



The Briefly

The newsletter for the parish community of
Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church
2331 E. Adams • Tucson, AZ 85719
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June/July 2016

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Rector's Letter

The Future of Liturgy

The times, they are a changin'. As we have discussed regularly the last few years, the church is in the middle of a gigantic upheaval. When history looks back at this age, I believe it will be compared to the Protestant Reformations and Counter Reformations of the sixteenth century. For some of my colleagues, this is so very uncomfortable. They feel like the very ground in which they walk is constantly trembling. But for me, I am just grateful to be here at this moment in history when we get to design and formulate what the church will look like for the next millennia.

We have been on the top of the wave of this Reformation at GSP, and we will continue to challenge the status quo and push the church to re-create itself for the future. Many of the things we have been doing here have already been adopted by the entire Episcopal church, including same-sex marriage and the season of Creation, to name just two. Part of the reason I love this church is that it changes organically, from the bottom up. When we faithfully discern how the needs of the world intersect with our ancient tradition, and we articulate that theologically to the wider church, we can bring about the change necessary to create the church that feeds the world.

One of the central ways we are changing is in the way we worship. GSP has recognized the need to expand our styles of worship for a diverse society. We have traditional worship styles and experimental ones. We work hard to create beauty in the choice of every word and piece of music in those services. We also recognize the desperate need in our society to not just pray to God, but listen to God. On Tuesday evenings, we offer completely silent group contemplative prayer to meet this need and once a month on Sunday evenings we offer a Taizé service

C Our worship is based on the essence of what it means to be a human being...

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Temporary altar during memorial service in the GSP Animal Memorial Garden, presided over by Deacon Chris Ledyard.

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
August 2016 issue will be
Tuesday, July 12.**

Rector's Letter

Continued from Page 1

with scant words, repetitive music, and long spaces of silence to connect us with God.

There have been some discussions recently in religious think tanks and scholarly circles around the entire idea of liturgical formation. Some have floated the idea that the new Reformation might move us toward the total elimination of ordered worship as we now know it. The thought is presented that the next level of evolved spirituality will be for us to connect to the universe beyond us solely through meditative practices, creating our own nirvana experiences through contemplation.

That thought process, of course, is not new at all. In every age, in all of our wisdom traditions, some groups and individuals have broken off to isolate themselves from the world so that they will not be interrupted in their singular goal of connecting with the higher being through contemplative processes of one kind or another. People have a yearning for this connection and we need it to heighten our experience of the divine.

But in each age, here is the problem that we have discovered with such a lofty goal of connection with God. Religion and life are not just about us. Centering *all* of our attention on our spiritual fulfillment has little, if anything to do with the meaning of life as understood in any of our long standing wisdom traditions. Reaching our own perfect relationship with God is only part of the story. Jesus and every prophet that I can think of all tell us that this is about connecting to God so that we can care for and love one another and all of creation. It is about creating worship styles that allow us to reflect and then act to bring about God's kingdom, to see God through each other, to create meaningful lives by worshipping God together. And the way we have done this from the dawn of time is through ritual.

From my perspective, good liturgy is essential to the well being of all of us. That good liturgy must always contain these elements. It must be invitational, welcoming everyone to be a part of it. It is always an act of the community, that connects us as a group to God. It must be interpreted all the time for the culture and the setting in which it exists, or it does become meaningless. It will always

hold on to the ancient core of our tradition, linking us with all who have come before. And finally, it must always be a springboard to social justice, taking us out into the real world to bring about a better life for everyone. This is the basis of liturgy at GSP and it is why so many people talk about how our worship has changed their lives and connected them to God and others like nothing ever has before. Good liturgy inspires us, it connects us, and it motivates us to live into our mission statement.

No one knows exactly where the new Reformation is going to take us. But I am certain of this. It will not be the elimination of our ancient worship tradition. We will constantly change it for a changing world, but the need to gather together as God's people, express the word of God in some form, respond to the word of God, and then eat together is never going away. Our worship is based on the essence of what it means to be a human being and if we were to move away from that, we would be destroying the greatest gift we have given the world. We will always be called to bring the world back to this most ancient of human interactions. Without it, we will be doomed as a species.

