

The Briefly

June/July 2015

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

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Rector's Letter

One of the most fascinating and important things to me about the Episcopal church is how we govern ourselves. Every three years, those elected at individual Diocesan Conventions gather for ten days to discuss, elect and legislate. Much like the American governmental system of a House of Representatives and a Senate, General Convention has a House of Deputies and a House of Bishops. The house of Deputies is made up of four clergy and four lay from each Diocese and the present House of Bishops are all Bishops in the church. There is a movement to limit the House of Bishops to only active Bishops in the future. This year General Convention is June 25 to July 3 in Salt Lake City. I will be sending you reports from Convention on a regular basis.

There are literally hundreds of resolutions that will be acted upon at General Convention and dozens of committee sessions to create those resolutions. The action is fast and furious, all day, every day, from about 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. There are always surprise issues that come up at Convention, but here a few things to watch:

Hundreds of resolutions will be acted upon at General Convention and dozens of committee sessions create those...

1. The election of the next Presiding Bishop.

Our Presiding Bishops serve for a nine-year term. Four nominations have been made by the Joint Nominating Committee. They are The Rt. Rev. **Thomas Breidenthal**, 64, Diocese of Southern Ohio, The Rt. Rev. **Michael Curry**, 62, Diocese of North Carolina, The Rt. Rev. **Ian Douglas**, 56, Diocese of Connecticut and The Rt. Rev. **Dabney Smith**, 61, Diocese of Southwest Florida. You can check out their bios on the

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Red candles were lit at the end of the Pentecost Sunday service, May 24, a festive occasion that marked the end of the Easter season. Photos by Martha Jane Farnham.



Submissions to The Briefly

Submit articles to Joyce Henderson, BrieflyEditor@gracestpauls.org.

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

The deadline for the August 2015 issue will be Tuesday, July 14.

Rector's Letter

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Episcopal News Service website. Nominations can also occur on the floor of the House of Bishops, so these may not be the only candidates. Your rector has a favorite in the above, but I will keep that to myself for now.

The Bishop is elected from the House of Bishops and approved by The House of Deputies. If the Deputies do not approve the election, it goes back to The House of Bishops for a second run.

2. The Task Force for Re-imagining the Episcopal Church (TREC). Most everyone in the church agrees that the present model we have of a top down organization run through a central office in New York City is quite unwieldy in the present day world. It is also expensive and too slow to act in a world of constant change. A task force has been studying this for a couple years, looking at alternative ways to run the organization. We need a more streamlined system of operation but the devil is in the details. How do we re-structure and how far do we go? How can we become fluid enough to be part of the Emerging church movement, while continuing to stay connected to each other? It is a massive undertaking and my guess is we will not make a major change at this Convention, but perhaps put some pieces will be put in place.

3. Marriage. At General Convention three years ago, we passed a rite of

same-sex blessing for the entire church. Will the Convention go as far this year as to create a marriage rite for all? As the Supreme Court considers the same issue, so will we as a church. It should be very exciting. This is the issue that will get the most attention in the national media.

4. Divestment. Two divestment issues seem to be surfacing. One centers around the church divesting from Israel, specifically from companies doing business in the occupied territories and/or supplying materials to the Israeli Defense Forces. This comes up every Convention it seems, but some think it will make it out of committee this year and get to the floor for debate. And very recently there has been a push to get a divestment from fossil fuels resolution on the floor.

5. Prayer Book. There has been very little discussion of redoing the Prayer Book, perhaps because many now realize that by the time we finished that process, it will already be outdated. It will probably remain up to churches like Grace St. Paul's to continue to create new liturgies for a swiftly changing world.

Check out my reports from Convention, as well as those from our Bishop and The Rev. Susan Snook, who is in the center of it all.

Steve +



5th of July

Ice Cream Sunday

By Martha P.L. Whitaker

Join the fun in McBride Hall after both the 8 and 10 a.m. Sunday services on the 5th of July! The GSP Vestry will scoop ice cream for parishioners in honor of our nation's Independence Day.

There will also be syrups, sprinkles, chocolate chips, and whipped cream. We'll even have non-dairy ice cream-esque varieties for those who are lactose intolerant and/or vegan. Feel free to bring additional toppings to share, and be sure to wear your red, white and blue!

