

The Briefly

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

Getting to Know the Keplingers— a Variety of Venues

(pgs 3, 4)

An Equinox Liturgy on the Labyrinth

(pg 7)

Sunday School & Choir resume Sept. 12

(pgs 6, 9)

La Clinica de San Andres— still going strong!

(pg 8)

A Message from Fr. Steve Keplinger

The recent events in the whirling lives of our GSP community cry out for reflection and some time for quiet meditation for all of us. As if the transitions and changes were not already reaching the overwhelming stage, The Rev. Canon Gordon McBride's sudden death has changed everything again. It was not supposed to be this way. Yes, we will still begin our journey together in hope and expectation. First, however, all of you need time to grieve, including an opportunity to reflect on all that Gordon+ meant to you personally and to this community. That time will be essential as we heal together. I have to tell you that when I dreamed about what it would be like when Jean and I joined all of you, I originally had visions of a kind of sacred baton pass from Gordon+. Perhaps that will still happen in some form. It will just be much more symbolic than what I had envisioned.

We must stay connected to the past while simultaneously living into the future...

Let me also confess that I am not very good at practicing what I preach. As important as I know that reflection time is, this is an intensely full time for Jean and me. We too are spending significant amounts of time pastorally responding to the grief up here in Page. We have also doubled our efforts to insure that all the social ministries and liturgical programs at St. David's will continue to run fluidly and without interruption, while at the same time trying to concentrate mostly on you and the future. None of this includes the hundreds of myriad details involved in moving. Just transferring computer files has kept me up to ridiculous hours too many nights and is making me even more crazy than I am already!

However, during Taizé and other brief times of meditation, it has occurred to me that Gordon's+ untimely death is not only something each of you must take time to reflect upon and grieve, but also something we must utilize to focus us on the task ahead. In the August *Briefly*, I spoke of my desire to meet and hear from all of you about your dreams for the future. It is impossible for me to understand those dreams without hearing them in the context of Gordon+. If I am going to serve you well, I need to comprehend your history, so that we will always and forever stay connected to that past. As we begin to meet and discuss, our approach therefore will be two pronged. Tell me about the past so that we may carry it into the future. Think about how we can best honor Gordon+ and always carry him with us. After all, that is who we are as Anglicans. We are inex-

Continued on Page 2



A Biographical Profile of the Keplingers, pg 4

From the Senior Warden

We officially entered a transition in June 2008 when the late Rev. Canon Gordon McBride retired as rector of Grace St. Paul's. For over two years the people of this parish have met the challenges and adversity of life in transition with much grace and resilience. We have worked hard to maintain our identity as a welcoming and inclusive church where our worship is beautiful, nourishing, and faithful to our Anglican tradition. We have strived to continue to be a safe place to ask questions about our faith journeys and a community that acts for social justice. We now await, with excitement—and, okay, perhaps not a little anxiety—the coming of our new rector, the Rev. Steve Keplinger on his first official Sunday at GSP on Sept. 12. And, at that point our period of adversity will be over, right?

Well, in some ways, the answer is yes. We will no longer be living with the unanswerable question, “Who will be our next leader?” The process of welcoming Fr. Steve and Jean among us will be very different from welcoming our interim rectors. Steve and Jean's ministry will not be temporary but, hopefully, a long and creative one that invites us all into a new and engaging way to be church. This relationship will be more like a marriage, and it will probably follow a similar trajectory from falling in love to discovering exactly who each other is... warts and all. I remember the many times I thought to myself during my first year of marriage, “Ooohhhh, so this is how it's going to be...” Now, mind you, I love being married and I adore my husband. But I suspect that for most people, their relationships, like a lot of other human endeavors, don't

turn out exactly the way they expected. Falling in love is one thing, happily ever after is another...

Many of us are at our best during the initial stages of challenging circumstances. It's once the crisis has calmed down that we can become vulnerable, less accessible to our best selves. At GSP we are leaving behind one period of challenge and entering another as we begin a new transition—yes, another transition—as a community. Change will be a reality. Those changes will occur too quickly for some, and not soon enough for others. Some change will be welcomed with open arms, some change perhaps not so much by everyone. But like marriage, I encourage us to stick it out together, to engage in the work of building new relationships, listening to each other, taking each other seriously, compromising, and opening our hearts and minds to new things. I can testify from experience that having married my complete opposite in the temperament department (my INTJ to his ESFP), the differences between us make life more interesting—and they constantly invite me to make a choice between stomping my feet about something I don't like and growing to appreciate something that is unfamiliar to me. Mostly, I find the latter much more rewarding.

