



The Briefly

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

February 2017


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Rector's Letter

IT IS, WITHOUT A DOUBT, the most beautiful sentence in the English language for me. And it seems like I have been waiting a month of Sundays to hear it. The words symbolize new life, rebirth, flowering, renewal, metamorphous, transformation, the return of spring, the end of winter, resurrection, reincarnation.

Are you ready for those sweet words? "Pitchers and catchers report to spring training in two weeks."

Yes, it is true. As the legendary Ernie Harwell, play-by-announcer for the Detroit Tigers used to say every year at this time, "For lo' the winter is past, the rain is over and gone, the flowers appear on the earth, the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land. Happy New Year, everybody." If that verse sounds vaguely familiar, take a look at the *Song of Solomon 2:11-12*.

Here at Grace St. Paul's, we will be rejoicing about the flowers appearing again and the birds singing in numerous ways. The festivities reach a crescendo as we close out the Epiphany season on Feb. 26. That Last Sunday of Epiphany will be our time to shout *Alleluia* from the rafter tops and we do so in our first Jazz Eucharist of the season. Think *La La Land* in a liturgical setting and you will get some idea what we have in store for you in that beautiful worship service.

That Sunday will also be the day that we begin our **Episcopal 101** classes. Each week for six weeks following the 10 a.m. service, your Rector will take us through the Episcopal tradition, from Jesus to Presiding Bishop Michael

Curry. This is your chance to connect the historical dots and ask the questions that have

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C For lo' the winter is past, the rain is over and gone, the flowers appear on the earth, the time of the singing of birds is come..!



Mardi Gras/Shrove Tuesday

Feb. 28, 7 p.m., McBride Hall

Ash Wednesday Services

March 1, 7 a.m., Noon, 7 p.m., Sanctuary

Submissions to *The Briefly*

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

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

**The deadline for the
March 2017 issue will be
Tuesday, Feb. 7.**

Rector's Letter

Continued from Page 1

been burning inside you about the church. It is for everyone who wants to know more about our history, our Prayer Book, our worship, our polity, and where we may be going in the future. But it is specifically designed to prepare anyone who is considering being officially Received into the church. That will happen on April 23, the Sunday after Easter Day, when Bishop Smith will be coming for his annual visitation. See more details about that class in this *Briefly*.

Then on the very last day of February, we will have what has easily become the biggest party of the year at GSP. Grace St. Paul's Mardi-Gras celebration has become legendary, and

we will blow the roof off McBride Hall that night as New Orleans comes alive in Tucson. The men of the parish will be cooking all night to provide you with a pancake extravaganza that includes eggs, bacon, sausage, veggie everything, plus your decadent desserts and holy drink. The evening concludes with line dancing and a giant bonfire as we burn last year's palms in preparation for the event that will occur the next day.

Come on in folks, the winter is past, and the time of singing (and baseball) has begun!



Episcopal 101

Inquiring Minds

Want to Know

by *The Rev. Steve Keplinger*

FEBRUARY MARKS THE RETURN of our annual Inquirer's class. Beginning Feb. 26, 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. We hold it in February to coincide with the annual visitation of Bishop Smith, which this year occurs on April 23. 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 slightly different slant of your 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). 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 we govern ourselves. This class is particularly important to us now as we consider 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, a discussion of the issues facing the church today, our new Presiding Bishop, and a discussion of being Episcopalian in what may be a post-religious age.

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 only appears on spelling tests.

Come join us every Sunday for six successive weeks in the Bloom Room. Classes will be 90 minutes long, and food will be provided. Classes will finish the week before Holy Week.

EPISCOPAL 101 CLASS SCHEDULE

All classes are on Sunday at 11:45 a.m. in the Bloom Room

- **Feb. 26**—Church History to the 18th century
- **March 5**—Church History in America
- **March 12**—*The Book of Common Prayer* and the Liturgy
- **March 19**—The Sacramental Tradition
- **March 26**—American Church Polity
- **April 2**—A quick comparison of Christian denominations, present-day conflict in T.E.C. and the Anglican Communion, our new Presiding Bishop and a discussion of being Episcopalian in a post-religious age.