Liturgy
Discussion
of the
Month
By The Rev. Steve
Keplinger

Changes in service structure

As all of you know, Grace St. Paul's is a very social church, a place where people love to connect with one another during the week and also at our Sunday services. That is a wonderful thing. But about 18 months ago, the liturgy committee realized that this socialization was continuing right into the body of the worship experience. So at that time, we implemented a new beginning to the service. We moved the Prelude into the body of the service. After announcements, the lights of the church were dimmed, the acolytes lit the candles and then a prelude began. The whole idea was to create a contemplative space of quiet.

Well, it was a success. The church became much more quiet as the service began and it became much easier for all of us to move into worship mode... with one exception. Those robed folk gathering in the narthex continued to have things to do right up until the service and the noise and chaos level in the back of the church has continued to this day. The other result of this change, of course, is that we added about six minutes to the length of worship.

Your liturgy committee believes that the change at the beginning of the service accomplished what it set out to do. So we would now like to experiment with a new approach to address the issues that remain. Beginning on Pentecost, we moved the altar party out into McBride Hall and the breezeway to gather and prepare. We moved the choir from the back rows of the church to the hall also. At five minutes before the hour, the church bells are tolled. The prelude has been moved to occur right after this bell ringing. At the stroke of 10, announcements occur, the bells ring again to mark the start of the service and the procession begins immediately outside.

With these changes in place, your liturgy committee hopes to accomplish at least three things. First, the chaos in the back of the church when people are still arriving will be gone, creating a more sacred space. Second, the back rows of the church will be open immediately for use. Third, the length of the service will be shortened by about five minutes, with no reduction in quality.

What we are not sure of is that we can maintain the same level of quiet in the church as before. The hope is that the reduction of noise in the back, combined with the first bell tolling, will help all of us to remember that we are now entering the sacred time.

Let us know what you think of the new practice and how well it is working.



Parishioners bag pet food on Sunday, April 26. The bags are distributed through Joseph's Pantry. Photos by Carol Forshey.

Notes from the Choir Stalls

By Christina Jarvis,
Director of Music



The choir is in energy-saver mode for the summer. Some folks will be in church, others will be traveling, healing from illness, or assailing the Bermuda grass in their yards. Members of the congregation may well be doing similar things on a Sunday morning. That's why God gives Episcopalians the summer off.

Just kidding!

Besides, what better way to spend a perishingly hot June morning than worshipping God together? But perhaps not too close together. We're trying to stay cool.

Music continues, of course, even if the choral anthems are on hiatus. The **Sons of Orpheus** will sing for us on June 14, as they did last year, in exchange for using the GSP sanctuary for a charitable fundraising concert. It is becoming an annual tradition; Orpheus director Grayson Hirst has already booked the church for another concert next April. Also joining us again this month is **Toru Tagawa**, director of the Tucson Repertory Orchestra, who will play violin duets with **Wesley Hunter** on June 7.

Vocal soloists from the parish will participate, as usual. I am pleased to announce that our newest tenor, **Dave Coatsworth**, has volunteered his talents. He has a grand voice. So does **Jim Neeley**, a congregation favorite.

The choir may be chilling, but the music staff will be busy. If all goes according to plan, Wesley is attending the Pacific Region International Summer Music Academy in Powell River, British Columbia, from June 15-27, where he will hone his orchestral skills. **Pamela Decker** is registered for the American Guild of Organists West Region Convention in San Diego from June 28-July 2. I'm teaching voice the first summer session at Cochise College in Sierra Vista and planning, planning, planning.

I will have plenty to do in the choir office. This summer I must offload the rubble. I say that every year. The clowns who broke in a month or two ago did me a favor. They turned out the desk drawers trying to find anything useful (that was their first mistake) and threw the contents on the floor. This forced me to

go through the mess and recycle and chuck at least some superfluous paper. There's lots more, though, and the fire marshal is of the opinion that it really ought to go somewhere. Else. And those boxes of scores should be no higher than two feet from the ceiling. If we wait until monsoon season, maybe we could just divert the Rillito.

Amidst the activity, it's important to stop and contemplate. I'm contemplating millennials and their musical choices. Boomers currently run the show, but that won't last forever. Anyone buying stock in the funeral industry will be looking at an excellent return starting in about 10 years. Will the pews fill with younger people? That's our hope, of course. We want the beauty of our faith to enrich the lives of future generations and with it, the beauty of our music, but what is beautiful for whom? Nothing evokes rolled eyes faster than trying to be trendy with a style just that much too far out of date.

