

June / July 2010

The monthly newsletter for the community of

Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church

2331 E. Adams • Tucson, AZ 85719

Tel 520-327-6857

www.gsptucson.org

The Briefly

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Allison Towner hands out certificates to acolytes who served during the past year, just one group recognized during Pentecost Sunday services.



Interim Notes

It's almost summer in Tucson... The snowbirds have flown and the thermometer is slowly inching up to the hundreds. We've said goodbye to the choir and Sunday schoolers for another season, and life around GSP promises to be a little more subdued for a time. As for me, I'm steeling myself for another desert summer... "*it's a dry heat!*" I'm also steeling myself to say goodbye.

This will likely be my final *Briefly* article and so will also be a deep and heartfelt song of 'thank you.' What a treat to work with clergy and staff like we have here at GSP! Not only are they *all* superbly talented and hard working, but they are full of good humor and great integrity, and willing to try just about anything. For an interim rector it just doesn't get any better than that! They've each, in their own way, offered me tremendous support during difficult times, and have served as boon companions and genuine inspirations every day. I'm deeply grateful.

Perhaps even more remarkable is that I can honestly say the same thing about all of you. You've made my time here not just easier and more productive, but you've made it a real joy. Your gracious willingness to bend and change and try new things is really a testament to the three major enduring traits of this congregation, namely intelligent curiosity, easy respect for holy laughter, and a deep and pervasive love of God. These things inform everything you do and make me proud to be among you.

And now it's time for me to move on and for you to find and embrace your 'perfect match.' I've often likened the journey through transition to a search for a life partner. Interim rectors are very much like sweet and sometimes life-changing love affairs. You know you need to move on to something more permanent and enduring, but hopefully you'll always remember our time together with a smile. You've waited patiently (or not!) for your matchmakers (search committee and vestry) to make you a match, find you a find, catch you a catch ... and make you that perfect match. And so they will!

When you meet your new rector, remember that this is not about hiring a priest; it's about falling in love. Take some time to do some courting and then make your commitment. I promise you that it will stretch you and grow you and surprise you every day. It will make you anew into the very image and likeness of the living Christ. And I promise that wherever I am, I'll be dancing at your wedding!

Love and Blessings,

From the Senior Warden

Jesus said, “I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and in them.” (John 17:26)

I still subscribe to *On a Journey*, a daily meditation on God in daily life by Tom Ehrich¹, a national church consultant. Some of you may remember the parish retreat that Tom facilitated at Grace St. Paul’s in the fall of 2007. He shared a lot of good stuff with us that weekend and challenged us to stretch our imaginations beyond our usual understanding of how to “be church.” Here’s an excerpt from his essay on May 14:

[Ehrich begins with a description of being out for a walk on a beautiful spring day in New York City.] ...I entered Tasti D-Lite, a New York favorite once notorious for claiming more nutritional benefits than it delivered. I settled into a window seat with a dish of soft-serve. On the other side of the window, a young man held out a plate of Tasti D-Lite samples for pedestrians to take. He brought ten tiny cups, patiently held them out, stimulated a wealth of smiles, and came back inside to get more. I was intrigued by how happy he was making people by the simple act of giving away a thimbleful of dairy-like treat...

I read Jesus’ words about making God known through love, and yesterday’s image from Second Avenue comes to mind. Imagine us doing what Jesus did: giving away love. Without any calculation of gain, we could simply stand outside and give away what people need: love. Love without strings, love that makes you smile, love that tastes good, love that makes you stop. ...I noticed that the Tasti D-Lite fellow stood far away from the door, where a pedestrian could accept the gift and keep on going, fed but not obligated. I’d say one in four came inside to buy a full serving. Most went on their way. That’s how Jesus gave. He went around doing good and never left obligation in his wake. Some followed him on the road, most didn’t, and yet his one year of ministry touched countless lives. “I made your name known,” Jesus said to God. Now may your love be in them. Many of us have an empty place that we try hard to

fill. We fill it with vast quantities of food, chemicals, wealth, feelings of importance. And yet our deepest hunger is for even a thimbleful of love. Not love as a come-on, but love as pure gift.

For those of you who were fortunate enough to be at GSP on Pentecost and who got to sing along with the Rolling Stones’ “(I Can’t Get No) Satisfaction” during Fred Masterman’s sermon, the last paragraph of Tom Ehrich’s essay should resonate: *Many of us have an empty place that we try hard to fill. We fill it with vast quantities of food, chemicals, wealth, feelings of importance. And yet our deepest hunger is for even a thimbleful of love.*

We are so fortunate at Grace St. Paul’s. We have an unusually high number of inreach and outreach ministries that are conducted hands-on by our own parishioners. We have an excellent adult education program *that costs us nothing financially* and is staffed 100 percent by volunteers. In Harriet Claiborne we have an unbelievably talented Director of Children’s Ministries who gives much more than the paltry 10 hours per week for which she is compensated (and let me tell you, there are churches out there circling like hawks just waiting to steal her from us!). We are blessed with non-stipendiary affiliated clergy who offer themselves *every week* to conduct liturgies, serve at our altar and preach excellent sermons from our pulpit. Are you feeling the love yet? Because there’s a lot of it going around!