We are still in the long season of Pentecost but in some ways it feels more like Advent. We await the coming of the unknown, and it is very near. Let us be open, with expectant and hopeful hearts, to our new lives together.

Faithfully yours,

Catherine Penn Williams

Briefly Deadline

The next deadline for the *Briefly* is Tuesday, Sept. 21, for the October issue. Please send electronic articles to Martha P.L. Whitaker at: jartham@cox.net. Either MS Word or Word Perfect format is acceptable, or you may simply paste the article into the body of your email. If you do not have access to a computer, please call the parish office and ask if there is a volunteer who can help you type it into an electronic file. Please send graphics and photos directly to John Banks jdbanks@gmail.com.

Message from Fr. Steve

Continued from Page 1

trically tied to the communion of saints, and at GSP, that communion must always begin with Gordon+.

In fact, it is this approach that I hope we will take with every aspect of our lives together. We must stay connected to the past while simultaneously living into the future. That is how I pray we interact with one another, care for one another and reach out to others. It is also the way I believe we should always worship together. One of the many things that attracted me to all of you from the beginning was your stated desire to create “new and innovative lit-

urgies.” Liturgy that does not speak to us in our present place and time is for me, all but meaningless. However, at the same time, liturgy must be a direct link to our historic roots. It is simple to do liturgy out of a book. It is also a snap to make liturgy that responds to contemporary culture. The trick is to do both.

When liturgy is done well, I believe we will simultaneously hear Hippolytus and Gordon McBride+. May we always honor our roots, live our legacy and carry our tradition so the light of the past will guide us into the future of our dreams.

Steve+

Getting to Know the Keplingers —a Variety of Venues

By Chris LaBour

Coffee Hour

Fr. Steve and Jean's first Sunday with us will be Sept. 12, and we will celebrate with a bounteous coffee hour after both services. Everyone is encouraged to bring a special coffee hour treat to share on that day.

Please see or contact Joan Cooney to help with preparations: joan.cooney@comcast.net or 529-0711.

Southwestern Fiesta

All are invited to our big welcome party for Fr. Steve and Jean Keplinger on Friday, Sept. 17, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. in McBride Hall. The evening will begin at 6:45 on the Labyrinth with special entertainment by Poi-Zen. You won't want to miss the fire batons!

Dinner will be in McBride Hall, accompanied by a strolling Mariachi Band. Dinner will continue the Southwestern theme, with the main course being provided. We are asking parishioners to contribute appetizers, salads and side dishes with the same flavor. **Bring an appetizer if your last name begins with A to H, salad if your last name is I to R, and side dish if you are S to Z.** The meal will end with a special dessert auction with the proceeds going to a GSP fund selected by Fr. Steve. We are looking for twenty delicious desserts to auction off! If you or a loved one would like to share your special

Can you help?

Ann Bates is looking for a portable firepit for use at the Southwestern Fiesta, and strings of Christmas lights—C7 or C9 size. Please contact Ann through the church office if you can help—327-6857.

treat, please let Ann Bates know, in person or at rabatestucson@msn.com. The evening will close with a special Transition Ceremony held on the Labyrinth at 9 p.m.

Sunday evening Conversation & Dessert with Fr. Steve

Sunday Evening Conversations will be hosted by several GSP ministry groups. You will be able to sign up for an evening through the GSP office or at the Welcome Table on Sunday mornings. The meetings will be in the Bloom Room from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Dates and host groups are:

Sept. 12—Congregational Development and the OWel Team

Sept. 19—Healing & Pastoral Care Ministries

Sept. 26—Liturgy and Worship

Oct. 10—Adult Education

Oct. 17—Children and Youth Ministries

Oct. 24—Social Justice & Outreach

Parish Welcome Album Being Created!

As a way of welcoming Fr. Steve and Jean Keplinger to GSP, we are putting together an album of parishioners' names and faces. This will be a way for us to let them know a little more about who we are. Please submit a photo along with a short paragraph telling about you and your family—hobbies, job, interests, travels, etc.

Turn in your contribution at the Welcome Table or in the church office, or e-mail your photo and paragraph to Chris LaBour at celabour@aol.com.

We really want to have everyone represented, so download a photo from your camera, print it up, write a paragraph and bring/send it in. **The deadline is Sept. 5**, but sooner is always better!