At Grace St. Paul's, we are musically omnivorous, with quality the deciding factor. If classic styles in clothing never go out of fashion, the same ought to be said for music. Finding works that vibrate at the deepest level of our souls takes discernment. And you usually have to kind of go, oh well, close enough.

A parishioner recently asked why we don't sing "Onward, Christian Soldiers" any more. She likes its vitality. It evokes nostalgia for her childhood. I'm contemplating a Hymn of the Month club. There are hymns we no longer sing because of Boomer theology issues that some among you might cherish. Please send me suggestions. I will see about including them, especially during the summer. What music do you love? Greatest Generation, Boomers, Gen X, Millennials, drooling babies, let me know.

One of my biggest fears in thanking people, as I do from time to time in these articles, is that I'll inadvertently leave someone off who most definitely should be on the list of thankees. I'd like to give a shout-out to **David Wachter**, our associate

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Choir Notes

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organist, for being there in times of need, especially at Christmas, when he filled in for Pamela at the last minute for the late service on Christmas Eve. He has stepped in a number of times this spring when Pamela was traveling. Thanks, David! We'd be in a world of hurt without you.

Peace,

Christina

Summer Sunday School at GSP

By Rosalind Garcia, CY&F Ministry Director

Don't be surprised if you see large lizards wandering about downstairs, hear parrots cawing during a prayer or run into a narcissistic puppet named Sparky. It just means summer it's at GSP! Sunday school looks a little different around here during the summer.

We like to give our dedicated volunteers a break. We do a casual one room Sunday school staffed by different volunteers who share a talent or interest with the kids. It gives people an opportunity to volunteer with the children without an on-going commitment. It also gives us a chance to offer curious experiences. This summer, the kids will get to meet exotic animals "up close and personal". By meeting a live animal the children become interested in how and where it lives. That

information naturally opens up discussions about habitat encroachment, global warming and conservation efforts.

Sparky the Dog is a particularly rude and badly behaved puppet who visits the Sunday school every summer. His obnoxious and self-centered behavior helps children monitor and moderate their own behavior. However, Sparky does have a single saving grace! He reads to the children!

This year too, the kids will learn about living with blindness and how to helpfully offer assistance to those living with visual impairments. These kinds of experiences help develop empathy in our children and lessen the sense of fear or discomfort most of us face when we encounter a situation we do not understand.

I guess that's the best thing about summer Sunday school. We broaden children's experiences, giving them more tools with which to face the world. The Holy Spirit is always at work in all we do.

Arts for Summer Camp

Spiritual & Cultural Treasures of Africa

June 8-12, 2015; 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

K-3rd & 4th-8th grades

Cost: \$65 (scholarships available)

Join us as we:

- create masks of African animals
- learn about music and dance from different African nations
- learn about, cook, and sample food from around the continent of Africa
- meet insects, reptiles, and mammals from different parts of Africa
- discover Bible stories of the Queen of Sheba; Candace, the Queen of Ethiopia; and the Ethiopian treasurer

Register at gsptucson.org (click on the Arts for Summer link) or contact Rosalind Garcia at Rosalind.Garcia@grace-stpauls.org or at 327-6857.





GSP's new Animal Memorial Garden is dedicated on Sunday, May 10 (photo above), and ashes are interred later that same day (photo right).

The wonderful idea for an Animal Memorial Garden at GSP was originally discussed by The Rev. Nadine Martin and The Rev. Chris Ledyard, when GSP's Animal Companion Ministry was officially formed a few years ago. Over the past few weeks and months, progress toward the physical construction and landscaping of the Animal Memorial Garden was taken on as the Eagle Scout project of Joaquin Fischer, and was completed with the help of many volunteers, with leadership from The Rev. Chris Ledyard and Joaquin Fischer.

On Sunday, May 10, at the end of the 10 a.m. service, parishioners gathered outside to dedicate the newly completed GSP Animal Memorial Garden. A short dedication liturgy was held, that included the following: "We dedicate this garden. For the comfort of all who mourn. We dedicate this garden as a place of peace and refuge for those who seek solace and comfort. We dedicate this garden for the beauty of Your creative hand revealed in nature."

