

The Briefly

March/April 2015

The newsletter for the parish community of
Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church
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INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

Holy Week Schedule

(pg 3)

Spring Equinox Service

(pg 2)

Clean & 'Cue

(pg 5)

Bishop's Visit

(pg 6)

Senior Focus: Carol McBride

(pg 7)



Mardis Gras partiers on Shrove Tuesday were treated to some Dixieland Jazz. To end the evening, last year's palms were burned to provide ashes for Ash Wednesday.



Rector's Letter

Being the new kid on the block is often a difficult experience. Sometimes however, there are advantages to being a rookie. I noticed this at spring training in Sarasota, Fla., where my beloved Orioles find themselves in an oddly new position this spring.

After years of being doormats for the likes of the Red Sox and the Yankees, my Birds not only finished in first place last year, but they blew away their competition, finishing a full 12 games ahead of New York and a whopping 25 over Boston. What this means is that unlike in recent years past, when the greenest rookie had a chance to make the team, this year's roster is almost set before a single pitch is thrown.

Of the 25 players that will make the final team, only four, a reserve infielder and outfielder and two relief pitchers, are in question.

You might think that this would cause the minor leaguers in camp to be a bit despondent about their future. But in reality, the opposite occurred. All those baby birds were out there playing with reckless abandon, figuring they had nothing to lose. You could just see the look of idealistic hope and wonder in their eyes. They were relishing every moment they had to play with the big boys. They were taking in every crack of the bat, every warm breeze in their face. They wanted to experience every single thing that happened, because they did not know when, or if, they would ever see it again.

A similar phenomena is occurring here at Grace St. Paul's. We too, have moved into first place in our strides to create the most beautiful and moving worship experience possible. We have also been able to bring comfort and care to so many more people who have been damaged by the complicated and difficult world in which we live. Those experiences come to an apex each

Continued on Page 2



CYou, too, will be moved to tears and then utter joy as we connect in a deeper way to God and to each other...

Submissions to The Briefly

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

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

The deadline for the May 2015 issue will be Tuesday, April 14.

Rector's Letter

Continued from Page 1

year during Holy Week. This is the week that changes people here more than any other. We never get through a Maundy Thursday or Good Friday service without people experiencing the event so deeply that they openly weep. But what I've also noticed is that it is our rookies who are often weeping first, the people who have recently returned to church, or have never experienced the power of these liturgies first hand before. They are the ones who are feeling the intensity and magnitude of what is happening deep in their souls. They are the ones who notice every tiny moment in those powerful worship experiences.

Those of us who have grown up in a liturgical church and not strayed too far away during our lives, are like the veterans at spring training. We've seen it all and heard it all before. That's why we may have the most difficult time of all with Holy Week and Easter. It is not that we do not realize the intense significance of our actions. We get that part. The danger is that because the momentous events of these days are so deeply etched in our brains, we will not be able to feel their enormous power anymore. It is no help that our post-modern culture encourages a "been-there-done-that" thought process. But I would also suggest that part of the blame rests on the wider church. Often, we have misinterpreted tradition as sameness, making it very difficult for people to hear anew the immensity of what

we do together this month.

I am not suggesting that the church of what's happening now has it right and we don't. Anybody can turn a church service into an entertainment spectacle. But that is not worship or prayer, it is diversion. By the same token, anyone can read a service out of a book. But if that is what we are going to do in the world in which we live today, we should not be a bit surprised when no one shows up. The key to good liturgy is to carry our 2000-year tradition into every worship service, while at the same time making that liturgy speak to each of us in the place we are now.

That is what I believe you will find in all of our incredible Holy Week services at GSP, whether it be the symbolism of Maundy Thursday when we capture the heart and soul of the Jesus message, or the utter beauty of the sights and sounds of our beautiful Tenebrae Good Friday. Of course, we won't stop there. Our brand new Easter Vigil service is simultaneously the most ancient thing we do and the newest.

Whether you are a veteran or a rookie, we believe you, too, will be moved to tears and then utter joy as we are all connected in a deeper way to God and to each other. We simply believe Holy Week will change your life, if you give it that chance.

Steve +

Spring Equinox Liturgy

By The Rev. Steve Keplinger

On each of the equinox and solstice days of the seasonal calendar, Grace St. Paul's has a special service to mark the day. Our autumnal equinox service marked the day when light and dark are equal. Our winter solstice service was a celebration of the longest night of the year. On Thursday, March 19, at 5:30 p.m., we will celebrate the vernal equinox, as light returns.

The liturgy will be an outside service and includes a walk on the Labyrinth. The Spring Equinox is saturated with rebirth imagery and emotional connection to the season of hope and joy. It is a light, beautiful liturgy to connect us body and soul with the new life that is beginning within us and around us. It is a celebration of the wonder of spring in

our lives and in the world. The service is creation oriented, connecting us with what is going on in the natural world. The service will last about 40 minutes. After, we will continue our celebration with a potluck meal in McBride Hall.

We hope you can join us March 19 for this beautiful connection to the earth and to God as we move from winter to spring!



During the Spring Equinox service, attendees will be invited to light a candle, and place it in the same half a bowl, representing the even split between light and dark in the world on this day.

