



The Briefly

The newsletter for the parish community of
Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church
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March/April 2016



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Rector's Letter

And the new Senior Warden is....

It was a supercharged Annual Meeting this year in so many ways. The energy and spirit and camaraderie that saturated McBride Hall was palpable. Thanks to all of you for making it such an important moment in the history of this parish. The state of our community is, indeed, bright and beautiful.

One of the many great things that came out of that meeting was the list of ideas all of you came up with as we discussed creative ways to fill our staff needs. Here is the list of things you suggested:

- Ministry Fundraisers
- New Clergy do Youth/Children
- Clergy Sharing
- Revenue Options
- Assistant Rector in Residence
- Intern Clergy
- Speaker Program
- Concerts for Various Ages
- Contact Seminaries
- Grants/Charge for Education
- Use Funds
- Auctions
- Increase Giving
- Fundraisers
- Work with other Episcopal

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C The state of our community is, indeed, bright and beautiful... I can't wait to see where we are going!



The Right Rev. Kirk Stevan Smith

The Bishop is Coming to GSP on April 17!

It is a right and a joyful thing, as we say, to welcome our Diocesan Bishop, The Right 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 everyone who receives communion here three times a year and is a pledger of record are technical 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.

In preparation for the Bishop's visit, we have been conducting Episcopal 101 classes. Those classes are at 11:45 a.m. each Sunday in the Bloom Room and will continue through March 13. They are the perfect venue for preparing to be Confirmed or Received into the church. But

whether you have been taking those classes or not, this is the time to be considering whether you would like to be officially made part of the GSP congregation and the Episcopal church. If you have never had hands laid on your head by an Episcopal Bishop, you are eligible to be Confirmed or Received. Please prayerfully consider if you would like to make that public statement. If so, please talk to me and we will prepare you for this wonderful event.

This year, the Bishop's visit is on April 17. Bishop Smith has been a great supporter of GSP and this is also the perfect opportunity to thank him for that and to show him the energy and spirit of our beloved community. The Bishop also always prepares some great information to share with us on that day. Let's all come out in gigantic numbers to show Bishop Smith what we are all about.

Rector's Letter

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Churches

- Contract Services
- Parish/Sister Relationships
- More People Participate
- Gift Shop
- Examining Budget Cuts
- Special Events
- Broad-based Volunteer Support
- Endow the Clergy Position
- Use Facilities More
- Tithing
- Equitable Pledging Share
- Sales, Golf Events
- More Lay Involvement
- Preaching Pool

We have already been exploring a number of those ideas and adopted some too. For example, we just received a donation of a classic car and we are looking at how to get the best return on it, including your idea of an auction or raffle. We have also, as you suggested, been calling all of the seminaries in both the Episcopal church and in other mainline traditions as we search for candidates and/or interns. We will continue diving into those ideas.

As all of you now know, one of my ideas regarding how to creatively bring us more assistance was to try a radical, new idea. **Kyle Devereux** was named Senior Warden, and he has immediately vaulted into the position with an energy and drive that has re-energized me and many of us. But the creative part of this was to do something that I have never experienced before in the Episcopal church. It was such a novel idea, that I talked to the Bishop before implementing it, being careful to stay within the Canons of the church. The new notion was the addition of a newly titled position, Assistant to the Rector. **Laura Angeley** was named to that post.

What I hope to achieve with this different approach to leadership is a couple things. In the complicated world in which we live, I think it only makes sense for the very diverse duties of a Senior Warden to be shared.

Kyle and Laura possess some remarkable skills, diverse skills. The goal here will be to utilize both of them on the things that match their very particular kinds of expertise. In addition, Laura has already taken on and will continue to do things that only the Rector has done in the past. We will take advantage of her social skills to accomplish things that

From the Senior Warden

My initial reaction to the idea was excitement, followed very closely by terror. When Fr. Steve broached the topic with me I couldn't help but express my excitement at the opportunity to work more closely with him. But, I can honestly say that outside of the functions of the vestry I had no idea what a Senior Warden was, only that it entailed a lot of work. Add to that the often confidential nature of interactions with both Fr. Steve and the congregation with this role, and a deeply personal conflict arose.

Laura and I have each developed a strong bond with Steve, independently of each other, over the years. The prospect that one of us would not be able to process the feelings and challenges associated with being Senior Warden with the other, about a figure so central to both of our lives, seemed incongruent with the Episcopal Church's image as a family friendly church. I am so grateful to Fr. Steve for his willingness to take a creative look at this conflict, and explore the possibility of reimagining the way that things are done, to promote inclusiveness and togetherness.

We have a proud history of Senior Wardens here at Grace St. Paul's. People who embodied spiritual depth, mastered multitasking, and at times held this parish together. After meetings with each of the last two Senior Wardens, it became clear that there is no one way to do the job.

Each person brings their own strengths, weaknesses, and styles to the position. The only theme that I could discern was that being constantly present and available to the congregation is essential. I have no doubt that as Laura and I live and grow into our roles we will come across challenges specific to the way that we operate in those roles. However, I am incredibly excited and happily



optimistic that we will be able to work through anything that comes up.

Laura and I are both honored and humbled at being chosen for the positions that we now fill. We both look forward to serving our rector and congregation in whatever way we are needed. Beyond that we are so excited to serve with each of you as our church, and The Church, continues to grow, change, and discern its place in a rapidly changing world.

Peace,

Kyle Devereux & Laura Angeley

can be done by a skilled lay person like Laura.