Other churches find their unity in an organizational system or a common set of beliefs, but we find our unity first and foremost in worship. May it always be so.





Summer Solstice Service

By *Martha Whitaker*

It certainly feels like summer! Tucson has already experienced many hot days this year, but June 20 marks the official the onset of summer—this year’s summer solstice, the longest day of the year in the northern hemisphere.

Earth’s journey around the sun is sometimes understood as a symbolic journey of enlightenment. When we observe nature’s cycles—the equinoxes and solstices—and connect with God’s creation, we become more aware of God’s presence in our lives.

This year, Grace St. Paul’s will celebrate the summer solstice in place of our regular Thursday Spirit Now service on June 23 at

6 p.m. We will gather in the shade of the courtyard around the labyrinth to thank God for the gift of the seasons and to celebrate God’s light in our world.

The service will include prayers and music to link us to the wonder of this day. It will also include a walking meditation (for those who are able) as another opportunity to connect ourselves with God’s presence in the world around us. There will be a water station to keep everyone hydrated. Following the short service, we will share a meal with items from the earth. Please consider sharing fruits and vegetables from your own garden, or other natural summer food to share with all.

Join us as we connect to God through a beautiful solstice experience.



3rd of July Ice Cream Sunday

By *Martha Whitaker*

Join the fun in McBride Hall after both the 7:45 and 10 a.m. Sunday services on the 3rd 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!

The mural on the children’s playground at GSP is complete. Once again, many thanks to our amazing and talented muralists, **Eleanor Kohloss** and **Kathy Conway!**



Notes *from the* Choir Stalls

By Christina Jarvis,
Director of Music



We are now entered into the Most Holy Season of Summer Vacation, during which God has given Episcopalians special dispensation to stay home from church. Kidding. We'll all be there, at least most of the time, won't we?

The summer music dates are filling up. We have so much talent in our congregation! Thanks and huzzahs to all of these folks who are taking time from their Season of Vacation to contribute to Sunday worship at Grace St. Paul's. Here follows a listing for June and July, but please note that it may change (life is like that):

May 29—Dave Coatsworth, tenor

June 5—Sons of Orpheus, Grayson Hirst, Director

June 12—Wesley Hunter, viola

June 19—Barbara Pritchard, soprano

June 26—James Neeley, baritone

July 3—The Arizona Jass Quartet

July 10—Brianna Devereaux, soprano

July 17—Ann Stephens, mezzo soprano

July 24—Mark Jarvis, baritone

July 31—Wendy Pipentacos, soprano, and Tom Ham, baritone

On July 24, I'll be doing a class for the 9 a.m. Adult Spirituality forum, in which I'll have to be spiritual, and worse than that, adult. My topic is "What Is an Anthem and Why Is It Eating My Cereal?—and Other Musical Musings". I ought to be presenting a report on progressive music sources, which is work I need to be doing to plan for next season. That, however, appeals to me at the moment about as much as the quiche drool baked onto the bottom of our oven. Don't tell Fr. Steve.

Hence I am presenting this random riff on musical bits and pieces, such as those we inherited from our Anglican ancestors (via Scotland's nonjuring bishops). We may have kept the verse anthems, but at least we ditched the hemidemisemi-quavers. Not that there's much call for 64th notes in church music, but I just like to say that word. We really ditched the crotchets and minims. If you don't know what these are, come to my class. I'll just say they have nothing to do with doilies. And if you know what a doily is, you probably aren't 10.

This summer, for the first time in three years, I am not promising to clean up the choir office. I will try to ride herd on it better, though. The cached bulletins are starting to form drifts. The unboxed anthems are unionizing for better working conditions. Ordering more boxes and filing the bulletins are probably doable tasks.

As ever, I am incredibly grateful to Ann Stephens for her stellar work as choral librarian. When she's out of town, I realize all over again how much effort goes into keeping the folders tidy and the music sorted. She has been providing this ministry to Grace St. Paul's for nine years, which has to be some kind of record. And unlike the unboxed anthems, she has yet to go on strike.

In addition to Ann, I'd like to thank Wesley Hunter and Jim Beckwith for their work with the Sunday School music and the Zombies this year. They've done a fine job through the time of transition between Directors of Religious Education.