Holy Week, 2015

By The Rev. Steve Keplinger

If you are new to a liturgical church, Holy Week is something you may have never experienced previously. Not only is it an ancient tradition marking the events leading up to the death of Jesus, it is also the most important week of the year in our worship experience. Nothing says more about who we are than the services of Holy Week.

Holy Week at GSP is both old and new. It is steeped in the ancient worship tradition of the church. But we have also created liturgies that we believe highlight what Jesus wanted us to remember the most about his last week on earth. Our goal is to create liturgies that will be so profoundly moving that it will change you deep in your heart and bring each of you into a closer relationship with one another and with God.

Here is the breakdown of services:

March 29, Palm Sunday: 8 & 10 a.m.

We will begin the service of Palm Sunday outside, waving our palms and commemorating the day when Jesus is jubilantly honored as he enters Jerusalem. At the 10 a.m. service, those who are able will process around the block. After processing into the church and continuing the celebration, the liturgy will very suddenly turn to a narrative of the Passion Gospel. It is a stunning juxtaposition and a very emotional service.

March 30, 31, April 1, Holy Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

Each day leading up to the Triduum (the three days), we will have a special communion service. Each service will build upon the one before, leading us into the beauty and completeness of our Maundy Thursday service and what is to come on Good Friday. Monday's service will be at noon, outdoors in the Memorial Garden. Tuesday's service will be at 5 p.m. in the Julian Chapel in the church. After Tuesday evening's communion service, there will be a special meditation service for Holy Week. Wednesday's service will be at 7 a.m. in the Julian Chapel.

March 31, Tuesday of Holy Week— Jewish Passover Seder: 6 p.m.

This year, we will have our third annual Passover Seder with our friends from Temple or Chadash. They will preside for us and be our guests at a complete Seder dinner.

This is a gigantic opportunity for all of us to learn and take part in the event celebrating Jewish liberty and freedom. Don't miss out! Seats are very limited. If you would like to attend, please contact our Director of Children and Youth Ministries, Rosalind Garcia. Call the main office number, 327-6857 or her email, rosalind.garcia@grace-stpauls.org. The event is scheduled for 6 p.m.

April 2, Maundy Thursday: 7 p.m.

Maundy comes from the latin word *M*andatum, where we get the word mandate. It refers to Jesus's mandate to follow the "new commandment," that we love one another. On this night we commemorate Jesus's last night on earth, where I believe he put into one evening the essence of his entire earthly ministry. We commemorate the last supper as well as Jesus's act of foot washing, reminding each of us how we are to be servants to one another. Our Maundy Thursday service concludes with the stripping of the altar, symbolizing what happens the following day.

Our special service at GSP will include more symbols to capture the essence of our faith. This service is in my mind the most important worship experience of the year. I have seen it totally change people's lives. If you must choose only one service to attend in Holy Week, this is the one I would personally pick.

Maundy Thursday night until Good Friday Noon, All-Night Gospel Reading & Keeping Watch

Another ancient tradition is for individuals to "stay awake" in the stripped church in a contemplative fashion as Jesus asked of his disciples the night before he was killed. We honor this tradition at GSP with an all night Gospel reading. This year the readings will be of the Gospel of Mark and Luke. The dramatic readings will include silence and soft music. You may come for any period of time during the night.

If you would like to take part in the silent vigil in Julian Chapel, there will be sign up sheets in the office, at the Welcome Table, or on the wall next to Julian Chapel. The goal is to have at least one individual in the Chapel during the entire watch. The Watch will end when the elements are consumed at the first service at Noon on Good Friday.

Continued on Page 8



Notes from the Choir Stalls

By Christina Jarvis,
Director of Music



Seasons. Sometimes we acknowledge and celebrate them, sometimes we fail to notice them as they drift by while we scamper around dragging stuff from one place to another. I read a financial advice column recently suggesting that spending money on experiences is better than spending it on things. At the end of the day, cherished memories can be held up to the light of our hearts long after things have cracked or frayed.

One notable exception is providing things through charitable spending; some have the basic stuff of life that others lack, and helping to make another's life easier is one of the greatest goods to which we can aspire.

Lent is the perfect time to contemplate these things, to take stock of our lives and our closets and our attitudes and adjust as needed. Where do we need to look in the mirror instead of criticizing someone else? I specialize in bitching about someone when they're standing right behind me. It's instant karma. The sad thing is the issue usually isn't that big a deal, is it? How much more energy we'd have if we didn't bind it in perfectionism and the desire to control that is antithetical to a God-centered life. If you have that figured out, you have my profound admiration.

I've been taking stock of the music library again. I'm still finding pieces I hadn't noticed before, which is a happy thing. We have a lot of music, and it's probably time to do another purge, but we won't make it a Lenten practice this year; that's a summer task. I just found a piece that would have been great for Transfiguration Sunday. Dang. Never mind, there's always next year, God willing. Then there are the own goals (as in what the rest of the world calls football, where you accidentally score against your own team). I got an Easter medley arranged by a contemporary composer I respect, but we read through it and decided there's just a bit too much cheese in the sauce, as it were. That's our value judgment, but there are other churches for which it will be perfect,

and we can share.

