

The Briefly

The newsletter for the parish community of
Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church
2331 E. Adams • Tucson, AZ 85719
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November 2015



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Rector's Letter

I received a call a few weeks ago from someone who knows all of you quite well, someone who has experienced the Grace St. Paul's community from the inside and from the outside. Living in another state now, he has been on a search. He has been trying to find a new spiritual home after having spent the last couple years with all of you. He has been to literally dozens of churches.

"I've seen it all, Steve, I've tried every mainline church anywhere near me in three different states. And here's the deal. I can't find a one that is anywhere near what we have at GSP. I know you think you do, but really, you have no idea how special Grace St. Paul's is. You have no idea how exceptional GSP is compared to the rest of the world, how meaningful and how life changing GSP has been for me and for so many others. And the very sad thing is, I just can't replace it, no matter how hard I try."

This is not the first time I have heard this story. I can think of a half dozen people who have moved from Tucson in the last two years who have used very similar words in describing to me their experience "out there."

 God has allowed us to create something magical and beautiful here... let us celebrate!

Hearing these stories has been cathartic for me because in the midst of the daily struggles to continue building and creating this beloved community, it is so easy to get wrapped up in the individual pain and struggles. It is so easy to become entwined in what we must do to solve the very complicated issues we are facing as a community and as a church. It is so difficult to not wear the emotional turmoil each of you have to face in your daily lives. But hearing those stories reminds me just how grateful I am for all of you and for what we have become together. I am so grateful, I am on the verge of tears every time I think about it.

How great would it be if we could realize what we have, without having to move away? How wonderful would it be if we could see the beauty of what we have each day without having to lose it? This

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Workers have been busy around GSP, installing new windows in McBride Hall and the office area, and adding more niches to the Memorial Garden on the east side of the property.

Submissions to The Briefly

Submit articles
to Joyce Henderson,
[BrieflyEditor@grace-
stpauls.org](mailto:BrieflyEditor@grace-stpauls.org).

John Banks receives
photos, charts, and
graphics at [jdbanks@
gmail.com](mailto:jdbanks@gmail.com).

The deadline for
the Dec. 2015/Jan.
2016 issue will be
Tuesday, Nov. 10.

Rector's Letter

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has now become the centerpiece of my prayer life. God has allowed us to create something magical and beautiful here. Good heavens, let us celebrate that each and every day!

The challenges before us remain complex and intertwined. Your Vestry has created bold priorities as we move into our future. They include physical plant improvements that concentrate on the undercroft. They have visionary plans around small group ministries and even more life-changing worship opportunities. They involve hiring clergy staff to support the Rector to make all of this happen.

To live into this vision, to continue to build the church that people weep about when they leave here, we are going to have to make a major leap in financial giving to this parish.

But I believe that all of you love this church and believe in this church as much as all those people who have left us do. We just need to realize it now. We just need to come to the place of gratefulness for what we have now. As you are prayerfully considering your estimate of giving in the next couple weeks, I pray that all of you can experience the gratefulness that I have as I have listened to the voices of those who miss us so terribly much. Beloved, we have something amazingly special happening here. Let us never ever lose sight of that.

In total gratefulness,



ALL-CHURCH WORK DAY & COOK-OUT

SATURDAY, NOV. 21

8:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

*It's that time of year again, time to spruce up our church in preparation for
Advent and Christmas.*

**LOTS OF PROJECTS—INSIDE AND OUTSIDE
LOTS OF HELPING HANDS NEEDED**

Come to McBride Hall, we'll have a cup of coffee ready for you!

Pick a project to help with. Just bring your work gloves.

We'll celebrate all our hard work with a

COOK-OUT AT NOON!

We will provide the hamburgers & hotdogs & beverages.

You are invited to bring a side dish, chips or a dessert.

Let's work and party!

For questions, contact Bill Moore or Sue Pierce via the Parish Office

Liturgy
Discussion
of the
Month
By The Rev. Steve
Keplinger



The Elevations

For those of you who have come to GSP from a high church tradition, you probably noticed right away the lack of bell ringing during the Great Thanksgiving, leading up to Communion.

Starting in the Middle Ages, bells were used during the Mass to bring attention to the high water marks. The most critical occurred when the priest elevated the host and said the words *Hoc est corpus meum*, "This is my body."

The theological underpinning to this was the understanding that this was the exact second when the host became the body of Christ. In fact, "Hoc est corpus" is almost certainly the root of the pejorative "hocus pocus."