Senior Warden's Report to the Congregation

By Kyle Devereux, Senior Warden

FOR GSP 2016 HAS BEEN a year of growth and action, of coming together to focus on how we express our bond as a community in a country and world that is more divided than ever. It has been a period



I am filled with hope and excitement for this community...

of burgeoning social action and a return to the very roots of the Gospel. When I look back at all the changes and challenges, both those that we have faced already and those that ahead in the years to come, I am filled with hope and excitement for this community. We stand at the edge of an opportunity that only comes along a few times a generation. How the church responds, on the national and local level, to the social issues that have defined the last couple of decades could create a new wave of social action and shift the perception of what Christianity stands for in

America. I believe that it is in GSP's DNA to be a leader in this area, and in the coming months we will come together to discuss the "how" of this great challenge. With that idea of what the future might hold, let's look back at some of the things that happened this year.

Late last year, your vestry tried to define what the most important things to accomplish this year would be. At the top of that list was finding an associate rector, to provide much needed support and relief to Fr. Steve. After a great deal of searching, Fr. Richard Mallory found his way to us. His calm demeanor and pastoral approach have already proven to be a great fit for our community.

We began the process of moving the pantry into the parish hall. This was identified as an opportunity to live the Gospel for all to see, welcoming the stranger, the other, the outcast into our home. While there have been many challenges, and more are sure to come up as we finalize this process, the act of bringing those who come to us for help out of the brutal desert and into our midst is an opportunity that

cannot be overlooked.

The energy and passion of our community was on display again this year during our Easter, Creation, and Christmas season services and liturgies.

Our Spa Day, which has become an annual feature in Tucson, saw its largest attendance in history, providing moments of kindness and closeness that are lacking in the lives of far too many.

Our children and family ministry has been revitalized through the vision and creativity of Amy Cormode, who accepted the open leadership position. She worked tirelessly, with short notice, to make sure our summer arts camp happened.

In the face of an onslaught of attacks and heartbreaking events perpetrated by violent jihadists around the world, a small group of GSP members expressed this community's solidarity with our Muslim brothers and sisters by attending an Iftar during Ramadan.

Our Canon Theologian, Fr. Gil Stafford, hosted a workshop on how changing the language that we use to explain our understanding of God and religion can help us connect to each other and the modern world.

For the second consecutive year, we hosted a huge ministry fair, providing the opportunity for our community to see a visual representation of how their pledges and volunteer hours are turned into outreach, support, and education.

Our community renewed its commitment, with other churches in the area, to providing sanctuary to immigrants and refugees with nowhere else to go.

A huge bakesale to support the Tucson Syrian refugee community at GSP was so successful that it was repeated the next week with the same result. The event was a featured story on NPR, the *Tucson Weekly*, and the *Arizona Daily Star*.

There are so many stories that we could discuss, so many events that deserve recognition. Our church is alive with the spirit and flowing with generosity. Thank you all for everything that we accomplished this year. I am filled with anticipation for what our future holds, and feel so blessed to share in this journey with you. Let's go forward into the world.

Notes from the Choir Stalls

By Christina Jarvis,
Director of Music



IT'S OFFICIAL; we live in interesting times. Let's hope we survive them. If there was ever a moment when we needed epiphanies, it is now. Fortunately, the Season of Epiphany is eight weeks long this year, through the end of February. May the heavenly light shine on us, may a star guide us, and may we find spiritual strength and solidarity as we enter territory we thought was familiar but suddenly looks rather different.

Some of the music we've done through the years takes us particular resonance now. "Ain't gonna let nobody turn me around." "How lovely are the messengers that preach us the gospel of peace." "Blessed are those who walk in the way of integrity." "In all these you welcomed me." Even "I have longed for your saving health."

The offertory on Feb. 5 will be "His yoke is easy" from Handel's *Messiah*. It's a reminder that there really is nothing new under the sun, and we will have help carrying that burden. The communion piece that Sunday is a new work composed by Winifred Williams called "Nieve" and played by Wesley Hunter, viola; Bruce Anderson, cello; and Pamela Decker, piano. We thank Winifred for sharing compositional gifts with us.

Feb. 12 will be Stanford Sunday, musically speaking. Charles Villiers Stanford is a pillar of Anglican church music, and although the time may come, he won't be pulled down any time soon. It could happen in those future days when choirs and pipe organs no longer walk the earth. We will sing "Beati quorum via" for the offertory and "O for a closer walk with God" for communion. Perhaps 2025?

Feb. 19 brings us the 10 Commandments (and you thought it was Moses) and reminders Christ is the foundation and we should love our enemies and be sure to turn the other cheek. I guess we can't say, "With compassion, they're idiots." No, that would be terribly, terribly wrong. Our offertory is a moldy oldie from the dusty choir boxes, "Christ: Foundation,

Head, and Cornerstone" by Lloyd Pfautsch, a composer, choral conductor and professor of sacred choral music at Southern Methodist University. He was all the rage at choral festivals back in the day. Our communion anthem that Sunday is an arrangement of a William Byrd keyboard piece by Alfred Whitehead, with a setting of text from Psalm 119: "I have longed for thy saving health, O God." I'm not sure how thrilled Byrd would be. At the end of the day, a keyboard piece is not meant to be choral music, but it's a pretty tune and makes me quite nostalgic for my harpsichord days.