Later that afternoon, at 4 p.m., numerous parishioners returned to participate in a beautiful liturgy for the interment of companion animal ashes. The liturgy concluded with a commendation for each set of cremains, and included the following prayer:

"God of all Creation, you love everything

GSP's Animal Memorial Garden

By Martha P.L. Whitaker



that you have made. We pray to you for all those animal companions whom we love but see no longer. Hold them in your wisdom and love. Ease the grief of those who mourn. Receive our thanks for the joyful memories of all these animal companions. Widen our hearts to receive those animals who will yet need our care, and give us generous and kind hearts toward all your creatures; through Jesus our Redeemer and Friend, who said, 'Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.' Amen."

If you would like to inter the ashes of your animal companion, the fee is \$50 per animal, if you are a GSP member. If you would like a memorial plaque placed on the wall of the garden, regardless of whether or not you bury cremains, please call the church office and let Parish Administrator Jean Smart know the name of the animal and year of death. She will order the plaque and arrange to have it placed on the wall.

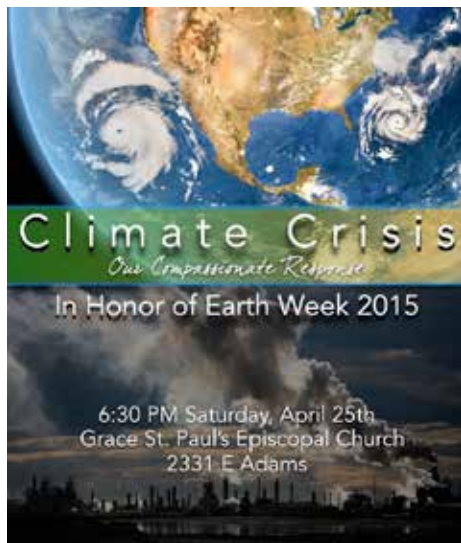
Please contact Fr. Steve Keplinger or The Rev. Chris Ledyard at 327-6857 if you have any additional questions.

Green Church Committee

Compassionate Response to Climate Crisis

by Spencer Hunter,
Green Committee
Chairman

The Green Church Committee held a special Earth Day weekend event, “Climate Crisis: Our Compassionate Response,” in coordination with Film & Fellowship ministry on Saturday, April 25, in the GSP Sanctuary. It featured the *Cosmos* episode, “The World Set Free,” along with addresses by Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.



Eric Carr of Film & Fellowship designed our beautiful poster, illustrating some of the predicted effects of climate change such as intensified storms and flooded coastlands.

Following these was a powerpoint presentation by financial expert Bill Holliday and a brief theological reflection by Father Steve. We finished with two film shorts from the Guardian newspaper in London.

A small audience attended, and we started with a short recap of the People’s Climate March, 9/21/2014. It showed thousands of marches from

all over the world, with hundreds of thousands of participants (see PeoplesClimate.org). So while our audience was small, they could realize that they were part of something much larger than themselves.

Our feature presentation followed, “The World Set Free,” an episode of the famed Seth McFarland reboot of the PBS series *Cosmos* with Carl Sagan, this time hosted by astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson. DeGrasse Tyson contrasted the Earth with the planet Venus, which itself has a natural envelope of carbon dioxide that has caused a runaway greenhouse effect for billions of years, making its surface temperature to climb to over 900 degrees Fahrenheit despite thick clouds of sulphuric acid that block out most of the sunlight. Earth has had far less carbon dioxide in its atmosphere, but that which is there has made our planet livably warm.

“The greenhouse effect... is basic physics;

just bookkeeping of the energy flow,” explained deGrasse Tyson. “There’s nothing controversial about it.” He goes on to demonstrate that human burning of fossil fuels has boosted our levels of carbon dioxide to levels unseen in the ice core records of Earth’s atmosphere over geologic time spans. This has caused the climate to begin to change in ways that threaten our way of life. He rules out natural causes such as volcanos and variations in the output of the Sun; but he does conclude that the Sun may offer a way out, with perhaps an Apollo-moon-landing style commitment to convert from dirty energy to clean solar energy.

Presiding Bishop Jefferts Schori, a former oceanographer, followed with her keynote address during a webcast on climate change from March. She outlined how the burning of fossil fuels, the production of animal protein (a source of a much worse greenhouse gas, methane), and the destruction of rain forests were leading the world to an unprecedented crisis. She minced no words when referring to climate change deniers: “There are a few very loud voices who insist [global warming] is only natural variation, but the data do not lie. Those voices are often driven by greed and self-centered political interests and sometimes by willful blindness. The Judeo-Christian tradition has always called those motivations sinful. [...] It’s equally wrong to fail to use resources of memory, reason, and skill to discern what’s going on in the world around us. That’s been traditionally called a sin of omission.”