I know that most of us serve this particular church, and through GSP the world beyond it, precisely because we do love this parish. We are nurtured by both human and Divine love in this place and, in turn, we give that love back—out of gratitude, not obligation—in many different forms. I strongly believe that as a community we are being called by God to examine one of those expressions of love right now—and that is our stewardship. And by stewardship I don’t mean just what you pledge to give during our annual stewardship campaign every fall, although that is certainly important. No, I am referring to stewardship in a larger context, that is, shepherding our young people into adulthood, supporting the needs of families, caring for our aging building’s

We stand at a threshold that marks the space between who we have been and what will be required of us to become the future to which God calls us as the Body of Christ.

Briefly Deadline

The next deadline for the *Briefly* is Tuesday, July 20, for the August issue.

Please send electronic articles to Martha P.L. Whitaker at: jartham@cox.net. Either MS Word or Word Perfect format is acceptable, or you may simply paste the article into the body of your email.

If you do not have access to a computer, please call the parish office and ask if there is a volunteer who can help you type it into an electronic file.

Please send graphics and photos directly to John Banks jdbanks@gmail.com.

¹Check out Tom Ehrich online at www.morningwalkmedia.com.

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The Last Word from the Search Committee

In the last *Briefly* we told you that the Committee would be interviewing five candidates via video- and tele-conferencing in late April and early May. We did just that, then met for several evenings to select three qualified candidates to send to the vestry for interviews here in Tucson.

On May 6 we made our decision and met with the vestry on May 11 to pass along all the information we had gathered on the three final candidates.

The Search Committee will assist in checking references on these three individuals. Although we will be involved in some informal gatherings with the candidates when they are here for their interviews with the vestry and will continue to consult with the vestry through the process, we have now completed the formal part of our work.

We thank you for your support and prayers. It has been an extraordinary opportunity to serve GSP in this way.

*Ernie Galaz
& Lynne Albright
for the Search Committee*

(Chris Eastoe, Linda Hutson, Beth Lee, Dick Miya, Tom Pitello, Terry Shreve, Roger Swett, Catherine Penn Williams, Virginia Zuelow)

Highlights of the May 2 Parish Wellness Report

By Catherine Penn Williams

The GSP family gathered on Sunday, May 2, following the 10 o'clock service, for a presentation on Parish Wellness. Among the highlights:

Finances for 1st Quarter of 2010

- Budgeted Income (\$120,575) exceeds Actual Income (\$109,027); we have received less income than we hoped by -\$11,549.

- By comparison, last year at this same time, we were only under budget for income by -\$2,952.

- We have received \$14,000 less in pledges for the first quarter in 2010 than 2009 (\$84,721 vs. \$98,270).

- Pledges are coming in *v-e-r-y* slowly this year (under budget by 14% compared to 6% in 2009).

- Actual Expenses (\$111,218) are under Budgeted Expenses (\$116,494) by \$-5,276.

- What can we do about the sluggish income? Bring your pledge up to date! Make a pledge if you have not done so. Contribute to the plate on Sundays if you are not able to make a pledge right now.

Food Ministries

- Monthly donations to Food Ministries are only 59% of what they were in 2009 for the first quarter of 2010 (\$1,515 vs \$2,537).

- Joseph's Pantry is serving more clients than ever before.

- Showers have been cut back to one day a week because of concerns by neighbors.

Social Justice

- Members of GSP joined members from St. Philip's, St. Michael and All Angels, and St. Andrew's (all organized by our own Rhonda Whatley) to carry our Episcopal Church banners in the May Day March.

Congregational Development

- Bill Skov, Chair of Planned Giving, addressed planned giving at the vestry in April. Bill will discuss how members can support GSP this way on June 6, following the 10 o'clock service.

- Growing our Endowment means increasing the income we receive from our investments for

our operating budget!

Vestry News

- The Buildings & Grounds Committee (Linda Hutson, Chair) is working on a list of maintenance priorities. Projects for which we are acquiring bids include: replacing the roof on the Sexton's shed; repairing stained glass windows in the church; and resurfacing the parking lot.

- The vestry approved a Welcome Statement of inclusion so GSP can be listed on the Believe Out Loud church directory sponsored by Integrity. That statement reads: "Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church is a welcoming and diverse community in Tucson, Ariz. Since the 1990s our radical inclusivity has provided a church home for individuals regardless of age, race, gender, financial health or sexual orientation. We simply seek to experience Christ's love and to participate in an open and supportive family that worships together."

Looking Back Toward GSP's Future

- Parishioners were asked, "What is the future of Grace St. Paul's?" Anagrace Misenhimer ventured the correct answer: "...the children and youth of GSP!"

- We were reminded that this future requires funding for professional staff and volunteers, programs and resources, and that this funding must come from stewardship (as opposed to the Emergency Reserve Fund (ERF)).

- Catherine reminded the congregation of GSP's 16-year history of not being able to support its programs with its stewardship, using monies from the ERF to cover deficit annual budgets, and how that resulted in the loss of three staff positions (or \$145,000) in 2007 when the vestry decided to live within a balanced budget.

- Francesca Jarvis offered to read aloud GSP's Vision Statement in which we assert that we seek to provide "education in progressive Christianity for all ages" and "full integration of children and youth."

- In the end, in order to fully live into this vision, the vestry must begin looking at adding the staff necessary to grow our future at GSP. And this will mean increasing our budget—and our stewardship—to pay for those resources. When and how should we do that? The vestry needs parishioners' input and support now!

Liturgy & Music

Notes from the Choir Stalls



Thank you from the Liturgical Arts Ministry!

A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped to blow up and place the balloons for the Pentecost Liturgical Art on Saturday, May 22. The dedication of our liturgical arts volunteers is amazing!