While we're acknowledging people, I'd like to thank the two longest serving choir members: Cathy Wolfson and Spencer Hunter have been in singing in the choirs associated with this merged parish for 43 years and 39 years, respectively.

Finally, here's a shout-out to the choir's octogenarians, Henry Dirtadian (32 years) and Dick Jenrow (15 years). Throughout the vicissitudes of life in the higher numbers, they keep on singing, and we're grateful for their dedication, fortitude, and strong voices. And after all, to quote the gospel hymn, how can we keep from singing?

Blessings,

Christina

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Dear People of God at GSP,

A fresh wind is blowing. Can you feel it? We recently celebrated Pentecost and felt the powerful movement of the Spirit bringing new energy into the life of the church.

For those of you who haven't heard, or whom I have yet to meet, my name is **Amy Cormode**, and I have been given the sacred privilege of serving you all, specifically the children, young people and families of the parish. We are calling this position the Minister of Spiritual Formation for Children, Youth and Families. A bit of a mouthful, but I hope it helps clarify how I see my role here at GSP. I come to this position with a good bit of experience working in the church, a lifelong love of children, of learning, and of the way that God can and does transform our lives.

Having been a member here for the past four years, I am aware that GSP has a history of respect for and love of its young people. What a delight for me to be stepping into a role that will allow me to use my own passions and experience to foster continual growth in this area of parish life. Can you tell I am fairly bursting with excitement?!

Would you join me in grateful thanks to **Kristen Bury, Martha Farnham, and Brianna Devereux** and the team of parishioners who have been working to sustain and grow the children and youth here these last nine months? Let's look to the coming months with open hearts and open ears—listening together

for God's voice among us as we plan and gather and build each other up in love.

I have been overwhelmed by the words of support and blessing so many of you have given to me as I am stepping into this position. There will be opportunities in the coming months for putting those words into actions and it is a real honor to know we will be working together.

For now, here are a few ways to lend practical support to the spiritual growth of our children, youth and families:

1. Listen for ways to be involved in our Summer Arts Camp. At the time of printing, we are still in early planning stages, but as you read this, there will be plenty of information out and specific ways you can be a part of it.
2. Check out the diocese church camp, Chapel Rock and its summer schedule. Of particular note, there is a family camp this year from July 7-10 that promises to be a great weekend.
3. Feel free to contact me by phone or email (520-232-2297 or amy@grace-stpauls.org) with any ideas, concerns, or other ways you'd like to be involved.
4. Lastly, remember what it felt like to be a child in church, or a teenager in church - or spend a few moments trying to imagine. Use those insights to inform your own responses to the children and youth in our midst at GSP. We are the voice and face and hands of Christ to our young people and their families and to each other really.

Consider how you can live this out during our times together. May we be kind and generous to each other.

As I look forward to the summer and then plan for the coming school year, remember with me that nothing is truly urgent save the urgency to love.

Warmly,

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summer
art
camp

Summer Arts Camp 2016
Pre-K thru 8th Grade
June 20–24, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.
\$65
includes supplies, snacks & lunch
Scholarships are available.
Contact Parish Office
for more info!



Senior Focus

Dick Begler: Ever Active

By Ann Schumberger

In his own words, Richard (Dick) Begler, born in 1933, has “always had a job.” Growing up in Illinois, as an 11-year-old, he weeded onions for 10 cents a row. He went on to be a golf course caddy, carrying two bags to earn twice as much money.

Among other jobs, he pulled thistles out of corn, set pins at a bowling alley, and baled hay. In high school, he worked in his dad’s electrical appliance and repair shop and made house calls to light pilot lights etc., and in

the summer worked as a soda jerk. In the meantime, he was also quite a high school athlete, playing basketball and baseball.

Dick graduated from Wilmington High School in 1951. Turned down by the U.S. Air Force because of a neck injury, he recovered enough to join the U.S. Navy the next year and was trained in aviation electronics. He had two Mediterranean cruises and two Caribbean cruises aboard the USS Coral Sea Aircraft Carrier—CVA 43. He had some adventures ashore including being on the ship’s baseball team and playing teams from other ships when they docked at Guantanamo. Dick also was present for an outdoor audience with Pope Pius XII at the Papal Summer residence, Castel Gandolfo.