The Last Sunday in Epiphany is another jazz Sunday. Last time, we didn't try to jazz up the hymns, and we kept the same service music as we had been doing for the season, and that all seemed to work well. People get to sing their last *alleluias* until Easter and we can all join in a rousing chorus of "This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine."

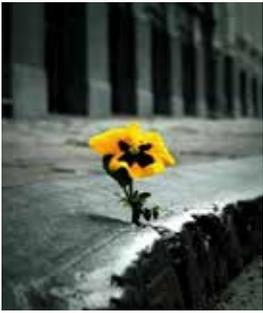
Then it's time for Shrove Tuesday and buying indulgences and snarfing pancakes and dancing to more jazz before Ash Wednesday and the fasts of Lent. Until then, let's shine those lights as brightly as we can and share the love that binds us one to the other, even to those with whom we may not agree.

Paz a todos,

Christina

CY&F Report

By Amy Cormode



DID ANYONE ELSE NOTICE the week after Christmas, before all the lights and decorations were sold out and put away, the stores were already filling up aisles with Valentine candy and product? I found it slightly jarring; then I rolled my eyes thinking of how all holidays are so commercial these days, what can you expect?

And then I began to think a little deeper. This holiday of Feb. 14 was a pretty big deal even 20 years ago at my high school, it was by far the busiest day in the school office where hundreds of flowers/balloons/mugs filled with candy were left for students by flower shops from around town.

As a snarky high school student with no boyfriend, I of course hated Valentine's Day. And even from my husband's and my early dating days, we have a checkered history with this day. To date, my snark has largely remained.

And yet, I cannot deny that when the commercial enterprises exploit a holiday to such a degree, it is because it is exploitable. It's easy and even a little fun to go down the rabbit

hole of railing against consumerism and greed and perhaps there is a place for that.

But, recently, the Spirit took me on a different path. I wonder if this holiday speaks to a deep hunger we have to express our love and the perhaps even greater hunger we have to receive expressions of love. We might just go to ridiculous lengths. Like sending five dozen roses, or a singing telegram to a workplace.

I'm still thinking about the absurdity of God being born in a barn. Or of the men and women in last year's Charleston church shooting forgiving the gunman.

Love often seems absurd. Love that is true pours out of the cracks even when evil and snarky try and shove it back in the box or behind the closed doors. Love finds unexpected avenues to enter the world where we least expect it. It is like the stubborn little flower growing up out of the tiny crack in the concrete sidewalk.

I wonder if one of the things about love is that it begs for expression. And on Feb. 14, the stores have tapped into this hunger present in us all. I wonder how as the family of GSP, we can let our love for each other and for the world find expression?

This month, our *Gathering of the People of God* is going to be all about expressions of love. Let's band together on Saturday, Feb. 11, from 5-7 p.m. in anticipation of Valentine's Day and use a number of creative outlets to give and receive love.

Potluck meal as usual, in McBride Hall. All are welcome, experienced Valentine makers and snarky students alike.



GSP's children taking part in the celebration of Christmas

Senior Focus

Susan Smith: A Lady with Style

By Ann Schumberger



Susan Smith

FAITHFULLY TAKING HER place in the third row on the eagle side of the church every Sunday morning at the 7:45 service is a tall, slender, impeccably dressed woman. Susan Smith has been a member of Grace St. Paul's for over 40 years. She was a member of the Grace Church congregation when it merged with St. Paul's in 1991.

Born Susan Deane Ray on Oct. 2, 1944, she was raised in the small town of Cygnet, Ohio, with her older brother Tim, who now also lives in Tucson. She met her first husband at a skating rink in Bowling Green. At age 17 when she married Tommy Mac Whitacre, she joined the Episcopal Church, where he was an acolyte. She loved the

way he recited the Nicene Creed! Tommy had a job in the circulation department of the Daily Sentinel Tribune in Bowling Green, and they had one daughter, Mindy.

