

The Briefly

June / July 2013

The monthly newsletter for the community of
Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church
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Rector's Letter

By The Rev. Steve Keplinger

It is always a good thing. Having the opportunity to get out of our immediate surroundings and experience the larger world around us, is like moving from a standard to a wide angle lens. The particular of our own situation is informed through a wider vision of the world.

That is what it was like for me when I attended the Festival of Homiletics last month. We have been concentrating so much on living into the vision we have for our beloved community of Grace St. Paul's. That has been a good thing and we have accomplished much. But by seeing the wider vision, by experiencing how people in other churches around the country are understanding and reacting to the culture surrounding us, it has helped me see where we are going even more clearly.

What I learned is that what we are doing at GSP is on the cutting edge of what is happening in the mainline tradition. There is definitely a realization now that the culture in which we are immersed has radically changed. Everyone in the church is having trouble reacting quickly and well to that change. Some, perhaps the majority, continue to talk like we are in the old game, like we are serving the world of the 1950's. But every one of the

CWe are moving into the future of a brave, new church... where justice will roll down like waters and righteousness like a stream.

prophets in our midst, and there were many, saw that we are in the midst of a major shift in the way we do church.

David Lose, Marbury E. Anderson Chair in Biblical Preaching at Luther Seminary put it this way. "The world has changed and we were taught to flourish in the old world.

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Shafts of sunlight filtering down through the sanctuary during the Peace on Pentecost Sunday. Photo by Bruce Anderson.

Submissions to *The Briefly*

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

The deadline for the August issue is Monday, July 15.

Rector's Letter

Continued from Page 1

The population for whom what we used to do 'works' is shrinking... Our seminaries, he said, are repositories of what worked in the past. We are in a new world. The bad news," he said, "is that there is no playbook" for what we need to do. "And the good news is, "there is no playbook. Don't be afraid to experiment and don't be afraid to fail."

Brian McLaren, one of the leaders in the emergent church movement, said it this way. "We are all in the midst of packing and moving." Many people ask, "can we bring our pipe organ with us? But no one is asking, can we bring God's justice with us?" His point was that we need to pack the right stuff for our new journey and that means we need to distill our faith down to what is essential.

A dozen more speakers used other metaphors to say the same thing. But the one that stuck with me was from Nadia-Bolz Weber. Nadia is the founding Pastor of the House of All Sinners and Saints, a Lutheran congregation in Denver that is a kind of hybrid, emerging church. Her metaphor was the telephone booth. She noted that we, in the church, are able to ascertain that all of the telephone booths in our country are disappearing. Our response to that disappearance is to say, "I wonder how we can decorate our phone booth in such a way that people will keep using them?"

I have to tell you, I am with Nadia on this. Most of the church that I see continues to believe that if we just do what we did before, but even better and with more bells and whistles, everything will be all right. But everything will not be all right. We need to

analyze the culture. We need to realize that with the advent of cell phones, we don't need telephone booths anymore.

None of that is to scare you. The church is not going to go the way of the phone booth. But we have to stop making believe that cell phones don't exist. We must understand who we are, why we are important, and why we do everything that we do. We must keep our Judeo/Islamic/Christian faith firmly rooted in the ancient tradition that has fed us so well for thousands of years. But we must also realize that doing so in the same way we have done it for the last 500 years will make what we do obsolete for the world in which we live.

Whether we like it or not, we are living in the time of Reformation. Just as the church shifted immensely in the 16th century, so will we. For some of us, that will be painful as we let go of things that we used to treasure. But it is also the most exciting time to be the church.

Here at Grace St. Paul's, we will continue to articulate specifically and clearly who we are and why we are doing what we do. We will stay rooted in all of our ancient tradition. But we are also packing up and moving into the future of a brave, new church, a church where justice will always roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. It will continue to be both challenging and incredibly exciting. I am so proud and thankful to be on that adventure with each of you.

Steve +



Liturgy Discussion of the Month

The Confession

By *The Rev. Steve Keplinger*

We have long been aware as a culture of the emotional benefits of sharing with a trusted person things that are bothering us. Part of the science of therapy is based on this knowledge.