A Biographical Profile of the Keplingers

Steve and Jean were born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland. Steve was raised and steeped in the Roman Catholic tradition and attended parochial grade school. As a teenager, Steve was being groomed to be a Catholic priest. However, he began questioning the church's

stance on many issues, including the role of women in the church, the church's stance on birth control and their seeming lack of interest in the population explosion, the hierarchical structure of the church, and the disconnection between his experience of God in the natural world and the church's teaching that God could only be accessed through the church. Steve could not reconcile the disparity between his own theology and the Catholic Church's stance on these issues, and turned away from the possibility of ordination.

Jean grew up Methodist. She was a very active participant in the church, first as a member of the choir and the youth group and later as a Sunday school teacher for many years.

Both Jean and Steve grew up with an affinity for the outdoors and both felt the strong presence of God while wandering the rolling

forests and mountains of the east. Eventually Steve bought a cabin in the mountains of the panhandle of West Virginia. Both Jean and Steve have family roots in West Virginia, on their fathers' sides of the family. After Steve returned to Maryland for a job opportunity in the credit card industry, Jean and Steve met at their place of employment. They became close platonic friends with their shared interest in the outdoors and their common backgrounds.

A major shift in Steve's life occurred when he made his first trip to the western United States. He fell in love with the wide open spaces, especially in the desert southwest. After a raft trip down the Colorado, and his first night under a sky brilliant with thousands of stars, he determined to move west.

Nine months in southern California was followed by a move to St. George, Utah.

Living between the Grand Canyon and Zion National Park, Steve spent much time in the midst of the desert landscape, writing about that experience for local papers and a few national magazines. During those years he was employed as a sales manager for a local printing company.

Meanwhile, back in Maryland, after having raised her three children, Laura, Barbara and Jim, Jean continued her career in the administration field of the credit card industry. After making her own trip out west to see Steve, they made a visit to Toroweap at the Grand Canyon, where Jean also became intoxicated by the desert landscape. Here their platonic friendship blossomed into something even deeper. They married at Yosemite National Park, at the base of Yosemite Falls.

In addition to the outdoors, Steve's other major passions are baseball and writing. He was able to combine those two when he wrote the book, *The Comeback Kids*. Steve likes to say that in his family, there is no clear distinction between religion and baseball. Both are in his blood. As he states in the first sentence of that book, "I was born with the Baltimore Orioles." *The Comeback Kids* is an emotional reaction to the 1989 season of the Orioles and the community around them.

Steve and Jean began another spiritual journey after their marriage which led them to the

Transition News

Episcopal Church in 1986. It was the obvious place for a previous Methodist and Roman Catholic to meet. Soon Steve realized that his thought process had always been Anglican and eventually his vocational considerations from early life returned to him. After being approached independently by seven people at Grace Church in St. George, Utah, about whether he had ever considered ordained ministry, he again began thinking about the possibility of serving as a cleric, but this time in a church that made sense to him. During this time Jean returned to another of her passions, being with and caring for children and youth. She became

the youth minister at Grace. She and Steve also started a tutoring program for children living on the Paiute reservation not far from their home. After years in these pastoral ministries and in discernment, Steve entered Church Divinity School of the Pacific (CDSP) in the fall of 1997. He then spent two years of seminary commuting to the Episcopal Theological School in Claremont, CA before returning to CDSP to finish his studies. He completed his Master of Divinity degree at the end of 2000 and was ordained in August 2001.

He and Jean came to St. David's in January 2001. Jean created the Sunday school program, as well as the food pan-

try outreach. Eventually, that program grew into "The Circle of Page", which includes the pantry, a soup kitchen, a financial aid agency and counseling services. Steve created new liturgies, including a "Season of Creation", that became well known throughout the Episcopal Church. St. David's grew exponentially, and in 2008, the parish completed a new church building to house all the new members. St. David's has become a model for church vitality and the emerging church movement in the mainline tradition.

Steve and Jean are humbled and excited to continue their journey with the people of Grace St. Paul's.

Dear GSP Family,

Thank you so much for all the cards, hospital visits, home cooked meals, LEM visits and healing touch sessions in the aftermath of Catherine's recent knee surgery! Surgery and pain are no picnic, but through this entire experience we were constantly reminded of and surrounded by the love of God as manifested by the people of this congregation. We are grateful beyond words for your support and caring!