As understood in popular culture, this is when the magic happened. The bells became a critical symbol in the service, because, for the most part, the people had no idea what was happening because they could not understand a word.

In addition, the Celebrant had actually started whispering the words of the Eucharistic Prayer because no one was paying any attention to him anyway. The bell was the attempt to make sure everyone knew it was magic time. They rung and people stopped saying their rosaries and looked up to see the elevation.

This is the reason we have made a conscious decision at Grace St. Paul's to not ring a bell at the elevation. We do not want to perpetuate the belief that anything magic is happening or that the moment of elevation is any more important than any other moment in the Eucharistic

Prayer. We understand the entire prayer as the most sacred time in the service.

The Celebrant's movements and actions during that prayer have all been carefully chosen to emphasize the increasing mystery and drama as we move from dialogue, to preface, to thanksgiving, remembering, to an invoking of the Holy Spirit and a doxology.

Each week we mark the building drama by having three elevations of the bread and wine. The first is during the words of institution. "Do this in memory of me." The second is at the doxology at the end of the prayer. The third is after the bread has been broken and you are being invited to join in the Communion.

The words I often use at the last elevation are also reminders of how we theologically understand what is happening. "This is the Body of Christ, for the Body of Christ. Be what you see, receive what you are." In other words, this is not magic, it is mystery. In the same way that you and I are the Body of Christ, this bread is the Body of Christ.

If you have watched carefully, you have noticed that our three elevations always follow the same pattern. At the words of institution, I hold the bread and the wine just above the table. At the end of the prayer, the child, the celebrant, and the Deacon hold the elements at mid-level. And at the final elevation, we hold them at the apex, above our heads.

It all represents the increasing drama. It is impossible to capture in words only, the power of what is happening. That is why the Eucharistic prayer is so full of symbols. I encourage you to watch them each week.

God chooses to bless us. Our scriptures are filled with stories telling us how God pursues us, longs for us to receive his blessings. How do you value your own blessedness and the blessedness of others?

My hope is that each of us in the Grace St. Paul's Community responds to our blessedness by fully participating in the Giving & Receiving celebration. No contribution, no matter how small, is insignificant. The simple, yet profound, action of adding your estimate of giving to everyone else's is a holy act of gratitude, and should be regarded as such.

Join me, join all of us, because together we will change the world!

Celebration Sunday
is Nov. 15—what
are we celebrating?

By Peggy Scott



Cate Waynick, as Bishop of the Diocese of Indianapolis, wrote a piece called "Blessed to be a Blessing." In that reflection, she reminds us that the life God has given us to live is overwhelmingly generous. As humans we could have been created to function on instinct, but instead we have the capacity to perceive beauty in the world. And I would add, to perceive the beauty and value of our GSP community. I hope that you saw and felt some of that beauty in the Giving & Receiving gatherings held in October, where we shared how our community changes lives.

Each of us is a blessing to those around us. We don't choose to be blessed by God. Rather,

Notes from the Choir Stalls

By Christina Jarvis,
Director of Music



A Tribute to the
Life & Music of
Kristopher Lindquist,
Thursday, Nov. 12, 5:30 p.m.
GSP's chancel

At this time of writing, we are all mourning the loss of **Kristopher Lindquist**, whose passing too young at age 62 leaves a large hole in the creative fabric of music for the progressive church. Kristopher was the organist/choir director at Grace St. Paul's from 1997 to 2002, and in those five years he put a major stamp on music for this church and contributed to parish life at churches around the country.

His distinctive chants, hymns, and songs are still in use here at GSP and will continue to be into the future. They combine easily singable tunes with inclusive texts, a knockout combination. Here is Kristopher's description of his work from the Introduction to his compilation *Chants for Meditation and Celebration*: "The style of the music reflects my love of folk melodies, such as Appalachian and Southern hymn tunes of the United States, and folk songs and folk music of the Irish and British Isles... Some of the texts are recasting of images from the Western religious tradition. They are attempts to bridge from the roots of our heritage toward newer understandings of those images." In addition to his own texts and those taken from Scripture, he also incorporated Sufi, Buddhist, and Navajo texts.

