

The Briefly

September 2012

The monthly newsletter for the community of
Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church
2331 E. Adams • Tucson, AZ 85719
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INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

Un poco de español

(pg 3)

A Conga Line

(pg 4)

Children & Youth Fall Start-Up

(pg 5)

Can Electronics Promote Spirituality?

(pg 7)

Mosquito Nets Save Lives

(pg 8)

Social Justice Taking Strides

(pg 12)

Rector's Letter

It has been a wonderful summer at Grace St. Paul's on so many fronts. We have had great opportunities to enjoy being with one another at events like the national champion UA baseball game, where our choir knocked the National Anthem out of the park. We had a great ice cream social which was a gigantic hit during Independence Day weekend. We had a dynamite summer arts camp for lots of kids who put on an unbelievable show for all of us on the last day. Our youth took off for urban Los Angeles for their first mission trip in many years. They are all still buzzing about it. Our one-room Sunday school has been a huge success, with more and more children there all the time, even in the dog days of the season. Our solar energy committee has made huge strides in laying out a solar panel plan for the campus. Your Vestry had a retreat last month centered around the issue of change in our church and how best to hold onto our roots, while also staying on the cutting edge of being the new church for a new world.

Thanks to all for a wonderful summer. Now get ready for an unbelievable fall season!

We have also had a fantastic season after Pentecost, with some outstanding and beautiful Sunday liturgies. Our weekday services have blossomed over the summer and Spirit Now, our experimental Thursday evening liturgy, has become one of the most creative services that you will find anywhere. If you have not yet experienced it, I commend it to all of you.

The summer also afforded us the opportunity to do some liturgical experiments. Two of those experiments have met with such one-sided rave reviews that we have already decided to continue them. The shorter announcements at the beginning of the service, followed by a time of quiet and darkness before the prelude, have contributed to making a more meditative worship space. The longer time between meditation bells has also helped in continuing that meditative feel throughout the service. We will continue these practices as we enter September and beyond. The change to our bulletin to add all of the hymns has also been met with an overwhelmingly positive response. It has also helped that our bulletin expert, David Wachter, has devised a way to change the layout so that we most often are not adding any additional pages to the bulletin.

Another experiment in this area has been the new availability of the Sunday bulletin for download to an electronic device. The service is

Continued on Page 2



Here Comes Giles! is an original play written by James Gooden that was featured at Spirit Players: A Play-Reading Experience on Sept. 7. The story concerns a very proper butler who saves a country house from certain foreclosure. A professional tennis star, a bird watching Girl Guide Leader, a '20s era flapper, and a zany spiritualist are some of the characters encountered in the farcical romp. Plays are read most first Fridays of the month.

Submissions to *The Briefly*

Please submit articles to Lizzy Gooden, BrieflyEditor@grace-stpauls.org. Calendar items go to Wendy Pipentacos at wendypipe@yahoo.com. John Banks receives photos, charts, and graphics at jdbanks@gmail.com.

Rector's Letter

Continued from Page 1

available each week on the website, as well as in our Friday e-mail blast. In addition, a QR code is on the front door of the church for downloading as you enter. This experiment is still in the beta-testing stage. The goal is to offer an ecological alternative to using a printed bulletin and offer another hospitality feature for those who find the use of an electronic device to be an aid to their worship experience. We have offered tips on how to be hospitable to your neighbor in church while using an electronic device, which appears in the Sunday bulletin. What we do not want to do is subtract from the worship experience for anyone. We continue to solicit your opinions about this experiment, both positive and negative.

Finally, our 8 a.m. Sunday worship experiment of utilizing a Prayer Book liturgy is also still in the testing stage. The initial reaction to this was very positive. As the summer has gone on, though, more folks have suggested that a hybrid service may be preferred. We will continue the Prayer Book liturgy at least through September, so that we may get more feedback, as some of our snowbirds begin to return.

Summer has been fantastic, but there is nothing like the great events that are coming up this month and next. We greeted the return of our stupendous choir on Sept. 9. The first of our Liturgy for the 21st Century classes is Sept. 16. We explore our ancient worship tradition and how best we honor it in our new world. We are proud to announce the return of *Setting Our Hearts* on Sept. 17. This ten-week program intimately explores the dimensions of personal faith in today's world. Later this fall, we have scheduled our first annual kickball extravaganza with our sister congregation, St. Andrew's. Look for upcoming details and be prepared to get your game on!

We begin our Season of Creation on Oct. 7 with one of the most beautiful liturgies of the year. That same day, we will celebrate Ministry Sunday, as we have a convention style layout highlighting all the activities with which you can be a part at GSP. Finally, mark your calendars for Oct. 14, when we have our next Parish Wellness summit.

Thanks to all of you for making this such a wonderful summer. Now get ready for an unbelievable fall season!

Steve +

Gospel-Based Discipleship

By The Rev. Debbie Royals

In celebration of the 25th anniversary of the development of the *Disciple's Prayer Book*, a new edition has been released. The *Disciple's Prayer Book* was originally developed to provide a simple resource to rural Native American communities and is based on the *Book of Common Prayer*. Its development empowered lay leaders of congregations and communities, especially those who only celebrated the Eucharist on the occasions when a priest would be available to come.

Now, 25 years later, Gospel-Based Discipleship is widely used not only in the Episcopal Church but in the Anglican Communion. It has been translated into Spanish and is currently being translated in other languages throughout the Communion. Gospel-Based Discipleship has created a movement of spiritual friendships and communities whose lives center on the gospel.