Much love,
*Steve & Catherine
Penn Williams*



The Grapes and The Wheat

Viv May, Wendy and Lu Pipentacos, Nanalee Raphael, Priscilla Sprague, Jean Marie Smart, Kathryn Conway and son, Chris Conway, Steve Williams, and Eleanor Kohloss have all painted at some time or other in the past, many months of Saturdays. Though the original plan was to paint one side with imagery and the other side with a solid color, the mornings were so hot we had visions of lily ponds... and thus began Side Two. It will be finished when we stop painting. Appreciation from many has been gratefully received and the colors are doing what *I think* God intended—to lift up our hearts.

Liturgy & Music

Notes from the Choir Stalls



Personal, private prayer thrives on solitude, but the spiritual engine of communal prayer is music. Whether it be the praise band of the Brooklyn Tabernacle, the ‘old-time music’ of Berkeley Springs’ love church, the antiphonal call and response of the Roman Catholic Mass, austere Gregorian chants, our Reform synagogue’s packed services, or the powerful gospels of the African-American Baptist church... music lifts the spirit, stirs the soul and enables us to experience transcendence in ways that even the most well-written liturgy cannot. Those who seek to learn how to pray should look for a congregation where the music is inspiring and worshipers sing their hearts out.”

—Richard A. Block, Senior Rabbi, The Temple-Tifereth Israel, Beachwood, Ohio (printed in the *New York Times Magazine*, Oct. 4, 2009, Letters section).

What he said. What a challenge. We are fortunate at Grace St. Paul’s to have a singing congregation; congregational music has been important to us, as it should be. Leaders of the early Christian church thought singing was essential to worship. To quote St. Ignatius, c. 110CE, “You must, every [one] of you, join in a choir, that being harmonious and in concord and taking the keynote of God in unison...sing with one voice through Jesus Christ to the Father...” (quote from the Center for Church Music website). He actually said “every man of you” but let’s just redact that, shall we? As we begin our new season and our new administration with Fr. Steve Keplinger, I am thinking prayerfully on 1) how to get you all in the choir, and 2) how we

can keep singing with spirit and as one, whether we sit in the chancel or in the pews.

For those of you wishing to try the choir experience, we meet on Thursdays from 7:30 to 9 p.m. (7 to 9 p.m. during Advent and Lent) and at 9:15 on Sunday mornings to practice before the 10 a.m. service. We sing a wide range of styles and have a great, if occasionally irreverent, time.

We have new choral music from St. Matthew’s, thanks to Fr. Rick Wilson’s continuing generosity, which has yielded some tasty options for a more contemporary sound. I’ve also borrowed a copy of the Presbyterian hymnal, “Sing the Faith”, which is their version of “Wonder, Love, and Praise.” There are some good possibilities for the occasional choir anthem, as well as for congregational singing, provided our music license allows printing them in the bulletin.

In the meantime, I’m busy planning, which is my own private, perfectionistic purgatory. The choir is back on Sept. 12, Fr. Steve’s first Sunday with us. It’s got to be great. Do we do the Stanford Te Deum, or is that too trad Anglican? More to the point, can we do it in one rehearsal? With the Rutter “The Lord is my Shepherd”? All will be made plain. It’s in St. Cecilia’s hands.

Thanks to all the wonderful parish musicians who shared their gifts through the summer, in order of appearance: James Callegary, Cathy Wolfson/Linda Darling/Pete Weiblen/Spencer Hunter, Ann Stephens, James Neeley, Richard Cameron, Miriam Huber, Wendy Pipentacos, and Jane Click’s Lieto Ensemble. We’re grateful for their willingness to serve.

Let’s all look forward to a beautiful fall season after the summer’s heat. May the Holy One grant us such inspiration that with one voice and lifted spirits we may experience the transcendence that is the birthright of every soul.

Peace,

Christina Jarvis
Director of Music

Blessing of the Animals on St. Francis Day Sunday, Oct. 3

6 p.m. on the Labyrinth

Bring your furry, scaly, feathered, invertebrate, or even stuffed animal companions to be blessed in celebration of St. Francis Day. This is a wonderful way to celebrate the spirituality of our animal companions! Remember to be sensitive to all animals’ needs by keeping your dogs on leashes, cats in sturdy carriers (if they will tolerate coming at all), and other animals in appropriate enclosures.