Juggling values and needs is an ongoing process. The choir likes challenging music (yay) but with our limited rehearsal time, we need to internalize it with some degree of sanity. Two good ways to manage the super-heated rehearsal schedule of Lent, Holy Week and Easter are to extend choir practice by half an hour and to have soloists for communion anthems. We will also reuse the Ash Wednesday anthems during the first two weeks of Lent, with two additional anthems, of course.

The church seasons acknowledge our varying values and needs as well.

We had a blowout Shrove Tuesday celebration, featuring Prof. Jeff Haskell from the Fred Fox School of Music at the University of Arizona and his fellow jazzers, Glendon Gross, Cory Boone, and Jack Wood. We acknowledged our mortality and promised to spend a season of prayer and reflection on Ash Wednesday.

On the first Sunday in Lent, we processed to the Great Litany led by Miriam Huber at 8 a.m. and Wendy Pipentacos at 10 a.m.

Lenten music in March includes an improvisational offering on Lent 2 by the Sunday School, directed by Wesley Hunter. Other anthems include William Byrd's "Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes"; Alice Parker's arrangement of "Come, thou fount of every blessing," with Barbara Else, flutist; and Edward Bairstow's "When Moses lifted up the serpent."

Lenten soloists include Richard Rhoads (Lent 3), Daruka Ajang (Lent 4), and Kristina Maakestad (Lent 5); we are grateful for their talents.

The Palm Sunday offertory is "At the Name of Jesus" by Ralph Vaughan Williams, "arranged with varied settings for a festival service by the composer." He wrote the tune (*King's Weston*), so he'd be the go-to dude for setting it. For communion, we will sing "When we are tempted to deny your Son" by Sally Ann

Continued on Page 8

Chamber Artists at GSP

Tucson Chamber Artists presents Rachmaninoff's *Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom*, Sunday, March 22, at 3 p.m., at Grace St. Paul's.

A companion to his "Vespers," Rachmaninoff said of the former, "Not for a long time have I written anything with such pleasure."

For information about tickets:

TucsonChamberArtists.org.

CY&F at Lent

By Rosalind Garcia,
Director of CY&F
Ministries

The youth have recently returned from taking the Bisbee ghost tour. Twenty of us braved the spirit world on a chilly, dark night in February. Fortified with a delicious Mexican dinner, we met our guide in front of the old Mining Museum, ready to face whatever might confront us.

Many of our number hoped for a ghost sighting, particularly an encounter with the famous and long deceased cat ghost. Unfortunately, spirit sightings were not to be! We did however, have a great time and learned some Bisbee history to boot!

Our own history always seems a little closer in Lent. It seems a good season to ponder our roots, both family and Christian as we move towards Holy Week. In

Sunday school and youth groups, Lent is a period of deeper reflection, a time to turn inward and deepen our ties to God, family and community. Really observing Lent, perhaps more than any other time in the Church year offers young people a chance to start anew, to grow in maturity and service towards family and community.

Those of us who minister to young people hope that the opportunities we offer during this season move each of our children and youth a little further down the path to responsible adulthood and a lot closer to God.

Opportunities for Children, Youth & Families during Lent & Holy Week

- *Sunday, March 1*, Children's Chapel—
10 a.m., Himmel Park
- *Saturday, March 7*, Youth Group Lenten Lock-In
- *Sunday, March 8*, 4th- and 5th-grade trip to Funtastics after Sunday School
- *Tuesday, March 31*, 6 p.m., Family Seder in McBride Hall
- *Thursday, April 2-3*, from 10 p.m., All-Night Gospel Reading in the Church
- *Friday, April 3*, 5:30 p.m., Children's Way of the Cross, on the Labyrinth
- *Saturday, April 4*, 7 p.m., Easter Vigil
- *Sunday, April 5*, 10 a.m., Family Easter service, followed by the best Easter party in Tucson!

Clean & 'Cue

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

CHURCH-WIDE CLEANING & WORK DAY

*Bill Moore, GSP's new Junior Warden,
and the Buildings & Grounds Committee
invite you to this semi-annual event*

where we will prepare the church for Holy Week and Easter

INSIDE & OUTSIDE PROJECTS

PLAN TO STAY FOR A BARBECUE COOK-OUT (HAMBURGERS & HOTDOGS)

Families, Couples and Singles all welcome! We'll find a place where everyone can help.

Everything provided. Just bring your work gloves

& be ready to have fun as we work and share a meal together.

Questions? Contact Bill Moore or Sue Pierce through the Parish office.

GSP Welcomes Bishop on April 19

By The Rev. Steve Keplinger

In the Episcopal tradition, it is a right and a joyful thing, as we say, to welcome our Diocesan Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Kirk Stevan Smith, for an official visit each year. These visits are the times when individuals have the opportunity to be confirmed, received or reaffirm their baptismal vows.

While all who receive communion here three times a year and are pledges of record are technically members of the church, the Bishop is the one, since the very earliest days of the church, who makes this official through the laying on of hands.

