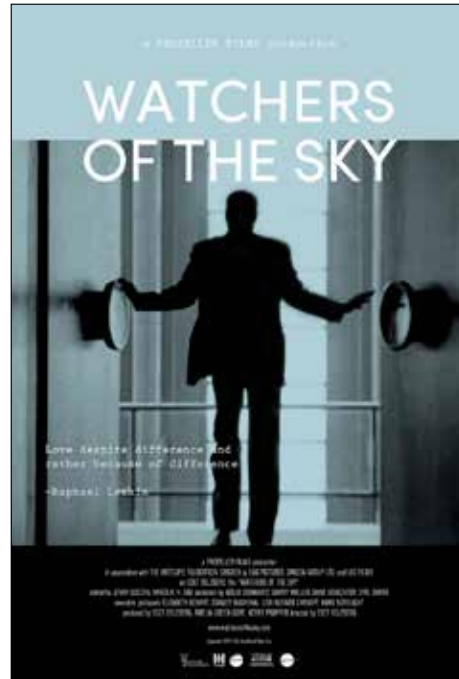
And again, thank you to the GSP community for supporting our families!

Friends & Faith Across Borders

By Rosalind Garcia,
CYF Director

Sitting in our cars, watching Border Patrol agents as they direct people through the line or pull them over for further inspection, causes some consternation among us all. As we inch along, I keep reminding myself that we have all proper documentation, that we will have no problems, that we never have had problems crossing the U.S./Mexico Border with GSP's youth groups. It's the atmosphere of the Border. It seems so militarized; so serious. Rarely does a Border Patrol agent, U.S. or Mexican, smile. There's no "welcome" anymore. It feels like you're doing something wrong even if you're following the narrow confines of the law exactly. Surely, the kids can feel our anxiety as we move slowly forward.

That's the way I feel every time we cross and many of the kids experience the same type of reaction to Border crossings. We bring up those feelings when we ask kids what they think it must be like to desperately need to cross the U.S./Mexico Border without proper documentation, without enough money, food and water and without a parent or adult that cares about you. This year's *Friends & Faith Across Borders* weekend (our third) focused on the recent increase in children crossing the Border alone. More than 20 teens and youth leaders spent a chilly weekend in January in Naco, Sonora, Bisbee and Douglas learning about the political, economic and social



celebrity teen chef and health advocate who cooked for the Obamas in the White House and who is endorsed by Oprah and Rachel Ray. Finally, for our screening of *The Overnighters* at The Loft Cinema, Kitt and I arranged for a post-film discussion with director Jesse Moss, who we met at Sundance last year. We had almost 300 in attendance, and the Loft has said they would like to do more screenings like that in the coming year.

For 2015, we will host our Lenten Film Series again, featuring a new film every Friday in Lent except for Good Friday and Play Reading night, and we will host another shorts program during the series.

This year our theme is “Journeys and Quests: Exploring Calling, Vocation, and Purpose.” We have an absolutely

amazing roster of films scheduled, but we won’t decide on the final lineup until after we have returned from Sundance.

We also already have the rights to host a screening of *Finding Home*, an award-winning documentary about human trafficking in Asia. It is a beautiful, emotional, and heart-opening film, and we have been working directly with Derek Hammeke, the director, along with The Loft and Rapha House (the organization featured in the film) to finish logistics.

We also have the opportunity to purchase rights to screen *Watchers of the Sky*, one of our favorite documentaries from Sundance last year. Members of the Jewish Film Festival have expressed interest in working with us if we do bring this incredible film to Tucson.

And we haven’t even been to Sundance yet! Every year we meet filmmakers and see films that we get to bring to GSP. Great things keep happening with Film and Fellowship, and the reach of the ministry keeps growing. I have a feeling we’ll have a *lot* more to say once we return.

Film & Fellowship: Rewind & Fast Forward!

By Eric K. Carr

Film & Fellowship had a very successful year in 2014. As in previous years, Kitt and I attended the Sundance Film Festival and the Loft Film Festival, and we hosted a successful Lenten Film Series and held larger free community screenings, in addition to our primary monthly gatherings. We continue to get newcomers and serve “regulars” as well, and we always have great discussions after each film.