Equinox Liturgy

By Fr. Steve Keplinger



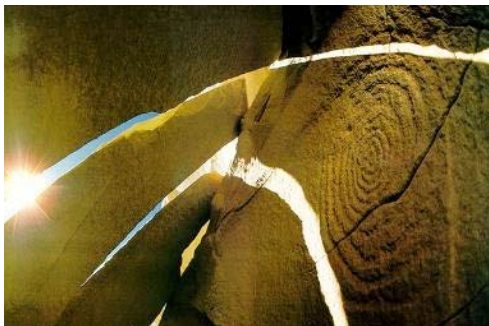
At the end of a body-busting clay road in northwestern New Mexico lies a very important cultural and religious landmark. Hundreds of years ago, the location was the hub of a grand network of roads that spoked out from it. It was called Center Place in those days and it was *the* pilgrimage destination for people who lived hundreds of miles away. Apparently, it was an indigenous Mecca, the place everyone went to connect themselves with God, with creation and with each other.

Today, we know Center Place by another name. It is called Chaco Canyon. The religious significance of the site is apparent through the many ceremonial kivas that dot the landscape. However, a few years ago, an archeologist made another discovery on a butte that overlooks the canyon. She was up there examining some petroglyphs, including the spiral glyph pictured above.

On one summer day, she noticed that the entire petroglyph was in the shade, except for a single dagger of light piercing the exact center:



It was only later that she realized that she had been on the butte on June 21, the summer solstice. A return to the butte on Dec. 21, the winter solstice, revealed this design, two shafts of light on the exact edges of the petroglyph:



On the spring and fall equinox, the shafts are halfway between the two.

Today, we are all amazed

that an ancient people could design such an amazing seasonal clock. But for them, totally unlike us, awareness of the seasons was second nature. What intrigues me is at the place that most archeologists consider the most important religious location in the American Southwest, we find a permanent way to mark the turning of the seasons. What part this played in the religious worship of the Anasazi is unclear, but it seems obvious that it was critically important and that it helped link the Anasazi to their understanding of God.

In today's world, we have totally disconnected ourselves from the opportunity to experience God through the natural seasons. As Christians, we have participated in this separation of God and nature because of the early church's fear of pantheism, the idea that nature is God. Only our Celtic tradition was able to preserve some of our ancient Christian roots and the knowledge that one of the most effective ways to experience God was through the natural world.

In an effort to recover those Celtic roots and rediscover the experience of God through the change of the seasons, we will be celebrating the Fall Equinox here at GSP on **Tuesday, Sept. 21, at 5:30 p.m.** Please join us as we gather on the labyrinth for this short, informal, but meaningful liturgy. The service will include a walking meditation on the labyrinth and is designed to help us reestablish our relationship to God through creation and each other. Come check it out and let us know what you think.

Steve+

Social Justice & Outreach

La Clinica de San Andres ~ St. Andrew's Children's Clinic

By Lynne Albright

St. Andrew's Children's Clinic is a non-denominational, nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide free medical treatment for disabled children of impoverished parents from Mexico, using medical and lay volunteers from both sides of the border. "La Clinica," as it is informally called, is still going strong with the 200 or so families who come from Mexico for medical and educational services for the children. Some of the families ride as much as twelve hours to receive services not available in their villages.

Children come for pediatric care which often involves the need for medication for chronic diseases. They can also see orthopedists, neurologists, nutritionists, occupational and physical therapists, eye care specialists, audiologists, and speech therapists. A pedorthist (The Rev. Mike Meyers) fits children requiring special shoes, and other professionals provide and care for leg braces, artificial limbs, and wheelchairs. Referrals are made from La Clinica to other specialists for further testing or surgery. Educational services are also provided for children with vision, hearing or speech impairments. One weekend a year,

St. Andrew's sponsors a clinic in Hermosillo to correct cleft palates for as many as forty young patients.

Medical and educational care occurs one day a month at St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Nogales, Ariz. The clinic has been in business for 36 years. GSP has been involved for well over ten years. We have six people who assist every month, and another four or five who volunteer occasionally. A number of GSP volunteers work in Vision Services where, in addition to providing eye glasses, services are provided for blind children and families with children ranging in age from babies to school children who need to learn Braille, cooking skills, or how travel with a white cane.

If you are interested in coming down for a tour and a great Mexican lunch, contact Lynne Albright, as we need to make appointments for tours and this requires advance notice, especially as the fall progresses. For more information you can talk with any of our regular volunteers: Lynne Albright, Kay Bigglestone, Kathy Allen, Chuck & Nancy Hannan, and Marilyn Abraham. Others involved include Ann & Rich Bates, Tricia Galvin, and Ardis Pitello. Francis and Marilyn Cartier continue their work with the clinic by sewing receiving blankets, bibs and other items for newborns.