Then Tommy contracted Hodgkin's disease. He had to drive over treacherous, icy roads to Toledo, Ohio, to undergo a debilitating treatment with mustard gas. During his last days, Susan made the same journey to visit him in the hospital while working full-time as a bookkeeper for the newspaper to keep the family afloat financially. Tommy died on Jan. 19, 1966, leaving Susan a 21-year-old widow. A little over a year later, she married Ray Smith, a press man at the newspaper, with whom she had a son, Matt.

After Susan's grandparents moved to Tucson from Ohio, the rest of her family began following them, with Susan, her second husband, and two children moving here in 1969. Susan obtained a job as a "tea room model," modeling clothes in restaurants and the airport for Vicky Wayne's and Loretta's dress shops.

In 1977, after Matt had started school,

Susan's elegant appearance helped her get a job working at the jewelry counter of Levy's Department Store, and soon she became the hostess for the store's Territorial Dining Room. Susan enjoyed welcoming customers to the restaurant and chatting with them, especially the regular patrons.

After Levy's closed, Susan worked as the manager of, and later the bookkeeper for, the Cafe Terra Cotta. After that restaurant closed and Susan was divorced, she secured employment with a law firm, eventually becoming the receptionist and bookkeeper for the legal firm of Monroe, McDonough, Goldschmidt, and Molla, where she smiles when she recalls the challenge of reciting the firm's full name when answering the phone. She managed with great aplomb to handle the interruptions of the phone calls while doing the firm's books. She was well loved by her employers, and the firm paid for her to take college courses at Pima Community College. She thoroughly enjoyed working for the firm, retiring in 2014 after 21 happy years.

While at the firm, Susan found an outlet for two of her hobbies—baking and making handmade birthday cards for the 24 employees. She has continued making greeting cards and now owns 30-40 different punches to allow her to make intricate decorations on her cards. Her oatmeal cookies were a favorite at the office, and her cinnamon rolls, which won a blue ribbon at the Pima County Fair, were sought after at pre-GSP Grace Church bake sales. Susan also taught kindergarten for Grace Church when her children were small.

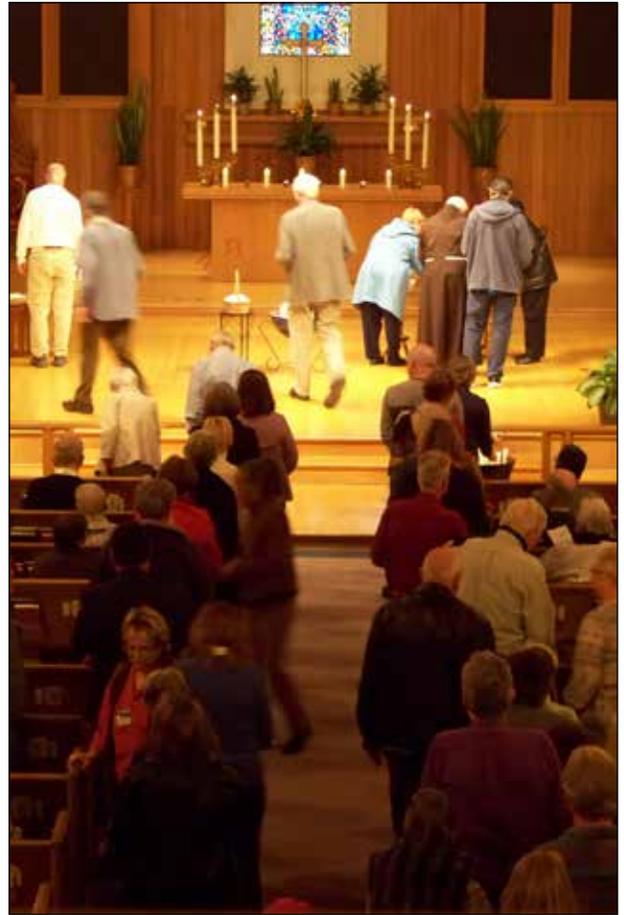
Susan has five grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Her daughter Mindy has three adult children, who have produced the three of Susan's great grands who live in Tucson: Alex (5), Ashton (6), and Keira (&). At the age of 48, her son, Matt, a Huntington Beach resident, is the proud father of year-and-a-half twin boys (Jaxson and Ryan).

Needless to say, Susan is a proud great grandmother and in much demand as a babysitter both in Tucson and California.

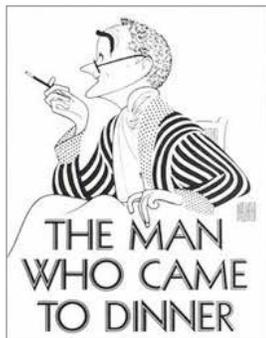
Sat Bir Kaur Khalsa, of the Sikh Center of Tucson, was one of many speakers at GSP's pre-inauguration interfaith service on Jan. 19. More than 200 attended, many lighting candles at the close of the service.