This is partially the reason we have a period of time in most services to confess our wrongdoing. There is a clinical benefit in doing so. But for us, the act of confession goes far deeper. Reflecting on how we have failed, assists us in potentially avoiding a similar error in the future. But even more importantly, coming to terms with how we have sinned, reminds us that in the end, God's grace takes over. No matter what we have done wrong, we know that we can and will be forgiven, if we confess it and ask for that forgiveness.

It is important to note that the words we say together are not the confession itself. Your time for reflecting on your own sin comes after the Deacon says, "Let us confess our sins against God..." We begin the profession together after each of us has had an opportunity to reflect in silence.

At our 10 a.m. Sunday service, we use multiple versions of confession and absolution, with the goal being to help us hear the words in a fresh way. Each liturgical season has its own variety of confession that connects with that season. The Prayer Book version of the confession are words that speak to many of us at the depth of our souls. We continue to stay

connected to that confession during part of the liturgical year at 10 a.m., as well as almost all of the time at our 8 a.m. service.

Confession is also a major part of a communion service for the sick. When we take communion to those who cannot be in church, confession is a regular part of the liturgy and an important part of the healing process.

During the Middle Ages, there was a very strong accent placed on individual salvation and confession. Private confession took precedence over any other form. In more recent years, we have come to understand that corporate sin is just as important to emphasize. The sins we have committed as a species may be the most troubling and destructive of all. That is one of the reasons we have emphasized corporate confession in our services. The need for private confession however remains, and that rite is available to any of you at any time.

You may have noted that during the seasons of Easter and Christmas, we do not do a confession at Grace St. Paul's. This is a reminder to us that we are Easter people and that God's grace is with us continually. It is also a corrective to the heavy emphasis we placed on the depravity of humanity in the past.

Confession is good for the soul, both emotionally and from the standpoint of faith. But it is just as critical to be regularly reminded of God's grace that envelops us always.

Notes from the Choir Stalls

By Christina Jarvis,
Director of Music



Musica Sonora announces final concert of season

"The Art of the Plucked String" will be Musica Sonora's final concert of the 2012-13 season.

Southern Arizona's professional early music ensemble, co-directed by Christina Jarvis and Jeffri Sanders, will perform Sunday, June 9, at 3 p.m., at GSP.

Tickets are \$15 general admission, \$12 for groups of ten or more, and \$5 for students and are available at the door.

Dieter Hennings, performing on lute, guitar, and theorbo, joins sopranos Mireille Hofmann Jacquod and Christina Jarvis, bassist Arizeder Urreiztieta, baroque flutist Kiann Mapes, cellist Theodore Buchholz, and harpsichordist Jeffri Sanders for a program of works by Monteverdi, Lawes, de Visée, Purcell, Handel, and others.

When I reread my previous columns, I am sometimes reminded of the old saying: "How do you make God laugh? Tell Him/Her your plans."

I should probably not bother to list our anthems at all, just in case they are overtaken by events. Stuff happens.

Sometimes I rethink an anthem, like the Berger setting of Psalm 47, with text from the Bay Psalm book. The language was just a little too extreme without context, so we set it aside for another time, when we can do a "that was then, this is now" sort of thing.

As for the Charles H. H. Parry piece, well, half the choir barfed, so I decided not to be a dictator about it. There are better ditches to die in.

Summer should be an excellent time to ponder ditches, but it's a snare and a delusion. Everything seems possible in the summer. Really, all planning should be done either right after Christmas or during Holy Week, when the balloon payment on one's choices comes due. No choir should have to endure the full horror of some grandiosity conceived during the warm months when nothing else is going on.

Warm months are for baseball. The choir stepped up and sang at the UA baseball game. The team, however, did not step up and win the game. In fact, they lost 23 to 1. It was the saddest thing I've ever seen. They lost the game the last time we sang for them, too. They'll never have us back.

Therefore, since I won't be attending another baseball game any time soon, planning shall be done, not just for the adult choir but for the youth and children. I am attending a NATS workshop in Spokane from July 21-23 called "Starting the Journey: Creative Teaching Tools for Teens and Pre-teens," at which I hope to glean a better understanding of adolescent voices as they change and mature and get good

ideas for repertoire that will challenge but not overwhelm.