After four years in the U.S. Navy, Dick got a job as a munitions handler at the Joliet Armory and then used the GI Bill to attend Joliet Junior College, where he earned high

academic honors and played baseball. A Chicago White Sox coach convinced him to switch from right-handed to left-handed batting.

While at Joliet he married his first wife, Patricia Turner, in 1958. During the course of their marriage, Dick and Pat had four children—three sons (Gregory, Brian, and David) and one daughter, Pamela. In 1961, Dick enrolled in the University of Illinois in Champaign and graduated in 1962 with a degree in Economics. That year he joined American Can Company as a Transportation Coordinator. Dick was to stay with that company for 20 years, eventually relocating to Connecticut, where he was its national manager for transport. After the necessary legal training, Dick also became licensed to practice before the Interstate Commerce Commission as an ICC Practitioner.

Dick had gotten his start in trucking when his father-in-law gave him a summer job driving a truck to haul gravel from a quarry to spread it on the shoulders of Route 66. To do the work, he needed a teamsters license. When he took the driving test, the emergency brake on the truck wouldn’t release. Resourceful Dick climbed under the truck and banged on the brake until it released, quite impressing the man giving the test.

In 1982, Dick separated from wife Pat and left the American Can Company; they divorced in 1985. That year, Dick started his own trucking brokerage firm, Phoenix International, in New York in 1985 with Gihan Sakr, whom he married. They had one daughter, Gizelle, who has grown up to become a fashion designer of dresses for Moslem women in Cairo. After separating from his wife Gihan, Dick spent five years with International Papers in New York, retiring in 2000. Wanting to keep busy, he was the night manager for a family pool hall (no smoking or drinking) and worked part time for the American Golf Company, maintaining fairways and “playing golf for nothing.”

In 2001, Dick attended his 50th high school reunion, becoming reacquainted

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Supplement your Summer Gratitude!

On Sunday, June 12, Grace St. Paul's semi-annual dog and cat food collection will be held at both the 7:45 and 10 a.m. services.

Please bring unopened bags of dog or cat food to church and put it with the Joseph's Food Pantry shopping cart in the front of the church. The food will be divided up by members of the Animals and Spirituality ministry, and the Children's Ministry to be distributed to our Pantry guests who have dogs and cats in need of food—and there are lots of them.

We'll be bagging the food following the 10 a.m. service, so please stay and help us.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Gale Odion, Holly Shinn, Nanette Alvarez, or Rev. Chris Ledyard through the Parish office.

Senior Focus

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with an old classmate who lived in Phoenix. He came out to Arizona to visit her and in 2002 ended up moving to Tucson. Here, he obtained a part time job with Pearson's Testing Service, grading math, science, geography, and English tests from mid-April through July. He continued to do this through 2015, when the company moved its grading jobs to Phoenix. Not that Dick ever lacks things to do! Currently, he enjoys playing golf three times a week, playing bridge, and listening to jazz. He also was the catalyst for an intramural basketball tournament at the local YMCA for men over 60. However, injuries forced the three teams to disband.

At a Tucson Jazz Concert in 2002 held at St. Phillip's Plaza, Dick met GSP parishioner Suzanne Nystrom. It was the beginning of a wonderful relationship that lasted until her death in 2015.

Dick had been a longtime Roman Catholic, though his second wife had introduced him to

the Moslem faith. With Suzanne, Dick began attending Grace St. Paul's, where he is now an usher greeting sleepy parishioners straggling into the 7:45 a.m. Sunday service. However, used to 6 a.m. tee times to play golf, Dick finds GSP's early service suits him well.

He has also been active in the Bread for the Pantry ministry, picking up bread on Sunday evenings and delivering it to the church. With occasional trips to the East Coast to visit his children and see his five granddaughters, this delightful gentleman always stays busy!