Interfaith Service on the Eve of the Inauguration



It's never about our leaders my dear friends. It is always about us. Together then, let us stand up in the face of every assault on human rights and planetary rights... Now is the time to love our adversaries, while simultaneously making it clear to them that we will never compromise when another human's dignity or another part of our planet is in jeopardy." —Fr. Steve Keplinger



'The Man Who Came to Dinner' '39 Kaufman & Moss comedy slated for Feb. reading

IF A FAMOUS THEATRE CRITIC slipped on the ice, injured himself and then, under doctor's orders was confined to your house for a month, what would you do? That's the predicament in which the Stanleys find themselves in "The Man Who Came to Dinner."

Sheridan Whiteside is the central character who drives his hosts mad by insulting them, his doctor, nurse and secretary, monopolizing the house and staff, running up large phone bills, insisting on extravagant meals, and receiving many bizarre guests, including paroled convicts.

The comedy, written by George Kaufman and Moss Hart, opened on Broadway in 1939 and played for more than two years. They modeled the main character after Alexander

Woollcott, theatre critic and radio star who displayed the obnoxious qualities embodied in Whiteside. There are references to famous personages of the era, which may or may not be resonant with a modern audience.

It's the veritable "Cast of Thousands," requiring many readers for maximum fun, so please join us at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 3, in the Bloom Room; scripts will be provided. No theatre or public speaking experience is necessary; parts will be randomly assigned to anyone who attends and wishes to read. Non-readers are welcome as well and can participate as an "audience". The play is appropriate for all ages.

Facilitated by Nanalee Raphael, theatre designer and aficionado.

Post from the Pantry

By Andrew Gardner

THANK YOU SO MUCH. The support that the Pantry receives from the Grace St. Paul's community is amazing, and we are so fortunate. Through your generosity, we are able to serve the basic needs of so many of our neighbors, doubling the food they would otherwise receive from the Community Food Bank. We are able to do all of that in an environment of dignity and kindness, and it is wonderful to be a part of.

In May of this year, we switched from a paper-based system

to a computerized one for tracking the food we distribute from the church. While the Community Food Bank has used a computerized system for years, we didn't know as much about how our food was being distributed, but now we do. In the eight months after May 1, we served 674 unique households with food from the church. We

had families that came only once during that time and families that came every month,

but the average number of visits was two. We have long believed that we were providing a backstop against hunger for families that live on the line between hunger and abundance, but now we know that we are doing exactly that.

Party

On Wednesday, Dec. 14, the Pantry team hosted its annual holiday party for the Pantry community. It was a wonderful event, with attendance up from approximately 80 in 2015 to 120 in 2016. Through a truly amazing and generous gift, we were able to purchase gift bags with hats, gloves, lotion, lip balm, socks, deodorant, and a \$10 Fry's gift card for the attendees. John Banks offered portraits, and many families were able to leave with a holiday portrait, too.

When we struggle financially, we are often dislocated from the lives we knew before. Our relationships are strained and we become accustomed to struggling through each day. We often do not have the time or the resources to relax. We eat to sustain ourselves, not to enjoy it.

The Pantry holiday party is an opportunity to enjoy a meal, to enjoy the companionship and fellowship of our neighbors, to bear witness to the possibility of abundance. Through so much work done by volunteers and

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Pantry Statistics

2016	2015	2014	Activity
4,249	4,891	4,683	People served by JP
4,154	5,171	5,757	People served by CFB
1,990	2,329	2,016	Volunteer hours
990	1,140	905	Bags of pet food
1,614	2,402	2,102	Showers
4,610	5,660	3,866	Daily food
1,384	1,656	1,475	Small JP bags
635	726	717	Large JP bags
1,119	1,371	1,267	Small CFB boxes
583	719	938	Large CFB boxes
119	137	102	Extra large CFB boxes



Pantry holiday party. Page 9, table decorations and children's gifts.



Post from the Pantry

Continued from Page 8
through generous gifts, we are able to make GSP a place of joy and comfort for so many people in our community.

Girl Scout Cookies

January and February are Girl Scout cookie season in Southern Arizona. Troop 789, which meets in Midvale Park, has adopted the Pantry as its philanthropic project again this year, and they will offer their customers the opportunity to purchase boxes of cookies for the Pantry community. When you meet Girl Scouts out and about this cookie season, please consider buying a box and bringing it to GSP for the Pantry. Cookies will also be offered for sale after both services on each Sunday in February in McBride Hall.