The Indigenous Theological Training Institute received a grant to reproduce the *Disciple's Prayer Book* in 2011. ITTI took this

opportunity to respond to several suggestions received over the years and with the help of The Rev. Debbie Royals, Director of Development (and special projects) redesigned the *Disciple's Prayer Book* to further simplify the offices and to add frequently used services to the book. The new *Disciple's Prayer Book* was officially released at General Convention this past July in Indianapolis. But Grace St. Paul's received an advance release through The Rev. Debbie Royals.

It is our hope that each Ministry team, each meeting and gathering at Grace St. Paul's will begin with Gospel-Based Discipleship. The book is available in the office at no cost. Please be sure that you have picked up your Ministry team's copies and begin using this resource as you gather. The Rev. Debbie Royals began leading and training a group of leaders who are able to help you if you need some direction as you begin to use Gospel-Based Discipleship. Feel free to contact her if you have any questions.

Liturgy Discussion of the Month

By **The Rev. Steve
Keplinger+**

The Gospel

In recent years, there has been much discussion in the wider church about Latino ministry. One of the hotter parts of that discussion has been how we create liturgies that speak to people of Latino descent. The general approach in the church has been to provide separate Spanish speaking worship opportunities. What this has looked like in most churches is the creation of a wholly separate Latino congregation. In fact, many churches completely delineate the two, with an Anglo congregation interacting with the Latino community much like they would any outside group using the church facility. This model is occurring in many Episcopal churches around the country. It was the preferred approach in my last Diocese and also here in the Diocese of Arizona.

The concerns with this strategy are obvious. First, it continues to perpetuate one of the greatest problems in American churches, one that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., pointed out to us more than 50 years ago. Sunday worship is still the most segregated couple hours in American life. While it is wonderful that we are creating a place for people to worship in a manner in which they are comfortable, we are not helping at all in bringing us together in the Beloved community. Second, a recent ABC study showed that the majority of Latinos living in America no longer prefer events that are 100 percent Spanish speaking. Baby boomers,

down through the youngest folks prefer English with a splash of Spanish. I believe the reasoning behind this is that most Latinos living in this country want as many opportunities as possible to learn English. The hint of Spanish goes a long way in providing a “flavor of home” and is often seen as a welcome sign. This has also been my personal experience.

Over recent months, however, I began to question the effectiveness of this strategy for us. But in the last month, I have been approached by multiple Latinos who have recently joined our congregation. Each has said that hearing the Gospel in Spanish was a major factor in connecting them with our community.

Recently, we also had a burial for a largely Mexican family. We built a liturgy that was split between Spanish and English. The results were extremely positive and very welcomed by a grieving family.

We are blessed to have a Spanish-speaking Deacon and a Priest Associate whose native language is Spanish. Our liturgical goal will be to continue to highlight our Latino culture, while also adding that splash of Spanish.

In that same effort to embrace the totality of who we are as the GSP community, we read the Gospel in Dinka once every six weeks. This is another opportunity to be hospitable to another major culture contained within our church. Nothing for me represents us better or makes me happier than the continuing increase in folks with so many cultural backgrounds among us.

Equinox Service on Sept. 20

By **Martha Whitaker,
Senior Warden**

There are two equinoxes every year—in September and March—when the sun shines directly on the equator and the length of day and night is nearly equal. In fact, the word “equinox” is derived from the Latin *aequus* (equal) and *nox* (night).

The Equinox and Solstice services on GSP’s labyrinth are becoming a much-loved and regularly-anticipated tradition of Celestial Celebration. Two years ago, Fr. Steve celebrated the Fall Equinox at GSP for the first time. This year the actual Fall Equinox occurs in Tucson on Saturday, Sept. 22, at approximately

7:49 a.m., but we promise not to schedule a service at 7 a.m. on a Saturday!

Please join us on Thursday, Sept. 20, at 6 p.m. 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 re-establish our relationship to God through creation and each other. Invite your friends to join you, and take part in a service where we experience God through a celebration of the nature, creation, and the natural seasonal marker of the Autumnal Equinox.

Notes from the Choir Stalls

By Christina Jarvis,
Director of Music



Talk about a blink-and-you-miss-it summer! I hope yours was relaxing and lazy. Wes Hunter and I are back from our extremely interesting trip to Central America. I plan to present a little talk about it. There's far too much to say and not enough column space to say it. I will say this, though. Imagine congregants not only applauding but clapping rhythmically to the music, standing, waving their arms, shouting comments, singing along, dancing in place, and organizing conga lines around the sanctuary. Imagine an 84-year-old woman with the voice of a 30-year-old singing love songs to Jesus in the style of a 1950's nightclub. It was amazing. After a week of these concerts and services, my hands were bruised.

Although I'd love to see a conga line up and down the aisles at Grace St. Paul's, it will probably have to wait until Shrove Tuesday. Plus we'd need to pull together some conga-worthy music. We'll have to work on that. In the meantime, I've been getting many thoughtful comments on last month's discussion about applause in church.

Al Whitehurst sent along the following tongue-in-cheek comparison:

The top ten reasons why attending a church service and a theatrical production are alike:

10. We are expected to not fidget or disturb our neighbors.
9. We read the program before the production begins.
8. We anticipate that our mind, spirit, and senses will be engaged.
7. We frown on coughing people, crying babies, ringing cell phones, and flashing cameras.
6. The pageantry has been rehearsed and moves on cue.
5. The costumes, sets, and props are showy.
4. Even at a stellar performance, we need a break after an hour or so.
3. We pay for our seats.
2. There's a long soliloquy midway through.