Finally, Laura and Kyle plan on taking great advantage of their opportunity to discuss with one another the most complex questions we are facing as a church. My expectation is that those hours of discussion will lead to ideas we would have never come up with thinking individually.

Finally, I believe the combination of leaders in this parish who have a lifetime of experience in the church, mixed with those who are seeing everything with fresh eyes is going to create an explosion of creativity for us and allow us to see things we could not have imagined before. That is the success behind what we do at GSP. Tradition and innovation linked together to create something brand new for a new world.

These will be exciting times, beloved! I can't wait to see where we are going.



Liturgy
Discussion of
the Month
 By *The Rev. Steve*
Keplinger

HOLY WEEK 2016

It's Not About Sunday

In the world in which we live today, going to church at all is a counter-cultural event. The idea that someone would go there every day of the week is so far beyond societal norms that people will look at you like you just dropped from Saturn if you would say such a thing out loud. It's not just the culture either. Even church leaders are convinced that only the smallest minority will come back between Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. That's why we schizophrenically move from Palms to Passion on the Sunday before Easter. The thought is that if we don't, only a handful of people are going to experience Good Friday.

But here's the thing. Easter makes no sense without Good Friday. And the truth of the matter is that the days leading up to Resurrection are the most profoundly moving of the entire year. 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.

For those of you who have experienced Holy Week at GSP, you are well aware of what these days mean to us. I have not experienced a Holy Week here yet that did not bring about a faith shift or monumental emotional turnaround for some of us.

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 a worship experience that will be so 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 20, Palm Sunday, 7:45 & 10 a.m.

We begin the services of Palm Sunday outside, waving 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 make that very sudden turn to a narrative of the Passion Gospel. It is a stunning juxtaposition and a very emotional service. This year's Palm Sunday is even more special because it is the silver anniversary of the merging of Grace and St. Paul's churches. We will also mark the day with a special re-enactment.

March 21, 22, 23, 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 in the Memorial Garden. Tuesday's service will be at 6 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 24, Maundy Thursday, 7 p.m.

Maundy comes from the latin word *mandatum*, 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 will 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 will conclude with the stripping of the altar, symbolizing what will happen the following day.

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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 2016 issue will be Tuesday, April 12.

Notes from the Choir Stalls

By Christina Jarvis,
Director of Music



There's a place in Ireland called St. Patrick's Purgatory, a pilgrimage site on an island in Lough Derg where penitents went to be locked in a cave overnight in order to have a really bad time. While it would be complete stretch to equate this experience with that of a modern day emergency room, at the moment we may be forgiven for feeling they're kinda similar. Both my parents have been in the hospital (different hospitals) in the last week and amended their souls therein, no doubt, but luckily neither has gone to paradise quite yet!

Lent has the upper hand at the moment, but Easter is coming, yes, it is. We all have our resurrection moments, even if they involve looking at a blooming shrub through the window of a convalescent home or appreciating a freshly bleached sink. Grace St. Paul's will have music throughout Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. Music is a blessing, the balm in purgatory, the confirmation of resurrection, the breath of the Holy Spirit.

I'm continuing to lean on the Anglican tradition for the rest of Lent, with some exceptions. On Lent 4, we're singing "On Jordan's Stormy Banks," an American folk hymn, and "Thou Knowest, Lord, the Secrets of Our Hearts," which Henry Purcell composed for the funeral of Queen Mary II. For Lent 5, we're doing "Since by man came death" from Handel's *Messiah*, and a setting of Psalm the 42d—"As pants the hart for cooling streams"—from *A New Set of Anthems and Psalm Tunes*, London, 1745, text by Nahum Tate and Nicholas Brady, music by John Broderip (of Wells).

On Palm Sunday, we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the merger of the Grace and St. Paul's parishes. It was suggested that we re-enact the procession from St. Paul's on Speedway and Vine to Grace (our current location). That idea was quickly shot down by the people who had actually done it the first time. Instead, we will have some decorous and representative perambulation in the neighborhood. Bagpipes might be involved. Stay tuned.

During the Palm Sunday service itself, the Sunday School Choir will provide music for the sequence. For the offertory, glorious soprano Barbara Pritchard and the choir will sing "Inflamatus et accensus" from Gioachino Rossini's *Stabat Mater*. For the communion anthem, we're singing "Agnus Dei" by Thomas Morley. I have taken to heart a parishioner's comment that unless the congregation understands what the choir is singing, it's only a performance

and not ministry, so I will be a bit more rigorous about providing translations of works like these in foreign languages. Using the excuse that "some things it's better not to know" is cowardly, really. It's hard to do anything historic without including retro theology, and I love historic music.

Holy Week services will follow the pattern of recent years. The choir anthems for Maundy Thursday are "I give you a new commandment" by John Shepherd and the William Byrd "Ave verum corpus." The Good Friday Tenebrae service is very much focused on congregational and choral music, interspersing passages of Scripture with anthems and hymns, as each candle is extinguished until the church is as dark as the tomb. The centerpiece of that service will be the *Crucifixus* from the Bach B-minor Mass. Barbara Pritchard and mezzo Korby Myrick will sing a duet from Rossini's *Stabat Mater*. Ana Ortiz has also offered a musical contribution for that service.