I was afraid her ten minute “talking head” video would be dull, but our small audience found her delivery absolutely riveting.

She concluded with words that echoed Moses: “We still have some opportunity to choose, but that kyros moment will not last long. We have before us this day life and death. What will we choose?”

We then presented a short but intense video of Archbishop Desmond Tutu on climate

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Climate Response *Continued from Page 7*

change, who outlined some of the moral dimensions. “The most devastating effects are visited upon the poor,” he explains, “those with no involvement in creating the problem: a deep injustice. Just as it was argued in the 1980s that those who conducted business with apartheid South Africa were aiding and abetting an immoral system, today we say nobody should profit from the rising temperatures, seas, and human suffering caused by the burning of fossil fuels.”

His recommendations:

1. “Freeze new fossil fuel exploration—we cannot [safely] burn more than a fraction of the fossil fuels already discovered.”
2. “Hold those responsible for climate damages accountable— demand legal liability.”
3. “Encourage governments to stop accepting funding from the fossil fuel industry.”
4. “Divest from fossil fuels and invest in a clean energy future; move your money out of the problem and into solutions.”

He concludes, “There is a word in South Africa that describes human relationships: *ubuntu*. It says, I am because you are. My success and my failures are bound up in yours. We are made for each other; part of one family, the human family, with one shared Earth.”

We then took a break from the films so that financial expert Bill Holliday could give his

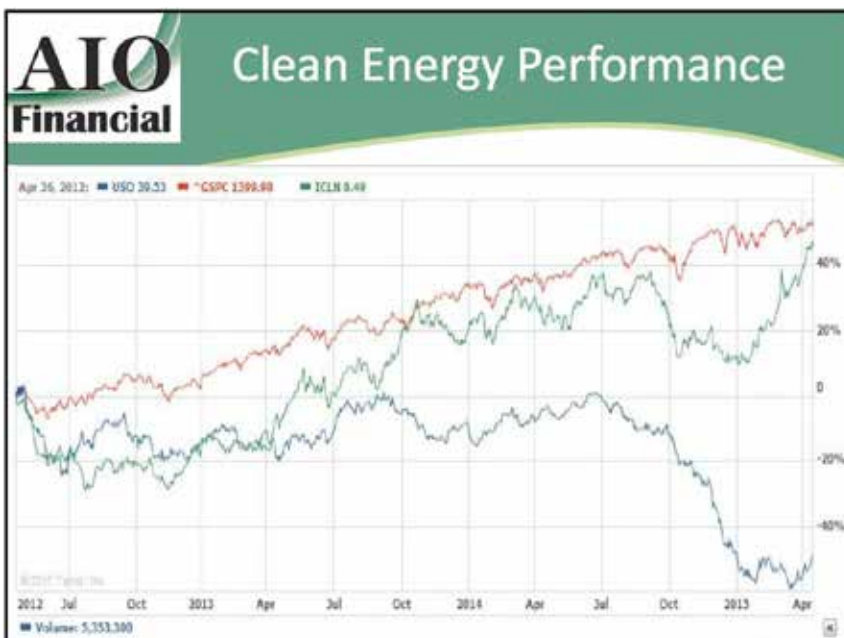
AIO Financial		Divestment Campaigns	
• Harvard	• Divest the Vatican	• Swedish University	• College of the Marshall Islands
• World Council of Churches	• California State Universities	• Northwestern University	• Pomona College
• Dartmouth Divestment	• Swarthmore University	• Church of England	• Humboldt State University
• University of Maine	• San Francisco Pension Fund	• Seattle City Employee Retirement System	• American University
• Pacific School of Religion	• CalPers	• Divest Chicago	• Diocese of Oxford
• Carleton College	• Syracuse University	• Union of Theological Seminary	• Church of Sweden

powerpoint presentation on green investments. He illustrated how pulling monies out of fossil fuels and reinvesting them in green stocks would not be a bad move financially. In one of his slides (*below left*), the top line represents the performance of the S&P 500 stocks, the middle line are green stocks, and the bottom line are the carbon stocks. One can see, at least for now, the green stocks are outperforming carbon stocks.