And the number one reason church and the theatre are similar:

1. We struggle to stay awake during the draggy parts.

I'm not sure Fr. Steve will be thrilled to hear about the need for No-Doze, but we do our best to keep those moments at a minimum. Thank you, Al, for the humorous take on the subject!

Before we close the screen door on the summer, I would like to thank the many people who contributed their talents this summer. We are truly blessed to have such fine, flexible musicians, especially Dr. Pamela Decker, who had to cope with some last-minute changes. As someone said recently, blessed are the flexible, for they will never be bent out of shape.

Thanks (in order of appearance) to Lisa and Francisco Renteria, Michael Becker, Wesley Hunter, Wendy Pipentacos (squared—she sang two Sundays), Cathy Wolfson, Richard Rhoads, Spencer Hunter, Clyde Kunz, Jim Neeley, Madison Knutson, Brigitte McIntyre, Richard Cameron, Michael Manning, Cameron Sutton, Benjamin Cannon, Mary Beth Tyndall, Winifred Williams, Ann Stephens, and Meg Villanueva.

We now launch ourselves into a new church season, the Season of School Has Started. The choirs are back—the first rehearsal for the Adult Choir was Sept. 6, and their first Sunday in the choir stalls was Sept. 9. St. Cecelia's Choir rehearsals started on Sept. 9, as well.

The Zombies have their first rehearsal and food fest on Sept. 14 at 12:30 in the chancel. If you or your child or zombie youth would like to join the Grace St. Paul's music program, we would love to have you! Have a word with Joan Brundage or Jane Click regarding the St. Cecelia's Choir or with me for the Adults and the Zombies.

Peace,

Christina



Blessing of the Animals

This year we will be celebrating the feast of St. Francis and the tradition of blessing of animals on Thursday, Oct. 4, at 6 p.m.

The service will be a very special blessing based on the prayers and life of St. Francis.

Plan to join us (with animals, leashed or otherwise controlled) for this simple service on the Labyrinth.

Call the Parish Office, 327-6857, for more info.



Summer Done, Fall Begins

The parish youth were kept busy during the summer with the One-Room Sunday School and creative activities, such as building snow globes. But summer has ended, and a new year is beginning.

Children & Youth Celebration and Registration Day was Sunday, Sept. 9. It's



the time of year to sign up for the program year, meet teachers and youth leaders.

Please contact Rosalind Garcia through the Parish Office, 327-6857, for more info.



Nerfs & Smoothies

One rainy summer night, some GSP youth met in McBride Hall for games and treats. We battled with Nerf guns, concocted smoothies in the kitchen, and made advanced paper airplanes. A re-match battle has been requested. *By Lizzy Gooden*

Parish Wellness Meeting Oct. 14

By Martha Whitaker,
Senior Warden

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the Fall Parish Wellness Meeting in McBride Hall on Sunday, Oct. 14, after the 8 and 10 a.m. services. You'll hear updates on what's been happening at GSP since last May, ministry reports, a discussion of GSP's Welcome and Vision Statements, and a review of our several summer liturgy experiments including: using more of a standard Rite 2 format in the 8 a.m. Sunday service; the inclusion of hymns printed in the Sunday Bulletin to make it easier for everyone, but especially visitors and newcomers, to follow the Sunday services; and our beta testing of the QR code and associated electronic (PDF) Sunday Bulletin.*

Please share your experience of any of the summer liturgy experiments with me via email: seniorwarden@grace-stpauls.org or by traditional handwritten letter delivered to my mailbox in the parish office. What was the experience like for you? How did it impact you? What was done well, and what could be done differently to make your worship experience more seamless and inclusive of your and others' needs? I look forward to hearing from you, and will report on your feedback in the Oct. 14 Parish Wellness Meeting.

* For those of you who are unfamiliar with the terminology I used in the last part of the sentence, "beta testing" is the last stage of testing of a computer product to discern its readiness for general availability. In this case,

I am referring to the Sunday Bulletin as an electronic PDF file, made available on the GSP web page the Friday prior to a Sunday Service. A PDF or "Portable Document Format" file is an electronic file format that is accessible to a wide variety of users. The Bulletin availability on the website is announced and hot-linked in the Friday email blast, and a QR code is

also available for scanning. A "hotlink" is simply the use of an image or word(s) on a website or email that, when clicked, automatically opens a new webpage in the user's browser. And finally, a QR code (abbreviated from Quick Response Code) is the trademark for a type of matrix barcode consisting of black square dots arranged in a square pattern on a white background. People with smart phones or tablets (e.g.

iPads, Kindles, Galaxy Tabs, etc.) can scan the QR code, which leads them to the web page where the Sunday Bulletin is available for downloading. The QR code was posted in the narthex, to allow parishioners to scan the code on their way into the church.

Elsewhere in this issue of the Briefly, Eric Carr has described his experience using the Sunday Bulletin as a PDF, and we invite your feedback—both positive and negative—regarding your experience during the beta test. Whether you used the PDF yourself, or just sat near someone who used it on their tablet, or wondered what the QR code was when you saw it, we want to hear from you!



This is the QR code used for the Sunday Bulletin.