We also want to express our appreciation to the anonymous donor who has offered an additional gift of financial support for this ministry. This allows us to keep our minds and hearts focused on creativity and worship and not on the dreaded fundraising. Thank you so much!

—Eleanor Kohloss &
Nanalee Raphael,
Co-Chairs

Summer is *icumen in; lhude sing cuccu...* summer may be coming in, but the loudest thing around here will be cicadas. Those cuckoos just think they're loud. The choir's winter visitors, not being cuckoo, have flown for the year, unfortunately before the big Pentecost wingding, so they missed out on their special "Thank you". They're also missing out on our special Tucson summer heat, so I think they can accept a rose in absentia. At least it won't wilt.

The choir is on hiatus until the second Sunday in September, after Labor Day. If that seems like an awfully long break compared with what we used to do, it is, but we will have Sundays on call this summer, when we bid goodbye to the Rev. Deborah and say hello to our new rector, who apparently didn't get the memo about the summer heat here. Also, we won't be slacking next year; Pentecost is June 12 in 2011. Yikes!

This summer's music program will combine some of the usual suspects—instrumentalists from within and without the parish, including Jane Click's Lieto Ensemble and Harvey Wolfe's Daystar Players, and soloists from the choir and congregation. These gifted people are a great blessing to our parish. But I also want to experiment with new people and ideas. I may come snuffing in your general direction. I tell you now so you can get a good head start.

Summer for the music program is about refreshment and renewal. We all need to experience the Living One from different angles from time to time. This summer will be especially important as a time of transition to our permanent rector. We will miss the Rev. Deborah Heathcock and her excellent sermons. She also has a keen sense of how she wants to use music in liturgy. And we will welcome our new rector with open arms and hearts. It will be important for the music program to adapt to their liturgical vision as smoothly as possible. Not knowing what that will be is challenging.

I am rereading an excellent book called "Preaching to the Choir: Claiming the Role of Sacred Musician" by Victoria Sirota, a church musician who subsequently became an Episcopal priest. For those called to the role of sacred musician, she says, "You have discovered that making

music on sacred ground makes you happier than anything else on earth in the deepest place of your soul." Although I feel this with my whole heart, this calling is not confined to staff musicians, or even to members of the choir. Some congregants have this experience; many have profound connections to the Divine through music in their lives.

Sirota says, "It is in the ability to transmit a feeling, an emotion, that music and the arts are unparalleled. Music enables us to experience as a corporate entity the same emotion at the same time. Through this, our deepest yearning for community is realized. We literally become 'one body'." That sounds great, but in reality, is it true? I can accept the first sentence, but I'm willing to bet that any given piece will evoke a range of emotions in the congregation, from bliss to boredom. We don't all have the same musical taste or childhood experiences. One can hope for more of the former than the latter; I frequently pray for guidance on that point. And sometimes it will be true; a musical experience will captivate those not usually drawn to that style, through the grace of the Holy One. However, a hymn that brings forth tears of nostalgia in one person may trigger the gag reflex in another. Our strength is in diversity, as is the willingness to put up with someone secretly yearning for "Just as I am, without one plea." That doesn't mean we actually have to sing it, of course. Unless the new rector says so.

So, we are engaged in a sort of Advent, waiting for the Holy Spirit to manifest in the person of our new rector (no pressure there, sir or madam). Hanging on to the Holy Spirit is the best preparation there is. Let us in this time of Pentecost put our hands, along with our hearts, minds, and music, into the hands of the Living God who knows our hopes and needs for the continuing health and spiritual growth of this congregation.

Amen,
Christina Jarvis
Director of Music

End-of-year Recognition of Children and Youth

As the JOY of Easter turns into the FIRE of Pentecost, it is time for us to congratulate our young people who will be graduating from Junior High and High School and to pray for their continued success in God's Plan for them. We also take this time to recognize our younger, faithful ones who come every week to worship, pray, sing and share their love for God, their families, and the world around them.

Please join me in special recognition for Lu Pipentacos, graduating from Dodge Middle School and starting Tucson High this fall, and Melissa Barker, graduating from Sechrist Middle School and moving on to Sabino High. Our high school graduates are Nathaniel Cabrera, who will attend the UA in the fall and Ajak Magot, who made the honor roll at Cholla High School, and has received a full scholarship to Cochise College. Congratulations to ALL!

Our younger children are moving ahead as well. It has been a very good year of spiritual growth for the children and the adults who give of their time, talent, and loving concern for each child. When you have a chance, please take the time to congratulate: Madeleine Caldwell and her devotion to our littlest ones in the nursery; Ardis Pitello and Amber Pitello Jeffers who often help out; Emily Nickerson, Nadine Cole and Harriet Claiborne who shepherd the atrium for three Kinder-age children, namely, Isabella Ballesteros, Fiona Fischer, Achol Magot, Caeli Massey, Philo (Ammu) Thomas, Caleb Tonk,

Sam Yonan, Holden Knutson and Raimi Austin.

Holly Shinn and Clif Click, along with Karl Neufville, took on our first through third graders: Angelena Ballesteros, Olivia Lara, Aidan Tonk, Angelina Wang, Gabriela Applebaugh, George Ballenger, Annabelle Cuestas, Alyssa Holmes, Robert Leenhouts, Evan Randall, Rachel Whitaker, Tony Yonan, Noe Austin, Robert Lopez and Michael Ballesteros.

