

# The Briefly

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

**Stewardship Sunday  
Brunches Nov. 14**

(pg 5)

**The mysterious  
moving Baptismal Font**

(pg 2)

**TIHAN's Traveling Tree:  
Pick an Ornament, Adopt a Child**

(pg 13)

**The Altar Kneelers:  
A Bit of History**

(pg 6)

**Supporting  
Grace St. Paul's as a  
Trinity Institute partner**

(pg 7)



The initials of altar kneeler artists and the years they completed the needlework. See Page 6.

## Rector's Message

**D**ear Grace St. Paul's family:  
I cannot thank Chris LaBour and the Welcoming Committee enough for setting up our Sunday evening dessert gatherings. Before arriving here, my first priority was coming up with a vehicle to meet all of you personally and having the opportunity to learn from you. By setting up those gatherings, we were able to accomplish both quickly and efficiently.

Each of those evenings was full of energy and passion, which was exactly what I was hoping. They enlightened me about the past, helping me better understand how Grace St. Paul's became the beloved community it is today. Your openness regarding the new things we have tried has also helped us understand deeper the theology of the community. Finally, our discussion of the future is going to be the framework for where we go from here.

Please know that the discussions were just the beginning. We are compiling all of the comments that have been made so that we can stay focused on making them happen. In fact, we have probably implemented a dozen or so of your ideas already. We will continue doing so and use this information as our catalyst for the future.

I want to thank all of you for participating and sharing so openly. I also want to thank you for all your kind and encouraging words about what you have already experienced through the liturgy and sermons you have heard. Those comments mean everything to me.

We have scheduled one more session in the daytime (Nov. 4 at 10 a.m.), for those of you who have not been able to take part in the evenings. Is there any other part of the community that we have missed? If you would like to participate, and have not been able to make any of the other sessions, please let Chris LaBour or me know so that we might schedule another time. I do not want anyone to be left out of this process.

In addition to the energy and excitement that has filled our meetings, I have also noted an overall sense of gratitude and hope for the many gifts we have in this parish and hope that together we are going to blaze a great future together. That is the impetus behind our gigantic congregational meal on November 14.

We want to say "thank you" to all of you who have worked so hard to bring us to this place. It is also a symbol of our gratitude for all we have and a springboard to make it happen in the future.

**To make our hopes  
become reality, we  
are going to need  
the participation of  
all of you.**

# Rector's Message

*Continued from Page 1*

That day you will hear from our own parishioners as they share from their heart what Grace St. Paul's has meant to them. All of this is in hope that each of you will have the opportunity to consider your own thankfulness for what this parish has meant to you and what it is going to be in our very bright future.

To make our hopes become reality, we are going to need the participation of all of you. Not only do we need you to prayerfully consider how much of your money you can give to make the dreams come true, but also how you feel called to best serve this parish. Your pledge sheet this

year has room for all of these gifts.

As Jean and I fill in ours, we will begin with that attitude of gratitude and our thankfulness for God bringing us to all of you. We will give in gratitude for all of you and the love that you have shown us. We will give so that we can always live into the abundance that we have experienced through you since our arrival. Thank you all for what you have given us and your desire to also live into that abundance now and forevermore.

Shalom,  
**Steve+**

## Briefly Deadline

The next deadline for *The Briefly* is Tuesday, Nov. 16, for the December/January issue. Please send electronic articles to Martha P.L. Whitaker at: [jartham@cox.net](mailto:jartham@cox.net). Either MS Word or Word Perfect format is acceptable, or you may simply paste the article into the body of your email. If you do not have access to a computer, please call the parish office and ask if there is a volunteer who can help you type it into an electronic file. Please send graphics and photos directly to John Banks [jdbanks@gmail.com](mailto:jdbanks@gmail.com). Remember that if you need to "talk" with me, please use my [mplw@hwr.arizona.edu](mailto:mplw@hwr.arizona.edu) address, since I only check the [jartham@cox.net](mailto:jartham@cox.net) address when I'm ready to edit.

## The mysterious moving Baptismal Font

**By The Rev. Steve Keplinger+**

One of the things that has come up in our weekly conversation gatherings is the need to talk about the theology behind the changes we have introduced in the liturgy and in the church. Some of those changes have been discussed from the pulpit, like the decision to have the people and the presiding clergy pray together the words of institution and the invoking of the Holy Spirit in the Eucharistic Prayer. We also list the sources of our prayers in the service bulletin. In last month's *Briefly*, we talked about saints and the reasoning behind adding new individuals to our Eucharistic Prayer each week. There are still many other things to address, however.

In an effort to do so, and respond to this valid and valuable point made by one of you, I thought we might, at least for a while, have a monthly article addressing something new that is occurring in the service or in the church. This month, let's talk about baptism. As everyone has probably noticed, the baptismal font moved to the back of the church on Creation Sunday. This was to accommodate our opening liturgy that Sunday, when we did a litany to the four elements, earth, wind, fire and water. What better way to represent water than through the font?

The real question though, is why did the font stay there? Since publication of the 1979 *Book of Common Prayer*, the church's understanding of baptism has changed greatly.

Baptism for us is not about original sin. As a church, we do not believe that all of us need to be cleansed of the sin of an ancient ancestor so that we might have eternal salvation. That is why we now understand adult baptism as normative. We baptize babies not to save them, but based on the faith of the community. Baptism for us is all about coming in, it is about becoming part of the Body of Christ. It is full inclusion into our community. It is the entrance into the church.