When we struggle financially, the very first thing we do is cut all of the luxuries from our budgets, all of the extras. For many of the people who are part of our Pantry community, a box of Girl Scout cookies is just that—a luxury that they cannot allow themselves. When we take the opportunity to share something extra, something joyous instead of nutritious or necessary, we are doing a great kindness to people who have become accustomed to struggle.

Lastly, a story

Last year, a box of donated cookies was placed at the door to the pantry on a Saturday morning.

“They really do sell those everywhere,” a man said as he approached the pantry.

“Oh, no. Those are free. They’re donated. You can have a box,” I answered.

“Really?” he said, incredulous.

A short time later, he held up a box of lemon cookies and box of chocolate cookies. “I like these, but my wife likes these,” he said, gesturing with the boxes.

“You can take both if you’d like,” I said.

He smiled. “Really?” he asked again.

I am so thankful to be a part of the pantry team and to get to be a witness to the kindness and generosity that this parish makes possible.

Thank you.



QUIET DAY RETREAT

**Saturday, Feb. 11,
10 a.m.-3 p.m.,
Bloom Room**

The theme for this year's Quiet Day is "The Presence Within." Many of us sense a form of disconnect and disassociation as we look at the world around us and within us. Perhaps we even consider social action for peace and justice that is found within the Episcopal tradition. We long to find the Presence within so that our action in the world is congruent with our inner spirituality.

Join us for a day of centering prayer and *lectio divina* seeking the Presence within, no experience necessary. Please bring a brown bag lunch and we'll supply water, iced tea, and coffee. Contact the church office to reserve your space at 520-327-6857.

Facilitated by Rev. Chris Ledyard and Karen Hansen. Chris is a deacon at GSP and Karen is active in pastoral care and social justice ministries. They also co-lead GSP's grief support group.

EXPLORING OUR FAITH: SUNDAYS @ 9:00 & 11:45

Healthy & Whole: An Invitation to Faith-Based, Wholistic Self-Care

Feb. 5 & 12, 9 a.m., Bloom Room

It is amazing to read throughout scripture how our Creator encourages us to take care of our heart, mind, body and spiritual well being. God's design is to take care of all of who we are, and all are worthy! And yet, sometimes we struggle with self-care. Can it be frustrating? Yes! So, what do we actually do with this wonderful Biblical encouragement? In this class, we will explore scripture, share practical ideas and resources, and some of the ways we empower ourselves to change. Your take away from this time? Perhaps a meaningful reflection for your journey and one simple, single action that allows you to say, "I can do this." Each session stands alone. All are welcome!

Cheryl Austin, our facilitator, comes from two perspectives: faith and leadership development. She holds a Masters of Arts in Theology from Fuller Theological Seminary, and has spent her career serving leaders from many cultures as they grow into their changing circumstances. Cheryl is a member of the GSP Adult Spiritual Formation team.

Sermons on Tap

Sunday, Feb. 12, 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m., Bloom Room

Ever leave worship on Sunday and wish you could talk about the sermon with others? Why not join like-minded folks for an open discussion of the day's sermon over beer and sandwiches? For anyone with a desire to connect more deeply with others and a willingness to explore their own questions about how we live into the "good news" as preached at GSP. The setting will be informal and relaxed. No need to register, come anytime. All are welcome!

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

Exploring Today's Lectionary

Sunday, Feb. 19, 9 a.m., Bloom Room

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

Artisanal Micro Roasted Home Brew Christianity

Sunday, Feb. 26, 9 a.m., Bloom Room

U A Chaplain Ben Garren will discuss the changing reality of Christianity in a millennial environment and how churches can effectively respond to creating spaces of spiritual depth and inquiry in this new Information Age. Not an expose but on gimmicks to get the kids in church, but a look at how our approach to engaging Christian truth in our thinking and prayer must take on different dimensions if we are going to effectively proclaim the gospel.

The Rev. Ben Garren started his life in North Carolina and grew up believing he would follow his father and grandfather in the field of Agricultural Science, but he found himself energized by a different set of questions, that, eventually, brought him to ordained ministry in the Episcopal Church. He currently serves as chaplain for Episcopal Campus Ministry at the UA.

Episcopal 101—for Everyone

**Sundays, Feb. 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26 & April 2,
11:45 a.m., Bloom Room**

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 six-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. Snack food will be provided.