Then on Holy Saturday we celebrate the Resurrection! In recent years, the Easter Vigil has been youth-led. This year we have interim children and youth leaders, one of whom will be out of town during Holy Week. Bob Sandine will organize the Vigil readings and the Sunday School and Zombie Choirs will provide music to intersperse with congregational hymns, as we have in past years. The Adult Choir will sing offertory and communion anthems after we have burst into Easter—"Come, ye faithful" by R. S. Thatcher, and "Come away to the skies," as setting of a Southern Harmony tune by Richard Erickson.

The music program is doing its bit to support a new associate rector by cutting back on some outside musicians, so there will be no trumpeter for Easter this year. Instead, Pamela Decker and our parish instrumentalists will ensure that you don't actually notice the absence. The anthems for Easter Sunday include "Awake, thou wintry earth" by J.S. Bach and "Come, risen Lord," a setting by John Bertalot of a hymn tune by English baroque composer Henry Lawes.

The choir takes the following Sunday off to rest up after the efforts of Holy Week and Easter, but they won't be too complacent because we celebrate the Bishop's visitation on April 17. If I've completely lost my mind, we'll do a piece on Easter 3 called "Saul" by the Norwegian composer Egil Hovland. It involves aleatory (the same line of music sung at different speeds among the singers), a narrator, and some wild and crazy harmony.

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Choir Notes

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If the choir has completely lost their minds, they'll agree to sing it.

Having the Bishop visit us on Good Shepherd Sunday seems particularly appropriate. We will greet him and celebrate our confirmands with an offertory by Tudor composer Thomas Weelkes called "Alleluia! I heard a voice." He possibly did, too—he was notorious for coming straight to church from the tavern, being drunk at the organ, and swearing and blaspheming during services. He must have been a heck of a musician, though, because although Chichester Cathedral sacked him for a time, he was reinstated and retained the post, disorderly to the end of his life. Something tells me that Pamela will not be drunk at the organ this or any other Sunday. For communion, we will sing "My shepherd is Lord" by Harrison Oxley. Then we might be done with Brits for a while. Not promising, though.

For Easter 5, I have a hankering for a piece we haven't done for a long time—"Going to that city" by Jean Ritchie and arranged for chorus by Jonathan Pickow. We have a few bluegrass players in this parish—I shall try to bring them in.

Have a contemplative Lent and a joyful Easter season. Let us live in love and spread it around this funny old world.

Peace,

Christina

Holy Week, 2016

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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—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. You may come for any period of time during that night.

The Watch will end when the elements are consumed at the first service at Noon on Good Friday.

March 25, Good Friday

Noon—Stations of the Cross

The watch of Thursday night and Friday morning ends in Julian Chapel at noon. The elements kept there will be consumed and then the participants will move to the labyrinth for a contemporary Stations of the Cross experience on the labyrinth. The practice of the stations is another ancient tradition. At GSP, we will reflect on the events of Good Friday from a liberation perspective. This service will include walking for those who are able. The service will last about 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.

March 26, Holy Saturday

In the morning we will gather to physically prepare the church for the big day. Those who would like to assist our 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. It is the most memorable service in the Christian calendar.

March 27, Easter Sunday, 7:45 & 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.



Senior Focus

Doree Ramey's commitment inspiring to many

by The Rev. Nancy Meister Book



Doree Ramey

Doree Ramey is a longtime parishioner who lives with her son Keith and daughter-in-law, Cindy Osche in their home on the eastside. Presently she isn't well enough to come to church but loves to read the bulletin, and receive communion and healing touch from our pastoral care team. Doree is a cradle Episcopalian and reads the prayers and psalms like a pro.

Doree was born Feb. 29, 1928 in Detroit, Michigan. Her Father was a piano tuner and her mother a housewife. She was the youngest of four. She had a twin brother who died as a toddler of encephalitis. Doree loved music and left home at sixteen to dance in nightclubs first in Atlantic City and then in Texas with the Miriam dance troop. She met her husband to be, Richard

Ramey, in Springfield, Illinois at a nightclub. They lived in Champagne, Illinois where their only child, Keith,

was born in 1958. While in Champagne she taught the University of Illinois football team ballet to improve their balance and coordination. Doree's husband died of cancer in 1959 and she never remarried. In 1962 Doree and Keith moved to Tucson.

She first worked for the law firm of Goddard, Ginn, Hanshaw & Jannis as a secretary. Later she became the personal secretary of the conductor of the Tucson

Symphony, Gregory Millar. While Keith was attending high school at Greenfield's, Doree helped with fundraising for the geodesic dome and art center at the school. Initially she was a member at St. Philip's in the Hills and then transferred to Grace Church. She worked in the Sunday School program. Nineteen years ago she began the Bread from the Pantry ministry that began as picking up baked goods from Fry's. Those were used to celebrate events at the church and for Joseph's pantry.

When Beyond Bread bakery, a local business, opened on Campbell, Doree seized the opportunity to arrange to pick up bread nightly. This ministry involves a number of parishioners and some people from the community. Huge bundles of bread are sorted three mornings a week and then delivered to up to thirty different churches and Social Service agencies. Doree and her volunteers spread the spirit of Grace St. Paul's all around town. Doree always acted with a personal touch in how the bread was sorted. She made sure that all the hoagies and buns went to Teen Challenge and Covenant House received the Hallah bread. Doree made sure that Joseph's pantry was well supplied. Bill Trujillo is Ministry leader of Bread from the Pantry and it continues now as she developed it.