Symbolically therefore, baptismal fonts best represent our understanding of baptism when they too are at the entrances of our churches. The ideal situation is when someone says, "Hey, what is this thing doing here? I almost tripped over it." That's the whole idea, that every time you walk into church you are reminded of your own baptism and your entrance into the Body of Christ.

In addition, the placement of the font in the midst of the people reminds us that baptism, like every sacramental act in which we take part, is an act of the community. God is the one acting here, and the miracle of baptism happens from God through all of us, to the person being baptized. Baptism is something we do together and the thing that will bind the newly baptized to all of you.

This month, we will get to see how this practically works very quickly. We will have baptisms on both Oct. 31 and Nov. 7, All Saints Sunday. Let me know what you think of this movement and how you feel after experiencing our first baptisms with this setup.

**Steve+**

# From the Senior Warden

I struggle to find adequate words to express my gratitude for the great honor of receiving the Grace St. Paul's cross during the 10 a.m. service on Sunday, Oct. 24. The journey from the time Gordon McBride, anticipating his retirement, asked me to serve as Senior Warden, to the calling and arrival of Steve Keplinger as our new Rector, has been rich beyond anything I could have anticipated or imagined. That journey has been reward enough. The cross will always be a powerful symbol of the ministry that we have shared together and the things we have accomplished as a community over the last few years.

However, our time together is not quite

finished. As a community we will make a commitment to the mission and future of Grace St. Paul's on Nov. 14 with our gifts of time, talent and financial resources. Those gifts will be essential in assisting our gifted and compassionate new pastor to lead us forward. In January, I will step down as Senior Warden and new lay leadership will emerge at the Annual Meeting to help Steve and the congregation live into a new vision of how Grace St. Paul's can be the Body of Christ. I await with great anticipation the beginning of our next journey!

Faithfully yours,

**Catherine Penn Williams**

## Oct. 24 Parish Wellness Update Recap

A Parish Wellness Update was held following the 8 and 10 a.m. services on Sunday, Oct. 24. A summary of the highlights includes:

- A review of the GSP calendar through January, including special holiday services and the Annual Meeting. Please watch the Sunday Bulletin and the December/January *Briefly* for more information and details!
- The vestry continues to work on a plan to revamp the playground area for safety and more effective use. They are also reviewing a proposal to repair and protect our stained glass windows, and have received a donation of paint from Ace Hardware to spruce up the church's exterior.
- A Nominating Committee is being formed to select four candidates for the 2011 Vestry. Retiring members are Henry Dirtadian, Tricia Galvin, Vivian May, and Dan Misenhimer. Linda Hutson has agreed to stand for a second term as Junior Warden. Open nominations will be accepted between Dec. 12 and Jan. 2.
- A motion was passed to allow Catherine Penn Williams, the sitting Senior Warden, to continue in that position until the Annual Meeting on Jan. 23.
- Ministry updates included: Jay Elliston is now GSP liaison to TIHAN/Poz Café; Joseph's Pantry showers are now open Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings; the Shoebox Ministry has now moved to St. Michael & All Angels as part of the Rev. Michael Meyers' diaconal minis-

try there; Bridging Borders sponsored a field trip to Nogales, Mexico, on Oct. 12.

- Catherine reported that GSP finances are relatively healthy at the 3rd quarter of 2010 as pledge income is right at target. Thank you to everyone who has kept current on their pledge!
- Expenses exceed income for the year by only \$3,300. This has been helped by savings on staff salaries (vacant positions) and the fact that the Rector Search was not as costly as anticipated.
- The vestry has authorized the use of \$35,000 from the Emergency Reserve Fund to pay for capital improvements to the parking lot, storage shed and rectory kitchen. Approximately \$20,000 was used to pay the Diocese the outstanding portion of the 2006 and 2007 assessments.
- Stewardship Sunday is Nov. 14. The group was reminded that our pledges help to transform lives in the Tucson community!
- The Rev. Steve Keplinger thanked the congregation for the fantastic turnout at the six evening Conversation and Dessert meetings. He has compiled all of the feedback he's received and several changes have already been implemented. He will use this information as a continuing focus as we move into our new future!

**Submitted by Catherine Penn Williams,  
Senior Warden.**

# Liturgy & Music

## Notes from the Choir Stalls



As I write this, we're only a couple of weeks into the Season of Creation and it's been an amazing experience so far. Anyone who owns cats knows that we don't have dominion over God's creation, but it's nice to be reminded in ways other than, "I just barfed up a hairball on your placemat. You don't have a problem with that, do you?" (Just this morning, in fact). How cool that we have a whole season dedicated to praising God for creating us along with the rest of the web of life. As promised, we will end the Season of Creation on Christ the King Sunday with excerpts from Earth Mass/Missa Gaia by Paul Winter. I'm waiting for the instrumental parts, and when I've seen where we are with that, we're good to go. Well, and then there's learning it. Minor detail.

After that, we transition into my favorite season, Advent. I've been musing about Advent antiphons, specifically the Great "O" Antiphons, as one does if one is a church music geek. Beats worrying about the election. These antiphons—O Sapientia, O Adonai, O Radix Jesse, O Clavis David, O Oriens, O Rex gentium, and O Emmanuel—are usually sung in the week before Christmas, one per day starting on Dec. 16, but they can be done all together combined with the Magnificat at an Evensong or Vespers service. It's an old, cobwebby Anglican thing. Cool, thought I. Everybody does Advent Lessons and Carols; why not try something different? So I Googled around and discovered that St. Mark's in Seattle features these antiphons in a liturgy on the first Sunday in Advent. They wanted to get away from the usual Advent Lessons and Carols, which is now pretty much associated with Christmas. This is Advent, people. You can't have Christmas carols yet.