Fourth, fifth and sixth graders enjoyed the scriptural conversations with Kurt Fishcer, Steve Black and Jim Kane. They are: Parrish Ballenger, Preston Ballesteros, Claire Brookbanks, Kamis Magot, Rosita Malusa, Kambiz Salazar, Hetty Black, Isaiah Davis, Joaquin Fischer, Javier Jeffery, Rafael Jeffery, Bianca Lara, Jose Lopez, Judin Thomas, Sarah Varghese, Ben Cabrera, Lual Magot, and Joe Black.

"Into your hands, O God, we place your children. Support them in their successes and in their failures, in their joys and in their sorrows. As they grow in age may they grow in grace, and in the knowledge of their Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen" (p. 444 of the *Book of Common Prayer*)

Regular Sunday School ends on Pentecost (May 23), giving us a break to clean our rooms and prepare for fall.

A special thank you goes to Jane Click and to Steve Brookbanks for helping us praise God with music. A One Room Sunday School will begin June 6 and run until July 25. We will be thinking about a very precious commodity in Arizona, that of water, and how Jesus referred to himself as Living Water.

What is that call to us? We need your help! Will you hear Christ's call to share the Living Water He has shared with you? It only takes a minute to call Harriet Claiborne at 299-6123 or email at ChildrenYouth@grace-stpauls.org to open your heart to Christ in a whole new way.

Blessings,
Harriet Claiborne

Send a Kid to Camp this Summer!

Camp at Chapel Rock is a blast whether you are a first-timer or have been coming forever!

Register online at chapelrock.net or use the contact form at chapelrock.net/contact_us.htm to request a brochure and registration form.

Scholarship assistance is available through the Diocese and GSP. It is Diocesan policy that no child be denied a camp experience by financial need. Contact the Diocese for a scholarship application or speak to the Rector or Catherine Penn Williams, Senior Warden.

2010 Chapel Rock Camp Calendar

Dates	Camp	Age/Grade*	Fees
June 6-12	Chapel Rocks! Jr High	Grade 7-8	\$340
June 6-12	Chapel Rocks! Sr High	Grade 9-12	\$340
June 13-19	Chapel Rocks! Jr High	Grade 7-8	\$340
June 13-19	Chapel Rocks! Sr High	Grade 9-12	\$340
June 20-26	A Safari to Pride Land	Grade 3-6	\$340
June 20-26	W.I.L.D.	Grade 9-12	\$375
June 27-30	Ankle Biters Camp	Age 5-8 with a parent	\$140/pair
June 27-July 3	A Safari to Pride Land	Grade 3-6	\$340
June 27-July 3	W.I.L.D.	Grade 9-12	\$375
June 30-July 3	Mini Camp	Age 6-8	\$140
July 4-10	A Safari to Pride Land	Grade 3-6	\$340
July 4-10	Creative License	Grade 7-8	\$340
July 4-10	W.I.L.D.	Grade 9-12	\$375
July 11-15	The Well	College freshmen and up	\$240

*refers to grade completed Spring 2010

Parish Life



GSP Picnic on Sunday, July 4

WHEN: After the 10 a.m. service

WHAT: Hot dogs on the grill (veggie dog included), coleslaw, potato salad, baked beans and ice cream treats

WHERE: McBride Hall and outside

BRING: Just yourselves, an appetite, a little money and water games

\$5 suggested donation per person. Children under 12 free. Max suggested donation of \$15 for a family.

Proceeds benefit Community of Hope, our pastoral care ministry.

Mark Your Calendars for Ordinations!

Good news! Angela Guida is scheduled to be ordained at Grace St. Paul's on Saturday, June 12, at 1:30 p.m. There will be a reception following the service in McBride Hall.

Then Debbie Noonan will be ordained at Trinity Cathedral at 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 10. Arrangements will be made for carpooling from GSP. More details will be announced!

Farewell to Deacon Mike Meyers

We are sad to announce that Deacon Michael Meyers will be leaving Grace St. Paul's at the end of May to pursue other opportunities for his ministry.

Mike has served GSP since his ordination to the vocational diaconate in 2002, and was a faithful member of GSP for many years before that. Besides serving at the altar on Sundays, Mike has been devoted to the Shoebox Ministry which provides shoes and orthotics to the St. Andrew's Children's Clinic in Nogales.

We wish Mike well in the next steps of his journey!

Office Welcome Team Seeks Volunteers

The Office Welcome Team (OWel) Covenant Group supports Grace St. Paul's by answering phones and greeting visitors to the church office Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Volunteers take a 3.5 hour shift once a month, twice a month, or once a week as their schedules permit.

We currently need coverage every other Monday from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. We also seek substitutes who can help out when regular members are on vacation this summer.

If you are interested, please contact Elizabeth Campbell at ecampbell64@cox.net or 909-4175. Thank you!

July 5th Closings

Both the church office and Joseph's Pantry will be closed on Monday, July 5, in observance of the Fourth of July holiday.

Summer's here... and we miss you already!

By Catherine Penn Williams

Summer has officially arrived and, along with lots of sunshine and hotter temperatures, for us that means the final departure of all our GSP "snowbirds." We hope you will stay in touch with us over the summer.

One way to do that is through Facebook, either by signing up and creating your own Facebook page, or simply by visiting the Grace St. Paul's Facebook page at [facebook.com/GraceStPauls](https://www.facebook.com/GraceStPauls).