We have been preparing for the Bishop's visit in a number of ways, including our Inquirer's class for adults. This year, the Bishop's visit is scheduled for Sunday, April 19. Everyone in the congregation who has never been officially received into the church by the laying on of hands by a Bishop, is asked to prayerfully consider being received this April. In addition, this is the perfect opportunity for those who would like to reaffirm their commitment to this church to step forward.

To prepare all of you for that and to help

you discern whether you would like to take this step, we are having our popular Episcopal 101 class that began in February and continues through Sunday, March 22.

This 90-minute class is taught by the Rector. It spans the wide breadth of Christian history, the Prayer Book, the liturgy, the Sacramental tradition, how we govern ourselves as a church, comparison of Christian denominations, the present issues facing the Episcopal Church, and a discussion of what it means to be Episcopalian in what may be a post-religious age.

The class is recommended for those of you who have come to this tradition for the first time, as well as anyone who wants to learn more about the church.



Holly Shinn and Spencer Hunter spreading the Green Gospel.

Green Church Report

By Spencer Hunter

February was a busy time for us. Concurrent with Global Divestment Day (Feb.13-14, [facebook.com/FossilFree](https://www.facebook.com/FossilFree)) was the National Preach-In on Global Warming weekend (Feb.13-15, preachin.org). We distributed the climate prayer (on Page 28 of the Feb. 8 Sunday bulletin) to be said in prayer with more than a hundred thousand others across the world on Feb. 14 at noon.

We set up a table after the 10 a.m. service on Feb. 15 to show Archbishop Desmond Tutu's video on climate change and divestment, to distribute the "Paris Pledge" of individual carbon reduction commitments, and to collect "Valentine" postcards to our senators urging them to support EPA carbon regulations for power plants.

We are presenting many ways for parishioners at GSP to get involved in preserving our environment as God's creation, which is rapidly approaching a tipping point beyond which further efforts will only mitigate but not prevent catastrophic climate change.

While there is much to be concerned about, there is also a great deal of optimism, excitement, and hope about our potential for change on local, national, and global levels.



Senior Focus

Carol H. McBride: Lifelong Episcopalian

By Ann Schlumberger

A cradle Episcopalian, 94-year-old Carol McBride, has been a member of Grace-St. Paul's for over fifty years, having served on the vestry several times.

When she first began attending Grace Church in 1957, she appreciated

its convenient location and its spirit—even though at that point the physical structure of at the church was not completed and the congregation met in the parish hall for services.

At that time, the church women were divided into three groups, and she was the chaplain for the group she belonged to. Later, with a friend, she also helped established a sizable parish library, and served as its librarian for many years. When Rev. Bill Weeks wanted to have a monthly newsletter, Carol volunteered, winding up as the editor of *Words of Grace*, the forerunner of *The Briefly*. She says, "Preparing Words was quite a production as we had to cut stencils and run them on a mimeograph." Today Carol helps collate *The Briefly* as well as the Sunday bulletins and bulletins for special services.

Carol grew up in Mt. Kisco, N.Y., a suburb of New York City. She played the French horn and met her native Tucsonan husband Bob at Bennington College in Vermont, where he was her music professor. She managed to graduate in three years so that they could be married early. From Vermont, the couple

moved to New York City, where Bob wrote movie music. In 1957, they moved to Tucson where he was on the music faculty at the University of Arizona. They had two children, and four grandchildren, and now four great grandchildren. Bob has passed away, but the rest of the family, which lives abroad or on the East Coast, came to Tucson to celebrate Christmas with Carol this year. She especially enjoyed being with the little ones.

Carol has had two major hobbies—playing golf in the past and currently collecting stamps. She has always enjoyed learning—her father was in the financial department of the NYC Public Library—and both hobbies promote mental sharpness. She remarks that "I must have passed my genes on to my son who specializes in collecting postmarks. He has one of the larger collections of canceled envelopes and postcards in the country, some 605,000 of them." A previous pastime—that of making lists of the freebies offered in newspapers and through the mail—resulted in Carol's being featured in a Washington, D.C., newspaper, which then led to radio interviews.

Carol is a woman who exudes self-assurance. This was definitely exhibited a couple years ago when a drunk driver thought he was turning into his own driveway and ended up driving into Carol's yard, knocking down an ocotillo and a crashing into the front of her house. Awakened from a deep sleep, another person would have panicked. Instead of becoming hysterical at being awakened by headlights shining into her bedroom, Carol handled the situation with the aplomb that she always exhibits and just simply called the police.

Despite hearing and minor memory losses, Carol is grateful that she can still drive, attend church services, and live independently in her own home.

Holy Week, 2015

Continued from Page 3

April 3, Good Friday

Noon, Stations of the Cross

We will have a contemporary Stations of the Cross experience on the labyrinth beginning at Noon. The practice of the stations is another ancient tradition. At GSP, we reflect on the events of Good Friday from a liberation perspective. The service will include walking for those who are able and will last about 30 minutes.

5:30 p.m., The Way of the Cross

This service is a form of Stations of the Cross designed specifically for children. It will also be outside, weather permitting and will be less than 30 minutes.