Given all the new liturgies we've begun with Fr. Steve, we probably need some time to process what we already have going on, so we'll wait until next year for the service, but we can use the antiphons as introits throughout this Advent season. The texts are bundled together, by the way, in the hymn "O come, O come, Emanuel."

These first letters of the first words of these antiphons (the first real words—the 'O' doesn't count, okay?) read backwards spell out the Latin phrase "Ero cras," which is taken to mean something like "I am coming tomorrow" -- words you will never hear from your refrigerator repairman. Fortunately, Jesus didn't say, "I am coming sometime next week between the hours of 8 a.m. and noon; be sure to wait for me as though you didn't have a life." That would be a whole lot of antiphons.

Luckily, we do have a life and Jesus is with us now and always; we don't have to wait for him to be a part of it. We do our Advent preparation to remember the time of his coming and to bring on new growth in our lives—Advent as greenhouse for Christmas roses. With all the hustle of the season, it would be too easy to bring on Christmas skunk cabbage if we don't approach this time with mindfulness. I speak from experience.

Our musical celebrations of the Advent season will be diverse, as you have come to expect. This year, the children's music program is moving into more defined territory with the assistance of Joan Brundage, a children's music teacher, who with Jane Click is directing the St. Cecelia Choir. They will offer Jane's new anthem, "Starry Night." The adult choir will sing along.

Just because it's Advent doesn't mean we can't think about Christmas carols. I'm thinking good thoughts about a brass quintet for Christmas Eve again this year. Last year was a blast (so to speak). Let's be grateful for the blessings of Creation, especially the gift to us of Jesus. May we extend this bounty into the world around us, caring as we have been cared for and feeding as we have been fed. We can keep a good Advent as well as a good Christmas.

God with us,

**Christina Jarvis**  
**Music Director**



# Congregational Development

## Stewardship Sunday is Coming!

By Patricia Galvin

I hope you all thoroughly enjoyed the Ministry Fair on Oct. 10. One of the reasons I am called to be part of this community is that we, as a parish, do so much for others. I always feel supported and encouraged because we are there for each other. As a community we support those around us, giving a voice to the voiceless, and service to those in need. I believe that we at Grace St Paul's truly follow Jesus' call to love and support one another.

This year our Stewardship Sunday will be Nov. 14. On that day you will be asked to make a pledge of financial support and/or a time commitment to our parish. All of the ministries that we pour ourselves into wouldn't be possible without the office staff, lay ministers, priests and you. Together we are on a faith journey which guides us in our choices about how we use our resources.

One of our decisions is financial. What percentage of your income do you feel called to gift to the church? Reproduced here is a chart to aid you in making that decision. It shows the weekly amount of your gift translated as a percentage

of your income. I know it has been a tough year economically, and I know that some of us are facing uncertain financial futures. As I write this, the news today reported that charitable giving to the largest 400 charities dropped by 11% last year, the biggest drop in twenty years. Statistics consistently show that Americans only give 2-3% or less of their income to charities. Yet, I believe that making a choice to pledge support brings true rewards. I encourage you to prayerfully consider how much you are able to contribute to the mission and future of Grace St. Paul's.

A second decision is about the stewardship of our time. All of our ministries at GSP rely on volunteers to accomplish their mission. Did you find one or more that called you during the ministry fair? If you aren't able to contribute financially, this is a wonderful way to play a part.

Lastly, regardless of whether you choose to complete a pledge card, I hope you will all come to services on Nov. 14. It will be an opportunity to further connect with the community, and listen to fellow parishioners speak about what moves them. We are having a catered brunch after both services to thank everyone for all the hard work they do, to welcome newcomers, chat with old and new friends, and generally have a good time. It won't be complete without you!

### Stewardship Sunday Brunches Sunday, Nov. 14 9 & 11:30 a.m.

The Grace St. Paul's community will gather for worship at 8 & 10 a.m. to celebrate the spirituality of giving and our gratitude for our lives together as the Body of Christ. There will be parish-wide brunches at 9 & 11:30 a.m., following both Sunday services. See the Sunday Bulletin for current information.

Coordinated by the Stewardship Committee, Tricia Galvin, chair.

Weekly Income	Excellence in Giving			Upper Range			Medium Range			Lower Range		
	15%	12%	10%	9%	8%	7%	6%	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%
\$200	\$30	\$24	\$20	\$18	\$16	\$14	\$12	\$10	\$8	\$6	\$4	\$2
\$300	\$45	\$36	\$30	\$27	\$24	\$21	\$18	\$15	\$12	\$9	\$6	\$3
\$400	\$60	\$48	\$40	\$36	\$32	\$28	\$24	\$20	\$16	\$12	\$8	\$4
\$500	\$75	\$60	\$50	\$45	\$40	\$35	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$10	\$5
\$600	\$90	\$72	\$60	\$54	\$48	\$42	\$36	\$30	\$24	\$18	\$12	\$6
\$700	\$105	\$84	\$70	\$63	\$56	\$49	\$42	\$35	\$28	\$21	\$14	\$7
\$800	\$120	\$96	\$80	\$72	\$64	\$56	\$48	\$40	\$32	\$24	\$16	\$8
\$900	\$135	\$108	\$90	\$81	\$72	\$63	\$54	\$45	\$36	\$27	\$18	\$9
\$1,000	\$150	\$120	\$100	\$90	\$80	\$70	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20	\$10
\$1,100	\$165	\$132	\$110	\$99	\$88	\$77	\$66	\$55	\$44	\$33	\$22	\$11
\$2,000	\$300	\$240	\$200	\$180	\$160	\$140	\$120	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$40	\$20
\$3,000	\$450	\$360	\$300	\$270	\$240	\$210	\$180	\$150	\$120	\$90	\$60	\$30

What percentage of income can you give? Can you increase your pledge by 1% this year?