Electronics & Inclusivity

Technology
as a part of
spirituality

By Eric K. Carr



The latest *Mobile Insights* study by the Nielsen group caused shockwaves in multiple industries when it provided data showing that it wasn't just young people, but also minorities who are using smart phones and tablets—regardless of economic income. Contrary to conventional wisdom, it turns out that white, middle-class Americans were the least likely to use them. Schools, hospitals, and other tech-heavy industries started talking about technology not just as an access issue, but as an inclusivity issue as well.

Like it or not, there is an entire generation (and multiple cultures, according to the Nielsen study) starting to integrate technology in every part of their lives. Well, maybe I should say “our” lives, because I’m one of these people. People make fun of me because of my ubiquitous technology. I have an iPad, iPhone, iPod, and Macbook with me at almost all times, and they are all plugged into my car, my home stereo and entertainment systems, and I use them daily. I have the *BCP*, multiple translations of the Bible, Greek and Hebrew dictionaries, notes, commentaries, books, the Daily Offices, and many other spiritual tools on my devices too. People like me use technology not as a distraction, but as an enhancement to almost every part of my day, including my spiritual life.

As one of the beta testers for GSP’s electronic version of the bulletin, I used both my iPhone and iPad. It was great—no trees cut down for me, no ink consumed, no office labor printing, collating, and stapling—and the whole thing was gorgeous. I could easily go back and forth between pages, increase or decrease the font size, and even change the language. It felt like the church was really making a concentrated effort to speak to me in my own language and culture.

On one Sunday during the beta test, I was on my iPad, following along with everyone else when the reality of what I was doing hit me. It felt so sacred, so profound, and inclusive, and so important to be part of such a forward-thinking church. It really was one of the most significant spiritual experiences of my life, and I started crying. It was a symbol of a church

welcoming me as a full person and reaching out to me in a meaningful way despite the fears so many people have about moving forward.

I realize that this is a big step for a lot of people. Church is a sacred place and should be protected as that. For me, though, coming from churches where women weren’t allowed to wear make-up or pants because it was distracting, I get scared when people start making arguments against something being inappropriate or distracting in church. I’ve even been in churches where children weren’t allowed in the main sanctuary for those reasons. Maybe that’s why embracing technology seems like such a clear issue of inclusivity to me.

I just got back from a trip to Africa, and when we went to the Cathedral in Lusaka my expectations were shattered. I’ve heard so much about how conservative the African Anglican churches are, and yet when we went in they had contemporary worship music piped in through the PA system, people from extremely diverse ethnicities, cultures, and socio-economic backgrounds held hands, women were in leadership, and an electric guitar leaned against the drum set. During the service, people had cameras, smartphones, and all sorts of electronics, and were using them freely with no sense of judgment about what was proper. It not only felt welcoming, but also felt like a celebration of each person’s own worship experience in a way that was important to them. It felt loving—and maybe that’s what my experience with my iPad in church comes down to. I feel loved at Grace St. Paul’s. I’ve been a part of this community for almost two years now, and sometimes I still can’t believe how it seems like every part of my life is welcomed and celebrated.

Quite frankly, when I came here I was tired of the “tolerance” other places gave me. GSP goes so far beyond tolerance and into radical inclusivity: what Father Steve calls “promiscuous hospitality.” That’s what I feel when I see a church working to include people like me. And according to every single shred of data, the “digital divide” is one of the greatest things holding businesses, schools,

Continued on Page 9



NetsforLife Diocesan Campaign

By *The Rev. Nancy
Meister*

Episcopal Relief and Development is launching a national campaign to support the NetsforLife Inspiration fund. In Arizona the “every member and every church campaign” will be launched at our Diocesan Convention on Oct. 19-20 and continue through Dec. 31.

NetsforLife since its inception in 2006 has distributed 8.5 million insecticide-treated mosquito nets in order to fight malaria. Every 45 seconds a child dies from malaria in sub-Saharan Africa, and we can help prevent that with a gift. NetsforLife has trained community agents to deliver the life-saving nets and to

educate community members about proper net use. As a result, malaria deaths have decreased by one third.

The nets cost only \$12 and have the potential to save three lives. The Episcopal Church goal is to raise \$5 million by the end of December 2012. There are not very many places where only \$12 can make a life or death difference.

If you would like to be involved in this time-limited but vital ministry project, please contact Deacon Nancy Meister through the Parish office. For more information go to www.inspirationfund.org.

Kinship Corner

*Peggy Scott,
Co-Chair of
Giving & Receiving,
with Kitt Cordero &
Darlene Thornhill*

This month I have one word to propose to you—Generosity. Rabbi David Aaron says, “A stingy person is like a wire trying to hold on to electricity. But isn’t that crazy? Why would a wire want to hold on to electricity? Its whole purpose is to pass it on, to be a conductor of electricity. That’s why a wealthy person is not a person who has a lot. A wealthy person is a person who gives a lot.”

Are you holding on to your gifts, whether they be money or talent, or both? You are losing the blessing of those gifts. The Jewish people have a concept called *Tzedaka*. From what I’ve read, *Tzedaka* encompasses a lot more than charity. In fact it’s not really charity. As

Rabbi Aaron says, “Charity is doing something you don’t have to do because you are being nice... *Tzedaka* really means justice. According to justice, you must help someone who has less than you.”

Here’s your opportunity to commit yourself to generosity—generosity of time, generosity of money. On Sunday, Oct. 7, the various ministries of Grace St. Paul’s will be on display. You will have the chance to take a look at all the things we do, and to let your heart speak to you about how you can support the ministry that calls to you.

Let the blessings of generosity flow!