On July 28, I will report on what I learned and discuss our musical direction for children and youth in an adult education class at 9 a.m. Nurturing music in our kids is like nurturing faith itself. Unless the Episcopal Church goes away entirely, heaven forbid, music will be part of the worship experience. It's up to us to shape what that might be by training the ones coming after us, so they can ignore us and do something completely different with the skills we've given them. Which is as it should be.

While I'm pondering the future of music in the church (argh), the choir will be on break, and we will have soloists during the Sunday anthem slots, the usual mix of parishioners and visitors. Ann Stephens sang on June 2 (her birthday, so we hope it was a happy one).

Other wonderful musicians will include Joseph Pagan, Lisa and Francisco Renteria, Barbara Pritchard, Wesley Hunter, James Neeley, Miriam Huber, and Judy Lynn. We are fortunate to have such a wealth of talent willing and able to deepen our connection with the holy through music.

One can never take enough opportunities to thank people, and as we move into summer I want to thank everyone who volunteers in the music programs at Grace St. Paul's, adults, Zombies, and children. I also want to thank Joan Brundage and Jane Click, who work with the St. Cecelia's Choir, and Dr. Pamela Decker, our organist.

Equally, though, I want to thank all of you, who support the music program with your suggestions, contributions, and prayers. We are profoundly grateful. May the Holy Spirit continue to enliven our worship. Also, winning lottery numbers would be nice. Just saying.

Peace,

Christina



Planned Giving Invitation

by Clyde Kunz

Grace St. Paul's has been truly blessed by our members in their support of the parish. Over the years, buildings have been built and improved, countless families have been assisted in times of need, ministries have been supported, and the life of our parish has been significantly enhanced, all due to the gifts of members.

Each of us is concerned about having enough money to support ourselves for the rest of our lives. But planning what happens to our assets after that can be a source of comfort—and could even help us while we are still alive.

We are fortunate to have individuals in the parish who have expertise in this area. Clyde Kunz* will offer a *free* seminar, with *lunch provided* for Grace St. Paul's members on June 4:

Where Will the Money Go? Leaving a Legacy with Your Estate After Taking Care of Family Needs

Tuesday, June 4, Noon-1:30 p.m., Bloom Education Center

A conversation about the importance of having an estate plan (regardless of one's net worth), the reasons for considering gifts to the church or charity as part of that plan, and a look at an overview of some of the most common ways to make such gifts—some of which can increase one's income during life.

It is *not* the purpose of this meeting to entice people to leave all their assets to the parish. But we know that up to 80 percent of all people do not have legal documents dictating where their assets will be placed upon their death, and we believe that planned giving is a part of responsible Christian stewardship.

Please make plans to be at this meeting. Nobody will be there selling their services. This will be a great way to get unbiased, no-pressure information on which you can make your own decisions. So that Clyde can adequately plan (for lunch!), reservations are requested through the church office. Please call 327-6857 to make your reservation.

*Facilitated by Clyde Kunz, former President of the Planned Giving roundtable of Southern Arizona, with 25 years in nonprofit management and fundraising. Clyde was on the founding Advisory Board for the Center for Planned Giving at the Community Foundation of Southern Arizona and currently served on several Boards of Directors, including the Episcopal Church Foundation. Clyde also serves on the Diocesan Council for the Episcopal Church of Arizona.

Arts for Summer Camp, Discovering the Christ Within

by *Rosalind Garcia*

Arts for Summer begins Monday, June 17, and runs through Friday, June 21, from 9 a.m.-1p.m. in McBride Hall. A summer camp registration form is available on our website, in the bulletin or from the front desk in the office. The cost is \$65 per child, snack and lunch as well as materials are included, scholarships are available.

We are excited that we received a grant from the Diocese of Arizona which will allow us to offer several more scholarships this year. Camp is for children entering kindergarten through 3rd grade and entering 4th through 8th grades. Teen volunteers are welcome and appreciated!

The theme of this camp is the child's individual gifts and talents. We want to emphasize that it is up to each of us to be

fully ourselves, to avoid competition to be like someone else. God made us complete and together we are perfect for doing God's work in the world. To illustrate these points, we will be creating full body self portraits using photo sensitive cloth that will develop in the sunlight. The camper will lie down on the cloth to develop a detailed outline of their body in whatever pose they choose. Once that is done, the camper will detail his/her self portrait on the outline using bright oil pastels, paint, cloth and even embroidery. These will be gorgeous individual works of art when completed.