# Parish Life

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## The Altar Kneelers: A Bit of History

By Kay Bigglestone,  
GSP Archivist, &  
interviews with  
Danielle Phillips &  
Mary Louise McClelland

What has happened to the altar kneeler?" a lady asked at the second dessert and conversation with Steve Keplinger.

Immediately sensing that there was personal concern behind that question, Steve asked her about that. She reported that each of the thirteen cushions had been hand-made in needlepoint by parishioners in memory of family members and others in the congregation. She added that, when Father Steve had removed the middle cushion in order to open the altar rail, she missed that cushion which had been made by a friend as a memorial to a parishioner. Within a few days, after hearing even more of the story about the kneelers, Steve restored the missing center blue one to its place at the altar rail, still leaving the gates open to the altar.

The story of the kneelers' creation began near the end of The Rev. Jack Potter's rectorship, a year or two prior to the merger of Grace and St. Paul's parishes in 1991. The kneelers were not completed until the blessing and placing of the cushions at the altar rail in August 2000.

Members of the Altar Guild and other parishioners had noticed with dismay the sad condition of a set of red altar kneelers then in use at the rail. They all agreed they needed to replace the cushions! Since many were adept with needlework and had created many sale items for the annual Christmas bazaars as well as altar frontals, the women decided they would volunteer to make new cushions. The Rev. Potter approved their project.

After much discussion, Colby Pheil, an artist in the congregation at that time—and the same woman who created the charcoal sketches of the hands as stations of the cross that still hang in the nave—designed the pattern of interlocking crosses in gold on a blue background for the top of the kneeling cushions. The pillow-to-pillow design on the pillows to the left of the center pillow is exactly the reverse of the design on the right pillows; a complex pattern. The stitching too is complex with a reverse stitch used for extra strength.

On the side of the cushions facing the altar are the names of those being memorialized. The initials of the maker and the date completed are

on the short, left-hand side.

Mary Louise McClelland became the leader as needlepointers volunteered and began their projects. She kept a large quantity of yarn in her home so that all of the cushions, even though completed over a period of years, would have a uniform appearance, and she advised and aided with construction of the dowel and screw frames needed to keep the large canvasses with sufficient tension to keep them straight. She also had to step in when she noticed a mistake, and insist that the work be taken out and corrected.

Those who completed cushions included one man, Jack Hill, a retired metallurgical engineer, who, in 1991, was one of the first to complete his, which was created in memory of Mary Louise's parents, William and Flora Mayger. Danielle Phillips was the last one to begin a cushion, beginning hers after the merger in 1991 in memory of her husband Hugh and her daughter Margaret-Rose Guthrie, both of whom had recently died. Mary Louise tackled the largest cushion, the center one, in memory of parishioner Raymond Meade.

Others who worked include Virginia Ames, who sewed in memory of her husband Robert; and Emma Hanshaw and Sally Heinlein who each anticipated the deaths of their husbands, Alan and Joseph, including their own names with them. Janet Dunn sewed hers in memory of her parents, Linwood and Adele Richardson. Margaret Glasgow, Mary Kiser, Jane Kroehl, Margaret Lavin, and Lillian Plasse also completed cushions.

Each kneeler is 50.5 x 36 inches, making each one quite heavy and somewhat unwieldy. When the kneelers were finally completed and blocked by Western Upholstery Company then on E. Grant Rd., the Rev. Gordon McBride blessed them, and they were put in place on Sunday, Aug. 13, 2000.

Each cushion cost several hundred dollars in materials and blocking. Donors were recruited by Mary Louise and other needlework artists. Those that contributed to the project, in addition to the needlework artists themselves, were: Mollie Perry in memory of her parents Charles and Lorna Walton; Margaret Elliott Lavin and Jean Elliott Alaback in memory of Gladys El-

liott; Marwood and Helen Goetz; Elsie Meade in memory of Raymond Meade; Esther James in memory of Robert James; George Codd in memory of his wife Ruth and their family; and Coralynn Glasgow in memory of her husband

James, Betty Glasgow, and Maude Geasa.

Space limitations allowed us to only print some of the photos of the beautiful alter kneelers. To see all of the photos, visit the GSP Facebook page or website: [gsptucson.org](http://gsptucson.org).



Left: The pillow-to-pillow design on the top of the kneeling cushions, designed by artist Colby Pheil. Right: The names of loved ones memorialized by needlework artists are located on the sides of the cushions facing the altar.



## Looking for a Few New Folks!

By Linda Hutson

The Buildings & Grounds Committee is hard at work keeping the physical plant in good order, building a timeline to keep it that way, and thinking, dreaming and planning for the future. Do you think you may be called to consider working with this group?

If you enjoy working as a team member, like to organize, can attend a monthly meeting and are willing to be part of project work, this ministry may be for you. May we talk? Call Linda Hutson at 520-797-2532.

## Supporting Grace St. Paul's as a Trinity Institute Partner

By Lynne Albright

The Trinity Institute is an educational ministry of Trinity Church in New York City. The Trinity Institute has a forty-year history of providing excellent programs on contemporary theology. These programs are available to sites across the country via Internet streaming.

The next Trinity Institute's 41st National Theological Conference will be held Jan. 19-21, 2011, and is titled "Reading Scripture Through Other Eyes." Walter Brueggemann, widely regarded as one of the preeminent contemporary Bible scholars, is one of the featured speakers. Additional informa-

tion is at [trinitywallstreet.org/faith/institute/2011/](http://trinitywallstreet.org/faith/institute/2011/).