Also, please be sure we have your correct email address so that you can continue to read the *Briefly* via our new electronic mailing system! There will be regular updates about our Rector Search all through the summer, both on the GSP website at gsptucson.org and the GSP Facebook page.

Sunday School and Choir will begin again on Sunday, Sept. 12, with a big "welcome back" celebration.

Have a safe and happy summer, everybody!

Report from the Shredding Event By Lynne Albright

There was a gathering of about 16-20 people on Wednesday, May 12, at about 9 a.m. By 9:20 it was all over. We shredded almost 1,000 pounds!

A *big thank you* to all who participated. We paid for the shredding of the GSP financial information and had a little over \$100 for a donation to the church.

Special thanks to Eileen Roeske!

We extend a special "thank you" to Eileen Roeske who recently retired as Head Counter at the end of April after ten years of service. We appreciate Eileen's dedication to this quiet but very important ministry at GSP.

A Meditation for Ordinary Time

By Rhonda Whatley

But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.—Matthew 5:44

I rushed from work to join the protestors on the corner of Congress and Granada upon first news of SB-1070. I listened to the stories of the visiting student from Colombia, and the Mexican-American woman standing next to me. My heart sank inches as they each thanked me for being an enduring light-skinned presence at the end of the day. Their dose of humility was more than enough to fuel my inner fire to steadfastly remain on the forefront of this basic human rights issue.

In the weeks that followed, I attended a people-of-faith press conference and was inspired to gather a presence of Tucson Episcopalians to march in unity at the May Day rally. I was a guest speaker for a local Filipino-American group, and I contributed to two anti-SB-1070 fundraisers. I even converted my Facebook (FB) page into my social justice headquarters. Little did I know...

Friends pro and con SB-1070 began to voice their opinions under my FB status updates. I soon received complaints from friends that other friends of mine were being too antagonistic or disrespectful. Thus, I assumed a mediating role, nurturing both sides and encouraging everyone to play nicely. Two friends in particular got so carried away that others were afraid to post a response for fear of being attacked. My relationship with these two friends came into question on several occasions. How could I be friends with people who fundamentally believed so differently? More than once I fought the impulse to delete the two obnoxious friends from my FB account. As they began to feed off each other's venomous commentary, I struggled to find ways to respond in a warm and loving manner.

I finally stepped in to firmly mediate, after one friend's aggressive display that I'd never seen in our twelve years of friendship. In fear that our friendship might be in jeopardy, I received an apologetic and explanatory phone call in which I was thanked for pointing out the accountability of her actions. She reminded me that even though we've never seen eye-to-eye in politics

or religion, our friendship was still cherished. While a number of persons require their friends to share a certain degree of likeness, she enjoys that space in our friendship where difference is embraced. Christ, for her, is experienced in that "otherness."

Our differences challenge us to look into our Core of Being and keep our motives in check. It is easy in the heat of passion to forget that there is another side. We're sometimes so wrapped up in "right" or "wrong" that we forget the gray area where we meet. This, too, is where Christ is found.

I like this particular friend, even though we disagree on a number of issues, because I know where she stands. She doesn't hide or conform to my cause just to save face. It is people like her and my other friend who challenge me the most, who give me plentiful opportunities to practice patience, kindness, and love. They are my friends because they ultimately bring out the best in me. We may not agree on SB-1070 or issues of similar stature, but our differences are where we meet in growth and acceptance.

In all this, I've come to realize that those who are the hardest for me to love end up as my closest friends, as our relationship encourages one another into Christ-mindedness. And as for those whose differences are hurtful beyond immediate reconciliation? I pray.

Meditation: In what challenging situations or persons do you experience Christ?

An Invitation for Guest Columnists

By Martha P.L. Whitaker

In the previous issue of the *Briefly*, as well as the current issue, we have welcomed Rhonda Whatley as a guest columnist. We invite submissions from the GSP community for one guest columnist per issue. If you are interested in offering an essay or meditation (600 words max), please submit it to Martha Whitaker jartham@cox.net by the next due date for the *Briefly*. If we have space, we will include it in the newsletter! If there is not enough space, we will consider your submission for the subsequent issue.

Social Justice & Outreach

Bridging Borders Ministry & SB1070

*By Deacon Nancy
Meister Book*

By now the whole world knows about the passage of SB 1070 by our legislature. Governor Brewer signed the bill on April 22 despite large demonstrations against the bill organized by a Border Action Network coalition which included Pima County Interfaith coalition (PCIC). Two days later the 5th Annual Naco Border Procession took place. It was organized by The Rev. Seth Polley, Border Missioner and the immigration group of the diocese. It seemed especially important this year to be present to support our Mexican neighbors.

We gathered in front of St. Matthew's Catholic Church, just a block from the border at Naco. After gathering prayers and speeches, we sang and marched across the border and were greeted by the Mayor of Naco, a band, and a very large Mexican flag. Together we processed up and down the main avenida and ended in a park where there were prayers, speeches of good will by Bishop Smith and the Mayor of Bisbee, folklórico dancers, and a delicious lunch. Bishop Smith had made the long journey from Phoenix to demonstrate his respect for our Mexican brothers and sisters who live on both sides of the border. In a letter posted April 28 to the Huffington Post he stated, "there is another side to this law that is terribly insidious—the criminalization of any effort to aid or shelter fellow human beings... I don't know of any world religion that does not teach compassion, kindness, and love of neighbor... human kindness is a central practice of faith... except, of course in Arizona." In Bishop Smith's weekly epistle, he estimated that there are 1,000 undocumented Episcopalians in Arizona. Sheriff Dupnik, in an interview in the Wall Street Journal dated May 5, stated that, "law enforcement did not ask for and does not need this new tool"

(referring to SB1070). The Tucson City Council voted to file a lawsuit, and others called for an economic boycott of the state. Conventions are canceling scheduled meetings in Arizona. Members of GSP organized a group to attend the May demonstration against the bill with 7,000 other Tucsonans. Miraculously, a sign appeared on the cloister wall at GSP, "Love thy undocumented immigrant neighbor as thyself."