The children will also work in small groups with our wonderful music people, Joan Brundage and Jane Click, to write simple musical compositions using a variety of instruments. The compositions will be created to reflect each member of the small group and will be used to introduce the self portraits at our third annual Arts for Summer art show on the last day of camp.

We are so excited that Harriet Claiborne will be back again this year to help with Arts for Summer. Those of you whose children have participated the last two years will remember how much fun the children had with the creation timeline and the Gifts of God. Harriet uses materials from Catechises of the Good Shepherd and is a trained Catechist. We are very lucky to have her with us. Harriet will be using parables (particularly the Parable of Talents) and maxims to further our theme for this summer.

Finally, Fr. Allen Breckenridge will be back with us doing Dojo Karate, which focuses strongly on the strengths of the individual and the mind/body/spirit connection.

Please contact Rosalind Garcia at Rosalind.Garcia@grace-stpauls.org or at 327-6857 with any questions about this year's camp.



The chancel decorated for Pentecost Sunday

Deaconship in Formation

by Linda Hutson

To our dear friends in Christ: Chris and I would like to thank all of you who have been praying, supporting, praying, encouraging, praying, inquiring, praying.... Well, I hope you get the picture about some of what we feel from our Grace St. Paul's community as we continue moving forward in the Diaconal process!

In April we learned from Bishop Smith that we have moved from Postulant status to Candidate status in the Deacon Formation program. This affirmation from those who have been teachers and mentors is a significant event in our lives!

It also brings us to a next step: Chris and I will serve at another church for a six-month period. During that time, we will keep you updated on our progress. The opportunities to serve and learn will lead Chris to St. Matthew's and me to the Church of the Apostles.

Stepping back in time a bit, all of this started with **YOU!** The Grace St. Paul's community recognized and encouraged me to consider if God was calling me, where and how God was calling me, and affirming that call by helping me to say **YES!** The formal part of Deacon Formation started last September, but for me it started many years ago when I fell in love with Jesus, fell in love with the Episcopal Church, and continue falling in love with the communities that have informed in my life in Christ.

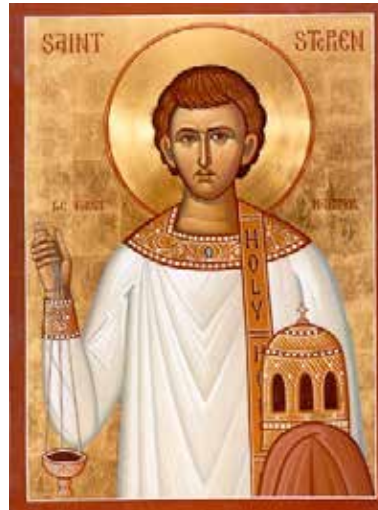
To say that the process that led me from there to here often felt complicated and sometimes downright convoluted is a bit of an understatement! At this juncture, however, I have found that those steps have not only led me closer to

the God, but also understanding myself and my relationship with the all of creation in a new and more complete way, including each of you!

I would like to share with you this month some of my understanding of what it means to practice as a Deacon in the Episcopal Church of the 21st Century. As a starting point, I am calling upon one of the earliest books we read and discussed: ***Being a Deacon Today: Exploring a Distinctive Ministry in the Church and the World*** (Rosalind Brown). One of the sections in this book is titled **The Groundwork of Diaconal Ministry**. For those of you who know me well, you are aware that my starting point in most instances is the foundational piece, the why questions, the how questions. The three foundational propositions for all Deacons are:

Pray: This may seem an obvious starting place, and of course it is! But it is also the core of my relationship with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. The challenges of being faithful to our communities require a dedication and commitment to be present to God, not only to speak, but to listen carefully. Prayer as a discipline as well as a gift leads me to both give thanks and receive the grace of God's love and promise. In prayer I co-create with God the opportunity to learn to love and know God and to be known and loved by God.