He mentioned several institutions that have divested from fossil fuels; the Episcopal Church is not on that list yet (*above right*).

Fr. Steve briefly reflected on the climate crisis next, humorously thanking us for having him follow the Presiding Bishop and Desmond Tutu! He explained that historically the Church has tried to discredit the notion of pantheism (God is all) and to create a theology where this world is a perverse place where we must be tested before moving on to the next. This has fostered the notion that the natural world is ours to exploit, or at least one to “tend” or “caretake.” He suggested that a theology of pantheism (God is *in* all) might change people’s outlook to regard all of Nature as sacred and worthy of profound respect.

We concluded with a couple of film shorts from the London newspaper, The Guardian, which is part of their “Leave It in the Ground” series. These films reiterated that we cannot possibly safely burn all the fossil fuels already discovered, and that the only really effective way to deal with the problem is to divest from fossil fuels—moving money out of the problem and into solutions.



Write a Review of GSP Online!




Are you feeling just too shy to ask a friend to church? This summer, you can still help by writing a review online. Online reviews are the way people research churches to visit over the summer.

Write a Review on Yelp

- Sign up for Yelp at yelp.com
- Search for Grace St. Paul's (hint: don't use return after typing "Grace St. Paul's"— instead click on the magnifying glass to the right)
- Click on the Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church hyperlink to see previous reviews
- Click ☆ Write a Review
- You will be asked to evaluate, using 1-5 stars (5 being the best)
- Note: If you have a rating of 3 or lower, the rector and vestry would appreciate a conversation!
- Then write a short paragraph (or more) about your experience with Grace St. Paul's

Write a Review on Google Maps

- Log into your Google calendar or email. If you don't have some sort of Google account, you will need one to write a review.
- Click on the 9-box logo on the upper right 
- Click on "Maps"

- Type "Grace St. Paul's" in the search box on the upper left
- Click on "Write a Review" under the picture of GSP on the upper left (Note: you may need to sign up for Google+ first)

Write a Review on Facebook

- Log onto Facebook (a Facebook review is the easiest to do, if you're already a member)
- Type in "Grace St. Paul's" in the search field on the upper left
- Make sure you have "Liked" GSP on Facebook
- Click on the Stars on the left
- Click "Write a Review"—blue button on the right
- You will be asked to evaluate, using 1-5 stars (5 being the best)
- Note: If you have a rating of 3 or lower, the rector and vestry would appreciate a conversation!
- Write a review and click "post"

Adult Spiritual Formation

NEW OFFERINGS

Windows of Light: Stained Glass at GSP Sundays, June 7 & 14, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Have you ever wondered about our stained glass windows? This class will attempt to answer this question and more. The history of GSP's beautiful windows provides a unique record of the merging of Grace Episcopal Church and St. Paul's Episcopal Church in 1991. The image content of each window is either from the Old or New Testament. A self-guided tour to the stained glass windows will be available to participants.

This class will be presented by Joyce Henderson. Joyce received a Masters in Art History from Penn State University and is a longtime member of GSP. She currently serves as editor of The Briefly and sings in the choir.



Summer Film Series: Aging with Grace Fridays, June 12 & July 10, 3-5 p.m., Bloom Education Center

Let's beat the summer heat and have some fun with a series of afternoon matinees that celebrate aging with grace and style! Bring a friend!

Friday, June 12: ADVANCED STYLE examines the lives of seven unique New Yorkers whose eclectic personal style and vital spirit have guided their approach to aging. This film paints intimate and colorful portraits of independent, stylish women aged 62 to 95 who are challenging conventional ideas about beauty, aging, and Western culture's increasing obsession with youth. *"Inspirational, touching and absolutely fabulous!"* (The Daily Express)

Friday, July 10: FABULOUS FASHIONISTAS explores the art of aging in the company of six extraordinary British women with an average age of eighty. What they all have in common is a determination to squeeze the pips out of life. To keep going. To look fabulous. To have fun. Fabulous Fashionistas will change the way you think about ageing, the way you dress and indeed the way you live your life. *"My motto is, don't wear beige. It will kill you."* (Sue Kreitzman, 73)

Second Sunday: Sermons on Tap Sundays, June 14 & July 12, 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m., Bloom Education Center

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? This small group is 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, lemonade and sandwiches will be

available. Donations will be accepted to cover the costs of lunch.