Participants in the evening edition of the *Education for Ministry* program at GSP this year included: (front row, left-right) Ardis Pitello, Julie Stewart, Brianna Devereux, Nanalee Raphael, Deborah Tinajero, and (back row) Anne Sutherland, Tom Pitello, Kyle Devereux, Steve Mattix, and Richard Kelbaugh. *EfM* is a unique, four-year certificate program in theological education, based upon small-group study and practice. Since its founding in 1975, *EfM* has assisted more than 80,000 participants in discovering

and nurturing their call to Christian service. *EfM* helps the faithful encounter the breadth and depth of the Christian tradition and bring it into conversation with their experiences of the world as they study, worship, and engage in theological reflection together. If you are interested in joining one of the groups at GSP, speak with representatives at the *EfM* tables on the breezeway during upcoming Sundays.

Thank you so very much!

By Margaret Scott

Brain researchers have found in preliminary studies that expressing gratitude actually changes your brain. A brain scanning study in NeuroImage found that even months after performing a simple writing task of expressing gratitude, people's brains were still wired to feel extra thankful. (If you would like to read the Abstract of the study, here is the URL: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1053811915011532>).

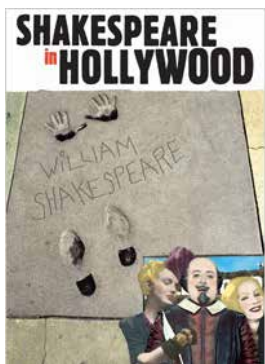
The idea is that expressing gratitude is self-perpetuating: the more you practice gratitude, the more attuned you are to it and the more you can enjoy its psychological benefits. Gratitude is a unique emotion. The researchers liken the practice of feeling and expressing gratitude to exercising and strengthening a

gratitude "muscle." So the more you make an effort to feel gratitude, the more easily it will come to you in the future.

Well, I'm starting right now to practice. I am extending my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has pledged financial support to do God's work in this most special of places, Grace St. Paul's. Even more thanks go to those of you who listened to the call for extra support to help us hire an assistant clergy person this year.

And a special thanks to those of you who are so moved by our beautiful liturgy, that you stop for a minute and give from your heart using our giving kiosk in the entryway to the church, or who text your gift using your smart phone. It's wonderful to allow yourself to respond to God in the moment.

I encourage you to also start exercising your gratitude muscle. Set aside a moment to thank in your heart all those who are helping to make GSP the special place it is, including yourself!



Summer play readings offer weddings, Shakespeare

June has traditionally been the month for celebrating marriages and the GSP First Friday play reading will continue this tradition on **June 3**. "Standing on Ceremony: The Gay Marriage Plays" is a collection of monologues and short plays by seven respected authors of the modern stage: Moisés Kaufman ("The Laramie Project"), Paul Rudnick ("I Hate Hamlet"), Neil LaBute ("In the Company of Men"), Mo Gaffney, Jordan Harrison, Wendy MacLeod, Jose Rivera, and Doug Wright.

This mostly genial, often funny collection is essentially a celebration of the recent advances in winning marital rights for gay and lesbian couples, and how the changing laws are changing lives. From the fear of getting married in Iowa, to the writing of vows that spell out in detail what each vow means, to arguments on Facebook, the plays offer unique takes on the moments before, during and after "I do". (One play uses language that some may find offensive.)

In July, the Reading will move to the Second Friday because of the 4th of July holiday. When we gather on **July 8**, we'll be reading Ken Ludwig's "Shakespeare in Hollywood," a distinctly low-brow farce filled with goofy puns, banal jokes

and manufactured mayhem. The story revolves around an actual event, Max Reinhardt's 1935 filming of "A Midsummer Night's Dream". Not only did the making of the film set up one of Hollywood's celebrated art-vs-commercialization clashes, but it featured some of Hollywood's most celebrated characters — Jack Warner, Jimmy Cagney, Olivia de Havilland, Dick Powell, Mickey Rooney and Joe E. Brown.

The play parodies these showbiz titans, toys with Shakespearean prose, and adds general chaos when the "real" Oberon and Puck show up on the soundstage. Every supporting character is a one-note stereotype, from the cigar-chomping Warner to the sneering and belligerent film censor Will Hays. The evening will be nothing but a corny, amusing escapade. This play is appropriate for all ages.

Unrehearsed readings begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Bloom Room; scripts are 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."

Facilitated by Nanalee Raphael, theatre designer and aficionado.