Doree has two grand children, Rochelle Ramey, who has worked in the children's ministry program and now works at the Jewish Community Child Care Center, and Eric, who lives in Los Angeles and has a business helping veterans get on Social Security Disability. Rochelle and Scott's son, Riley, is three and the family and GSP celebrated his Baptism this November.

Doree's enthusiasm and commitment to ministry has inspired many of us over the years.

In Remembrance & Celebration



On Palm Sunday 1991, people gathered in front of the former St. Paul's Episcopal Church at Vine and Speedway. After gathering chalices, patens, and sculptures they processed to Grace Episcopal Church, stopping at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church and Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church.

This **Palm Sunday, March 20**, marks the 25th anniversary of that march and the merging of two communities that became Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church. This year's procession around the neighborhood before the 10 a.m. service will incorporate items from the history of both churches.

Join us for this special celebration!

Assistant Rector Wanted

Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church, a progressive, shared leadership parish in Tucson, Ariz., immediately seeks a full-time Assistant Rector of Social Services and Children/Youth & Family Ministries. The position includes directing two major operations in an innovative and vibrant parish. We anticipate that 60% of the focus will be on directing the children/youth and family program, 20% on leading a burgeoning food pantry/social services ministry, and 20% on liturgical duties.

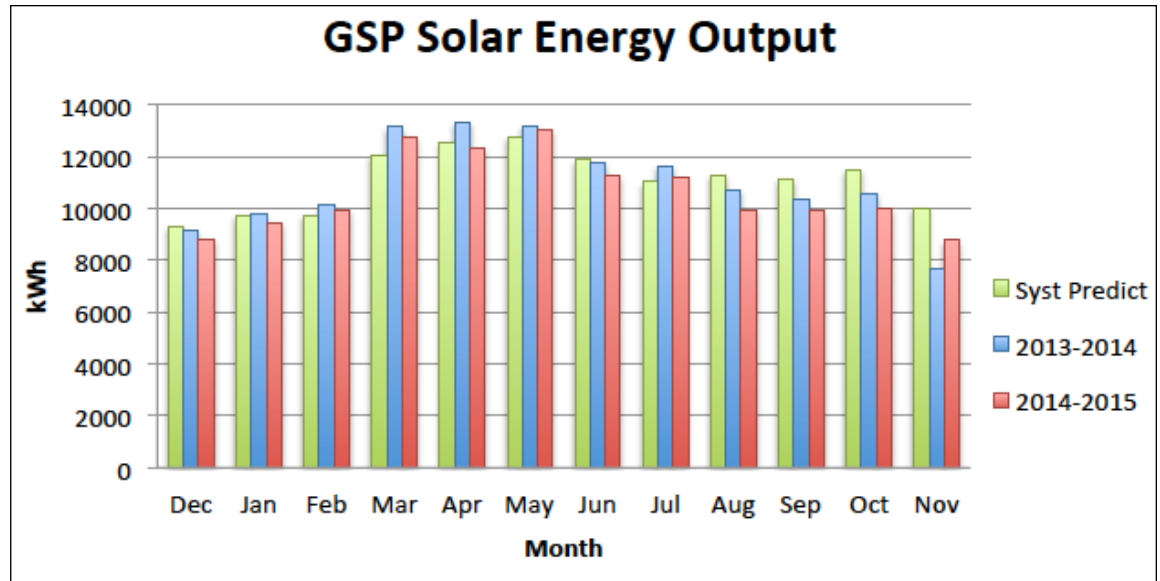
The Children/Youth & Family Ministry includes: visioning and growing the program, being an integral part of all children and youth events; curriculum development; recruiting, equipping, and nurturing the ministry of teachers and a volunteer base; extra-curricular development, scheduling and publicity; planning and organizing mission trips and related fundraising events; budget management, coordination with other parish and program staff, and regular communication with the Rector and parish.

The Social Services Ministry includes overseeing a developed food pantry, homeless hospitality, showers and social services programs to live into the mission and vision of the church. It will include recruiting and directing volunteers, imagining innovative ways to serve those in need, and developing processes to make the best use of limited resources.

This is a unique opportunity for an individual who feels called to nurture young people, as well as care for those in need. Come join us in the beautiful Desert Southwest as we bring joy and hope to this part of the world.

If you are interested in applying for this position, please e-mail a cover letter and résumé to parishadmin@grace-stpauls.org. Applications will be taken until the position is filled.

Additional inquiries can be made by e-mail or by calling 520-327-6857.



GSP solar panels working as predicted

By Angel Wang, Green Church Committee

Good news about our solar panels! Our GSP solar panels have been working for two years now, and performing much as predicted by our installers, Technicians for Sustainability. Our 72.4kW system was designed to supply 82% of the annual electrical needs of our campus, based on our 2013 power usage.

The TFS solar energy system predictions and the actual monthly electricity outputs are plotted together for comparison on the adjacent chart. For the year ending in November 2014, the solar output was 98.9% of the predicted output, and for the year ending

in November 2015, the solar output was 96% of the prediction. The November 2014 solar panel output was lowered by the winter storms that hit the Tucson area. The winter months were generally affected by less sun due to winter storms, and the summer months were generally affected by the higher than normal temperatures that decreased the solar panels' efficiency compared to the prediction.

Based on these numbers, the solar panels would have supplied about 80% of GSP's 2013 electrical usage. All in all, our panels are doing their job well, helping our parish save money and live sustainably in partnership with Brother Sun and Sister Earth.