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

FILM & FELLOWSHIP: WINTER FILM SERIES

Film & Fellowship: Bridging Cultures

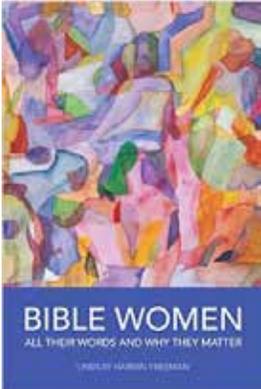
Friday, Feb. 17, 7 p.m., Bloom Room

The critically acclaimed "Dear White People" (2014) is a scathing, hilarious, and ultimately heartfelt exploration of racial tension on college campuses (and everywhere else). This was one of Kitt and Eric's

Sundance favorites, and they are thrilled to bring it to GSP!

Please join Eric Carr & Kitt Leonard for the finale of the series and a multi-cultural potluck as we celebrate building bridges! The potluck is at 6:30 p.m.; the film starts at 7 p.m., and will be followed by a lively discussion.

UNDERSTANDING SCRIPTURE: BIBLE STUDY @ GSP



Bible Women

Fridays, Feb. 3 & 17, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Weeks Room

Where are the voices of women in the Bible? What do they have to say to us about our own lives? This class studies the Bible through the words of women in the Old and New Testaments. The focus is on actual scripture and its contexts; an optional text, *Bible Women: All Their Words and Why They Matter* by Lindsay Hardin Freeman, is available from Amazon in softcover (\$22) or Kindle (\$9.99).

The group meets twice a month, on the first and third Friday. No registration is necessary. Participants are welcome to join the group at any time.

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

For Everyone: Coffee, Bagels and Bible Stuff

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

Join a diverse group in a discussion of the 1 Timothy. In our second year many are attending their first bible study and are enjoying the attempt to put the weekly readings into historical prospective while finding current application. All materials are provided. Drop-ins are welcome, and we start and end on time. Formerly a group for men, this class now welcomes everyone!

Bill Moore, GSP Junior Warden, is the group facilitator.

MAKING CONNECTIONS: SMALL GROUPS @ GSP

EfM Revisited (EfM Alumni Group)

Thursday, Feb. 16, 10:30s a.m., Bloom Room

This small group meets monthly for a variety of activities during the fall, winter and spring. All persons who have participated in Education for Ministry, for any length of time and in any location, are welcome to attend! In February, we will finish up our discussion of *Eager To Love* by Richard Rohr and continue our Mezuzah project. Bring a sack lunch and we will enjoy each other's company.

For more information, contact Karen Kelly at 520-429-3637.

Sharing Our Spiritual Journeys

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

Each week, in this small discussion group, we focus on a different intersection between spirituality, religion, and culture. We view short videos (10-15 min.) by scholars and authors such as Richard Rohr, Marcus Borg, Diana Butler Bass, Christina Cleveland and other innovative church thinkers. The conversation is always a surprise and takes us where the Spirit guides. Each session stands alone and all are welcome. No registration is necessary.

Co-facilitated by Brian Arthur, Jim Franks and Catherine Penn Williams. Brian is a longtime EFM mentor at GSP, Catherine is the convener of Adult Spiritual Formation, and Jim serves on the GSP Vestry.

GSP Readers Group: 'The Elegance of the Hedgehog' by Muriel Barbery

Friday, Feb. 10, 9:30 a.m., Bloom Room

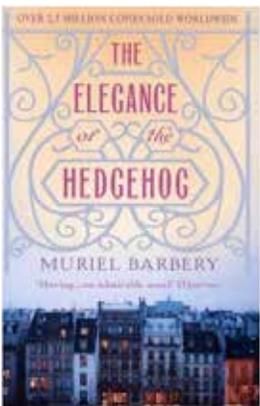
Muriel Barbery's *The Elegance of the Hedgehog* takes place in an elegant Parisian apartment building inhabited by bourgeois families. Renée, the concierge, is witness to the lavish but vacuous lives of her numerous employers. Unbeknownst to her employers, Renée is a cultured autodidact who adores art, philosophy, music, and Japanese culture. Then there's Paloma. A twelve-year-old genius and the daughter of a tedious parliamentarian, she is a talented and startlingly lucid child who has decided to end her life on the 16th of June, her thirteenth birthday. They discover their kindred souls when a wealthy Japanese man named Ozu moves into the building. This is a moving, funny, triumphant novel that exalts the quiet victories of the inconspicuous among us. All are welcome. No registration necessary.

For more information, please contact the church office at 327-6857.