Trinity Institute

Save the Date

By Peggy Scott

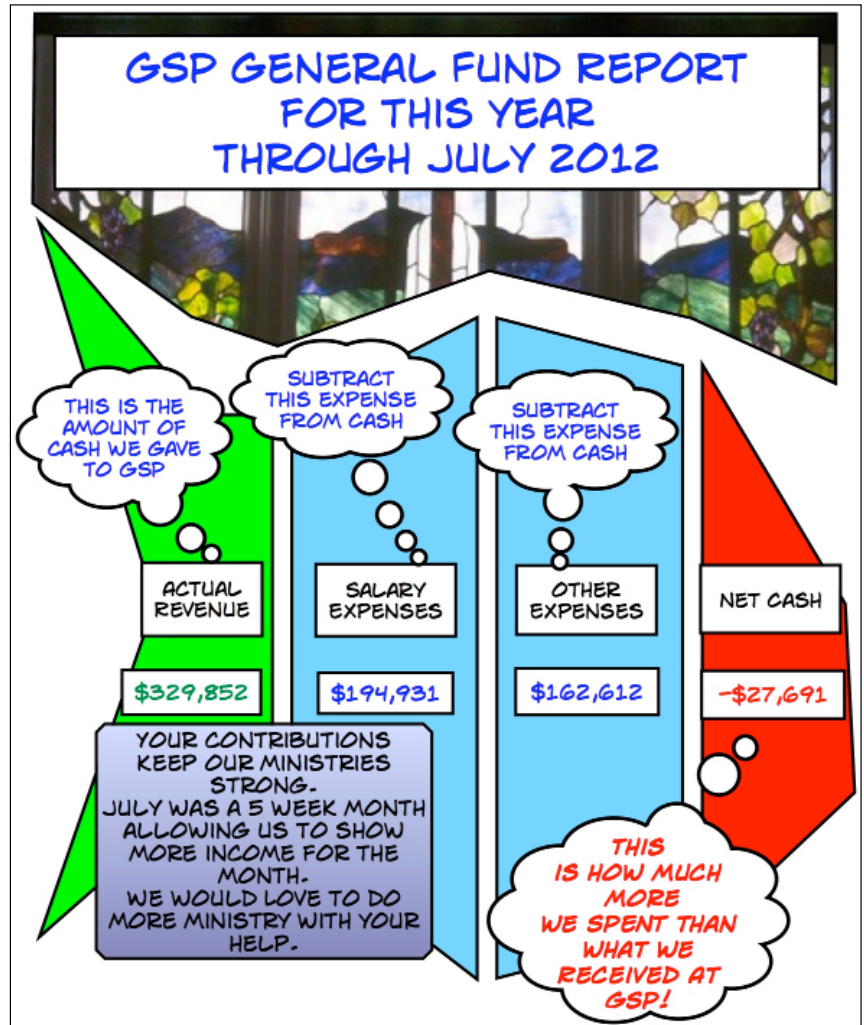
The Trinity Institute is coming! Grace St. Paul's is proud to be a partner site for the 2012 Trinity Institute. The theme this year is *Radical Christian Life, Equipping Ourselves for Social Change*, and the featured speaker is Joan Chittister, OSB.

The Trinity Institute will be offered at GSP by webcast on Nov. 9 & 10.

In the 21st century, people seek to cope and to create in a world that is shifting on its very foundations. Economic inequity threatens to tear us apart at the seams. The forces of globalization demand that we rethink what it means to be a community and where our mutual responsibilities lie. It is a time of classic crisis, forged of equal parts threat and opportunity.

The 2012 session will use plenary addresses, creative work sessions, and worship to explore how to be a radical Christian community in the here and now, not a fossil of a bygone reality, not a leftover from a golden age. Join us for these stimulating discussions.

More details to come in next month's *Briefly*.



Electronics & Inclusivity

Continued from Page 7

governments, and yes, churches, back. It makes me so proud to be part of a family that is ready to grow with our culture and stay on the leading edge of making itself relevant, open, and accessible to this new generation.

That being said, I hope people do not become alienated by this new territory. Change is inevitable for any growing body, and we are growing in our numbers, our spirituality, our diversity, and our needs, which are all signs of a healthy parish. But it can be painful too. Our beta testing will end soon, but we've had such

positive feedback so far we will almost certainly go forward. It is important, though, that we get feedback. Is there something we can do differently that will enrich your worship service? Do you need some help figuring out how this whole thing works? Do you just downright hate it? We don't want to leave anyone behind in this, and every person's voice is important, so please tell us what you think. Or maybe you have ideas to help us become even more inclusive. Please let us know. We are on the cutting edge, making a real difference in the Episcopal church, and we want to continue being on the vanguard of inclusivity, progressive theology, and radical hospitality. And,

of course, that includes you.

Editor's Note: I teach college writing classes for Pima on the south side of Tucson where most of my students are Hispanic, African American, and Native American, and while many of them can't afford the textbook, they all have sophisticated cell phones and other electronic communication devices. I have reluctantly switched to using electronic means for students to turn in papers, and the response has been overwhelmingly positive. I mention this because Eric's article points out that ethnic minorities use electronic devices more than the general population, and I want to say this is totally true! Ethnic minorities and young people are plugged in. Personally, I'm playing catch-up, committed to learning to speak electronic to be in touch with this population, meeting them on their terms. -Lizzy G.



Vaya con Dios

By The Rev. Nancy Meister

Paul and Dolores Gohdes, Bridging Borders Ministry leaders for eight years, moved to Madison, Wisconsin, their home state, in late August. They are living in a retirement community a few blocks from the University of Wisconsin and near one of their five children, all of whom live in the Midwest.