Adult Spiritual Formation reorganizes

Since 2007, different teams of two laypersons have undertaken the planning and implementation of the fine adult spiritual formation programming at GSP.

Effective this summer, ASF is now moving to a more diverse and collaborative leadership approach. We are pleased to announce the following team of folks who have stepped up to provide their considerable talents, vast experience and lively imaginations to the future of this ministry: Brian Arthur, Cheryl Austin, Karen Borek, Chuck Dickson, Jim Franks, Karen Hanson, Margaret Moore, Vicki Stefani, and Catherine Penn Williams, who will serve as the team's convener.

We are grateful for their willingness to serve GSP in this important way!

As always, if you have suggestions for programming or would like to lead a class, or any questions about ASF, please email us at adulted@grace-stpauls.org.

EXPLORING OUR FAITH: SUNDAYS @ 9 & 11:45 a.m.

Exploring Today's Lectionary

Sunday, June 5, 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.

This discussion will be facilitated by Vicki Stefani, a member of the Adult Spiritual Formation ministry.

Jesus Loves Me This I Know for the Bible Tells Me So, But Who Tells Me What the Bible Is?

Part I: What Is the Authority of Scripture?

Sunday, June 12, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

How does Archbishop Cranmer's famous Bible collect reflect the views of the Reformation?

What does the current Archbishop of Canterbury consider to be Anglicanism's fundamental authority?

How does Anglicanism promote Bible reading?

What do the *Thirty-Nine Articles* say about the Bible?

What does our current catechism say about the Bible?

How does Episcopal worship reflect the Bible's importance?

How is Anglicanism more about "*prima scriptura*" than "*sola scriptura*"?

What did the early church fathers argue about the Bible?

What is the Roman Catholic Church's current position about the Bible?

Presented by Dr. Chuck Dickson, longtime member of GSP, a retired history professor, and frequent and engaging presenter for Adult Spiritual Formation.

Jesus Loves Me This I Know for the Bible Tells Me So, But Who Tells Me What the Bible Is?

Part II: Where Does the Bible Come From?

Sunday, June 19, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

How did the Old Testament develop? How did the early Christian Church add to these Jewish scriptures?

What did heretics and emperors have to do with deciding what was Holy Scripture?

What was the Church's process in coming up with an official list of New Testament books?

What criteria did the Church use in approving or rejecting books for the New Testament?

Presented by Dr. Chuck Dickson, longtime member of GSP, a retired history professor, and frequent and engaging presenter for Adult Spiritual Formation.

The God Who Changes with Us

Sunday, June 26, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

What if God is not omnipotent but honors the power God has given us and changes with every decision we make? Join us for an introduction to Process Theology's understanding of a God brimming with potentiality whose power is persuasion and for whom our every moment is a new beginning.

Dr. Karen O. Borek teaches courses in religious studies at the University of Arizona and Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC. She and her husband Ted have lived in Tucson for 26 years.

Sermons on Tap

Sunday, June 26, 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, and a light lunch will be available. Donations will be accepted to cover the costs of lunch.

NOTE: There is no 9 a.m. class on Sunday, July 3

Exploring Today's Lectionary

Sunday, July 10, 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.

This discussion will be facilitated by Jim Franks, a member of the Adult Spiritual Formation ministry. Jim also currently serves on the vestry at GSP.

The Nature of the Soul & Near-Death Experiences

Sunday, July 17, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

What aspect of us endures when we die? What is the soul? This class will explore different understandings we have about the nature of the soul and how accounts of near-death experiences inform our conceptions not only of the soul but the afterlife as well.

Dr. Karen O. Borek teaches courses in religious studies at the University of Arizona and Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC. She is returning this fall to Wesley to teach a course on the afterlife in world religions.

What Is An Anthem and Why Is It Eating My Cereal?—and Other Musical Musings

Sunday, July 24, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Christina Jarvis, Music Director at Grace St. Paul's since 2002, will lead an informative frolic through the peculiarities of Episcopal church music for the bemused parishioner. Join us for what is guaranteed to be a lively and engaging presentation!