Parish Life

Weekly Email Updates

We are pleased to announce a new look for our weekly updates to the parish email list. GSP is using a new format that allows photos, links to our website, Facebook and Twitter, and new ways of communicating who we are and what we're doing! Many thanks to the Parish Communications Committee for their creativity and hard work to make this happen! Please notify David Wachter in the church office (gsp1@dakotacom.net) if you would like to add your email address to our database.

Ministry Fair!

**Sunday, Oct. 10; 9 & 11:30 a.m.,
throughout the church campus**

Come celebrate the many ministries of Grace St. Paul's! There will be informative booths, interactive media, great food and fun prizes! This annual event is for newcomers and old-timers alike to discover new ways to get involved at GSP by finding a ministry that fits your interests, skills, abilities, and time schedule.

Coordinated by Catherine Williams, Senior Warden, and Linda Hutson, Junior Warden.

Free Health Screening Oct. 10

In conjunction with Community of Hope and the Pastoral Care Team, GSP will offer complementary health screenings from 7:45-11:45 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 10 during the Ministry Fair. There will be a large bus parked on Adams Street in front of the church, and the staff will provide blood pressure checks and blood glucose tests. These will take just a few minutes. Staff will also provide you with information on staying healthy.

The screenings are provided as a community service by CareMore Health Plan, a Medicare Advantage organization. CareMore will also be providing screenings throughout the year to our Joseph's Pantry clients. Be sure to thank them for providing these services for the most needy!

No appointment needed, just show up at the bus.

Children & Youth

Isn't it wonderful when affirmation knocks on your door and you can smile and say "Thank you, God" as you open it and see new opportunities before you? That is how I am feeling in this time of waiting for Father Steve and his wife, Jean, to come and see the tender care with which all persons at Grace St. Paul's are nour-

ished and cared for, no matter how old they are or where they come from. Awesome God is there for all of us, always, and although understanding God is a journey we make our whole lives long, age is no pre requisite for having a relationship with God.

Henri Nouwen writes, "The children always challenge me to live in the present...I marvel at their ability to be fully present to me. Their uninhibited expression of affection and their willingness to receive it pull me directly into the moment and invite me to celebrate life where it is found." It has also been my experience that children enter everything before them with all of themselves, whether taking a walk, coloring a picture or hanging out with mom and dad. They know, naturally, how to love with all of themselves and a palatable sense of Joy radiates from them when they see someone they know. We do not need to teach children how to love... it is just who they are. Our task is to introduce them to the only one who can love them with the same depth that they love ... and that is God.

As we stand on the brink of a new program year, we thank Madeleine Caldwell and a com-

mittee of loving grandmothers, for their good care of our littlest parishioners in the nursery. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd materials in the room for the 3-year-olds through Kindergarten reflect their need to experience God in scripture and in handling models of articles of the Eucharist, the parables, the person of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit. Emily Nickerson, Nadine Cole and Harriet Claiborne are all trained catechists.

Building on this foundation, first and second graders will be with Holly Shinn and Clif Click, who will use Seasons of the Spirit to bring to life the same lectionary that adults will hear in the service. Third and fourth graders will also be working with Seasons of the Spirit and Jim Kane will be with them after Christmas... **We still need help for fall!** Fifth and sixth graders will listen with Alicia and Rogelio Lara to the lectionary lessons and help us occasionally in the service with readers and music. Junior and Senior High will be the recipients of an adapted program from the Rite 13 and J2A series, with the experienced insight of Wendy Pipentacos and others. Music with Jane Click and Steve Brookbanks will enliven all of us!

We ask for your prayers as we start this adventure together on **Sunday, Sept. 12, at 10 a.m.** in the Undercroft. Registration forms are available now at the Welcome Table on Sundays in McBride Hall. You are welcome to call Harriet Claiborne at 299-6123 or email her at ChildrenYouth@grace-stpauls.org.

Bless you all!

Harriet Claiborne

"Sunday school resumes Sept. 12. Registration forms are available at the Welcome Table on Sundays in McBride Hall."



Cookies made by GSP children to raise funds for Water for Malawi

Adult Spiritual Formation

Welcome to the Fall–Winter season of GSP’s Spiritual Formation and Adult Education classes!

For this season’s offerings, you’ll find classes for many perspectives and interests including Animals and Spirituality, Islam, and Medicare.

Another exciting change is the distribution of the GSP Spiritual Formation and Adult Education class listings. The information for classes will be disseminated through a monthly update as a Sunday Bulletin insert for you to take home, a weekly bulletin announcement (as before), email updates, the *Briefly*, the monthly listings on the bulletin boards, and monthly updates on our Webpage. We will not publish a booklet three times a year.