We have not been a site for the Trinity Institute for a number of years, but this topic seems to mesh very well with our Adult Spiritual Formation programming. It also gives us an opportunity to serve other Episcopal parishes in Tucson. We need to register as a site and pay the fee before the middle of December; the cost is \$500. We will then be listed as a Tucson partner site and will receive all the supplementary materials as well as DVDs of the presentations.

It will only take a small number of people donating \$10, \$25, \$50 or whatever one can to support this program. You can make checks out to GSP with Trinity Institute in the memo line.



# Parish Life



**Scenes from Parish Life:** GSP at Pride in the Desert (above), the Blessing of the Animals on the labyrinth (left), and the Stewardship table at October's Ministry Fair (below).





# Children & Youth

## St. Cecilia Children's Choir Rehearses Every Sunday –Come and Sing! By Joan Brundage & Jane Click

Attention St. Cecilia Choristers! We are preparing music to sing for the first Sunday in Advent (Nov. 28) and also for the Christmas Eve Service. Please be sure to attend all the next Sunday rehearsals so you will know your music. If you haven't sung with us, please come and help us sing!

## eYouth 13 News

By Wendy Pipentacos

The eYouth have been busy since the new school year began. We were very pleased to welcome several new participants and to begin planning for the coming months. A large group headed out on Sept. 26 for our annual trip to Apple Annie's in Willcox. We attended the 8 a.m. service and received some good-natured teasing from Fr. Steve before gathering in the parking lot to sort out car pools. We spent a few hours picking apples, peaches, and Asian pears and then enjoyed lunch at tables in the orchard. After lunch most of the youth spent a few hours in the corn maze. The "Corn Cops" only had to go in and make one rescue. Most of the adults spent time picking green beans, tomatoes, peppers, and pumpkins.

On Saturday, Oct. 9, we hosted a pizza lunch get-together with some of our counterparts from St Phillip's. We were happy to meet some of their youth mentors. Rosalind Garcia, the Children and Youth Programs Director, led us in a series of community-building activities, and we learned a lot about one another. We had a great conversation about what kind of youth program we want to build at GSP, and discussed ways our two programs can get together for activities in the future. Fr Steve and Jean joined us and Steve

gave us the great news that the St. Francis room now officially belongs to the youth and we are free to redecorate it any way we want! The youth would like to thank Harriet Claiborne and Rosalind Garcia for organizing this fun event.

Our plans for the upcoming weeks include participating in the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation walk on Saturday, Nov. 6. We welcome anyone who wishes to join us or to contribute to this very important cause. We were stunned to realize that one of our youth has nine



Photo by Lu Pipentacos

friends already diagnosed with Juvenile Diabetes. Other upcoming events will include preparation to "adopt" a family through a local agency to provide Christmas gifts for those less fortunate.

The youth are pleased to welcome Winifred Williams, their new co-mentor. Wendy Pipentacos is thrilled to have the help and hopes this is only the beginning of other GSP members coming forward to join us in a very fun and fulfilling ministry.

### Two Important Notices for All Saints Day

Our celebration of All Saints Day will be Nov. 7, and all (children and adults!) are invited to dress up as your favorite saint.

There is also a Teacher/Parent/Mentor meeting on Nov. 7 that is extremely important as we talk about music, choir, Advent and Christmas. We want to hear from you!

We are signed up for the Weeks Room at 11:45a.m., right after music. Childcare will be provided until 1 p.m., and I will order sandwiches for us. Please feel free to call me at 299-6123 with questions, or email me: [childreneyouth@grace-stpauls.org](mailto:childreneyouth@grace-stpauls.org).

I send Love and Blessings,  
**Harriet**

# Social Justice & Outreach

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## Bridging Borders Trip to Mexico

By Nancy Meister

On Oct. 12, we returned after a long day in Nogales, Sonora, inspired by the experience and the stories that we heard, and committed to expanding our ministry. We were thanked for showing up and listening. Because of the threat and fear of violence, Americans are reticent to travel there. Fernanda Morillon, Interim Executive Director of Borderlinks, was our guide and generously shared her personal experience of growing up in Nogales, Sonora.

We first stopped at the Wall to see the art telling the migrant story. The art expresses depictions of hope, but also exploitation by “coyotes”, and sometimes death. The Wall is very tall, solid metal except for a tiny crack. It has been extended many miles in all directions, which forces migrants into increasingly dangerous crossings in hostile desert areas. Even though the overall numbers of migrants has decreased and the numbers being deported increased, death in the desert reached its highest number this year: 252.

We then toured the industrial area of Nogales, seeing the maquiladoras or factories like Weiser Lock and Black & Decker, plants with fancy “Holiday Inn-type” facades. They are usually windowless and the workers inside earn salaries of 58 pesos per day (~\$5.80 U.S.). We saw where the workers lived, in colonias of very modest houses, some without electricity and water.

We arrived at Hogar de Esperanza y Paz (Home of Hope and Peace and formerly Casa Misericordia) in time for lunch, high on a hill in the Bella Vista community, one of the poorest neighborhoods in Nogales. There was an amazing view of the colonias of Nogales, whose population is now 500,000 people. Fernanda explained that in the distance behind the hill was yet another city of squatter settlements. The Hogar has a Food Security program that provides a meal for 125 children, nutrition education to parents, and a model community garden with a water storage system. It costs only \$10,000 per year to provide a nutritious meal five days a week for these children. We learned that economics is a barrier to good nutrition because a gallon of milk costs 54 pesos and a large bottle of soda costs only 18 pesos.