The Summer Solstice: Why Bother With It? Sunday, June 21, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Join us for a multimedia presentation on the Summer Solstice that attempts to answer the following questions:

How do we determine a solstice?

Why is the axial tilt important?

When is summer?

Why do we commonly have weddings near the summer solstice?

What does cancer have to do with the June solstice?

What does John the Baptist have to do with our summer solstice?

How do our sun's apparent movements affect how we site our structures?

Are Christians sun worshipers?

Presented by Dr. Chuck Dickson, historian and longtime member of GSP.

Exploring Today's Lectionary Sunday, June 28, 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.

NO CLASS ON SUNDAY, JULY 5

Living Gratefully, Creatively & Sustainably Sundays, July 12 & 19, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Most of us aspire to live gratefully, creatively and sustainably but this takes courage and intention. In this class we will discuss ways to clarify our personal vision and values; cultivate practices of trust, gratitude, compassion and generosity; and develop practical skills to align our money and time with deeper goals and values. We will use material from *FREE: Spending Your Time and Money on What Matters Most* by Mark Scandrette & Lisa Scandrette. It is not necessary to have read the book and each session will stand alone. All are welcome!

Facilitated by Catherine Penn Williams, co-chair of Adult Spiritual Formation.

Exploring Today's Lectionary Sunday, July 26, 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.



ONGOING
CLASSES**Sharing Our Spiritual Journeys:
Living the Way of Jesus**

Mondays, June 15 & July 13, 10 a.m.-Noon, Bloom Education Center (Meets once a month in summer then resumes weekly on Sept. 14.)

For many, our understanding of what it means to be a Christian has been shaped by church teachings but also, more importantly, by time and experience over the course of our own unique spiritual journeys. In this small group we undertake a shared conversation about what matters most to us as followers of Jesus and how we practice this in our individual lives and the life of our community. Each meeting focuses on a different intersection between spirituality and religion, and the conversation takes us where the Spirit guides. Each session stands alone and all are welcome. No registration is necessary.

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.

For Men: Coffee, Bagels & Bible Stuff

Every Thursday, 7:30-8:30 a.m., McBride Hall

Come join our Men's BS (Bible Stuff) group! We 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! Come anytime!

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.

Saturday Java Jive: Coffee & Conversation

Every Saturday, 8:30-11 a.m., Epic Café, 745 N. 4th Ave. (SW corner of 4th Ave. & 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.

Epic has free WiFi so tablets and laptops are welcome. (You never know when Wikipedia will need to be consulted.) Look for us at the group of little round tables in the back of the café.

**Who is
Mark Scandrette?**

by Catherine Penn Williams

We are excited to announce that GSP will host **Mark Scandrette** for a ground-breaking weekend event on **Oct. 9-11, 2015** (so mark your calendar!). But, wait, who is Mark Scandrette?

One of the leading voices in the emerging church, Mark is passionate about taking risks to follow the revolutionary teachings of Jesus and shares stories from his personal experiences. In 1998 he and his family moved to inner city San Francisco to pioneer a neighborhood Christian community. He is the founding director of **ReIMAGINE**, a center for integral Christian practice based in San Francisco, where he leads an annual series of retreats, learning labs, conversations and projects designed to help participants integrate the teachings of Jesus into every aspect of life.

A sought-after voice for creative, radical and embodied Christian practice, he speaks nationally and internationally at conferences, universities and churches, offering training and coaching to leaders and organizations. Wherever Mark travels and speaks he hopes to inspire groups to take a more active and creative approach to spiritual formation and missional engagement.

He is the author of *FREE: Spending Your Time and Money on What Matters Most* (IVP 2013), *Practicing the Way of Jesus* (InterVarsity Press 2011) and *Soul Graffiti* (Jossey-Bass 2007) and a contributor to the **Animate:FAITH** video series (Augsburg Fortress 2012).

Mark has been married to his wife Lisa for twenty-three years, they have three young adult children and live in the Mission District of San Francisco. He enjoys running, biking, cooking, dumpster diving, home coffee roasting, long city walks, going on dates with Lisa and watching TV and films with their kids.