In addition to her work at Grace St. Paul's, Christina Jarvis is an associate faculty member at Cochise College, where she teaches voice and co-directs Nuevo Mundo, an early music ensemble. She also maintains a private voice studio.

Sermons on Tap

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

How Can We Build GSP's Future?—Planned Giving

Sunday, July 31, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center
Are you curious about ways you might help to fund a future for Grace St. Paul's? Or why it is important to have a will, no matter that your age? Do you want to leave a gift to GSP but are concerned about current income? Our Legacy Society committee members will explore why end-of-life planning is important for the people and communities we love, and we will review the "nuts and bolts"—the methods of planned giving.

Laurie Camm is a Certified Financial Planner™ and Chair of the GSP Legacy Society Committee.

UNDERSTANDING SCRIPTURE: BIBLE STUDY @ GSP

Bible Women

Fridays, June 3 & 17 & July 1 & 15, 10-11:30 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 and 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 (on hiatus June 9-30)

Join a diverse group in a discussion of I Corinthians. 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!

Facilitated by Bill Moore, GSP Junior Warden.

MAKING CONNECTIONS: SMALL GROUPS @ GSP

GSP Readers Group (June)

Friday, June 10, 9:30 a.m., Bloom Education Center

The book we're reading for June is *Parable of the Sower* by Octavia E Butler. When unattended environmental and economic crises lead to social chaos, not even gated communities are safe. In a night of fire and death Lauren Olamina, a minister's young daughter, loses her family and home and ventures out into the unprotected American landscape. But what begins as a flight for survival soon leads to something much more: a startling vision of human destiny... and the birth of a new faith.

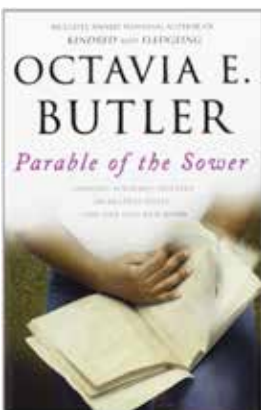
All are welcome. No registration necessary. For more information, please contact the church office at 327-6857.

GSP Readers Group (July)

Friday, July 8, 9:30 a.m., Bloom Education Center

The book we're reading for July is *The Little Paris Bookshop: A Novel* by Nina George. From his floating bookstore in a barge on the Seine, Monsieur Perdu prescribes novels for the hardships of life. Using his intuitive feel for the exact book a reader needs, Perdu mends broken hearts and souls. The only person he can't seem to heal through literature is himself. *The Little Paris Bookshop* is a love letter to books, meant for anyone who believes in the power of stories to shape people's lives.

All are welcome. No registration necessary. For more information, please contact the church office at 327-6857.





Sharing Our Spiritual Journeys

Summer Schedule: 1st & 3rd Mondays, 10 a.m.-12 Noon, Bloom Education Center

In this small group we share 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, Brian Arthur and Jim Franks. Brian is a longtime EFM mentor at GSP, Catherine is the co-chair of Adult Spiritual Formation and Jim serves on the GSP Vestry.

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.

Digital Faith @ GSP

By Catherine Penn Williams

Okay, I think we've all been there at least once. You're sitting in church when you look around and spy someone tapping away on his or her smartphone. And you know that, for a split second, you got all judgy about

(held every four years), the UMC provided some interesting statistics about how smartphone usage in church settings is often tied to the work of the gathering. Specifically:

- 45% used their smartphone to capture a photo or video of what was happening.
- 41% used their phone to post on social media about something that was happening at the conference.
- 38% used their phone to look up information they thought would be interesting or add to the group's discussion.

The report concluded "in general, when using their cellphones in public spaces (not just church), most users do so for information gathering and social purposes, rather than explicitly anti-social purposes."

In fact, at GSP, smartphones are already being used to build community and to reach out to those beyond our immediate congregation. For instance, on any Sunday, members of the GSP Communications Ministry may take photos during worship and spiritual formation activities and post them in real time to Facebook or Instagram. Prayers from our services are often posted on Facebook and Twitter as they are being said during worship. People may use smartphones for taking notes during a sermon or to research a reference from the lectionary or to view a downloaded version of the worship bulletin. And these are just a few examples of why you might spy someone tap-tap-tapping away on their smartphone at GSP.