This is exciting! One of the advantages is that the classes and related information will be current and (hopefully) less confusing. Let us know what you think!

Medicare 101... So You Can Understand It! Sunday, Sept. 5

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

In this workshop, we will discuss: When should you apply for Medicare? What are Medicare parts A, B, C, D, and how do they work? What your additional options may include—everything from continuing group health insurance, Medicare Supplements, Medicare Advantage Plans, and Medicare Drug Plans. How do you decide among all your choices? We will discuss how all of these can work with VA coverage, low income subsidy, or state Medicaid (if eligible), and we welcome your questions on these important topics.

Facilitated by Liz Saxby, a benefits consultant, who is familiar with the labyrinth of Medicare plans. Liz Saxby has served the last nine years as CEO of the Saxby Agency of Tucson, Inc. Her agency, which she founded in 2001, specializes in Medicare Plans as well as Life, Health, Disability, and Long-Term Care Insurance.

Education for Ministry (EfM)

Sept. 8-May 2011; 7-9:30 p.m. (evening class)

Sept. 15-May 2011; 9-11:30 a.m. (daytime class)

Classes begin in the fall and are then closed to enrollment until the following year.

Lay persons face the difficult and often subtle task of interpreting the richness of the church’s faith in a complex and confusing world. Many of us find the need for a theological education that supports our faith and teaches us to express that faith in day-to-day events. Education for Ministry, or EfM, has come to play an important role. Advance registration is required. For more about current Grace St. Paul’s EfM groups, contact Chris Ledyard (321-4123), Nanalee Raphael (326-5617), Kay Bigglestone (326-1652), or the Rev. Mary Delaney (829-6933).

Community of Hope Training: Saturday, Sept. 18

10-11:30 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Dr. Claudia Svara from Trinity Cathedral will speak about health care ministries in the Diocese, including parish nursing programs. All are welcome to listen and to ask questions as Community of Hope is considering sponsoring a monthly parish nurse program at Grace St. Paul’s.

Crossan at GSP Revisited

Sundays, Sept. 19, Oct. 31, & Nov. 7

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

View and discuss clips of the discussions led by Dominic Crossan when he came to Grace St. Paul’s in previous years. How do his concepts of Progressive Christianity match or differ from yours?

Facilitated by Steve Williams, co-chair of GSP’s Social Justice Covenant Group.

Animals & Spirituality

Sundays, Sept. 26 & Oct. 3

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

Animals and Spirituality is now an official ministry at Grace St. Paul’s. We’ll spend time discussing the ministry of animals and what we at Grace St. Paul’s can do to support this ministry. We will explore St. Francis’ role in this vital ministry and how our respect for animals and nature fits in with God’s creation.

Facilitated by the Rev. Nadine Martin and Chris Ledyard, both members of the Third Order of the Society of St. Francis, a religious community in the Episcopal Church and Anglican Communion. Both are committed animal lovers.

Adult Spiritual Formation

Enneagrams:

A Tool for Spiritual Development

Pre-registration required by Sept. 14

Tuesdays, Sept. 28, Oct. 5, 19

7-9 p.m., Bloom Education Center

Enneagrams have been correlated with the Myers-Briggs as a personality predictor in a ten year study conducted by psychologist Helen Palmer. It can be used to deepen spiritual development. Enneagrams provide various frameworks for clarifying the spiritual paths, tasks, biases, and practices most relevant and useful to individuals. This can be the beginning of a life-long study. Please pre-register through the church office, as this class requires a minimum of 5 and maximum of 15 people.

Facilitated by Ardis Pitello who has studied and used Enneagrams for 15 years.

Community of Hope Training

Saturday, Oct. 2

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

Interested in becoming a lay chaplain through the Community of Hope? Mark your calendar for this training session on Pastoral Care. More information will be in the Sunday bulletin. Open to all.

Can You Believe What You See?

Sunday, Oct. 3

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., McBride Hall

Come view cartoon images of immigrants throughout history, and learn how the media and culture inform our perceptions and attitudes toward immigrants. A light lunch of soup and salad will be provided for a small fee.

Facilitated by various members of the Bridging Border Committee, including: Lynne Albright, Ann and Rich Bates, Kay Bigglestone, Laura Briggs, Gretchen and Walter Collins, Joan Cooney, Dolores and Paul Gohdes, the Rev. Nancy Meister, and Rhonda Whatley.