On May 12, PCIC held a prayer service at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Tucson, called "Strangers No Longer - Desconosidos Ya No Somos" which was led by Father Raul Trevizo. The goal of the service was to address the fear that people have on all sides. Raul Nido, Principal at Sunnyside High School, told a story of a student who was valedictorian of her class but could not go to college because she didn't have papers, even though she had lived here since the age of six months. Deacon Nancy Meister was asked to reflect on the story using scriptural references. She chose Exodus 23:9, we are not "to oppress a resident alien, because we know the heart of an alien, because we were all aliens in the land of Egypt." We are reminded that all our families were once immigrants and we should not forget how a stranger feels. In our Christian tradition there is hope, and she asked where was there hope for the young student and many others like her in our community. Other stories included death in the desert and division of families. The people were asked to write down their fears, and process from within the church to the courtyard where Matachines dancers blessed a fire pit which eventually received people's fears. We came together, Anglos, Hispanics, all faiths in a strong spirit of community, renewed to work on comprehensive immigration reform.

How Large is Your Footprint?

By Kim McClain

When discussing environmental concerns and human impact on the world's limited resources, the concept of an "ecological footprint" is being used more and more as a way of assessing energy/resource usage. What exactly is an "ecological footprint?" It is a tool for measuring

and visualizing the resources required for sustaining our lifestyle. It allows us to see how our personal resource use impacts the environment (land/ocean/air) and the world. It shows from where the resources are drawn, and how they are returned to nature.

The "Fair Earth Share" is a unit of measurement that takes into account the earth's human population,

the amount of land available for crops, forests, and landfills, and also looks at energy usage, production and transportation costs, etc. With 6 billion people and the earth's available land acreage, the Fair Earth Share is about 4 acres per person.

The United States has a difficult time understanding the concept of *limited*

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Congregational Development

GSP Planned Giving Ministry 'Peace of Mind' Presentation

June 6, 11:30 a.m., McBride Hall

By Bill Skov

Are you comfortable with the preparations you have made for the end of this life? If you are incapacitated, will your loved ones be making decisions for you, or have you safeguarded your intentions?

Please join us for an informative and thought-provoking presentation on the documentation every person should consider preparing to assist with end of life care and estate management. Topics include financial and medical powers of attorney, wills, living wills, guardianship, and options for planned giving.

Relieve this burden from your loved ones and ensure your wishes are honored. Join us!

Welcome Table

Not Just For Newcomers

By Colleen Filippone

While the Welcome Table is intended to be an entry point for newcomers, there are plenty of resources at the Table for established parishioners too! Here are a few:

- Sign up for a name tag
- Identify contacts for parish ministries
- Learn about the Episcopal Relief and Development Millennium Goals
- Borrow a Parish Profile for review at coffee

hour

- Acquire information about planned giving
- Locate a sign-up sheet for special events
- Receive information about Imago Dei Middle School and how to direct your Arizona School Tax Credit to a school of your choice
- Request an information gift bag for a newcomer you may be assisting
- Obtain a voter registration form
- Access schedules for Adult Spiritual Formation
- Share a hug!

How Large is Your Footprint?

Continued from Page 8

resources. U.S. consumption equates to about 24 acres per person, and the top 10% of income earners require an unbelievable average of 90 acres/person to sustain their consumer lifestyle. Anyone concerned about the future of our planet must realize that this consumption is not sustainable and is not just. The U.S. does not want to admit that when we use more than our share of a limited resource, others around the world are left with less on which to live.

So what can you do to help reduce your ecological footprint? Start by going to the GSP website (gsptucson.org) and download **family_footprint.pdf**—a file that you can use to assess how your family rates against the U.S. averages for energy and water use. Since the U.S. averages are very high compared to the rest of the world, strive to be far below the averages on the form. This will show you the areas on which you need to improve. Other things to take into consideration are that

all the consumer products and food we buy have production, packaging, and transportation costs associated with them. Therefore, it costs less (i.e. there are fewer environmental impacts) to purchase locally-grown produce at a Tucson farmer's market than to buy from a supermarket where the food has been packaged and shipped cross-country or internationally.

More ideas can be found on the Diocesan website under the Nature and Spirituality Program Group section (azdiocese.org/ministries/nature.html).

If you want a more in-depth look at the true cost accounting of your impact on the environment, a good book to get is *Our Ecological Footprint: Reducing Human Impact on the Earth* by Mathis Wackernagel and William Rees. It adds the costs of shelter/housing and waste disposal into the goods/services/mobility/food/energy equation for a more accurate view of your impact on the earth's limited resources.

From the Senior Warden

Continued from Page 2

needs, and providing adequate staffing in the office to meet the demands of a parish this size and the programs we want to offer. All of the above are essential to the life and growth and future of this place we love.