Announcing the Grace St. Paul's Legacy Society

By Margaret Scott

What is it to live forever? We don't tend to think much about afterlife, whether we believe in karma, whether we hope to meet St. Peter at the pearly gates, or whether our descendants are our way to live on. Many of us simply think that creating God's kingdom on earth is worth more effort than trying to get into the eternal real estate of the afterlife.

That being said, one way to live on, both spiritually and in a practical sense, is through

legacy giving. A legacy gift continues our influence, intentions and goals even after we are no longer living. Grace St. Paul's is starting a Legacy Society to recognize all those who have remembered the church in their will, charitable annuities or estate plans. We don't want to leave anyone out, so if you have included GSP in your plans, please let us know! Call the church office, drop a note in the mail, or email Laurie Camm at ljkuafm@attglobal.net.

P.S. Please do not disclose the amount of your gift. We only want to know your intention.



Post from the Pantry

By Andrew Gardner,
Pantry Team Leader

January and February are Girl Scout Cookie season in Southern Arizona. Teams of girls and young women across the state spend these two months learning about what it takes to run a business, but also how that business can bring joy to its neighbors. Two Tucson troops, #172 in midtown and #789 on the South side, ask their customers to donate boxes of cookies to Joseph's Pantry; we expect that at the end of the season they will have donated over 200 boxes of cookies from more than \$800 in donations.

Those boxes of cookies are little boxes of joy for the members of the Joseph's Pantry community. When any of us is presented with financial strain or hardship, the first thing we do is cut luxuries from our lives. We learn to be very efficient, to make the most of every dollar. Boxes of cookies donated to the pantry offer a temporary reprieve, a chance to indulge without the guilt of thinking about how you would have otherwise spent that money. They are a small joy, but a joy nonetheless.

The first time we brought cookies to the pantry this year, a man saw the boxes and said, "Wow, they really do sell those cookies everywhere." I responded that those cookies are free, donated by his neighbors, and he can take any box he likes. His response was an incredulous "Really?" Several minutes later, he held up two boxes, one chocolate

and one peanut butter. "This is a hard decision," he said. "I like this kind, but my wife's favorite is this kind," he said, alternately holding up the two boxes. "You can take both if you'd like," I replied. He smiled. "Really?"

One of the great joys of working in the Pantry is the freedom to surprise people. Thanks to the generous support of the parish and our partners across the city, GSP is able to be a beacon of abundance in a sea of scarcity. Many of the members of our community have become accustomed to efficiency, to rules, and to rations. The kindness and the abundance at GSP are a surprise, and the Girl Scout cookies are a part of that.

When the cookies are gone, we return to a world dominated by scarcity. There will only be so many cans of soup and so many boxes of pasta, so many bars of soap and so many razors. For a moment, though, we are able to imagine a world without scarcity, a world with enough for everyone, a world that surprises us with its abundance. I am grateful for each and every one of those moments, and thankful that this parish helps make each of those moments possible.

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Thank you all for your continued support of Joseph's Pantry. Along with our usual requests of non-perishable food, our stock of toiletries has run dry: tooth brushes, tooth paste, razors, small soaps, toilet paper, and feminine hygiene supplies.

If you're planning to travel this spring, if you would collect the hotel-provided toiletries for the people of the pantry, we would be most appreciative.

How to Help a Stray Pet

By The Rev. Chris Ledyard

One of the ways that you can live into the mission of Grace St. Paul's is to care for animals. Our companion animals are gifts from God. For rescue animals, there is something special that sometimes makes us wonder who rescued who. Stray animals are a part of the animal population that we need to discuss and care for as they are a voiceless population in God's arena of compassionate love. Your care includes prayer, donations of time and money to shelters, and direct action when you see a stray animal.

If your own dog has ever gone missing, you know what a relief it is to get the phone call from someone who's dialed the number on your dog's collar, or see your missing pet run to you at the local animal shelter. Knowing how grateful we were or would be to them, we naturally want to do our part if we ever see a lost dog wandering the streets. Here are some guidelines for what to do if you want to help reunite the dog and its owners.

To be prepared as a rescuer of animals, it's good to keep a kit in your car at all times. Collars, strong leashes for dogs, a heavy blanket, water, water bowls (they sell the collapsed kind) strong smelling foods like canned tuna, or dried liver, and an animal first-aid kit.

Keep phone numbers handy of your local animal shelter, and 24-hour emergency veterinary clinic.

Parishioner Opinion

Feed the children this Lent

By Dr. Ashok Nagella

As you consider your approach to Lent this year, I would like to make a suggestion for your consideration. I think it is important for us to consider the effects of what we consume and how it impacts our neighbors. The unfortunate reality is that 925 million people in this world do not have enough to eat. Sadly 2.6 million children will die of starvation this year. One child will die every 12 seconds from starvation. I firmly believe there is something we can do about this tragic situation.

We can reduce the amount of animal products we consume. Many third and fourth world nations export meat and dairy products to the U.S. and other Western countries while much of their population starves. Why? It is because it is very profitable for these countries to raise and export animal products while being less concerned with feeding their population. This happened during the famine that occurred in the 1980's in Ethiopia. More

food was being exported than imported during that crisis.

Much of the grains and soy that we feed these livestock can instead be fed to those who are malnourished. The U.S. is not immune to starvation either. 15 million children in the U.S.

“There are people in the world so hungry, that God cannot appear to them except in the form of bread.”—Mahatma Gandhi

are malnourished. In fact, 40% of corn and 67% of soy in the U.S. alone is fed to farmed and bred animals instead of people.