With the Rev. Canon Gordon McBride and The Rev. Elaine Breckenridge, Kristopher designed and developed a unique service, the **Mass for the Third Millennium**, which incorporated his chants and liturgical dance as integral parts of the service. Until Fr. Gordon retired, Maundy Thursday and Easter Vigil were also M3M-style services. For a number of years, Kristopher offered a contemplative *Chants for Peace* experience in the early evening on New Year's Eve, in which he improvised piano works and led the congregation in singing his chants, offering prayers for peace and healing, for which we all devoutly long. These gatherings were always well attended. Jane Click has maintained his tradition and continues to play for Spirit Now, the successor service to M3M.

Kristopher had strong feelings about what was appropriate and what was outdated in church music. He did not believe in scheduling choral works in languages other than English or Spanish, as these are the primary vernacular languages in Tucson. He believed that the organ

was on its way out and that adhering to musical styles of the past was a prescription for a dead church. He may be right about these things, but perhaps not quite yet.

He will be greatly missed by his friends, his admirers, and his two cats. Thankfully, he will live on through his music; every time we sing one of his soaring melodies, he will be present in the line, his hands on the keys, guiding us in the way of compassion. A tribute to his life and music is scheduled for **Thursday, Nov. 12, at 5:30 p.m.**, the time of Spirit Now.

And yet the Season of Creation continues. We replaced the anthems on Oct. 18 with "The Seed of God" and "Let My Prayer as Incense Rise to You," both by Kristopher—Grandi's "Dixit Dominus" and Schalk's "God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale" will wait for another time. Other anthems coming up include "God is seen," an arrangement of the tune *Captain Kidd* by Alice Parker, and an early American setting of Hatfield, "Lord, in the morning thou shalt hear my voice ascending high." For the Last Sunday in the Season of Creation, we will marshal our internal resources at GSP and offer thanks to God for "The Blue-Green Hills of Earth" from Paul Winter's *Missa Gaia*. The Zombies will join the Adult Choir on the choral parts. Assisting with this musical endeavor will be Jane Click, piano; Kathy Creath, soprano sax; and Bruce Anderson, cello.

We are grateful for the talent and ministry of Karen Hanson, who plays the Native American flute during Creation services from time to time. She will be playing more in coming Sundays. Also, on Nov. 8, Paul Amiel will join us to play the shakuhachi, a traditional Japanese bamboo flute used in the Zen Buddhist tradition.

Then, ready or not, it will be **Advent**. It's still 96 degrees. It's hard to imagine that Christmas is coming, but we'd better be ready to get ready, as it were; Advent is all about preparation: *O come, O come, Emmanuel*. There is so much fine music for Advent it's hard to fit it all in, but we'll give it a go. May you have much to be thankful for this harvest season, as we reap the fruits the Holy One has provided for us.

Peace and blessings,

Christina

Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church



Our Interim Children & Youth Staff

As all of you are aware, children and youth ministry is a major focus for the Grace St. Paul's community. With the departure of Rosalind Garcia as our Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries, we are presented with new opportunities and challenges. We have just implemented a whole new Sunday School program that contains music, worship and educational opportunities for our children in experiential settings by age group. Our youth are looking at new opportunities to serve the world and connect with each other, and they have been brainstorming those ideas over the last month.

During this transitional time, I believe we need to give our children, youth, and leaders some time to reimagine our mission and vision as we continue to look at our future and our growth pattern. Therefore, we have decided to purposefully create an interim period for this to occur before hiring a new Director. This is only possible because our present children and youth leaders have been willing to step up and fill the void. After a few weeks to get settled, we now have Interim leaders in place across our ministries.

During this Interim period, our Sunday School program will be directed by Kristen Bury. Kristen has been working with our program for a couple years and brings with her a wealth of children's education experience in multiple settings in Minnesota and Arizona. Kristen will be coordinating our new Sunday School program and acting as a mentor. Kristen took this on with virtually no chance to prepare and I cannot thank her enough for jumping in with both feet to make this happen. Our stalwart Sunday School teachers include Judy Gossard, Chanel Willis, Anne Harri, Amber Pitello, and Lauren McCallister. Wes Hunter and Jim Beckwith will teach the music portion of our program and prepare our children and youth choirs. Madeleine Caldwell and Argelia El-Khayat will continue as childcare givers in our nursery. Madeleine is also all over campus for us when our children are on the playground and other activities.

Two individuals have stepped up to co-direct our youth program over this interim period. Martha Farnham and Brianna Devereux have both volunteered huge amounts of time to help our youth live into their future together. Both are filled with excellent ideas and they have made it a priority to listen to our youth and help them create the program that they imagine. I am so grateful to both of them for stepping into this void and bringing with them a huge amount of talent and energy. In addition to Martha and Brianna, Elizabeth Gooden has volunteered to become a part of our leadership and David Christy, Wes Hunter, and Jim Beckwith will continue serving in leadership roles for us. Eric Carr will also be assisting on youth trips. Our music director, Christina Jarvis will often do the same.