Love: It is in the act of prayer that I



come to understand the unifying power of the love and grace of God. The love given, the love shared, the love going out into community, world, nation, world. I recall the words of Paul about love: *"It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things"* I Cor.13:7. As Deacons we are called **to love by love**. We are called to that fierce love that is sometimes sweet,

maternal and kind, and at other it may seem defiant, rebellious or just plain crabby. But in all things, we are called by God to love as we have been loved.

Remember: My life as a Spiritual Director has taught me much about our stories: our collective stories as well as our individual stories. As people of God we actively remember our stories each time we read or hear scripture, reflect on what we hear and find a link to our time and place in this universe. By the grace of our Holy Creator, I promise to remember, to recall the life-giving gift and example of Jesus and to dwell the mystery of the incarnated God.

I am grateful to have this Trinitarian groundwork of practices that I am using as the core work in my life at this time as I continue the formation process. As I approach becoming a Deacon among you and with you, I ask for your continued prayers and acknowledge my gratitude to be on this journey with each of you. May you feel the presence of the Holy Spirit each day as you love one another and remember you are completely loved by God!



What's more fair than Fair Trade Coffee?

by Bruce Anderson

If you're a current buyer of Just Coffee (Café Justo), you probably know the answer: Coffee where *all* the steps more fully support the workers—not just the growing. In a 2010 article in the Presbyterian Church USA's website, we learn that the growing of coffee beans is a small portion of the profit that coffee companies enjoy:

"When the companies import the coffee beans and roast, package, market and manage them in the U.S., the majority of the profit comes from the activities in the U.S.," said the Rev. Mark Adams, U.S. coordinator of Frontera de Cristo, part of Presbyterian Border Ministry."

The processing for Just Coffee is performed

in Agua Prieta, Sonora, only 120 miles from Tucson. This has the added benefit for us of reducing the carbon footprint in the shipping of coffee beans from their growing site to the processing site, then to the grocer. (Starbucks' processing sites are in northern Nevada, western Oregon and Washington, and South Carolina.)

So, by purchasing Just Coffee (available in regular, decaf, and dark roast in whole-bean or ground) for only \$9(caffeinated)-\$10(decaf) lb., you are supporting growers in Ciapas and roasters in Agua Prieta, and reducing your carbon footprint for this product significantly!

Watch the bulletin for sale dates—usually the first and third Sundays of the month, after the 8 and 10 a.m. services.

For further information about Just Coffee, see www.justcoffee.org/ and www.pcusa.org/news/2010/12/15/more-fair/

Green Church

by Angel Wang

In April, the Green Church Committee presented a Care of Creation Class on "Going Green Saves You the Green(\$)".

In 1990, the Voyager spacecrafts from 3.7 billion miles away, captured the image of Earth, the home of humanity, as a "Pale Blue Dot" against the immensity of space. It focused our need to practice good stewardship of the Earth, our only habitation in the universe. Today, as we face the early effects of global climate change, we can take steps to improve the environment in ways that also save money. We can do so by monitoring our ecological footprint and following suggestions from many institutions: DOE, Rocky Mountain Institute, National Geographic Society, Interfaith Power and Light. The presentations, videos and takeaway sheets can be found at: www.u.arizona.edu/~shunter/CreationCare1.pdf

Earth Day Lessons

In honor of Earth Day, the Green Church Committee provided Sunday School classes with materials for their April 21 lessons. The

preschool and kindergarten class learned that Earth Day was coming up and colored a handout about loving the Earth. The first through third grade class as well as the fourth and fifth grade class discussed conserving resources, such as water, and reducing what goes into landfills by reusing or recycling things. Then the students completed worksheets appropriate for their grade levels.

Solar Energy

We have started working with Technicians for Sustainability (TFS), re-evaluating the solar possibilities of GSP property, both rooftop and parking lot structures. As you know, they have recently done the solar projects for St. Philip in the Hills, Benedictine Sanctuary, Temple Emanu-El and GSP parishioners as well. They approved GSP financials, and there is some more work to do with their different processes.

The technical site analysis brought up a need for clear understanding of where the parcel boundaries are between GSP and Arizona Inn for placement of the parking lot structures. A new parcel survey will be needed to establish that.