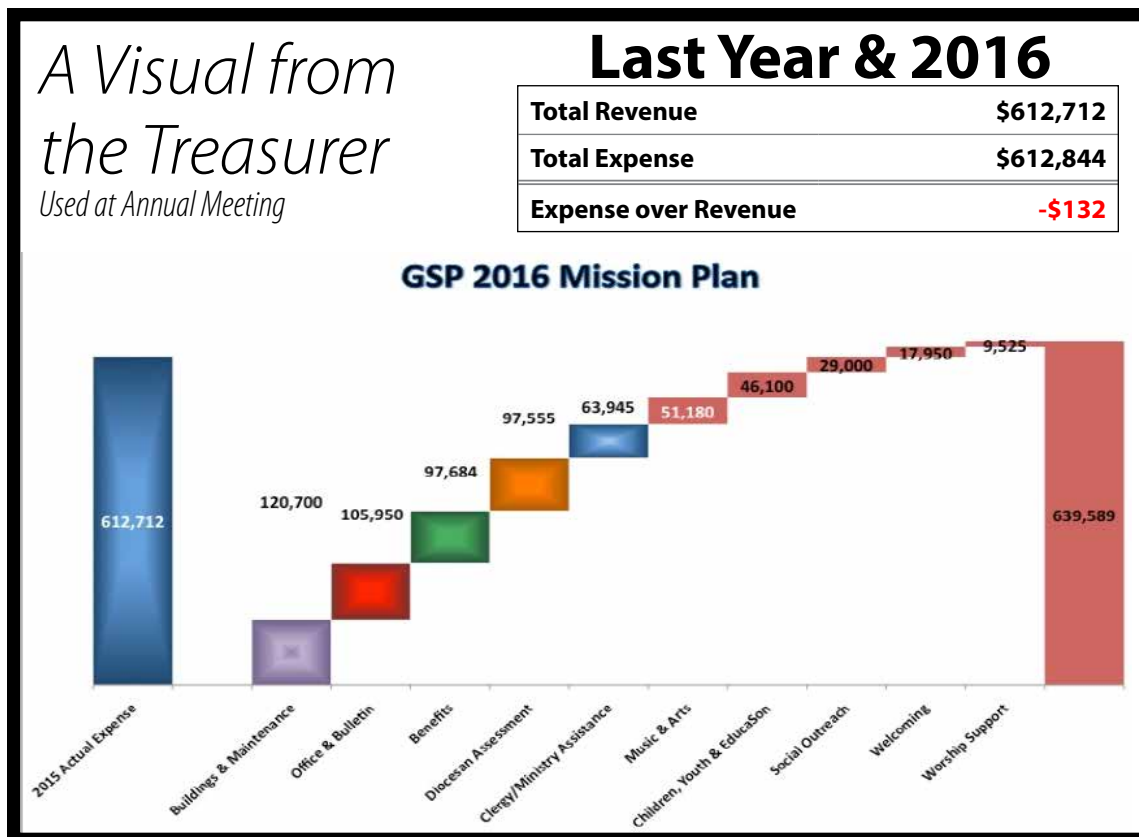
Research shows that the average American's diet consists of at least 27% of calories from animal products. If we want to help eliminate hunger, it is estimated that we need to reduce the amount of animal products we consume from 27 % to 12 % of our daily calories to

free up enough grains, soy, corn, etc. to feed larger populations (0 % animal products being ideal). There are other factors that impact global access to food including political and economic factors, but the one action I believe we can all take that will have a huge, direct impact is changing what we eat daily.

To put it in further perspective, it takes 13 pounds of grain to feed livestock in order to produce only one pound of meat.

I would encourage everyone to consider giving the greatest gift of nourishment and health to those who need it most this Lent as Christ would want us to do!

Wonderful and delicious meat substitutes that many are trying nowadays are Field Roast, Beyond Meat, and Gardein to name a few. To learn about the health benefits of plant-based diets, please look at PCRM.org. My hope is that trying this during Lent will lead some of us to continue the practice beyond the Lenten season.



EXPLORING OUR FAITH: SUNDAYS @ 9:00 & 11:45

Grounded: Finding God in the World — A Spiritual Revolution (Lenten Book Study) Sundays, March 6 & 13, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

The headlines are clear: religion is on the decline in America as many people leave behind traditional religious practices.

In her new book *Grounded: Finding God in the World*, Diana Butler Bass, a leading commentator on religion, politics, and culture, argues that what appears to be a decline actually signals a major transformation in how people understand and experience God. The distant God of conventional religion has given way to a more intimate sense of the sacred that is with us in the world. This shift, from a vertical understanding of God to a God found on the horizons of nature and human community, is at the heart of a spiritual revolution that surrounds us—and that is challenging not only religious institutions but political and social ones as well.

Join us for this Lenten book study!

Episcopal 101—for Everyone

Sundays, March 6 & 13, 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 six-session introduction to the Episcopal Church, we 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. Food will be provided.

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

No 9 a.m. classes on Palm Sunday (March 20) or Easter Sunday (March 27)

Exploring Today's Lectionary

Sunday, April 3, 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.

The Joy of Sharing

Sunday, April 10, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

In what ways could living a “theology of enough” be freeing for us as individuals and as a spiritual community? Shane Claiborne suggests we need a “theology of enough” and invites us to see financial generosity as a kingdom call, rather than a social position. We will watch and discuss a short video by one of the Emerging Church's most passionate leaders.