7 p.m., Tenebrae Service

Our main Good Friday service will be one of the most moving you might ever experience. A service of Tenebrae

is an ancient tradition, but one not utilized often. We will move from light to darkness, both metaphorically and physically as we travel through short Gospel readings describing the events of this fateful day, followed with a musical response to each reading. It is in my mind the most emotional service of the year and one that also changes people.

April 4, Holy Saturday

In the morning we gather to physically prepare the church for the big day. Those who wish to assist the liturgical arts committee and altar guild in preparation are welcome to join us.

7 p.m., The Great Easter Vigil

This is the premier service in the Christian tradition. We begin in the darkness of the world, lighting a primordial fire and working our way through salvation history, suddenly

bursting into the grandeur and wonder of Easter. The Vigil captures the length and breadth of Christianity and is a service everyone should experience sometime. In addition to the fire and some beautiful narration, we will have baptisms just like in the ancient church. This year our liturgical team has come up with even more wonder in this incredible worship event. It is the most memorable service in the Christian calendar.

April 5, Easter Sunday: 8 & 10 a.m.

The day arrives. The full wonder, beauty and magnificence of the resurrection experience are captured in one service. An explosion of light and exquisite music at both services completes our journey to the ultimate joy of resurrection and celebration.

Following the worship, GSP hosts one of Tucson's most fantastic celebratory parties. You won't want to miss any of it.

Notes from the Choir Stalls

Continued from Page 4

Morris.

Music for Holy Week draws upon resources old and new. For Maundy Thursday, we will sing a setting of "Ave verum corpus" by Camille Saint-Saëns and a version of "Wondrous Love" arranged by Robert Benson. Both pieces are from the choral library. The Good Friday Tenebrae service will include works gleaned from last summer's Choral Director's Workshop, including "Vere Languores" by Tomás Luis de Victoria and "Vi Adoro," based upon an ancient Venetian processional hymn, by Manolo Da Rold, as well as the fruits of the Choral Public Domain Library, including a setting of "Popule meus" by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina. From our library, we'll sing "That Virgin's Child" by Thomas Tallis.

Finally, we throw off the darkness of the tomb. Although there will still be youth participation, the Easter Vigil

will be simpler and more traditional this year. We will intersperse hymns and chants with the readings, and the St. Zeno's Zombie Choir, accompanied by Jane Click, will sing "Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel," a traditional spiritual adapted and arranged by Glenda E. Franklin. The offertory anthem will be "Halle, halle, halle," a traditional Caribbean hymn arranged by Marty Haugen, John L. Bell and Graham Maule. The communion anthem will be "When Mary thro' the garden went," by Charles Villiers Stanford.

Easter Sunday will ring with the sound of the trumpet—Adam Ackerman joins us again this year. With Rick Hanson (percussion), Wesley Hunter (viola), and Bruce Anderson (cello), we will have much instrumental rejoicing. Choir anthems include "In thy resurrection, Jesus Christ" by Jacob Handl and "Easter Rejoicing" by James Biery. The

choir takes the following Thursday and Sunday off, although I won't be resting—Nuevo Mundo, the Cochise College early music ensemble, which I codirect with former GSP choir director Dr. Lori Keyne, will be performing concerts in Sierra Vista and on the border between Douglas and Agua Prieta. The choir will be back the following week to prepare for the Bishop's visitation on April 19.

May God give us a contemplative Lent and a blessed Easter. Let us note the seasons in their passing, give away the stuff that weighs us down, and rejoice. To all of you who will be engaged in preparing for and leading the services throughout Lent, Holy Week and Easter, I pass on the immortal advice of my Scottish mother-in-law: "Keep the heid, dinna panic, and remember who you are."

Peace,

Christina

CLASSES
CONTINUING
FROM
FEBRUARY

Episcopal 101—for Everyone

Sundays, March 1, 8, 15 & 22, 11:45 a.m., Bloom Education Center

All inquirers and current members wanting a “refresher” are invited to learn more of the joy and highlights of the Episcopal path and sharing your journey in the 21st Century. In this five-session introduction to the Episcopal Church, we’ll discuss basic Episcopal liturgical practice, the idea of liturgy, and the Book of Common Prayer; offer a history of the Episcopal Church, its roots and sense of tradition—including where things stand in the church’s most recent controversy; and explain the structure and organization of the Episcopal Church; and what does it mean to be a member of Grace St. Paul’s Church? What do bishops do? What is Apostolic Succession? Why do we need priests? What direction does authority flow? Bring your questions to all the sessions! Participants may wish to buy the book *Jesus Was an Episcopalian: a Newcomers Guide to the Episcopal Church* by Chris Yaw to supplement the class experience but it’s not required.

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

A Credible Jesus: Fragments of a Vision

Sundays, March 1, 8 & 15, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Jesus was an extraordinary man! What a statement! But what is more extraordinary is the way Jesus saw the world, commented on the ordinary, challenged and stunned his listeners in random insights embedded in everyday language. This is a Jesus we really need to know. Robert Funk, founder of The Jesus Seminar,

makes it possible for us to engage this extraordinary man through the wonderful book *The Credible Jesus: Fragments of a Vision*. Join us for four Sunday mornings of exploration and encounter with the parables, dialogues and aphorisms that have challenged readers over the centuries. Here is a good Lenten study for everyone... and you don’t even have to read the book. Just come and share in the conversation!