A Different Type of Evangelism

A Special Event for the City of Tucson

by Bruce Anderson



If you read comments on articles online, or if you have friends—especially under 50—on Facebook who aren't members of Grace St. Paul's, you may know that Christianity is currently suffering an increasingly worsening reputation. One could theorize extensively as to why this is, but many of us agree that the diverse, open interpretation of the gospel that we are exposed to at Grace St. Paul's could be a welcome alternative for many people in Tucson.

For this reason, the Congregational Development Committee is planning an event—a seminar of sorts—which invites our community to consider the “good news” part of the gospel. Following two months of intense publicity, we will ask parishioners to invite friends to this event.

As we did at Christmas last year, we will give you helpful hints as to how to do this without embarrassment. Obviously, it's important that parishioners be present, but we hope you will take an active part in this publicity, as the date draws near. Here are the basics of the publicity message (for print advertising, radio, Facebook, YouTube, and email):

Join us this Sept. 27 & 28 for “Christianity 3.0”!

—A two-evening seminar illuminating the original message of Christianity

- See how Christian thought was diverted in the 19th and 20th centuries into a misrepresentation of Christ's original message of service and love for the poor and disenfranchised and Christ's respect for all living creatures.

- Look at a 21st Century response to the Bible that is not in conflict with science.

// Following two months of intense publicity, we will ask parishioners to invite a friend to this event.”

- You may find these programs enlightening
- If you have experienced discomfort or outright rejection by a Christian organization, yet still long for God's central message of love.
- If you have felt disenfranchised by “organized religion” and its message of exclusion.
- If you have children whom you would like exposed to “better” Christian thought.
- If you are a former church-goer who feels that something is simply not right.

Families of all types, children, and young people are invited to participate. Tentative: Children and youth (8–18 years old) can join in a lively discussion

just for them in the basement, led by peers and background-checked, responsible parish leaders)

Come and participate for any amount of time, in any or all of the sessions:

Friday, Sept. 27 and Saturday, Sept. 28

7 p.m.—Talk by the Rev. Steve Keplinger from Grace St. Paul's

Friday, Sept. 27—“For the Love of Creation!”

Saturday, Sept. 28—“All Whom God Made Are Loved!”

8 p.m.—Response & discussion, with a panel of parish members (we don't like hierarchy or dogma very much!)

8:30 p.m.—Milk and Cookies, Wine and Chocolate, plus free-form discussion and meeting people

9:30 p.m. (Saturday only)—Native American blessing (10 minutes)

Sunday, Sept. 29

During the 10 a.m. service:

“Bringing It All Together: Why Christianity Is Still Relevant”—Talk by the Rev. Steve Keplinger

Adult Spiritual Formation

June 2013 to
August 2013

Spirit Players: A Play Reading Experience

Fridays, June 7, July 12 & Aug. 2

6:30 p.m., Bloom Room

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

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

Film & Fellowship

Fridays, June 21, July 19 & Aug. 16

6:30 p.m., McBride Hall

How about a great gathering, an outstanding movie, and even some food to share? Film and Fellowship will give you all three—plus a chance to discuss the implications of the films as each one addresses elements of the Christian faith.

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

Theology, Spirituality & Sex! Oh, My!

Mondays, June 17, July 15 & Aug. 19

7 p.m., the home of Catherine Penn Williams

Join us for a monthly book group to read and discuss Susan Howatch's *Starbridge Series*, six novels that trace the history of the 20th century Anglican Church. We'll read the novels in order and discuss one each month. This series is placed in the fictional Diocese of Starbridge, set in the west of England. We'll focus our conversation on the themes of theology and spiritual development in each book. The books are readily available from amazon.com in paperback, Kindle and used editions (starting at \$.01) Facilitated by Catherine Penn Williams, avid reader and experienced group discussion leader.

Contact Catherine or the church office for directions.

The Soul of Money: Scarcity or Sufficiency?

Sunday, June 16, 9 a.m., Bloom Room

Are money and the soul linked in some way? Yes, and that relationship determines how we understand and use money in our lives. Some of us live in the world of Scarcity, while others live in Sufficiency. There is a huge difference between the two. All of us are residents of one or the other. Let's explore the landscape of each and get some new insight about The Soul of Money.