Facilitated by members of the Giving & Receiving Committee.

Bishop Kirk Smith @ GSP

Sunday, April 17, 9 & 11:45 a.m., McBride Hall

Bishop Kirk Smith will present a class for all GSP members during coffee hour following both Sunday services.

Facilitated by The Right Reverend Kirk Smith, Bishop of Arizona.

To Be Announced: Sunday, April 24, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

SPECIAL LENTEN PROGRAMS

A Lenten Quiet Day

Saturday, March 12, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Bloom Education Center

As we move through Lent while living in Tucson, we consider the spiritual way of the desert. Silence, letting go, emptiness and simplicity are means to connect with the divine in the desert. We will use centering prayer techniques, reflections on poems and biblical passages, and focused sharing of thoughts to experience God's Presence in the forty days of Lent.

Please bring a brown bag lunch; we'll provide water and fruit. There is no fee for this program. Please sign up by calling the church office at 520-327-6857. You may contact the facilitators through the church office if you have any questions.

Rev. Chris Ledyard serves as a deacon at Grace St. Paul's, is a practitioner of

contemplative prayer and lectio divino, and just loves the desert. He is also a member of the Third Order of the Society of St. Francis. He has presented contemplative workshops in the past.

Karen Hanson is a member of Grace St. Paul's, practices contemplative prayer, and is participating in the first year of EFM. She is a poet and writer, as well as retired therapist, who has read widely in the spiritual literature and poetry of the Christian tradition and others. Times of silence and emptiness have been part of her spiritual education.

Spirituality & Racial Justice

Free online class presented by

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry

Learn about the spiritual dimensions and responsibilities inherent in building racial justice. **Michael Curry**, the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, provides a sobering

yet hopeful outlook on both the sin of racism and the reconciliation of working towards a more just world. In this class, Bishop Curry offers four video presentations addressing different aspects of racial injustice. They include:

- Conversation
- Spirituality
- Healing
- Responsibility

Register for this free online class anytime:

<https://www.churchnext.tv/library/spirituality-and-racism-with-michael-curry/about/>.



UNDERSTANDING SCRIPTURE: BIBLE STUDY @ GSP

Bible Women

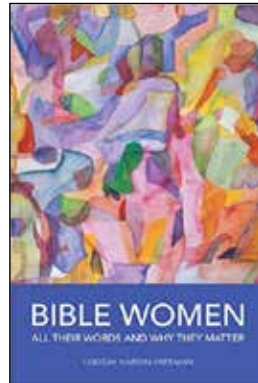
Fridays, March 4 & 18, April 1 & 15, 10-11:30 a.m., Weeks Room

Where are the voices of women in the Bible? What do they have to say to us about our own lives? This class studies the Bible through the voices of women in the Old and New Testaments using *Bible Women: All Their Words and Why They Matter* by Lindsay Hardin Freeman. The book is available from Amazon in softcover (\$22) or Kindle (\$9.99).

All are welcome. No registration necessary and participants are welcome to join the group

anytime. The group meets twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month.

For more information about this class, contact the group's convener Denise Mulloy at 520-327-6857.

**For Men: Coffee, Bagels & Bible Stuff**
Thursdays, 7:30-8:30 a.m., McBride Hall

This is your invitation to join a diverse group of men in a discussion of the Book of Luke. (After 6 months we finished the Book of Acts.) Many of the men are attending their first bible study and are enjoying the attempt to put the weekly readings into historical prospective while finding current application.

All materials are provided. Drop-ins are welcome, and we start and end on time.

Facilitated by Bill Moore, GSP Junior Warden.

MAKING CONNECTIONS: SMALL GROUPS @ GSP

GSP Readers Group (March)

Friday, March 25, 9:30 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Edward Abbey lived for three seasons in the desert at Moab, Utah, and what he discovered about the land before him, the world around him, and the heart that beat within, is a fascinating, sometimes raucous, always personal account of a place that has already disappeared, but is worth remembering and living through again and again.

Desert Solitaire is a meditation on the stark landscapes of the red-rock West, a passionate vote for wilderness, and a howling lament for the commercialization of the American outback. "A passionately felt, deeply poetic book. It has philosophy. It has humor. It has its share of nerve-tingling adventures...set down in a lean, racing prose, in a close-knit style of power and beauty." (New York Times)

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

Exploring Inter-Spirituality through 'The Mystic Heart' (A Book Study)

Thursdays, March 31, April 7, 14, 21 & 28, 7-8:30 p.m., Bloom Education Center

Inter-spirituality is a comprehensive spirituality that draws upon the world's diverse faith traditions. This class will direct us to enrich our Christianity through the daily spiritual practices of our sister faith traditions, including Sufi, Jewish, and indigenous approaches to daily connections with the sacred. These practices can support simplicity

of lifestyle, enhanced self-knowledge and service as prophetic witnesses for peace and justice.

In addition to instruction and group practice, we will be engaging in a reading discussion of Brother Wayne Teasdale's *The Mystic Heart: Discovering a Universal Spirituality in the World's Religions*, which can be purchased through Amazon or other booksellers.

Facilitated by Ana Teresa Ortiz, GSP member and Interfaith Minister, 2011 graduate of One Spirit Interfaith Seminary.