I hope that as we move forward through this exciting summer of calling a new rector that you will pray on these things for our community. It's certainly not too early to start praying for our as-yet-unnamed leader and his or her family—as

they and the Vestry discern who will be called. We stand at a threshold that marks the space between who we have been and what will be required of us to become the future to which God calls us as the Body of Christ. Please, continue to keep this church and its mission in your prayers as we discern the steps ahead.

And, remember, in the immortal words of Lennon/McCartney, "All you need is love..."

Faithfully yours,

Catherine Penn Williams

Adult Spiritual Formation

Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church is blessed to present a rich array of classes that provide a gateway to adult spiritual formation. You'll find that our classes are

- Innovative and intriguing
- Facilitated by parishioners and members of the larger spiritual community
- Guaranteed to make you think while on your spiritual journey
- Opportunities to become part of the Grace St. Paul's community
- Held on Sundays, 9-9:45 a.m., occasionally from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., as well as Saturdays and weekday evenings.

Adult Education & Spiritual Formation Meeting (open to all)

Thursday, July 22

7-8:30 p.m., Weeks Room

Have you ever wondered about a special topic in your spiritual life? Alternatively, have you read a book that you think would help others grow in their spirituality? Ever wanted to facilitate a group by yourself, or with a friend on a spiritual path? If so, come to the Adult Education planning meeting. Topics and class facilitators for the 2010-11 Fall and Winter Schedule are wanted and needed. The more the merrier! If you need a class proposal form, or have any immediate questions, contact Chris LaBour or Chris Le- dyard, TSSF, Co-Chairpersons of Adult Spiritual Formation and Education Covenant Group, through the church office at 327-6857.

First Friday Film Series:

Art & Spirituality

Friday, June 4, July 2, & Aug. 6

6:30-9 p.m., Bloom Education Center

Let's explore the intersection between art and spirituality in three powerful documentaries featuring the poet David Whyte, artist Andy Goldsworthy, and singer-songwriter Leonard Cohen.

June 4: *David Whyte: Live in San Francisco* (2009)—One of the singular experiences of human beings is the ability to imagine what is pulling us toward a far horizon. Speaking in San Francisco's historic Herbst Theatre, David Whyte illustrates how the close reading of good poetry engages us in conversation with this imaginative vision: a fierce attention to the poet's voice leads us, in turn, to discern our own.

July 2: *Rivers and Tides* (2001)—Imagine art that cannot be put in a museum or purchased by a wealthy collector because it disintegrates over time, months, days, even hours. "Art for me is a form of nourishment," says Andy Goldsworthy. As an artist, Goldsworthy seeks the "energy that is running through, flowing through the landscape." Not a single abstract spiritual or philosophical term get articulated—the sculptor employs direct and concrete words only—but watching him work is like a 90-minute session with a Zen master showing the viewer how to

"be here, now."

Coordinated by Catherine Penn Williams who loves art and often finds the presence of the Divine in many forms of artistic expression.

Speaking Christianity: Redeeming Christian Language

Sunday, June 6 & 13

9-9:45 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Based on Marcus Borg's forthcoming book, *Speaking Christianity*, we will discuss linguistics as related to Christianity and its impact on our perceptions and beliefs.

The book will be available later this year through Grace St. Paul's Rector's Bookshelf.

Facilitated by Catherine Penn Williams and Linda Hutson who both had the great pleasure of hearing Marcus Borg give a lecture on this topic in February and have his permission to shamelessly use his lecture notes for this class.

Bridging Borders Film Series

Friday, June 11 & 25; July 9 & 23

6:30-9 p.m., Bloom Education Center

Bridging Borders is pleased to present entertaining and thought-provoking films addressing migration within and between countries from a variety of points of view. They range from a dreaming athlete to a lonely farmer to a desperate mother, and finally to an examination of our own situation in Tucson. A discussion after each film will focus on the issues raised in the film and what they mean for us as 21st Century people of faith.

June 11: *Sugar*—Fascinating story of a young Dominican Republic baseball player who encounters a clash between hope and reality as he pursues his dream after being recruited to play in Iowa.

June 25: *Sweet Land*—A German mail-order bride encounters prejudice when she joins her husband-to-be in a Norwegian farming community in Minnesota.

July 9: *Amreeka*—A Palestinian mother brings her son to Illinois just after 9/11 to reinvent their lives amid the domestic repercussions of the attack.

July 23: *The 800 Mile Wall*—This movie illustrates, in great detail, the ineffective and deadly results of a failed border policy and offers

Adult Spiritual Formation

some effective strategies to help resolve the current rights crisis.

Moderating the films will be members of the Bridging Borders Committee, including Lynne Albright, Kay Bigglestone, Joan Cooney, Dolores and Paul Gohdes, and Deacon Nancy Meister.

Jesus and Buddha

Sunday, June 20 & 27

9-9:45 a.m., Bloom Education Center

It has been said, "If Jesus and Buddha were to meet, they would recognize one another as fellow prophets because they were teaching the same truths." The often violent history of Christianity may lead us to forget that Jesus' original teachings promoted peace, turning the other cheek, and passive resistance rather than armed insurrection. This discussion will be derived from the book of the same title by Jack Kornfield and Marcus Borg. Kornfield is a well known American Buddhist author, and Borg is a Christian and Jesus scholar. Purchase of the book is not necessary, although it will be offered for sale at GSP's Rector's Bookshelf.

Facilitated by Ed Leigh, former Presbyterian Minister and 12-year member of Asbury United Methodist Church.