Some new developments in 2014 included our first ever Shorts Program, which was a huge success. In addition to filling the Bloom Room to capacity, we also obtained exclusive rights to screen several shorts in the program, including *The Lady in Number Six*, *Notes on Blindness*, and other award-winning short films. We also screened *The New Black* in partnership with The Loft Cinema and The Human Rights Watch, and we screened *Vegucated* in partnership with The Healthy You Network and newcomer Ashok Nagella. Both of these screenings were very successful and reached new people in the community.

We also had amazing guest speakers at our events! For *The New Black* we hosted Karess Taylor-Hughes, the human rights advocate featured in the film. For our *Vegucated* screening we were joined by Haile Thomas, a

Senior Focus
**Christine Nelson:
 Born to be Musical**

By Ann Schlumberger



Born in 1917, Christine Nelson was the daughter of a gifted concert pianist, Edith McMillan Barnes and a famous organist, William H. Barnes.

Her father designed and built pipe organs in the U.S. and Europe and wrote a book *The Contemporary American Organ*, a classic in the field. Her mother was a very demanding piano teacher who taught piano and accompanied singers at Northwestern University. The pair would tour across the country playing organ/piano duets.

One of Christine's strongest memories of her childhood in Chicago was helping

her father tune the organ in their home. Every Saturday morning, he would go down to the basement and tune the organ's pipes while she or one of her two older brothers would be upstairs holding down whichever key that he called for.

While the two boys were not interested enough in music to make it a career, Christine worked hard at the piano, initially under the exacting direction of her mother. Early on Christine developed the discipline to play her instrument for one hour before going to school and then in the afternoon after she returned home.

She was miserable at Evanston Township High School, which she referred to as "Tramp & Hobo Seminary." In contrast to her father's fond memories of the same school, by the time Christine attended it, her classmates were "gangsters' children" who made her life

miserable, breaking into her locker numerous times and knocking her down in the hallways.

Finally, she convinced her father's mother to intercede for her. Her grandmother took her to Boston to consider other schools in the vicinity. They settled on Abbot Academy in Andover, MA, where she happily studied piano under Kate Frisken, a noted Scottish pianist. After graduation she attended and received a degree in piano from the New England Conservatory.

It was in Boston where Christine met her first husband, Richard Mandell, who was in the Navy. After World War II, they lived in Cambridge, Mass., where her two children, Bill and Marjorie were born. Christine says that she "came from a family that thought using their abilities and brains was important." She has passed that spirit on to her children.


While Christine feels that she was not as gifted as her parents, her daughter maintains that Christine was "a brilliant pianist, every bit as good a pianist as Edith." Christine was a pianist with the Tucson Symphony and often played two-piano music in concert. She thoroughly enjoyed teaching piano to young children. She was on the Board of Directors of the Arizona Opera Company and went to every performance. She also was a member of the Arizona Opera Guild.

After her divorce from Mandell in 1950, Christine moved her family to Tucson. While taking part in a Gilbert and Sullivan production group at the El Conquistador Hotel, she met a handsome bass/baritone, Harvey Nelson. They married in 1953. Harvey died in 2011, three days shy of their 58th wedding anniversary.

Here at Grace St. Paul's, the couple sang in the choir for many years, and with Henry Dertadian, Harvey built the church's harpsichord. Harvey also made a series of stations of the cross that hung in the GSP nave until a new series replaced them as well as a number of carvings that he gave to his stepchildren.

Shortly after Harvey's death, Christine fell and broke her pelvis. She had managed her own home well into her 90s, and no longer was

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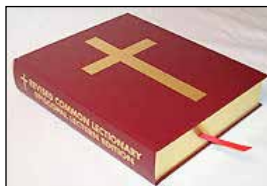
Grace St. Paul's
Spirit Players
present

**Ricene
Noir**

*An Allegory
on the Creed*

by
Neil Olsen

*Friday, March 6
7 p.m.
McBride Hall*



Exploring Today's Lectionary

Sunday, Feb. 1, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Does it all just seem like Greek to you? One Sunday a month we provide an opportunity to discuss the Bible readings for that day in more depth in a small group setting. Come join us for a thoughtful but always lively conversation about scripture.