Jeanette Pazos, the Director, gave us an enthusiastic presentation sharing the “Good News” and their hopefulness in the face of the current violence that surrounds them. In addition to the Food Security program there are “capacity” building classes for parents, and a women’s jewelry cooperative. The necklaces are imprinted with “no mas muertes” or “no more deaths” and are sold in the U.S. The income is shared between the women and the community center. The Hogar de Esperanza y Paz also sponsors a summer camp program for children. Our time at the Hogar ended with singing the song “De Colores.” We left feeling much closer to our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Our final stops were right at the Mariposa port of entry just into Mexico where we visited the No More Deaths shelter, the first stop for newly deported migrants. We listened to the story of a young man in his early 20s from Phoenix. He had been cited for jay walking and was deported to Nogales, not knowing anyone, completely separated from his family. He had lived in the U.S. since one year of age and was as American as our children.

We then visited the Kino Border Initiative, a program started by the Jesuit community, the Roman Catholic Dioceses of Hermosillo and Tucson, and the Missionary Sisters of the Eucharist. They serve newly deported migrants two meals a day at the “Comedor” or “Dining Room” just a few hundred yards from the border. We were invited to help serve the afternoon meal to about 100 deportees. The Kino Border Initiative also provides spiritual counseling for those who experience the crisis of deportation, and a shelter, Casa Nazareth, for deported women. Two of the women migrants who were trying to return to their home and children in the U.S. were lost for fourteen days and experienced the hardships of the desert and people who refused to help them without payment. A third woman had been left behind by her coyote, and survived after being hospitalized for an infection caused by blisters.

We experienced being welcomed as friends. Whatever side of the border one lives on, we are no longer strangers. We experienced the “Good News” and faith of those working to improve

# Social Justice & Outreach



their community and lessen the consequences of our government's failure to act on comprehensive immigration reform and the inhospitable and separation effects of SB 1070. Paul Gohdes, Kay

Bigglestone, Dennis Counts, Sandy Thompson, Suzanne Hesh (St. Philip's), The Rev. Kate Baird, our Rector, The Rev. Steve Keplinger, and Deacon Nancy Meister shared in this experience.

## *Borderlinks-Bridging Borders educational programs a success*

*By Dolores & Paul Gohdes,  
Co-chairs, Border Issues*

Borderlinks developed and presented two programs (Oct. 3 & 17) in McBride Hall under the sponsorship of Bridging Borders. The first highlighted the role of the media in forming our perceptions of immigration to

the United States, mainly through the use of cartoons. Very few were actually funny and most featured unflattering stereotypes of the people trying to come here over the past 150 years. The second program, an interactive one involving eleven volunteers from the attendees, focused on "standing in line" to give people a better idea of what the legal immigration system entails. Both programs were very enlightening for those who attended and we want to thank Borderlinks for sharing them with us!



# Social Justice & Outreach



## Animals & Spirituality

By Nadine Martin

**O**n Oct. 15-16, Grace St. Paul's Animals & Spirituality exhibit was displayed for the first time at the 2010 Diocesan Convention, and it was well received. Many people stopped by and shared their wonderful, oftentimes touching, stories about their animals. The exhibit, generously shared with us by the Episcopal Network for Animal Welfare (ENAW), displayed photos of farm animals and their plight as well as other animals. And the Cathedral Shoppe at Trinity Cathedral had graciously placed animal-related books, calendars, leashes, and collars on GSP's table—I cannot believe how many dogs in the Diocese of Arizona are now wearing Episcopal collars and being walked on Episcopal leashes!

But one item placed on the table caught my attention. It was a stuffed dog that had been placed in a small wicker basket by the exhibit. Around its neck was a red Episcopal collar. Its

yellow-brown fur was a little worn, and it had a red button in its right front paw that, if pressed, had at one time made the dog bark, squeak, or do something dog-like, but the button no longer worked. Whether that was due to a mechanical defect or a dead battery, I don't know. But something about this stuffed animal drew my attention, and I wanted to buy it. Alas, I was told that it was the Cathedral Shoppe's "model" for displaying the Episcopal collars and wasn't for sale. But there's more to this story: it turned out that this ragged stuffed dog had been retrieved from a trash pile.

I thought about this turn of events that brought a stuffed dog from a trash heap to be part of an exhibit on Animals & Spirituality and wondered how this happened. Had it been discarded because its fur was a little worn or because it was no longer "cute"? Had it been discarded because it no longer performed like

before? I don't know, but I thought, "What a fitting mascot for an Animals and Spirituality exhibit because it's a fact that many live animals have been discarded because they were no longer cute and cuddly or because they had failed to live up to someone's expectations."

That little stuffed dog represents, for me, the plight of many animals today: farm animals that are neglected or inhumanely slaughtered; puppy mills where the dogs are discarded when they can no longer produce litters of puppies; pigs and chickens that live in crowded accommodations in which they cannot turn around or lie down. The list of neglect and abuse goes on and on.

Although GSP's Animals & Spirituality ministry cannot solve all of these problems, we can start where we are, doing what we can based on our resources, and encouraging others to start similar ministries at their churches. That process has been started here at GSP through a ministry that addresses many areas: collecting dry pet food for Joseph's Pantry, providing foster care for a parishioner who is either ill or traveling, accompanying someone to the vet's office, especially when the person's animal companion is to be euthanized, providing information tables at community events, providing education for adults and children, and providing prayer and/or grief support when needed.

Many of you have told me you're interested in being a part of this ministry. I'll be putting together a resource list based on the areas listed in the preceding paragraph. Where do you see yourself fitting into this ministry? Please let me know either by placing a note in my mailbox in the church office or by sending me an email (nadinemartin@q.com). Many thanks for your support!