Catherine & Terry's Summer Film Series: Life, Death & What Comes After

Friday, June 18, July 16, & Aug. 20

6:30 p.m., Bloom Education Center

Our series this summer deals with the dead, heaven, and angels. We start with a film about a man who inadvertently gets a job preparing bodies for burial and finding his true calling in an ancient tradition. The next film moves us to a place between heaven and earth where people have to recall a defining moment in their lives. This is one director's interpretation of what heaven might be like.

June 18: *Departures* (2008, Japanese)—A cellist reevaluates his career and inadvertently gets a job preparing bodies for burial and, in the process, finds his true calling in an ancient tradition.

July 16: *After Life* (1999, Japanese)—This film is set at a way station between heaven and earth. The dead sift through their memories to find one defining moment in their life. This

moment will be recreated in heaven. This film reveals surprising and ambiguous consequences of human recollection.

Facilitated by Catherine Penn Williams and Terry Shreve, both of whom are avid film buffs.

First Light: Jesus & the Kingdom of God

Sunday, July 4 & 11

9-9:45 a.m., Bloom Education Center

During these two sessions, we will view short video presentations from the DVD series, First Light, featuring John Dominic Crossan and Marcus Borg, two of the world's leading Jesus scholars. We will discuss parables and metaphors used by Jesus and explore ways to incorporate them into personal spiritual development.

July 4: The Lake as the World

July 11: Parables as Lures

Facilitated by Chris LaBour and Chris Le-
dyard, TSSF.

Liturgical Storytelling

Sunday, July 18

9-9:45 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Let's explore liturgical storytelling! This is a unique way to find meaning in Biblical passages that relates to our everyday experiences. Ron Lancaster, a Tucson storyteller, will share a story or two, and explain how he takes a Bible passage and weaves it into real life. This class could lead to the formation of a group that would like to learn this skill, to be shared with adults and children of our congregation.

Facilitated by Ron Lancaster, Tucson Storyteller and Teacher.

Celtic Spirituality—

A Practical Application

Sunday, July 25

9-9:45 a.m., Bloom Education Center

As we continue our study of Celtic Spirituality at Grace St. Paul's, you may feel it is time to discuss practical applications to daily life. This session will recall the ideas presented by Dr. J. Philip Newell and guide us to consider ways of incorporating them into our lives.

Facilitated by Fr. Fred Masterman, M.Div. and Priest Associate

Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church
 2331 E. Adams
 Tucson, AZ 85719
 Tel 520-327-6857
 www.gsptucson.org

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

What's happening in June

2nd 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 6 p.m., Global Chant
3rd 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
 6 p.m., Mass for the 3rd Millennium (M3M)
4th 6 p.m., Art & Spirituality Film: *David Whyte: Live in San Francisco*
6th 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 9 a.m., Child Care
 9 a.m., *Here Comes Borg*
 10 a.m., One-room Sunday School
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
 11:30 a.m., GSP Planned Giving Ministry
 1 p.m., Anamcara Circle
7th 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
9th 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 6 p.m., Global Chant
10th 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
 6 p.m., M3M
11th 6 p.m., Bridging Borders Film Series
12th **1:30 p.m., Angela Guida's ordination**
13th 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 9 a.m., Child Care
 9 a.m., *Here Comes Borg*
 10 a.m., One-room Sunday School
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
14th 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
16th 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 6 p.m., Global Chant
17th 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
 6 p.m., M3M & 3rd Thursday potluck
18th 6 p.m., Catherine & Terry's Summer Film Series
20th **Father's Day**
 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 9 a.m., Child Care
 9 a.m., *Jesus and Buddha*

10 a.m., One-room Sunday School
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
21st 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
23rd 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 6 p.m., Global Chant
24th 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
 6 p.m., M3M
25th 6 p.m., Bridging Borders Film Series
27th **Food Ministries Sunday**
 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 9 a.m., Child Care
 9 a.m., *Jesus and Buddha*
 10 a.m., One-room Sunday School
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
28th 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
30th 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 6 p.m., Global Chant

What's happening in July

1st 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
 6 p.m., M3M
2nd 6:30 p.m., Art & Spirituality Film Series
4th **Independence Day**
 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 9 a.m., Child Care
 9 a.m., *First Light: Jesus & the Kingdom of God*
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
5th **Independence Day Observed—Office & Joseph's Pantry Closed**
 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
7th 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 6 p.m., Global Chant
8th 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
 6 p.m., M3M
9th 6 p.m., Bridging Borders Film Series
10th **10 a.m., Debbie Noonan's ordination @**

Trinity Cathedral in Phoenix

11th 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 9 a.m., Child Care
 9 a.m., *First Light: Jesus & the Kingdom of God*
 10 a.m., One-room Sunday School
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
12th 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
14th 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 6 p.m., Global Chant
15th 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
 6 p.m., M3M & 3rd Thursday potluck
16th 6:30 p.m., Catherine & Terry's Summer Film Series
18th 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 9 a.m., Child Care
 9 a.m., *Liturgical Storytelling*
 10 a.m., One-room Sunday School
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
19th 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
21st 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 6 p.m., Global Chant
22nd 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
 6 p.m., M3M
23rd 6 p.m., Bridging Borders Film Series
25th **Food Ministries Sunday**
 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 9 a.m., Child Care
 9 a.m., *Celtic Spirituality—A Practical Application*
 10 a.m., One-room Sunday School
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
26th 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
28th 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 6 p.m., Global Chant
29th 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
 6 p.m., M3M