I am so proud of all of our leaders and so grateful for the herculean efforts they are putting in to serve our children and youth. They are all looking forward to creating and building something wonderful over the next few months. Once we are in the midst of our search for a new director, our children and youth will be a part of that selection process. Our children and youth programs are indeed bright, thanks to our wonderful leaders.

In gratefulness,

Senior Focus

Gerrie Mackaben: Ms. Sunshine

By Ann Schlumberger

During many early Sunday services the cheery, white-haired lady reading the Scripture in Spanish will be Gerrie Mackaben.

Maudie Geraldine Hammonds Mackaben was born at the Storks's Nest (a maternity facility) in Tucson in 1929 and has lived in the Old Pueblo most of her life. She attended Tucson High School, where she was very active in the school orchestra (violin and French horn) and

wrote for the school newspaper. From THS, she went to the University of Arizona, earning a BA in Education and Spanish in 1949. She put the degree into use in Eloy, where they needed a woman to teach girls' PE and basketball. Gerrie taught those subjects, plus first- and second-year Spanish, and oversaw the publication of the school newspaper. She then went to Colorado to obtain her master's degree in Education. Although she had never pledged a sorority, she wrote her thesis on the college

students' participation in Greek life on campus because she was interested in the topic.

After gaining her MA in 1952, Gerrie taught high school in Sioux City, Iowa. There, she met her husband, Eugene "Bud" Mackaben. A girl in her class was having difficulty, and her Uncle Bud came to talk to Miss Hammonds about the situation. Subsequently, when attending this girl's wedding, Gerrie again met Bud. She says she accompanied him to pick up the wedding cake and that they fell in love at the reception!

The two were married in Tucson in 1953 and moved here permanently. Gerry continued to teach school while Bud earned an MFA at the University of Arizona. He taught at the University of Arizona and Pima College and developed a reputation for his social realistic treatment of Tucson/Southwestern themes. They couple bought a house on Third Street and converted its garage into a studio for Bud. Gerrie's father built Bud an easel. The couple had two daughters, Laurel and Jean.

Bud was very civic minded and founded the Tucson Metropolitan Ministry—a social services ministry for which Gerrie has served as an officer. He was especially interested in promoting mental health and free clinics for the underprivileged. He died in 1984.

Gerrie and Bud were longtime members of Catalina Methodist Church, but as a widow, she switched to GSP after Catalina's organist left. A news article on GSP and Fr. Gordon McBride prompted her first visit to GSP. She was quite fond of Mother Elaine Breckenridge and calls Fr. Joe Fitzgerald her "Irish cousin." In 2012 she was formally received into the Episcopal Church. In addition to the 7:45 a.m. Sunday service, she attends the Wednesday 7 a.m. Eucharist. She is a graduate of the Education for Ministry program. For her, the best part of EFM was becoming acquainted with her classmates. In fact, she shares her birthday, Dec. 29, with two other EFM grads—Sara Heishu and Linda Hutson.

With two grandchildren and four great grandkids who all live out of state, 86-year-old Gerrie resides alone with two cats, Cindy and Booboo. She loves to go to movies accompanied by Corkie Shellie, a friend of 50 years, and is an enthusiastic UA basketball fan. She also fondly remembers her travels to Australia, New Zealand, Scotland, Germany and England. New Zealand is her favorite place because "there are no grouchy people there." A note in her high school yearbook written in 1945 by principal Alice Vail still captures Gerrie's personality:

"You have made the whole year a happy one for many of us with your cooperative spirit, your cheerful smile, and your generally sunshiny character."



Gerrie Mackaben

Post from the Pantry: A re-introduction

By Andrew Gardner, Pantry Team Leader

Throughout its history, the programs on offer at Joseph's Pantry have grown and changed as the needs of the people in our community have grown and changed. Today, the Pantry provides three programs: groceries, showers, and daily hospitality. Interwoven in these programs is a radical message of love and acceptance that makes me so thankful for the volunteers in Joseph's Pantry and for the church community that supports them.