## **TIHAN's Traveling Tree: Pick an Ornament, Adopt a Child**

*By Jay L. Elliston*

It's that time of the year when we as a congregation can keep making wonderful differences! Every year for the past 10 years, TIHAN has had a Christmas tree that travels from congregation to congregation throughout Tucson, and it will be returning to Grace St. Paul's this year! The TIHAN tree is covered with ornaments, and on the back of each ornament is the gender and age of a child (or sometimes an adult) in need of a gift. Here's how it works: on or (even better!) before Dec. 5, bring an unwrapped new gift to the GSP Parish Office and label it "TIHAN Family Day c/o Jay Elliston."

On Dec. 5, the TIHAN tree will be displayed in McBride Hall and you can take home an ornament associated with the child (or adult) for whom you bought a gift. Jay Elliston will bring all the donated gifts to TIHAN in time for Family Day on Dec. 8, when Santa will distribute your gifts to children and adults in need. A list of gift suggestions (e.g., from gift cards to iPods to pots and pans, personal care items and more!) is posted in GSP breezeway. For more information, check the flyers posted in the church breezeway, or phone Jay L. Elliston, TIHAN Care Partner, Volunteer and Speaker, 398-5132.

# Adult Spiritual Formation

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This wide array of classes is timely for your interfaith awareness, our new liturgical time of year, the celebration of creation, your spiritual development, and deepening your journey in Spirituality.

## **Community of Hope Training**

**Saturday, Nov. 6**

**9:30-11:30 a.m., Weeks Room**

Community of Hope offers a presentation on “Listening Skills for Pastoral Care.” \$5 fee for materials.

## **Crossan at GSP Revisited**

**Sunday, Nov. 7**

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

We will view and discuss clips of the lectures on “Literalism and Fundamentalism” given by Dominic Crossan when he spoke at Grace St. Paul’s in 2003. How do Crossan’s concepts of Progressive Christianity match or differ from yours?

Facilitated by Steve Williams, Chair of Grace St. Paul’s Social Justice & Outreach Covenant Group.

## **Islam—An Introduction**

**Two Sundays, Oct. 31 & Nov. 7**

**11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Bloom Education Center**

This is an introductory survey of the religious and cultural foundations of Islam. Our main approach centers on the religious doctrines and teachings of Islam. First, we will cover Islamic doctrines and ritual practices. Second, we will provide an overview of the Qur’an and the life and teachings of the Prophet Muhammad. Third, we will focus on the intellectual diversity within Islam and cover the differences between Sunni and Shi’i Islam as well as the mystical practices of Sufism. Fourth, we will broadly discuss some of the modern interpretations within Islam and their variations across the Muslim World. Finally, we will look at Islamic practices and Muslims in America and Europe.

Facilitated by Samy Ayoub, who is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Arizona, Department of Near Eastern Studies. Currently, he is studying at James E. Rogers College of Law. He was trained in Islamic Studies in Egypt and United Kingdom. Samy is teaching a course on the Religion of Islam and Arabic at the University of Arizona.

## **Adult Education & Spiritual Formation Meeting**

(open to all)

**Tuesday, Nov. 9**

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

Have you ever wondered about a special topic in your spiritual life? Alternatively, have you read a book that you think would help others grow in their spirituality? Ever wanted to facilitate a class or small group? If so, come to the Adult Education planning meeting. Topics and class facilitators for the 2011 Spring Schedule are wanted and needed. The more the merrier! If you need a class proposal form, or have any immediate questions, contact Chris LaBour or Chris Ledyard, TSSF, Co-Chairpersons of Adult Spiritual Formation and Education Covenant Group, through the church office at 327-6857.

## **Celebrating the Life & Work of Dorothy Day**

**Sunday, Nov. 21**

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

Dorothy Day (1897-1980) was a tireless worker for social justice and the founder of the Catholic Worker movement. We will commemorate the 30th anniversary of her death as we look at the events of her life and the inspiration she gave to so many. The class will include an overview of the life and selected writings of Dorothy Day, as well as personal reminiscences of her visits with Michael Allen’s family, who provided her a home-away-from-home in Tucson during the 1950s, ’60s, and early ’70s. “What we would like to do is change the world—make it a little simpler for people to feed, clothe, and shelter themselves as God intended them to do.... We can throw our pebble in the pond and be confident that its ever widening circle will reach around the world.”—Dorothy Day

Donna Olson Shreve is an avid reader and former EfM mentor; Michael Allen has long been interested in the life of Dorothy Day, inspired by his family’s connections to her.



# Adult Spiritual Formation

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## **The Jesus of the Gospels: A Fresh Look**

Three Sundays, Nov. 28, Dec. 5 & 12

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Bloom Education Center

In the spirit of Advent, we will prepare for the coming Christ with a look at Jesus' own words as we reflect on what it means to have the Christ present in our lives. Drawing from historical context and moving into deeper meaning, we'll examine parables and other canonical sayings of Jesus in terms of his primary earthly ministry of calling the Jews back to God. Using a contemplative approach, we will explore the mystical implications of this call to repentance as we encourage and facilitate inspired discussion.

Facilitated by Rhonda Whatley and Jeanette Renouf, Ph.D., D.Min. Rhonda was a founding member of a local Abrahamic faith group where she facilitated and taught the Christian educational portion, primarily the Gospels, for several years. She also taught a theological course at Tuller Episcopal School under the direction of the Rev. Jeffrey Reed. Jeanette has practiced as a spiritual director for the past 25 years and was a founding member of Tacheria Interfaith Spiritual Direction. She has given retreats and has taught here, in England, Asia, and Latin America, and is the former director of adult education at St. Philip's in the Hills.