In 1995 they moved to Tucson when Paul retired as a pathologist from a practice near Green Bay, Wisconsin. Dolores was a full time mother and professional community volunteer.

Shortly after joining Grace St. Paul's, they

met The Rev. Debbie Noonan, who at the time, led Borderlinks trips to Mexico. Their first trip to Mexico was to Nogales and the Altar Valley when thousands were crossing the border to find work.

That experience was life changing for them. They became involved as leaders of Bridging Borders that was supported by The Rev. Kate Bradsen. The ministry members developed a video on the causes of border migration and presented it to other churches.

On a trip to Douglas and Agua Prieta, they learned about Just Coffee, a fair trade coffee business. Grace St. Paul's uses Just Coffee at all of its hospitality events and sells it to parishioners twice a month.

They began the tradition of an annual Border Sunday. We heard sermons by The Rev. John Fife, The Rev. Delle McCormick, and, most recently, Professor Juan R. Garcia. Other activities begun under their leadership have been the summer Border movie series and migrant pack donations to No More Deaths and the Hogar de Esperanza y Paz.

Deacon Nancy Meister considers them mentors in her ministry development during her diaconate process.

We wish them well in finding a home church in Madison. We hope that when it is freezing in Madison, we will get a surprise visit.



Solar Energy Project

The Solar Energy project continues forward as the Solar Energy Committee and GSP's Chancellor engage in conversations with our nearest neighbors on the impact of our proposed solar structures. In response, we have created alternate photovoltaic module placements to accommodate our mutual needs.

The solar survey of Grace St. Paul's grounds including the rectory and children's swing area has also been completed. GSP grounds and environs are blessed with several beautiful mature trees that harbor birds and other arboreal creatures, allow birdsong and natural shade, alleviate high temperatures under their

canopy, and even produce fruits and seeds. The shade patterns on the rectory, on the children's swing area and near Joseph's Pantry, do not permit generation of solar electric power, so the PV module placements are optimally located on the parking lot and the office building rooftops.

Many thanks are due for discussions with Spencer Hunter, Holly Shinn, Sonya Norman, Henry Dertadian, Dan Misenheimer, our Senior Warden, and our Treasurer, among others, as we seek to find the best balance between the natural environment, ecological and technological benefits and the needs of our neighborhood.

*Respectfully submitted,
Angel Wang*



Community Garden Update

We have come around now to the start of a new planting season, late summer leading into fall and winter. It's been almost a year since we first explored an overgrown plot of tomatoes, eggplant, and chili peppers and considered its potential harvest of produce for Joseph's Pantry. Over this period, we've tilled, planted, mulched, weeded and harvested carrots, radishes, onions, broccoli, spinach, zucchini, basil, bell peppers, chili peppers and eggplant. We've learned quite a lot about companion planting, succession planting, and Tucson's seasonal vagaries. The summer of 2012 has been more challenging than expected as we grappled with Arizona's shoulder growing season of March-May, then mid-July to October. Thankfully, we've had the fellowship and advice of the community garden members to draw upon. We will start staggered planting of our garden successes from last year, interweaving them into the current crops for a smooth transition. Watch for sweet juicy baby carrots and fresh herbs coming soon!

Angel Wang

Reach Out & Touch Someone in the 21st Century

GSP's Facebook page impacts lives well beyond Tucson

By Martha Whitaker, Senior Warden

Some incredibly exciting things are happening because of GSP's Facebook (FB) page! We currently have 473 people who "Like" us on FB, and we have reached over 2,300 people this week, via our FB posts. We recently posted a graphic that read, "Don't go to church. Be the church". This graphic went viral more than anything else we have ever posted on our FB page. It inspired 467 FB users to create a story from our post on their own FB page, and talk about what it meant with their friends.



What does it mean to "Be the church"? One way that we can be the church in the 21st century is by recognizing how GSP can affect the lives and spiritual journeys of people well beyond not just our church doors, but beyond Tucson, beyond Arizona, and even beyond the United States. Consider some statistics from GSP's FB page: in only week in August, over 2,100 people in the U.S.A. and 210 unique people (i.e., no repeat counts) from 19 different countries (other than the U.S.A.) saw content posted on GSP's page.

As exciting as these statistics are, sometimes it means more to hear personal stories. Here are just a few from the past month:

- A FB friend of mine, Kate Campbell, lives in a small, rural town called Williamston, Mich. She recently posted on my FB wall, "Well Martha, I've read all your church postings and have appreciated your cool pastor from afar. Tomorrow, I'm going to St. Katherine's

Episcopal Church. I'm giving organized religion another shot :)." I believe that's one of the things GSP is trying to do: inspire people to trust again, to continue their spiritual journey in a safe and supportive community. The social media of Facebook is helping this happen!

- Another friend, The Rev. David Smith, currently serves as rector for St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Penn Yan, New York. He has been following our GSP FB page, and after seeing and reading the captions of the photos I posted from the recent Vestry retreat, he contacted me via FB, asking if I would be willing to speak with him about our retreat experience, thinking that it might be the kind of thing that would be helpful for St. Mark's. If it were not for Facebook, how might he have learned about GSP's vestry retreat? He probably wouldn't have. Facebook as a social media tool is allowing GSP to share our journey of growth and change with other churches. It is helping us and others be the church of the 21st century.