The grocery program is the one that most people think of when they think of the Pantry. We are one of the 65 distribution points in the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona's service area, and last year we were the eighteenth busiest. Each month, each household gets a CFB box, and they can get it at GSP or at any other CFB pantry. While the size of the box varies with household size, there simply isn't enough food in that box to sustain a family. Thanks to the generosity and labor of the parishioners of Grace

St. Paul's, we're able to purchase food that essentially doubles that box each month; we spend nearly all of our budget each month on that food, and we acquire an equal amount from the CFB's Agency Market through the work of volunteers who go to the CFB to get it. While we can't change what's in a CFB box, we have more freedom with the food provided by the church. If a Pantry community member doesn't have access to cooking facilities, they

pick food that is ready to eat. If a family has dietary restrictions, we can accommodate them. Imagine the relief on a parent's face when she knows she has food her children will enjoy, or the relief of parents who know we are happy to get them something kosher or halal. With the addition of an amazing selection of bread from Beyond Bread, provided by GSP volunteers through Bread for the Pantry, and frozen meat from the Agency Market, we are able to provide a variety of healthy food for our neighbors in need.

The shower program is unique in our part of Tucson. Three days a week, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, an average of twenty people who are homeless or precariously housed come to GSP to use the two showers under the narthex. Through the generous gifts of GSP parishioners, we have soap and towels, razors and combs, lotion and shampoo and conditioner. Our guests return from the showers looking refreshed, especially in the summer when the heat is oppressive.

Our daily hospitality program has grown over the last several years as the number of homeless members of the Pantry community has grown. The Community Food Bank rescues perishable food from grocery stores and provides it through the Agency Market. Volunteers from Joseph's Pantry go to the CFB and select food that we then provide for our community: yogurt, sandwiches, fruit, and vegetables. While the flow of food from the Agency Market ebbs and flows, GSP parishioners make regular gifts to ensure that there is always coffee.



Celebrate Our Connections

Not your Mother's Ministry Fair!
By Chris LaBour

There's a big Celebration on the horizon! We are coming together on Sunday, Nov. 8, as a community to celebrate our connections—how we work and play together.

Many of our fellowship and service ministries will have tables highlighting their activities. Prizes will be awarded for festive and creative displays, and you may find a group that intrigues you in a new way!

This is a great opportunity to explore ways to connect at GSP, as we search for meaningful ways to socialize, grow and serve. There will

also be opportunities to sign up for groups that are in the formative stages, such as Dinner for Eight, Lunch Bunch, Family Bowling Nights, and Single Women Living Dangerously.

To add to the fun we will have a raffle for a \$250 Paintless Dent Repair certificate from Like New Mobile Dent Repair LLC, two UA Men's basketball tickets, and other items. It's easy, fun and free to participate in the raffle. Each person receives a ticket and gets stickers placed on the ticket from visiting at least seven of the displays.

There will be *food trucks* and *live music* on the labyrinth, plus a craft table and activities for kids.

Join the celebration following both services on Sunday, Nov. 8!



Mark Scandrette led over 80 participants in a weekend workshop on Oct. 9-11 at GSP, encouraging us to imagine living as Jesus did and into the promise of God's kingdom. Forty people have continued to work with the concepts in Mark's book *FREE: Spending Your Time and Money on What Matters Most* via a 21-day experiment on Facebook.

GSP's Virtual Advent Calendar #GSPAdvent2015

By Martha P.L. Whitaker

Some organizations, like the Anglican Communion, are promoting #AdventWord 2015—A Global Advent Calendar (adventword.org), in which participants sign up to receive the daily

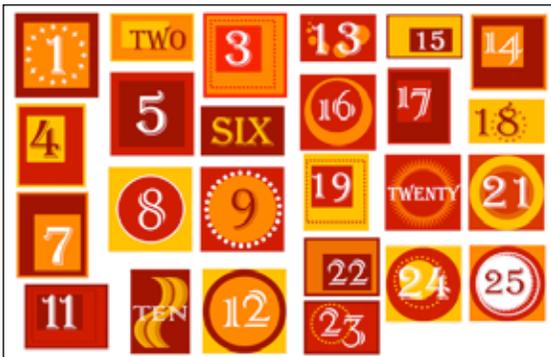
daily words that are scheduled appear in the Anglican Communion's Global Advent Calendar, and chose the following words:

- **Week 1:** #WakeUp
- **Week 2:** #Surprise
- **Week 3:** #Desire
- **Week 4:** #Reflect

The idea is the same, but provides a full week to meditate on the word, and allow that meditation to inspire an image associated with the word. It affords a full seven days to upload the image and post it with the hashtag #GSPAdvent2015 as well as the hashtagged weekly word. If you are inspired more than once during the week, you are free to upload additional images that elicit emotions associated the weekly word. You may even post images that are associated with the word from a previous week!