Facilitated by Roger Pierce. Roger is the Senior Warden and a frequent contributor to Adult Spiritual Formation at GSP.

Forgiveness: What It Is and What It Isn’t

Wednesday evenings, March 4, 11, 18 & 25, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Bloom Education Center

Join us for five Wednesday evenings in Lent as we explore the topic of Forgiveness with noted Episcopal priest and writer, Barbara Cawthorne Crafton. Each study will begin with a DVD presentation by Crafton followed by a guest lecturer interacting with a small group. After each DVD presentation, we will have group discussions around the act of forgiveness, ways to forgive, and how to even begin when we find the very process to be impossible. Our study will conclude by answering the question, “why do we need to forgive?” With each person bringing their own experience of forgiving and of being forgiven, the hope will be to emerge from Lent with a deeper understanding of the power of forgiveness in our own lives and those of others.

Facilitated by Margaret Moore and Catherine Penn Williams, co-chairs of Adult Spiritual Formation.

NEW
OFFERINGS

Lila by Marilynne Robinson (GSP Readers Group)

Friday, March 13, 11:30 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Marilynne Robinson, one of the greatest novelists of our time, returns to the town of Gilead in an unforgettable story of a girlhood lived on the fringes of society in fear, awe, and wonder.

Lila, homeless and alone after years of roaming the countryside, steps inside a small-town Iowa church—the only available shelter from the rain—and ignites a romance and a debate that will reshape her life. She becomes the wife of a minister, John Ames, and begins a new existence while trying to make sense of the life that preceded her newfound security.

Revisiting the beloved characters and setting of Robinson’s Pulitzer Prize-winning *Gilead* and *Home*, a National Book Award finalist, *Lila* is a moving expression of the mysteries of existence that is destined to become an American classic.

GSP Readers Group meets on the second Friday of each month at 11:30 am. All are welcome! Contact the church office at 520-327-6857 for more information about the group.

The Labyrinth: Deepening Our Spiritual Selves

Saturday, March 21, 9:30 a.m.-12 noon, Bloom Education Center & the Labyrinth

This half-day sacred retreat focuses on the use of the labyrinth as a way of deepening our compassion, both for ourselves and for others. The labyrinth experience helps us distinguish between superficial extraneous thoughts from the “knowing” that comes from our soul level. While we must make this journey on our own, it can be helpful to have guides and fellow participants to enrich the experience.

Labyrinth educator Reverend Dr. Lauren Artress, Episcopal priest and Honorary Canon at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco, notes that, quite often, as we connect to the deep intuitive level within ourselves, nurtured by the practice of labyrinth walking, we embrace what is unfolding as sacred; we allow the winding path of the labyrinth to take us where it will in our interior world, and open to the mystery within us.

Please register by Wednesday, March 18, via email to adulted@grace-stpauls.org or by calling the church office at 327-6857; group size will be limited to 12.



Continued on Page 10

NEW OFFERINGS

Facilitated by Chloe Becca. Chloe has been an educator—both in the classroom and as an administrator—a counselor and a social worker. She holds three master's degrees (Education, Counseling Psychology and Social Work). Chloe has actively studied world religions for more than a decade, and is an ordained interfaith minister. She is a certified spiritual counselor, a trained SoulCollage® facilitator, a trained labyrinth facilitator and the owner of Exploring Spiritual Paths, LLC.



The Vernal Equinox: Why Bother With It?

Sunday, March 22, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Join us for a multimedia presentation that answers these questions:

Why is the church so interested in astronomy?

What are meridian lines found in major European churches?

What does Lent have to do with spring?

What do Passover and Easter have to do with the vernal equinox?

What do rams have to do with the vernal equinox?

What does the Roman goddess Cybele's young lover have to do with the vernal equinox?

What does the March equinox have to do with the New Year?

What is Lady Day?

Presented by Chuck Dickson, retired history professor and a frequent contributor to Adult Spiritual Formation at GSP.

The Bush Was Blazing But Not Consumed: Developing a Multicultural Community Through Dialogue & Liturgy by Eric Law (GSP Readers Group)

Friday, April 10, 11:30 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Best-selling author Eric Law shows how to work with the dynamics of diverse cultures to create a truly inclusive community. In his widely acclaimed *The Wolf Shall Dwell with the Lamb*, Eric H. F. Law explores the dynamics of multicultural misunderstandings and how different cultures perceive and use power. Here he shows how to work with those dynamics to create a truly inclusive community. Using Exodus 3 as a theological starting point, Law explains in detail how leaders can: understand and resolve difference in communication styles; recognize and avoid the "Golden Calf Syndrome"; reconcile high-context and low-content elements in the group; use mutual invitation; build dialogue through liturgy. Following Law's practical guidelines, we can, in the end, build multicultural structures everyone can live and thrive in.

GSP Readers Group meets on the second Friday of each month at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome! Contact the church office at 520-327-6857 for more information about the group.