Facilitated by **Margaret Moore**, co-chair of Adult Spiritual Formation.

Following the Way of Jesus:

Reconsidering Our Christian Journeys

Mondays, beginning Feb. 2, 10 a.m.-Noon, Bloom Education Center

‘*We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen...*’

What makes someone a Christian? What do you believe? For many, our understanding of what it means to be a Christian has been shaped not only by church teachings but also by time and experience over the course of our own unique spiritual journeys. Join us for a new class experience at GSP where each week we will undertake a shared conversation about what matters most to us as followers of Jesus. We will utilize a variety of media resources and each class will focus on a different aspect of Christian faith, allowing for plenty of time for questions, discussion and sharing. In our first weeks we will consider our experiences of the Bible. Each session will stand alone and all are welcome. No registration needed.

Co-facilitated by **Catherine Penn Williams** and **Brian Arthur**. Brian is a longtime EFM mentor at GSP and Catherine is the co-chair of Adult Spiritual Formation.

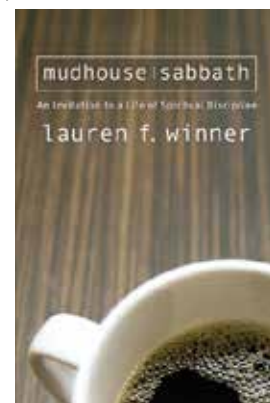
Jewish Spiritual Practices for Christians

(Episcopalians too!)

Sundays, Feb. 8 & 15, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

In this class we will take a look at sacred practices from Jewish traditions and how these ancient disciplines can help Christians in our responses to God and the world. We will also review various practices such as *kashrut* (keeping kosher), honoring food as part of God's creation, *guf* (body), connecting physical acts with spiritual practice, *avelut* (mourning), and *shabbat*, a practice which both Jews and Christians are directed to keep. The class is based on *mudhouse sabbath*, by Lauren F. Winner, a convert from Orthodox Judaism to Christianity (and ordained a priest in the Episcopal Church in 2011). Winner asserts these are rituals “we observe quite differently. It is about paths to the God of Israel that both Jews and Christians travel. It is, to be blunt, about spiritual practices that Jews do better. It is, to be blunter, about Christian practices that would be enriched, that would be thicker and more vibrant if we took a few lessons from Judaism.” It is not necessary to have read the book prior to the class.

Presented by **Nanalee Raphael**. Nanalee is a recent graduate of Tacheria School of Spiritual Direction, an interfaith program where she studied many other faith traditions and practices. For several years she has been trying to document her own Jewish heritage. She is also a longtime mentor for the Education for Ministry program at GSP.



For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.

Thursdays, beginning Feb. 12, 7:30-8:30 a.m., McBride Hall

Come join our Men's B.S. (Bible Stuff) group! We will engage different books of the Bible—beginning with the Book of Acts—in a relaxed and non-judgmental atmosphere, examining the text from a historical perspective and applying it to our current lives. All men are welcome!

Facilitated by **Bill Moore**. Bill has been a member of GSP since 2012. He has facilitated men's classes in other churches and participated in men's bible study groups for decades. An Episcopalian for over 30 years, Bill enjoys having discussions about faith journeys with other men.



Senior Focus: Christine Nelson

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she able to walk to campus to cheer at the UA women's basketball games. She now lives in an assisted living facility where she says she feels “fed, watered, and loved, so I don't complain. Besides, my family live nearby and visit and take me places.”

She also says that she could still play the piano if she had three days to practice the piece before the recital. Her identity is still clearly that of a musician.