## **Alternative Christmas**

Sunday, Dec. 5

9 a.m. & 11:30 a.m., McBride Hall

Tired of the old commercialism and materialistic demands for this time of year? Come participate in the opportunity in gifting that benefits others and their organizations. Coordinated by Tricia Galvin, GSP vestry member interested in developing and supporting locally-produced goods.

## **Keeping a Celtic Advent**

Two Sundays: Dec. 12 & 19

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

It is possible for our celebration of the entire Advent Season to be a testimony to Christ and His love, for the Season of Advent stands with the true Season of Christmas over and against the secular "X-mas" season. The secular holiday is devoted to the celebration and observance of materialism and consumerism. Keeping a "Celtic Advent" is a way of preparing for a more spiritual observance of the true "Holy-day" of Christmas and the season of the Incarnation. This two-session class will examine the themes of Celtic Christian Spirituality, and how they may help us prepare for a sane and holy celebration of our most important festival. Facilitated by the Rev. Frederick J. Masterman.

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**What's Happening at GSP  
 in November**

**1st** 4:30 p.m., *Good Grief Group*  
 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic  
**2nd** 5 a.m.-8:30 p.m., General Election  
**3rd** 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist  
 9 a.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)  
 6 p.m., Global Chant  
 6:30 p.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)  
**4th** 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic  
 6 p.m., M3M  
**6th** 8:30 a.m., Coffee at Epic Café  
 9:30 a.m., *Pastoral Care Training / Community of Hope*  
**7th** 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist  
 9 a.m., Child Care  
 9 a.m., *Crossan at GSP Revisited*  
 10 a.m., Sunday School  
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist  
 11:30 a.m., *Islam: An Introduction*  
 11:30 a.m., eYouth13@gsp  
**8th** 4:30 p.m., *Good Grief Group*  
 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic  
**9th** 6:30 EfM Year 11 group  
 7 p.m., *Adult Education & Spiritual Formation Meeting* (open to all)  
**10th** 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist  
 9 a.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)  
 6 p.m., Global Chant  
 6:30 p.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)  
**11th** 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic  
 6 p.m., M3M  
**13th** 8:30 a.m., Coffee at Epic Café  
 9 a.m., *Anamcara Circle*  
 9:30 a.m., *Pastoral Care Training*  
**14th Stewardship Sunday**  
 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist  
 9 a.m., Child Care  
 9 a.m., *Stewardship Sunday Brunch*  
 10 a.m., Sunday School  
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist  
 11:30 a.m., *Stewardship Sunday Brunch*

11:30 a.m., eYouth13@gsp  
**15th** 4:30 p.m., *Good Grief Group*  
 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic  
**17th** 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist  
 9 a.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)  
 6 p.m., Global Chant  
 6:30 p.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)  
**18th** 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic  
 6 p.m., M3M & 3rd Thursday potluck  
**20th** 8:30 a.m., Coffee at Epic Café  
 9:30 a.m., *Pastoral Care Training*  
**21st** 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist  
 9 a.m., Child Care  
 9 a.m., *Life & Work of Dorothy Day*  
 10 a.m., Sunday School  
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist  
 11:30 a.m., eYouth13@gsp  
**22nd** 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic  
**23rd** 6:30 p.m., EfM Year 11 group  
**24th** 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist  
 9 a.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)  
 6 p.m., Global Chant  
 6:30 p.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)  
**25th Thanksgiving Day—  
 Office & Joseph's Pantry Closed**  
 6 p.m., M3M  
**27th** 8:30 a.m., Coffee at Epic Café  
**28th First Sunday of Advent  
 & Food Ministries Sunday**  
 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist  
 9 a.m., Child Care  
 9 a.m., *Shakespeare & the Human Mystery*  
 10 a.m., Sunday School  
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist  
 11:30 a.m., *Jesus of the Gospels*  
 11:30 a.m., eYouth13@gsp  
**29th** 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic

**Looking forward to December**

**1st** 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist  
 9 a.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)  
 6 p.m., Global Chant  
 6:30 p.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)  
**2nd** 9 a.m., Conversational French Class  
 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic  
 6 p.m., M3M  
**4th** 8:30 a.m., Coffee at Epic Café  
 1 p.m., The Rev. Kate Baird's Ordination to the Priesthood  
**5th Second Sunday of Advent**  
 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist  
 9 a.m., Child Care  
 9 a.m., *Alternative Christmas Fair*  
 10 a.m., Sunday School  
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist  
 11:30 a.m., *Alternative Christmas Fair*  
 11:30 a.m., eYouth13@gsp  
 11:30 a.m., *Jesus of the Gospels*  
**6th** 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic  
**7th** 6 p.m., Evening Prayer  
 7 p.m., Meditation Group  
**8th** 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist  
 9 a.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)  
 6 p.m., Global Chant  
 6:30 p.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)  
**9th** 9 a.m., Conversational French Class  
 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic  
 6 p.m., M3M  
**11th** 8:30 a.m., Coffee at Epic Café  
 9 a.m., *Anamcara Circle*  
**12th Third Sunday of Advent**  
 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist  
 9 a.m., Child Care  
 9 a.m., *Keeping a Celtic Christmas*  
 10 a.m., Sunday School  
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist  
 11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour  
 11:30 a.m., eYouth13@gsp  
 11:30 a.m., *Jesus of the Gospels*