Saturday Java Jive: Coffee & Conversation

Saturdays, 8:30-11 a.m., Epic Cafe (745 N. 4th Ave., at University Blvd.)

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





Grace St. Paul's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2331 E. Adams • Tucson, AZ 85719
520-327-6857 • www.gsptucson.org

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

WEEKLY SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

Sundays

7:45 a.m., **Holy Communion**
9 a.m., Coffee & Conversation
9:45 a.m., Child Care
10 a.m., **Holy Communion**
10 a.m., Sunday School
11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
6 p.m., Youth Group

Mondays

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

Tuesdays

6 p.m., **Evening Prayer & Communion**
6 p.m., Arts & Crafts for Adults
7 p.m., Interfaith Meditation

Wednesdays

7 a.m., **Holy Communion**
10 a.m., Desert Angel Quilters
4:30 p.m., Spirit Dojo

Thursdays

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

Saturdays

8:30 a.m., **Saturday Java Jive**
9 a.m., Altar Guild

What's Happening in February 2017...

1st 12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry
7 p.m., **Green Church Committee**
2nd 6 p.m., **Spirit Song**
3rd 10:30 a.m., **Bible Women**
6:30 p.m., Spirit Players Play-Reading
5th 9 a.m., *Healthy & Whole: An Invitation to Faith-Based, Wholistic Self-Care*
6th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*
9th 7 a.m., **Thank-a-Cop Breakfast**
9 a.m., *Living Wholeheartedly*
10th 9:30 a.m., Readers Group
11th 9:30 a.m., Citizens Climate Lobby
10 a.m., **Quiet Day Retreat**
4 p.m., *Gathering as the People of God—Rooted in Service*
12th 9 a.m., *Healthy & Whole: An Invitation to Faith-Based, Wholistic Self-Care*
11:45 a.m., **Sermons on Tap**
13th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*
14th **ST. VALENTINE'S DAY**
15th 12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry
4 p.m., Foundation for Episcopal Campus Ministry
16th 9 a.m., *Living Wholeheartedly*
10:30 a.m., **EJ/M Revisited**
17th 10:30 a.m., **Bible Women**
6:30 p.m., Film & Fellowship
18th 10 a.m., Grief Group

19th 9 a.m., *Exploring Today's Lectionary*
20th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*
21st 6:30 p.m., **VESTRY MEETING**
22nd 7 p.m., **Sonora Winds Concert**
23rd 9 a.m., *Living Wholeheartedly*
25th 10 a.m., Grief Group

26th 9 a.m., *Artisanal Micro-Roasted Home-Brew Christianity*
11:45 a.m., **Episcopal 101**
1 p.m., Mother's Kitchen
3 p.m., **True Concord Concert**
27th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*
28th **SHROVE TUESDAY**
9 a.m., Primavera Cooks!
7 p.m., Mardi Gras



Coming Up in March (Lent) 2017...

1st **ASH WEDNESDAY**
7 a.m., Holy Communion
12 noon, Holy Communion
12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry
7 p.m., Holy Communion
7 p.m., **Green Church Committee**
2nd 9 a.m., *Living Wholeheartedly*
6 p.m., **Spirit Song**
3rd 10:30 a.m., **Bible Women**
6:30 p.m., Spirit Players Play-Reading
4th 10 a.m., Grief Group
5 p.m., *Gathering as the People of God—Rooted in Our Stories*
5th 9 a.m., Spiritual Formation TBA
11:45 a.m., **Episcopal 101**
6th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*
9th 9 a.m., *Living Wholeheartedly*
10th 6 p.m., **Dinner Theater & Play**
11th 9:30 a.m., Citizens Climate Lobby
10 a.m., Grief Group

12th 9 a.m., Spiritual Formation TBA
11:45 a.m., **Episcopal 101**
13th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*
15th 12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry
16th 9 a.m., *Living Wholeheartedly*
17th 10:30 a.m., **Bible Women**
6:30 p.m., Film & Fellowship
19th 9 a.m., Spiritual Formation TBA
11:45 a.m., **Episcopal 101**
3 p.m., **Arizona Early Music Society Concert**
20th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*
21st 11:30 a.m., TIHAN Volunteer Orientation
23rd 9 a.m., *Living Wholeheartedly*
25th 9 a.m., **GSP Lenten Retreat**
1:30 p.m., *A Celebration of Life Service for William Brown*
26th 9 a.m., Spiritual Formation TBA
11:45 a.m., **Episcopal 101**
1 p.m., Mother's Kitchen