Gilead by Marilynne Robinson (GSP Readers Group)

Friday, Feb. 13, 11:30 a.m., Bloom Education Center

In this long-awaited work of fiction by Marilynne Robinson, the narrator, John Ames, is 76, a preacher who has lived almost all of his life in Gilead, Iowa. He is writing a letter to his almost seven-year-old son, the blessing of his second marriage. It is a summing-up, an apologia, a consideration of his life. Robinson takes the story away from being simply the reminiscences of one man and moves it into the realm of a meditation on fathers and children, particularly sons, on faith, and on the imperfectability of man. These are the things that Ames tells his son about: his ancestors, the nature of love and friendship, the part that faith and prayer play in every life and an awareness of one's own culpability. There is also reconciliation without resignation, self-awareness without deprecation, abundant good humor, philosophical queries and an ongoing sense of childlike wonder at the beauty and variety of God's world.

GSP Reader's Group meets on the second Friday of each month at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome!

Contact the church office at 520-327-6857 for more information about the group.



Contemplative Photography for Lent

Saturdays, Feb. 14, March 7 & 28, 9-11 a.m., Weeks Room

Contemplation is from the root *contemplatio* (Latin) "to look at." Contemplation has been said to "be present with something in an open space." This class will not be about contemplating and then photographing but will introduce photographing as contemplation. It will be more about the process than the product. We will use traditional techniques of contemplation along with some new techniques using visual media as ways to prepare ourselves for a photography session. We will explore techniques of non-judgmental viewing allowing us to view in a perceptual not conceptual manner. The idea of using non-violent terminology will be introduced.

No special photographic equipment is needed (cell phones are fine) and the only experience needed is basic operation of the camera/phone to record the photograph. Use of automatic settings is fine. Class limited to 10 people.

Please register by calling the church office at 327-6857 or via email to adulted@grace-stpauls.org. Registration deadline is February 9.

Facilitated by **Lynne Albright**. Lynne is a GSP parishioner who has worked with several contemplative photographers, both Buddhist and Christian, over the past 10 years.

Episcopal 101—for Everyone

Sundays, Feb. 15 & 22, March 1, 8, 15 & 22, 11:45 a.m., Bloom Education Center

All inquirers and current members wanting a "refresher" are invited to learn more of the joy and highlights of the Episcopal path and sharing your journey in the 21st Century. In this five-session introduction to the Episcopal Church, we'll 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; and explain the structure and organization of the Episcopal Church; and what does it mean to be a member of Grace St. Paul's Church? What do bishops do? What is Apostolic Succession? Why do we need priests? What direction does authority flow? Bring your questions to all the sessions! Participants may wish to buy the book *Jesus Was an Episcopalian: a Newcomers Guide to the Episcopal Church* by Chris Yaw to supplement the class experience but it's not required.

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

A Credible Jesus: Fragments of a Vision

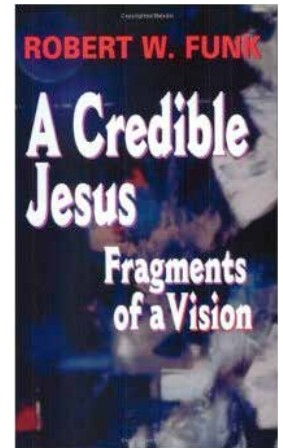
Sundays, Feb. 22, March 1, 8 & 15, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Jesus was an extraordinary man! What a statement! But what is more extraordinary is the way Jesus saw the world, commented on the ordinary, challenged and stunned his listeners in random insights embedded in everyday language. This is a Jesus we really need to know.

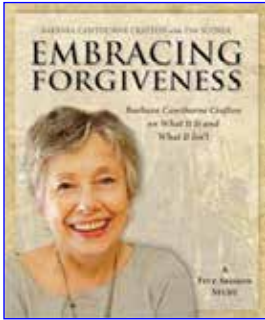
Robert Funk, founder of The Jesus Seminar, makes it possible to engage this extraordinary man in his book *A Credible Jesus: Fragments of a Vision*.

Join us for four Sunday mornings of exploration and encounter with the parables, dialogues and aphorisms that have challenged readers over the centuries. Here is a good Lenten study for everyone... and you don't even have to read the book. Just come and share in the conversation!

Facilitated by **Roger Pierce**. Roger is the Senior Warden and a frequent contributor to Adult Spiritual Formation at GSP.