Grace St. Paul's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

What's Happening in June & July 2015

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

Monday

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

Tuesdays

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

Wednesdays

- 7 a.m., [Holy Communion](#)
- 10 a.m., Desert Angel Quilters
- 5 p.m., Spirit Dojo

Thursdays

- 10 a.m., Bridge Group
- 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
- 5:30 p.m., [Spirit Now—An Emerging Worship Experience](#)

Saturdays

- 9 a.m., Altar Guild

- 1st** 10 a.m., EfM Post-Grad Forum
7 p.m., [Green Church Committee](#)
- 3rd** 10 a.m., Desert Angel Quilters
12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 4th** 7:30 a.m., *For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.*
- 6th** 8:30 a.m., [Java Jive, Epic Café](#)
- 7th** 9 a.m., *Stained Glass at GSP*
- 8th** 9 a.m., [Summer Arts Camp](#)
7 p.m., Joseph's Pantry meeting
- 9th** 9 a.m., [Summer Arts Camp](#)
- 10th** 9 a.m., [Summer Arts Camp](#)
6:30 p.m., [Giving & Receiving Committee](#)
- 11th** 7:30 a.m., *For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.*
9 a.m., [Summer Arts Camp](#)
- 12th** 9 a.m., [Summer Arts Camp](#)
11:30 a.m., GSP Reading Group
3 p.m., [Summer Film Series: Aging with Grace](#)
6:30 p.m., [Spirit Players: Monthly Play-Reading](#)
- 13th** 8:30 a.m., [Java Jive, Epic Café](#)
- 14th** 9 a.m., *Stained Glass at GSP*
11:45 a.m., [Sermons on Tap](#)
6 p.m., [SpiritSong: Worship & Prayer in the style of Taizé](#)
- 15th** 10 a.m., *Sharing Our Spiritual Journeys*
- 17th** 12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 18th** 7:30 a.m., *For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.*

- 19th** 9:30 a.m., Community of Hope meeting
6:30 p.m., [Film & Fellowship movie & potluck](#)
- 20th** 8:30 a.m., [Java Jive, Epic Café](#)
- 21st** 9 a.m., *Summer Solstice: Why Bother With It?*
- 23rd** 9 a.m., Primavera Cooks!
6:30 p.m., [Vestry Meeting](#)
- 25th** 7:30 a.m., *For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.*
5:30 p.m., [Spirit Now: Summer Solstice Service](#)
- 27th** 8:30 a.m., [Java Jive, Epic Café](#)
- 28th** 9 a.m., *Exploring Today's Lectionary*
1 a.m., Primavera Cooking Team

Looking forward to July

- 1st** 10 a.m., Desert Angel Quilters
12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 2nd** 7:30 a.m., *For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.*
- 4th** 8:30 a.m., [Java Jive, Epic Café](#)
- 5th** [ICE CREAM SUNDAY](#)
- 6th** 10 a.m., EfM Post-Grad Forum
7 p.m., [Green Church Committee](#)
- 8th** 10 a.m., Desert Angel Quilters
- 9th** 7:30 a.m., *For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.*
- 10th** 11:30 a.m., GSP Reading Group
3 p.m., [Summer Film Series: Aging with Grace](#)
- 6:30 p.m., [Spirit Players: Monthly Play-Reading](#)
- 11th** 8:30 a.m., [Java Jive, Epic Café](#)
- 12th** 9 a.m., *Living Gratefully, Creatively & Sustainably*
6 p.m., [SpiritSong: Worship & Prayer in the style of Taizé](#)
- 13th** 10 a.m., *Sharing Our Spiritual Journeys*
7 p.m., Joseph's Pantry meeting
- 15th** 10 a.m., Desert Angel Quilters
12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 16th** 7:30 a.m., *For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.*
- 17th** 6:30 p.m., [Film & Fellowship movie & potluck](#)
- 18th** 8:30 a.m., [Java Jive, Epic Café](#)
- 19th** 9 a.m., *Living Gratefully, Creatively & Sustainably*
- 22nd** 10 a.m., Desert Angel Quilters
- 23rd** 7:30 a.m., *For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.*
- 25th** 8:30 a.m., [Java Jive, Epic Café](#)
- 26th** 9 a.m., *Exploring Today's Lectionary*
1 p.m., Primavera Cooking Team
- 28th** 9 a.m., Primavera Cooks!
6:30 p.m., [Vestry Meeting](#)
- 29th** 10 a.m., Desert Angel Quilters
- 30th** 7:30 a.m., *For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.*