Film Series: Living Fully, Living Consciously

2 Saturdays, April 11 & 25, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Bloom Education Center

Join us for two Saturday evenings of documentary films exploring what it means to live as fully and consciously as possible, no matter what our circumstances might be. We will watch the films together and share a discussion about the implications for our own lives.

April 11: "Alive Inside: A Story of Memory and Music" (100 min; 2014). "Alive Inside" is a joyous exploration of music's capacity to reawaken our souls and uncover the deepest parts of our humanity. This stirring documentary follows social worker Dan Cohen, founder of the nonprofit organization Music & Memory, as he fights against a broken healthcare system to demonstrate music's ability to combat memory loss and restore a deep sense of self to those suffering from it. An uplifting cinematic exploration of music and the mind, This inspirational and emotional story left audiences humming, clapping and cheering at the 2014 Sundance Film Festival, where it won the Audience Award. "A life changing film"—Toronto Film Scene.

April 25: "Griefwalker" (70 min; 2008). Filmed over a twelve-year period, "Griefwalker" is a lyrical, poetic portrait of Stephen Jenkinson's work with dying people. Once the leader of a palliative care counseling team at Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital, Jenkinson has been at the deathbed of well over 1,000 people. What he sees over and over, he says, is "a wretched anxiety and an existential terror" even when there is no pain. Jenkinson has made it his life's mission to change the way we die—to turn the act of dying from denial and resistance into an essential part of life. "Astonishing... at once visually lush and scripturally poetic"—The Globe and Mail

Facilitated by Steve & Catherine Penn Williams. Film buffs and longtime members of GSP, Catherine & Steve appreciate the way contemporary film can provide a mirror for the things that matter most.

Exploring Today's Lectionary

Sunday, April 12, 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.

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

Bishop Smith's Visit

Sunday, April 19, 9 & 11:45 a.m., McBride Hall

Bishop Kirk Smith will present a class for all GSP members during coffee hour.

Continued on Page 11

All Are Welcome: Developing a Multicultural Church Community

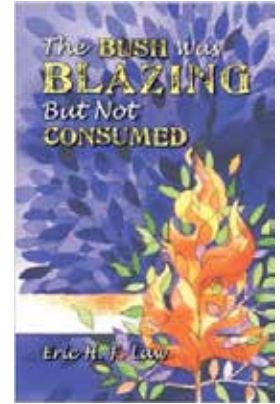
Sunday, April 26, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Part of our mission at GSP is to “strive to be a diverse and supportive community.” But what does a truly multicultural community look like? How do we as human beings block genuine multiculturalism even as we are trying to build and support it? What is our own cultural context, and how does that affect those from other cultural contexts who come to us? What can we do as individuals, as a church community, and as a presence in the world, to welcome and support the “stranger” among us more effectively?

This class, based on the book *The Bush Was*

Blazing But Not Consumed: Developing a Multicultural Community Through Dialogue & Liturgy by Eric Law, will begin to explore the complexities involved in building a genuinely multicultural community.

Facilitated by Kathy Conway, GSP member, psychotherapist, and a long-term survivor of the joys and struggles of growing up between cultures.



ONGOING CLASSES



Following the Way of Jesus: Reconsidering Our Christian Journeys

Every Monday, 10 a.m.-12 noon, Bloom Education Center

“We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen...”

What makes someone a Christian? What do you believe? For many, our understanding of what it means to be a Christian has been shaped not only by church teachings but also by time and experience over the course of our own unique spiritual journeys.

In this ongoing class, each week we undertake a shared conversation about what matters most to us as followers of Jesus. We utilize a variety of media resources and each class focuses on a different aspect of Christian faith, allowing for plenty of time for questions, discussion and sharing. Each session stands alone and all are welcome. No registration is necessary.

Co-facilitated by Catherine Penn Williams and Brian Arthur. Brian is a longtime EFM mentor at GSP and Catherine is the co-chair of Adult Spiritual Formation.

For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.

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

Come join our Men’s BS (Bible Stuff) group! We engage different books of the Bible—beginning with the Book of Acts—in a relaxed and non-judgmental atmosphere, examining the text from a historical perspective and applying it to our current lives. All men are welcome!

Facilitated by Bill Moore. Bill has been a member of GSP since 2012. He has facilitated men’s classes in other churches and participated in men’s bible study groups for decades. An Episcopalian for more than 30 years, Bill enjoys having discussions about faith journeys with other men.