Participate in GSP's Social Media Advent Calendar. Live into the season of Advent as we anticipate the coming of Christ, the fulfillment of our deepest desires and longings. Respond to a weekly meditation with images and prayers that speak to your heart and be part of an Advent Calendar that brings us together in communion.

Please remember that any image that you send will be public. Please be respectful of people's privacy. Thank you.



AdventWord meditation and respond with an image of their own on Twitter, Instagram, or Facebook.

It sounds like a lot of fun, and last year, several of us from GSP started out participating in this event, but quickly burned out.

Meditating on the daily word, and then coming up with and posting an image that reflected the daily word began to add to our already busy schedules instead of providing an opportunity for the kind of slower, quiet, patient reflection that was intended.

During a recent GSP Communications Ministry meeting we discussed this dilemma, and proposed that GSP have our own #GSPAdvent2015 Advent Calendar, but instead of a new word every day, we have only one word per week. We drew upon the



SpiritSong, in the style of Taizé, offered each month

By Sue Pierce

Bless the Lord, my soul,
and bless God's holy
name

Bless the Lord, my soul, who
leads me into life."

It is beautiful and quiet. It is candlelit and contemplative. The simple chants are moving as they bring participants to a quiet place, awakening the Spirit within.

Singing, silence, scripture,

prayers—all bathed in soft candle light on the church's chancel area.

Offered once a month, on the second Sunday, at 6 pm, led by pianist, Jane Click, cantor, Michael Gibson, and coordinated by Roger Pierce, this service invites you to a place of peace.

You will want to make SpiritSong a priority on your spiritual journey. Come, come...

NEW OFFERINGS



The Devil Made Me Do It!

Sunday, Nov. 1, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

What do we think the Devil looks like? What are the Devil's names? Is the Devil in the Bible? Is the Devil in the Prayer Book? Is the Devil in our Hymnal? How does the Devil relate to the philosophical problem of evil?

Chuck Dickson, longtime GSP member and retired history professor, will present another of his entertaining and visually stimulating classes.

Workshop Series on Caring

Saturday, Nov. 7, 9:30-11 a.m., Bloom Education Center (second in a series of three workshops)

We all have colleagues, friends and family who face difficult times. Sometimes we don't know what to say or do. The traditional phrases and actions seem so old and worn. This Saturday morning series will lead you in thinking about how you can respond to those who are hurting and to feel competent and comfortable about your response. Each session will include a 20-30-minute presentation (live or video) and discussion.

Session 2: We Listen—In our concern for being a support to our friends or family members we tend to talk too much. This session, led by professional counselor Catherine Penn Williams, will give you some techniques and the confidence to be a compassionate listener.

Please register by Friday, Nov. 6 so that we will have enough chairs and handouts. Call the GSP office (520-327-6857) or check in at the Welcome Desk.

No 9 a.m. Classes on Sundays, Nov. 8 & 15 —Enjoy the festivities in McBride Hall!

GSP Readers Group

Friday, Nov. 20, 9:30-11 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Life-changing moments take place on seemingly ordinary days when we least expect it. That is one of the many lessons writer Nora Gallagher shares in her compelling memoir, *Moonlight Sonata at the Mayo Clinic*. When her doctor finds something amiss during a routine eye examination, she begins a long journey on a difficult road. Gallagher's memoir is about many things: illness, mortality, faith and doubt, work, busyness, navigating through the crazy quilt that is the American health-care system, and, ultimately, about regaining one's health and one's place in the universe.

"A fabulous book—brilliant, tender soulful. Nora Gallagher is everything I love—smart, searching, vulnerable, faithful, doubting, deeply real, and a beautiful writer."—Anne Lamott

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

Sacred Spaces in China

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

The presentation will be an illustrated tour of some Chinese sacred spaces in the Buddhist, Taoist and Confucian traditions, with the speaker's reflections on past and present uses of temples and shrines.

Chris Eastoe is a long-time member of GSP, a former Senior Warden and former Vestry member. He retired from the Geosciences Department at the University of Arizona in February 2015, and subsequently spent two months in China at the invitation of Nanjing University. This stay, and an earlier tour of China in 2013, gave him many opportunities to visit religious sites.