Adult Spiritual Formation



Forgiveness: What It Is & What It Isn't

Wednesdays, Feb. 25, March 4, 11, 18 & 25, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Bloom Education Center

Join us for five Wednesday evenings in Lent as we explore the topic of *Forgiveness* with noted Episcopal priest and writer, Barbara Cawthorne Crafton. Each study will begin with a DVD presentation by Crafton followed by a guest lecturer interacting with a small group. After each DVD presentation, we will have group discussions around the act of forgiveness, ways to forgive, and how to even begin when we find the very process to be impossible. Our study will conclude by answering the question, "why do we need to forgive?" With each person bringing their own experience of forgiving and of being forgiven, the hope will be to emerge from Lent with a deeper understanding of the power of forgiveness in our own lives and those of others.

Facilitated by **Margaret Moore** and **Catherine Penn Williams**, co-chairs of Adult Spiritual Formation.

The Labyrinth: Deepening Our Spiritual Selves

Saturday, March 21, 9:30 a.m.-Noon, Bloom Education Center & the Labyrinth

This half-day sacred retreat focuses on the use of the labyrinth as a way of deepening our compassion, both for ourselves and for others. The labyrinth experience helps us distinguish between superficial extraneous thoughts from the "knowing" that comes from our soul level. While we must make this journey on our own, it can be helpful to have guides and fellow participants to enrich the experience. Labyrinth educator Reverend Dr. Lauren Artress, Episcopal priest and Honorary Canon at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco, notes that, quite often, as we connect to the deep intuitive level within ourselves, nurtured by the practice of labyrinth walking, we embrace what is unfolding as sacred; we allow the winding path of the labyrinth to take us where it will in our interior world, and open to the mystery within us.

Please register for this retreat by Wednesday, March 18, via email to adulted@grace-stpauls.org, or by calling the church office at 327-6857; group size will be limited to 12.

Facilitated by **Chloe Becca**. *Chloe has been an educator—both in the classroom and as an administrator—a counselor and a social worker. She holds three master's degrees (Education, Counseling Psychology and Social Work). Chloe has actively studied world religions for more than a decade, and is an ordained interfaith minister. She is a certified spiritual counselor, a trained SoulCollage© facilitator, a trained labyrinth facilitator and the owner of Exploring Spiritual Paths, LLC.*



Notes from the Choir Stalls

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musicians who do so much for this church. Today, I'll feature a few members of the Lieto Ensemble, starting with their director, Jane Click.

Jane W. Click obtained her Bachelor of Music degree in Music Therapy, and is a Board Certified Music Therapist. She has worked for 20 years with Alzheimer patients in various memory care facilities and for the last eight years with veterans in a detox/general psych unit at the VA. She has a recording made in 1941, when she was 6, in which she is playing "You Are My Sunshine" and "Chopsticks" on the piano with her father and singing "God Bless America" *a capella*. She arranges music for the Lieto Ensemble, accompanies the St. Cecilia's Children's Choir and the St. Zeno's Zombie Choir, and serves as pianist for the Thursday Night Spirit Now service and for the monthly Taizé service at Grace St. Paul's.

Renée Poirier says, "I'm a board certified music therapist practicing in the Tucson area, specializing in working with clients experiencing memory loss. In addition to playing the hammered dulcimer, I also use guitar, vocals and small percussion instruments with my clients. I really enjoy playing music with others, and the Lieto group is great fun."

Bruce Anderson doesn't need much introduction (unless you're new around here). In his words: Bruce Anderson came to Tucson and this parish in 1959. He has now played cello for 49 years. His musical endeavors (numerous choirs, and vocal and instrumental ensembles) have often been focused on church music, which he finds very rewarding.

We are fortunate to have dedicated singers and players enriching our musical lives. Thanks to all of them for sharing their many talents. May you have a joyful conclusion to Epiphany, as we put away the alleluias (and the pancakes) and dance to Dixieland. Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we fast!

Or not. I still think the best way to mortify the flesh is to take up smoking. That was a joke, Zombies.

Peace,

Christina