Good Grief Group:

A Journey through Grief

Mondays, Oct. 4-Nov. 15

4:30-6:30 p.m., Bloom Education Center

This is a seven-week, process-oriented, closed group for people who have lost a loved one. It is based on Alan Wolfelt's needs of mourning: acknowledging the reality of the death, embracing the pain and loss, remembering the person who died, developing a new self identity, searching for meaning, receiving ongoing support from others. The group will include sharing, meditation and prayer, and simple assignments. The group will conclude with a Labyrinth Walk or Eucharist.

Facilitated by Deacon Nancy Meister and Virginia Zuelow. Nancy Meister was ordained a deacon in January 2010 and is a licensed clinical social worker. She recently retired as an oncology social worker at the Arizona Cancer Center. Virginia Zuelow is a financial planner. They have both been through Mourner's Path training through the diocese and have facilitated grief groups at the church in the past.

Contemplative Prayer Practice

Sunday, Oct. 17

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

The terms contemplation and meditation are often used interchangeably. We will discuss how some people differentiate between these two terms and will give examples of different "techniques" for each. The goal of all meditation or contemplation is learning to listen to God instead of giving a monologue. Attentive listening can keep us in tune with the Spirit of God. There will be an opportunity to experience one type of contemplation called Centering Prayer. A list of resources will be provided for those interested in more experiences of centering prayer or other types of contemplation.

Facilitated by Lynne Albright and Linda Hutson who are interested practitioners.

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

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

1st 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 6 p.m., Global Chant
2nd 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
 6 p.m., M3M
4th 8:30 a.m., Coffee at Epic Café
5th 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 9 a.m., Child Care
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
6th **Labor Day: Office & Joseph's Pantry Closed**
 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
8th 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 6 p.m., Global Chant
9th 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 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 9 a.m., Child Care
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 10 a.m., First week of Sunday School
**11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour Banquet to
 Welcome Fr. Steve & Jean**
13th 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
15th 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 6 p.m., Global Chant
16th 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
 6 p.m., M3M & 3rd Thursday potluck
17th **6:30 p.m., Southwestern Fiesta
 for Fr. Steve+ & Jean**
18th 8:30 a.m., Coffee at Epic Café
19th 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 9 a.m., Child Care
 10 a.m., Sunday School
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
20th 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
22nd 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 6 p.m., Global Chant
23rd 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic

6 p.m., M3M
25th 8:30 a.m., Coffee at Epic Café
26th **Food Ministries Sunday**
 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 9 a.m., Child Care
 10 a.m., Sunday School
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
27th 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
28th 7 p.m., *Enneagrams: A Tool for Spiritual
 Development*
29th 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 6 p.m., Global Chant
30th 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
 6 p.m., M3M

Looking forward to October

2nd 8:30 a.m., Coffee at Epic Café
3rd **St. Francis Day**
 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 9 a.m., Child Care
 9 a.m., Animals & Spirituality
 10 a.m., Sunday School
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
 11:30 a.m., *Can You Believe What You See?*
**Time TBA, Blessing of the Animals
 on the labyrinth**
4th 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
5th 7 p.m., *Enneagrams: A Tool for Spiritual
 Development*
6th 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)
7th 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
 6 p.m., M3M
9th 8:30 a.m., Coffee at Epic Café
 9 a.m., Anamcara Circle - registrants only
 9:30 a.m., Pastoral Care Training
10th 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 9 a.m., Child Care
9 a.m., GSP Ministry Fair

10 a.m., Sunday School
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
11:15 a.m., GSP Ministry Fair
11th **Columbus Day**
 4:30 p.m., Good Grief Group
 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
12th **TBA, Bridging Borders Trip to
 Esperanza y Paz, Nogales, Sonora**
13th 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)
14th 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
 6 p.m., M3M
15th **Diocesan Convention in PHX**
16th **Diocesan Convention in PHX**
 8:30 a.m., Coffee at Epic Café
 9:30 a.m., Pastoral Care Training
17th 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 9 a.m., Child Care
 9 a.m., *Contemplative Prayer*
 10 a.m., Sunday School
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 11:30 a.m., *Standing in Line*
18th 4:30 p.m., Good Grief Group
 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
19th 7 p.m., *Enneagrams: A Tool for Spiritual
 Development*
20th 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)
21st 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
 6 p.m., M3M & 3rd Thursday potluck
23rd 8:30 a.m., Coffee at Epic Café
24th **Food Ministries Sunday**
 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 9 a.m., Child Care
 9 a.m., Parish Wellness Update
 10 a.m., Sunday School
 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist
 11:30 a.m., Parish Wellness Update