Sermons on Tap

Sunday, Nov. 22, 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m., Bloom Education Center

Ever leave worship on Sunday and wish you could talk about the sermon with others? Why not join like-minded folks for an open discussion of the day's sermon over beer and sandwiches?

This small group is for anyone with a desire to connect more deeply with others and a willingness to explore their own questions about how we live into the "good news" as preached at GSP. The setting will be informal and relaxed.

No need to register, come anytime. All are welcome! This discussion occurs on the third Sunday of every month. Beer, iced tea, and a light lunch will be available. Donations will be accepted to cover the costs of lunch.

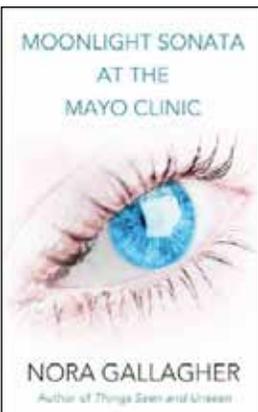
Embracing the Contradictions of Life

Sundays in Advent (Nov. 29, Dec. 6, 13 & 20), 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

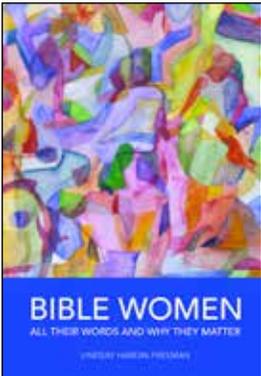
"There is a part of the soul that stirs at night, in the dark and soundless times of day, when our defenses are down and our daylight distractions no longer serve to protect us from ourselves. It's then, in the still of life, when we least expect it, that questions emerge...they call for the contemplation of possibility." —Joan Chittister, *Between the Dark and the Daylight*

The season of Advent, between dark and light, is a perfect time to explore some of the concerns of modern life. Join us for a four-week study and dialogue as we explore some of the contradictions of life, to better understand ourselves, each another and God. Topics will be drawn from Joan Chittister's most recent book, *Between the Dark and the Daylight*. It is not necessary to have read the book for the class.

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



BIBLE STUDY @ GSP

**Bible Women**

Fridays, Nov. 6 & 20, 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 provides a study of 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).

This group meets on the 1st and 3rd Friday of every month. All are welcome at any time and you do not need to have purchased the book in order to attend. No registration is necessary.

Contact Catherine Penn Williams, co-chair of Adult Spiritual Formation, at adulthood@grace-stpauls.org for more info.

WEEKLY SMALL GROUPS

**Sharing Our Spiritual Journeys,
Living the Way of Jesus**

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

For many, our understanding of what it means to be a Christian has been shaped by church teachings but also, more importantly, by time and experience over the course of our own unique spiritual journeys. In this small group we undertake a shared 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.

For Men: Coffee, Bagels and Bible Stuff

Every Thursday, 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, an experienced Bible study leader. Bill currently serves as Junior Warden at GSP.

Saturday Java Jive: Coffee & Conversation

Every Saturday, 8:30-11 a.m., Epic Café (745 N. 4th Ave., corner of 4th Ave. & 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.

Epic has free Wi-Fi so tablets and laptops are welcome (you never know when Wikipedia will need to be consulted). Look for us at the group of little round tables in the back of the café.

*Coming in November: Two more follow-up opportunities to the October retreat with Mark Scandrette***Tucson 21 Day Experiment #2**

Following the Oct. 9-11 weekend retreat with Mark Scandrette, forty individuals committed to spending 21 days conducting an experiment using a private Facebook Group. Members were invited to identify and articulate a series of steps we might take to live more freely as God created us—in other words, to be more dangerously alive.

Beginning **Wednesday, Nov. 11**, a **second online group** will offer support for taking steps to live into the promise of God's Kingdom. The model we will use is based on the book *FREE: Spending Your Time and Money on What Matters Most* by Mark Scandrette. It is not necessary to have attended the workshop with Mark or to

purchase the book. Newcomers to Mark's work may want to listen to this podcast (speakr.com/user/reimagine/experiencing-personal-transformation) first.

This second experiment, which concludes Tuesday, Dec. 1, is open to all, including current members of the first group.

To sign up, go to facebook.com/groups/960006154044928/ or search for “Tucson 21 Day Experiment #2” on Facebook and send a request to join the group. Or contact Catherine Penn Williams at adulthood@grace-stpauls.org for more information.