Certainly, we are right to be cautious and discerning in our adoption of new technology as we find new ways of being church—and the use of smartphones in worship or other church gatherings is no exception. But when we can use technology to bring community together or to share with others the good news of what we experience at GSP, well then, God just might be present here!



what you were witnessing, especially if the person doing the tapping was, say, under 40. In your head, you heard yourself saying, "Why are they always looking at their phones? Why can't they just be 'in the moment'?"

And you're not alone. In fact, the United Methodist Church recently published a cautionary report about smartphone use during worship and church meetings—but it was not what you might think. Last week, as they gathered for their denomination's General Conference



Grace St. Paul's

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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
- 11:30 a.m., Youth Groups

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
- 5 p.m., Spirit Dojo

Thursdays

- 7:30 a.m., *Coffee, Bagels & B.S. for All on hiatus during June*
- 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
- 4 p.m., Yoga Class

What's Happening in June 2016...

1st 12 Noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry

3rd 10 a.m., Bible Women
6:30 p.m., Spirit Players Play-Reading

4th 10 a.m., Spiritual Support for Depression

5th 9 a.m., *Exploring Today's Lectionary*
11:30 a.m., Buildings & Grounds

6th 7 p.m., **Green Church Committee**

11th 8 a.m., TIHAN Volunteer Orientation
9:30 a.m., **Citizens Climate Lobby**

10 a.m., Spiritual Support for Depression

12th **PET FOOD COLLECTION**
9 a.m., *What is the Authority of Scripture?*

1 p.m., Sudanese Worship in Dinka

13th 7 p.m., **Joseph's Pantry meeting**

15th 12 Noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry
6:30 p.m., Giving & Receiving Committee

17th 10:30 a.m., Bible Women
6:30 p.m., Film & Fellowship

19th 9 a.m., *Where Does the Bible Come From?*

20th **9 a.m., 2016 Summer Arts Camp**

21st **9 a.m., 2016 Summer Arts Camp**

22nd **9 a.m., 2016 Summer Arts Camp**

23rd **9 a.m., 2016 Summer Arts Camp**

24th **9 a.m., 2016 Summer Arts Camp**
9:30 a.m., GSP Readers Group

26th 9 a.m., *The God Who Changes With Us*

11:45 a.m., *Sermons on Tap*
1 p.m., Mother's Kitchen

27th 2:30 p.m., Communications Group

28th 9 a.m., Primavera Cooks!
6:30 p.m., **Vestry Meeting**

... and also in July

1st 10:30 a.m., Bible Women

3rd **ICE CREAM SUNDAY**

4th **FOURTH OF JULY**
Parish Office closed

6th 12 Noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry

8th 6:30 p.m., Spirit Players Play-Reading

9th 9:30 a.m., **Citizens Climate Lobby**

10th 9 a.m., *Exploring Today's Lectionary*
1 p.m., Sudanese Worship in Dinka

11th 7 p.m., **Joseph's Pantry meeting**

15th 10:30 a.m., Bible Women
6:30 p.m., Film & Fellowship

17th 9 a.m., *The Nature of the Soul &*

Near-Death Experiences

20th 12 Noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry

22nd 9:30 a.m., GSP Readers Group

24th 9 a.m., *What Is An Anthem?*

11:45 a.m., *Sermons on Tap*
1 p.m., Mother's Kitchen

25th 2:30 p.m., Communications Group

26th 9 a.m., Primavera Cooks!
6:30 p.m., **Vestry Meeting**

31st 9 a.m., *How Can We Build GSP's Future?*

... and also in August

1st 7 p.m., **Green Church Committee**

2nd 8 a.m., TIHAN Volunteer Orientation

3rd 12 Noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry

5th 9:30 a.m., TIHAN Liaison Meeting
10:30 a.m., Bible Women

6:30 p.m., Spirit Players Play-Reading

7th 9 a.m., *Coffee & Conversation*

8th 7 p.m., **Joseph's Pantry meeting**

9th 1 p.m., TIHAN Training

13th 9:30 a.m., **Citizens Climate Lobby**

14th 9 a.m., *Coffee & Conversation*
1 p.m., Sudanese Worship in Dinka