Facilitated by Roger Pierce, GSP Vestry member and Co-Chair of Adult Education & Spiritual Formation.

In Our Own Voices:

Exploring Issues of Mental Illness

Saturday, June 22, 10 a.m.-Noon, Bloom Room

In this 90-minute presentation, a short video takes participants into the lives of people who are living with mental illness. The NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) presenters will share experiences and cover the topics of Dark Days, Acceptance, Treatment, Coping Mechanisms, and Hope & Dreams. A take-home packet will be provided with fact sheets and lots of resources.

Facilitated by the Rev. Nancy Meister Book and NAMI leaders. For further information contact Rev. Nancy at the church office.

The Line: Faces of the New Poor

Sundays, June 23 & 30, 9 a.m., Bloom Room

Poverty in America—it's not what you think! View and discuss a documentary from Sojourner's Magazine portraying several different people who are the face of the "new poor." The video series is produced by Sojourner's, Oxfam and Bread for the World.

Facilitated by longtime GSP member Lynne Albright.

How Do We Forgive?—A Film Series

Fridays, June 28, July 26 & Aug. 23

6:30 p.m., Bloom Room

Violence is an increasingly familiar and distressing reality in our world, at local, national and global levels. As the Body of Christ, how do we respond to violence perpetrated against ourselves or someone we love? Join us for this remarkable film series and some helpful conversation.

Led by Catherine Penn Williams and Steve Williams of GSP.

The Comforting Whirlwind: God, Job & Creation

Sundays, July 7 & 14, 9 a.m., Bloom Room

Nationally known author, creation activist, and Middlebury College professor Bill McKibben examines the Old Testament Job in contemporary terms... especially in reference to creation and ecology issues. The book, short and inexpensive, is available through local bookstores or Amazon.

Discussion facilitated by Roger Pierce, GSP member.

Resources For Mental Illness

Saturday, July 13, 10 a.m.-Noon, Bloom Room

Mental Illness touches many lives—1 in 4 persons are diagnosed each year with some aspect of mental illness. In this workshop, NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) leaders will present an overview of the main categories of mental disorders and provide valuable information and resources.

Facilitated by the Rev. Nancy Meister Book and NAMI personnel. Questions can be addressed to Rev. Nancy at the church office.

Adult Education &

Spiritual Formation Planning Meeting

Thursday, July 18, 7 p.m., Weeks Room

Here's a chance for you to share ideas and suggestions about Adult Education at GSP. You can even bring a completed Class Proposal for something you would like to present. You are encouraged to join us as we plan for September-December of this year. Your ideas, suggestions, and help are invited and appreciated! Everyone is welcome!

Spiritual Approaches to Chronic Illness & Death

Sunday, July 21, 9 a.m., Bloom Room

We will discuss the issues of chronic illness and death as well as how to be a caregiver. The discussion will be based on the Terry Tempest Williams book "Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place". It is recommended that you read this fine book before attending... but not a requirement.

Discussion led by Chris Ledyard and Beth Miksa, GSP members who are skilled in this important areas.

Music in the Air

Sunday, July 28, 9 a.m., Bloom Room

Details to be announced.

The Sistine Chapel:

The History of its Art & Propaganda

Sunday, Aug. 4, 9 a.m., Bloom Room

This one-time presentation looks at the Sistine Chapel, its architecture and art, in terms of its historical, political and theological context.

Facilitated by Professor Pia Cuneo, UofA Art History Department and GSP member.

The Hand of God: Thoughts & Images

Reflecting the Spirit of the Universe

Sunday, Aug. 11, 9 a.m., Bloom Room

The remarkable book "The Hand of God" brings together stunning photographs from the Hubble Telescope with some of the most thought provoking observations ever written. From the book's introduction: "It is becoming ever more apparent that the discoveries of astronomy and cosmology are offering today what in eras past only religion has: a sense of wonder and of awe, a sense that the world is rational, a sense of the sacred with hints to believers about the nature and character of God."

Discussion will be led by Brian Arthur, GSP member.