What’s Happening in April 2015

Continued from Page 12

7 p.m., Maundy Thursday Last Supper Commemoration
10 p.m., All-Night Gospel Reading
3rd » 11 a.m., All-Night Gospel Reading
12 Noon, Stations of the Cross
5:30 p.m., Way of the Cross
7 p.m., Tenebrae Service
4th 7 p.m., Easter Vigil
5th **EASTER SUNDAY**
6th 10 a.m., *Following the Way of Jesus: Reconsidering our Christian Journeys*
10 a.m., EFM Post-Grad Forum
7 p.m., **Green Church**

Committee
8th 9 a.m., EFM Class
7 p.m., EFM Class
9th 7:30 a.m., *For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.*
10th 11:30 a.m., GSP Reading Group
6:30 p.m., Spirit Players: Monthly Play-Reading
7 p.m., *Living Fully, Living Consciously*
12th 9 a.m., *Exploring Today’s Lectionary*
6 p.m., **SpiritSong: Worship & Prayer in the style of Taizé**
13th 10 a.m., *Following the Way of Jesus: Reconsidering our Christian Journeys*
7 p.m., Joseph’s Pantry meeting

15th 9 a.m., EFM Class
12 Noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry
7 p.m., EFM Class
16th 7:30 a.m., *For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.*
17th 9:30 a.m., Community of Hope meeting
6:30 p.m., Film & Fellowship
19th **BISHOP’S VISIT**
9 & 11:45 a.m., Bishop’s Class
20th 10 a.m., *Following the Way of Jesus: Reconsidering our Christian Journeys*
22nd 9 a.m., EFM Class
7 p.m., EFM Class
23rd 7:30 a.m., *For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.*
25th 7 p.m., *Living Fully, Living*

Consciously
26th 9 a.m., *All Are Welcome: Developing a Multicultural Church Community*
1 p.m., Mother’s Kitchen (Primavera cooking team)
27th 10 a.m., *Following the Way of Jesus: Reconsidering our Christian Journeys*
28th 9 a.m., Primavera Cooks!
6:30 p.m., **Vestry Meeting**
29th 9 a.m., EFM Class
7 p.m., EFM Class
30th 7:30 a.m., *For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.*



Grace St. Paul's

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

What's Happening in March 2015

WEEKLY SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

Sundays

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

Mondays

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

Tuesdays

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

Wednesdays

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

Thursdays

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

Saturdays

- 9 a.m., Altar Guild

1st 9 a.m., *A Credible Jesus*

11:45 a.m., *Episcopal 101*

2nd 10 a.m., *Following the Way of Jesus: Reconsidering our Christian Journeys*

10 a.m., EfM Post-Grad Forum

7 p.m., [Green Church Committee](#)

4th 9 a.m., EfM Class

12 Noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry

7 p.m., EfM Class

7 p.m., *Forgiveness: What It Is & What It Isn't*

5th 7:30 a.m., *For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.*

6th 7 p.m., Spirit Players present *Nicene Noir: An Allegory on the Creed*

7th 9 a.m., *Contemplative Photography for Lent*

9:30 a.m., Spiritual Support

Group for those with chronic

physical pain

8th 9 a.m., *A Credible Jesus*

11:45 a.m., *Episcopal 101*

1 p.m., [Pet Food Collection](#)

6 p.m., [SpiritSong: Worship & Prayer in the style of Taizé](#)

9th 10 a.m., *Following the Way of Jesus: Reconsidering our Christian Journeys*

1:30 p.m., *Writing Your Spiritual Autobiography*

7 p.m., Joseph's Pantry meeting

11th 9 a.m., EfM Class

7 p.m., EfM Class

7 p.m., *Forgiveness: What It Is & What It Isn't*

12th 7:30 a.m., *For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.*

13th 11:30 a.m., GSP Reading Group

6:30 p.m., Lenten Film Series

14th 9:30 a.m., Spiritual Support

Group for those with chronic

physical pain

15th 9 a.m., *A Credible Jesus*

11:45 a.m., *Episcopal 101*

16th 10 a.m., *Following the Way of Jesus: Reconsidering our Christian Journeys*

18th 9 a.m., EfM Class

12 Noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry

7 p.m., EfM Class

7 p.m., *Forgiveness: What It Is & What It Isn't*

19th 7:30 a.m., *For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.*

5:30 p.m., [Spirit Now: Spring Equinox Service](#)

20th 9:30 a.m., Community of Hope

6:30 p.m., Film & Fellowship

21st 9 a.m., *Lenten Labyrinth Retreat*

22nd 9 a.m., *A Credible Jesus*

11:45 a.m., *Episcopal 101*

1 p.m., Mother's Kitchen

(Primavera cooking team)

1 p.m., EfM Class

23rd 10 a.m., *Following the Way of*

Jesus: Reconsidering our Christian Journeys

24th 9 a.m., Primavera Cooks!

6:30 p.m., [Vestry Meeting](#)

25th 9 a.m., EfM Class

7 p.m., EfM Class

7 p.m., *Forgiveness: What It Is & What It Isn't*

26th 7:30 a.m., *For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.*

27th 6:30 p.m., Lenten Film Series

28th 9 a.m., *Contemplative Photography for Lent*

29th [PALM SUNDAY](#)

30th 10 a.m., *Following the Way of Jesus: Reconsidering our Christian Journeys*

12 Noon, Holy Week Service in

the Memorial Garden

31st 5 p.m., Holy Week Service in

Julian Chapel

6 p.m., Seder Meal

Looking forward to April

1st 7 a.m., Holy Week Service in

Julian Chapel

9 a.m., EfM Class

12 Noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry

7 p.m., EfM Class

2nd 7:30 a.m., *For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.*

9 a.m., Community Spa Day with

Aveda Institute

Continued on Page 11