- Larry Hastings, the Minister of Park Street Christian Church, Charlottesville, Va., attended the John Philip Newell Advent Retreat that GSP hosted back in 2009 (almost 3 years ago!) has been following us on Facebook. On GSP's FB page, he recently made several wonderful suggestions for Spirit Now's Fire of Spontaneity event. In essence, Larry is "virtually participating" in a church service via Facebook. It is not just GSP who affected Larry; Larry is affecting GSP and our journey also.

- GSP has a newcomer, Mary McMullin, who moved here recently from Socorro, New Mexico. Her attendance at GSP can be credited, in part, to social interactions on Facebook. A mutual friend of ours told me on FB about Mary and her move to Tucson, and then Mary and I began communicating via email, phone and FB. Our GSP FB page gave Mary the

Continued on Page 13

Ministry Reports

pages 12-14



Adult Education & Spiritual Formation

Submitted by Peggy Scott

The Adult Education and Spiritual Formation met in July to plan out the topics to be offered in the fall. Co-chairs Roger Pierce and Peggy Scott are profoundly grateful for the many generous people who are willing to offer their knowledge and talents to teach classes, discuss books that speak to them, and lead discussions.

It is our hope that Adult Education and Spiritual Formation will become more and more a welcoming entry-point for people from our local community and the greater city of Tucson. The richness of our congregational talents and skills should be shared first to build a strong spiritual community at GSP and second to address the needs and influence the direction of the larger community.

In 2012 we have been fortunate to be able to plan and offer three events featuring nationally known spiritual leaders. Dr. Robert Jonas and the Rev. Margaret Bullit-Jonas visited us during a weekend in June. Dr. Jonas' session attracted quite a few people from outside our GSP community. We have also hosted a series of webinars by Richard Rohr and the Rohr Institute. The two remaining webinars will take place in September and December. Thirdly GSP has signed up to be a partner site for the 2012 Trinity Institute with featured speaker Sister Joan Chittister. It is our hope that the Trinity Institute offering in November will

attract many outside visitors.

The fall spiritual formation offerings are wide and varied. There are still a few open dates however. Please contact Roger or Peggy if you would like to participate!

Grace St. Paul's Fellowship Ministry

Submitted by Chris Labour

The French Club and Thursday Bridge group continue to meet regularly. The Bridge group encourages others to join them.

The 20's/30's Club is now under the sole leadership of Holly Shinn. They have met for an evening of desserts and ice-breaker activities, for a shared dinner cooked in the GSP kitchen as a group, and for an evening at the Desert Museum. Holly reports that about 12 people participate in each event.

The Special Events team continues to provide receptions for funerals. We have had four this summer, with two already scheduled for the Fall. We are so grateful for people who bring in food to share. We have many generous Parishioners who cheerfully provide desserts, fruit salads, veggie trays and small sandwiches.

We also put on an Ice Cream Social on the Sunday before the July 4th holiday. Thank you to all of the Vestry members who participated with such enthusiasm – scooping ice cream and dishing out toppings. It was a fun and festive morning in McBride Hall and we will do it again next year. We had lots of positive feedback. Ice cream really does make people happy.

Social Justice & Outreach Ministries

Report to the Vestry, July 2012

by Nancy Meister (with others)

Social Justice and Outreach Ministries has had a busy quarter evaluating programs and planning new directions. A brochure was developed to showcase our ministries at the Jubilee event on April 12 at St. Andrew's Tucson attended by our Presiding Bishop and Bishop Kirk Smith. A number of churches were represented and Joan Cooney presented

our ministries. Grace St. Paul's is applying to become a Jubilee Center and the application is in process. On April 14, two dozen GSP members attended the luncheon and address of the Presiding Bishop in Naco and participated in the cross border procession.

In May and June, the leadership of Joseph's Pantry, Bread for the Pantry, and Social Service ministry had two meetings with Jack Hanstein, Executive Director of Episcopal Community Services. We gave Jack a tour of our campus including the Pantry and showers, and he listened to our stories of ministry. His

Continued on Next Page

Facebook

Continued from Page 11

opportunity to check us out prior to her arrival in Tucson, to discern if we would be a “good fit” for her spiritual journey.

How is GSP being the church of the 21st century? Our plethora of ministries certainly answers the call, wherein we feed the hungry, care for those in need, and love our neighbors, regardless of who they are or where they are in their spiritual journey. I believe that one of our ministries is GSP’s FB page. It’s an incredibly powerful, interactive outreach tool that has affected the lives of others well beyond our physical church walls, and has welcomed the impact that FB friends have had on GSP’s journey. Our FB ministry has started to take on a life of its own: people are virtually participating in GSP events via FB, without actually being present, and yet are also inspired to engage their spiritual journeys in very concrete ways.

If you would like to learn more about FB, would like help creating your own FB page and are curious to explore what social media has to offer you—and what you have to offer GSP—look for Eric Carr, Kitt Cordero or me, Martha Whitaker, in McBride Hall after the 10 a.m. services in September. We will have a table set up with a laptop to help you get started on Facebook. You’ll be surprised at how much fun it is! Who knows? Maybe you’ll be the next viral evangelist!

Continued from Previous Page

feedback to us was one of encouragement and that our direction should include becoming a 501c3 organization. At the June 7 meeting, he informed us that the Episcopal Church has a 501c3 status and that GSP can be under that umbrella and at least initially does not have to apply for separate status. He has sent us an official letter, encouraging us to expand Joseph’s Pantry by using the Episcopal Church 501c3 status to get fresh food from the Community Food Bank. We also need to be in a position to accept donations and apply for grants. He also advised that our Social Service ministry focus on things that the community is not providing.