Journaling Our Spiritual Lives

Saturday, Aug. 10, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Bloom Room

Where am I on my spiritual journey? Where has God been in the choices and decisions I have made? Where do I go from here? Join us for a contemplative morning of journaling and reflection on these and other questions. We will use a guided journal method to explore not only our own inner depths but also to catch a glimpse of the mysterious and unseen hand that guides us all.

This interesting morning will be led by Catherine Penn Williams, a psychotherapist who has facilitated journal work in spiritual groups for more than 20 years.

Painting The Stars:

Science, Religion & an Evolving Faith

Sundays, Aug. 18 & 25, 9 a.m., Bloom Room

Celebrating the communion of science and faith, Painting the Stars explores the promise of evolutionary Christian spirituality. The video presentations feature a dozen leading theologians and progressive thinkers. Come for thought provoking presentations and conversation.

Facilitated by Peggy Scott, GSP member and Co-Chairperson of Adult Education.



Grace St. Paul's

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

What's Happening in June 2013

WEEKLY SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

Sundays

- 8 a.m., [Holy Communion](#)
- 8 a.m., Coffee & Conversation
- 9:45 a.m., Child Care
- 10 a.m., [Holy Communion](#)
- 10 a.m., Sunday school
- 11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
- 11:30 a.m., Youth Groups

Mondays

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

Tuesdays

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

Wednesdays

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

Thursdays

- 5:30 p.m., [Spirit Now—An Interactive, Inclusive Communion Celebration](#)

2nd 9 a.m., *Beginning a Deeper Conversation About Violence In Our Faith Community*

2 p.m., St. Andrew's Bach Society Concert

3rd 7 p.m., Green Church Committee

4th 12 p.m., *Where Will the Money Go?*

5th 12 p.m., Prayer Shawl Ministry

7th 6:30 p.m., *Spirit Players: A Play Reading Experience*

9th 3 p.m., Musica Sonora Concert

10th 3 p.m., GSP Reading Group

7 p.m., Joseph's Pantry Meeting

11th 5:30 p.m., Family Caregiver Support Group

16th 9 a.m., *The Soul of Money: Scarcity or Sufficiency?*

17th 8 a.m., [Arts for Summer Camp](#)

7 p.m., *Theology, Spirituality, and Sex. Oh, my!*

18th 8 a.m., [Arts for Summer Camp](#)

6:30 p.m., NAMI Family Support Group

19th 9 a.m., [Arts for Summer Camp](#)

12 p.m., Prayer Shawl Ministry

20th 9 a.m., [Arts for Summer Camp](#)

21st 9 a.m., [Arts for Summer Camp](#)

6:30 p.m., *Film and Fellowship*

22nd 10 a.m., *In Our Own Voices: Exploring Issues of Mental Illness*

23rd 9 a.m., *The Line: Faces of the New Poor*

11:45 a.m., Social Justice and Outreach Ministry

24th 3 p.m., GSP Reading Group

25th 6:30 p.m., Vestry Meeting

28th 6:30 p.m., *How Do We Forgive? A Film Series*

30th 9 a.m., *The Line: Faces of the New Poor*

1:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Bach Society

Looking Ahead to July

1st 7 p.m., Green Church Meeting

3rd 12 p.m., Prayer Shawl Ministry

4th **INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY: Office & Social Services Closed**

7th 9 a.m., *The Comforting Whirlwind: God, Job, and Creation*

8th 7 p.m., Joseph's Pantry Meeting

9th 5:30 p.m., Family Caregiver Support Group

11th 5:30 p.m., TIHAN Congregational Liaison Meeting

12th 10 a.m., TIHAN Congregational Liaison Meeting

13th 10 a.m., NAMI Workshop: Resources For Mental Illness

14th 9 a.m., *The Comforting Whirlwind: God, Job & Creation*

15th 7 p.m., *Theology, Spirituality, and Sex. Oh, my!*

16th 6:30 p.m., NAMI Family Support Group

17th 12 p.m., Prayer Shawl Ministry

19th 6:30 p.m., *Film & Fellowship*

21st 9 a.m., *Spiritual Approaches to Chronic Illness*

2 p.m., St. Andrew's Bach Society

23rd 6:30 p.m., Vestry Meeting

26th 6:30 p.m., *How Do We Forgive? A Film Series*

28th 9 a.m., *Music in the Air*