GSP Readers Group (April)

Friday, April 22, 9:30 a.m., Bloom Education Center

In the Pulitzer Prize winning *The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt, Theo Decker, a 13-year-old New Yorker, miraculously survives an accident that kills his mother. Abandoned by his father, Theo is taken in by the family of a wealthy friend. Bewildered by his strange new home on Park Avenue, disturbed by schoolmates who don't know how to talk to him, and tormented above all by his longing for his mother, he clings to the one thing that reminds him of her: a small, mysteriously captivating painting that ultimately draws Theo into the underworld of art.

The Goldfinch is a mesmerizing, stay-up-all-night and tell-all-your-friends triumph, an old-fashioned story of loss and obsession, survival and self-invention, and the ruthless machinations of fate. "The Goldfinch is a rarity that comes along perhaps half a dozen times per decade, a smartly written literary

novel that connects with the heart as well as the mind....Donna Tartt has delivered an extraordinary work of fiction." —Stephen King, *The New York Times Book Review*.

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

Sharing Our Spiritual Journeys

Mondays, 10 a.m.-Noon, Bloom Education Center

In this small group we share conversation about what matters most to us as followers of Jesus and how we practice this in our individual lives and the life of our community. Each meeting focuses on a different intersection between spirituality and religion, and the conversation takes us where the Spirit guides. Each session stands alone and all are welcome. No registration is necessary.

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

Saturday Java Jive: Coffee & Conversation

Saturdays, 8:30-11 a.m., Epic Cafe (745 N. 4th Ave., at University Blvd.)

Want to meet and get to know folks in a relaxed and friendly environment? All are welcome to join this long-running motley crew that meets every Saturday morning for coffee and conversation. We never know who will show up, the topic is always up for grabs and hilarity often ensues.



Grace St. Paul's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

What's Happening in March 2016...

WEEKLY SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

Sundays

- 7:45 a.m., **Holy Communion**
- 9 a.m., Coffee & Conversation
- 9:45 a.m., Child Care
- 10 a.m., **Holy Communion**
- 10 a.m., Sunday School
- 11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
- 11:30 a.m., Youth Groups

Mondays

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

Tuesdays

- 6 p.m., **Evening Prayer & Communion**
- 7 p.m., Interfaith Meditation

Wednesdays

- 7 a.m., **Holy Communion**
- 10 a.m., Desert Angel Quilters
- 5 p.m., Spirit Dojo

Thursdays

- 7:30 a.m., *Men's Coffee, Bagels & B.S.*
- 10 a.m., Bridge Group
- 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
- 5:30 p.m., **Spirit Now—An Emerging Worship Experience**
- 7 p.m., **AZ Welcomes Refugees**

Saturdays

- 8:30 a.m., **Saturday Java Jive**
- 9 a.m., Altar Guild
- 4 p.m., Yoga Class

2nd Noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry

4th 10 a.m., **Bible Women**

6 p.m., **Spirit Players Dinner & Theater: *God's Spy***

5th 9 a.m., Good Grief Group

6th **FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**
9 a.m., *Grounded: Finding God in the World*
11:45 a.m., *Episcopal 101*

7th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*

10 a.m., EfM Post-Grad Forum
7 p.m., **Green Church Committee**

11th 6:30 p.m., **Lenten Film Series**

12th 9 a.m., Good Grief Group
11 a.m.-3 p.m., **Lenten Quiet Day**

13th **FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**
9 a.m., *Grounded: Finding God in the World*
11:45 a.m., *Episcopal 101*

6 p.m., **SpiritSong: Worship & Prayer in the style of Taizé**

14th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*
7 p.m., **Joseph's Pantry meeting**

16th Noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry

18th 10 a.m., **Bible Women**
6:30 p.m., **Lenten Film Series**

19th 9 a.m., Good Grief Group

20th **PALM SUNDAY**
9 a.m., Coffee & Conversation

21st 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*

22nd **PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE ELECTION**
(Polling places in McBride Hall)

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

23rd 10 a.m., Desert Angel Quilters

24th **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

25th **GOOD FRIDAY**
9:30 a.m., **GSP Readers Group**

26th **HOLY SATURDAY**
9 a.m., Good Grief Group

27th **EASTER SUNDAY**

28th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*

30th 10 a.m., Desert Angel Quilters

31st 7 p.m., *Exploring Inter-Spirituality Through "The Mystic Heart"*

...and in April 2016

1st 10 a.m., **Bible Women**

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

3rd **SECOND SUNDAY IN EASTER**
9 a.m., *Exploring Today's Lectionary*

4th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*
7 p.m., **Green Church Committee**

7th 7 p.m., *Exploring Inter-Spirituality Through "The Mystic Heart"*

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

10th **THIRD SUNDAY IN EASTER**
9 a.m., *The Joy of Sharing*
1 p.m., **Sudanese Worship in Dinka**

6 p.m., **SpiritSong: Worship & Prayer in the style of Taizé**

11th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*
7 p.m., **Joseph's Pantry meeting**

14th 7 p.m., *Exploring Inter-Spirituality Through "The Mystic Heart"*

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

17th **BISHOP SMITH AT GSP**
9 & 11:45 a.m., Bishop's Class

18th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*

20th 12 Noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry

21st 7 p.m., *Exploring Inter-Spirituality Through "The Mystic Heart"*

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

24th **FIFTH SUNDAY IN EASTER**
9 a.m., **TBA**

1 p.m., Mother's Kitchen

25th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*

26th 9 a.m., Primavera Cooks!

6:30 p.m., **Vestry Meeting**

28th 7 p.m., *Exploring Inter-Spirituality Through "The Mystic Heart"*

...and in May 2016