FREE: An Eight-Week Study Group

We want to start a group to explore these same issues in a face-to-face format for those not on Facebook or who would like a different kind of group experience.

Please join us for an introductory meeting on **Monday, Nov. 16, from 6-7:30 p.m., in the Bloom Education Center**, to see if this group is right for you. At that time, we will discuss group format, and select a date and time to begin. Members will need to purchase a copy of *FREE: Spending Your Time and Money on What Matters Most* by Mark Scandrette (available in Kindle or paperback format through Amazon).



Grace St. Paul's

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

What's Happening in November 2015

WEEKLY SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

Sundays

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

Monday

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

Tuesdays

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

Wednesdays

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

Thursdays

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

Saturdays

- 9 a.m., Altar Guild

1st 9 a.m., <i>The Devil Made Me Do It!</i>	20th 9:30 a.m., GSP Readers Group	Study
2nd 10 a.m., <i>Sharing Our Spiritual Journeys</i>	9:30 a.m., Community of Hope meeting	6:30 p.m., Spirit Players Play-Reading
10 a.m., EJM Post-Grad Forum	6:30 p.m., Film & Fellowship	5th 8:30 a.m., Java Jive: Epic Café
7 p.m., Green Church Committee	21st 8:30 a.m., Java Jive, Epic Café	6th SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
4th 10 a.m., Desert Angel Quilters	22nd 9 a.m., <i>Sacred Spaces in China</i>	<i>Dog and Cat Food Collection</i>
12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry	11:45 a.m., <i>Sermons on Tap</i>	9 a.m., <i>Embracing Contradictions</i>
5th 7:30 a.m., <i>For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.</i>	1 p.m., Mother's Kitchen	7th 10 a.m., <i>Sharing Our Spiritual Journeys</i>
6th 6:30 p.m., Spirit Players Play-Reading	3 p.m., True Concord Voices & Orchestra	10 a.m., EJM Post-Grad Forum
7th 8:30 a.m., Java Jive, Epic Café	23rd 10 a.m., <i>Sharing Our Spiritual Journeys</i>	7 p.m., Green Church Committee
9:30 a.m., <i>Workshop on Caring</i>	24th 9 a.m., Primavera Cooks!	9th 10 a.m., Desert Angel Quilters
9:30 a.m., Community of Hope Workshop	6:30 p.m., Vestry Meeting	10th 7:30 a.m., <i>For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.</i>
8th 6 p.m., SpiritSong: Worship & Prayer in the style of Taizé	25th 10 a.m., Desert Angel Quilters	12th 8:30 a.m., Java Jive, Epic Café
9th 10 a.m., <i>Sharing Our Spiritual Journeys</i>	26th THANKSGIVING DAY	13th THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
7 p.m., Joseph's Pantry meeting	<i>Office closed</i>	9 a.m., <i>Embracing Contradictions</i>
11th 10 a.m., Desert Angel Quilters	7:30 a.m., <i>For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.</i>	6 p.m., SpiritSong: Worship & Prayer in the style of Taizé
12th 7:30 a.m., <i>For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.</i>	27th THANKSGIVING FRIDAY	14th 10 a.m., <i>Sharing Our Spiritual Journeys</i>
14th PARISH WORK DAY	<i>Office closed</i>	7 p.m., Joseph's Pantry meeting
8:30 a.m., Java Jive, Epic Café	28th 8:30 a.m., Java Jive, Epic Café	16th 10 a.m., Desert Angel Quilters
10 a.m., CPR Class	29th FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	12 Noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry
16th 10 a.m., <i>Sharing Our Spiritual Journeys</i>	9 a.m., <i>Embracing Contradictions</i>	17th 7:30 a.m., <i>For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.</i>
6 p.m., Study Group Intro	30th 10 a.m., <i>Sharing Our Spiritual Journeys</i>	18th 9:30 a.m., Community of Hope meeting
18th 3p.m., Foundation for Episcopal Ministry	Coming Up in December	10 a.m., <i>Bible Women: A Bible Study</i>
19th 7:30 a.m., <i>For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.</i>	2nd 10 a.m., Desert Angel Quilters	6:30 p.m., Film & Fellowship
	12 Noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry	19th 8:30 a.m., Java Jive, Epic Café
	3rd 7:30 a.m., <i>For Men: Coffee, Bagels & B.S.</i>	6 p.m., <i>Las Posadas</i>
	4th 9:30 a.m., GSP Readers Group	
	10 a.m., <i>Bible Women: A Bible</i>	