As a follow-up to those meetings, Brian Arthur facilitated three planning sessions using the Logic Model. Three Saturday half-day meetings on June 23 and July 14 and August 18 were held with 15 people attending. This process is helping to define who we are, whom we serve and the future. Our Rector has been involved and supportive of this process. One result has been a working policy on people who are inebriated or using drugs on our property. The Vestry has charged us with formulating a policy on people staying on campus overnight.

The following are reports from the individual ministries.

Joseph’s Pantry

At the meeting of Pantry volunteers on July 2, it was reported that the need for food is increasing but available resources haven’t increased. In the month of June, the Pantry provided food to between 200-250 and there has been a steady increase over the last quarter. Half of the food comes from the Community Food Bank and half from Joseph’s Pantry, which includes contributions from parishioners and \$500 per month that is budgeted for food. Jane Conlin has developed an inventory and tracking system that will help in planning. The Pantry was open for the first time on Saturday morning on July 7. Joan Cooney has completed the application to the Community Food Bank for additional food. The Community Garden Group has been supplying produce to Joseph’s

Pantry throughout the spring and summer.

Bread for the Pantry

This ministry continues to provide bread for many social service agencies and churches throughout Tucson. Bread is picked up seven nights a week and wrapped, sorted, and delivered Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7-9 a.m. The bulk of donations come from Beyond Bread on Campbell, but Fry’s Bakery also is a contributor. One ongoing problem is storage space for the bread and space to work. Currently the bread is stored in the Sexton’s shed in large plastic containers. The bread is sorted and wrapped in the kitchen and McBride Hall. This ministry was begun 16 years ago and is coordinated now by Bill Trujillo.

Social Service Ministry

A report on this new ministry was made to the Vestry this spring. There are six volunteers who keep a weekly schedule of office hours from 9-1 to respond to needs of parishioners, referrals from Joseph’s Pantry and calls from the community. We began in November of 2011. During that time we have learned about gaps in community services, become an active member of the Tucson Pima Coalition to End Homelessness, and developed close relationships with several community agencies. For example, we have a close relationship with La Frontera’s RAPP outreach program for the homeless. Linda Hutson is a member of the Emergency Services Committee, and it is meeting at GSP. Plans are underway for GSP to become part of Operation Hospitality coordinated by the Salvation Army; however, there are some problems currently with the funding of the program. This ministry has used the Rector’s discretionary fund and individual donations. It will need to be a budgeted ministry in the coming year. Beth Miksa is developing a computerized system for keeping track of individuals served and in what way.

In May, twenty members of the parish attended two days of Mental Health First Aid training sponsored by CPSA. This included volunteers from outreach ministries and

Continued on Next Page

Ministry Reports

Continued from Previous Page

healing and pastoral care ministries.

Primavera Meals Teams

GSP has two teams, one for dinners and one for lunches. Once a month one team prepares food for 100 people and delivers it to a Primavera shelter. Another team prepares 30 sack lunches for individuals in the Primavera Works program. Rick Hansen and Holly Shinn coordinate these.

Bridging Borders

This ministry has functioned without a specific leader after Dolores and Paul Gohdes retired. Lynne Albright and Nancy Meister have kept it afloat. During the last year, we have had two classes, Border Sunday in February, two collections for the Hogar de Esperanza y Paz in Nogales, Sonora and one migrant pack collection for No More Deaths. GSP participated in the All Souls Procession with the Restoration Project. GSPers heard our Presiding Bishop give a thoughtful and inspiring sermon on immigration. We walked in the Naco Border procession and provided GSP communion bread for the AGApe meal. GSP through Bridging Borders was a sponsor of the Migrant Trail, and we prepared lunch for trail walkers. Other regular activities include monthly volunteer support to St. Andrew's Clinic and bimonthly selling of Just Coffee. Cafe Justo supports the growers in Chiapas by being a direct outlet for coffee. GSP uses Just Coffee at all functions, and parishioners can purchase it on the second and fourth Sundays. Anne Sunderland coordinates this ministry.

TIHAN

(Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network)

TIHAN volunteers include Jay Elliston, Laurie Chase, and Terry Trujillo. GSP provides space for meetings and volunteer training. Care packages of personal toiletry items and cleaning supplies are collected. GSP is the "host" for Poz Café once a year and the date is August 16.

The Green Church/Community Garden

Spencer Hunter, ministry leader, reports that the G.C.C. has been working with Angel Wang's Solar Committee. A planning meeting was held on 7/8 with Tom Pitelo, Building and Grounds, and the Long Range Planning Committee. Concerns are the impact on the neighborhood and that the Photo Volcaic structures mounted on covered parking north of the Sanctuary Building would be on Arizona Inn property.

Interfaith Community Services

GSP continues to cooperate closely with ICS and make parishioner priority referrals for assistance with rent and utilities. ICS has two locations, one at Christ the King on Ina and one on the eastside at New Spirit Lutheran Church on Old Spanish Trail. Lou Ann Bieging is GSP's representative. ICS is looking for volunteers especially during the summer months. Grace St. Paul's may be planning a concert fundraiser in the fall to fill our pledge of support.



Young Life: The Capernaum Project

On Sept. 2, Forrest Brown hosted a well-attended presentation about Young Life, a non-profit, non-denominational ministry founded in 1941.

An international ministry,

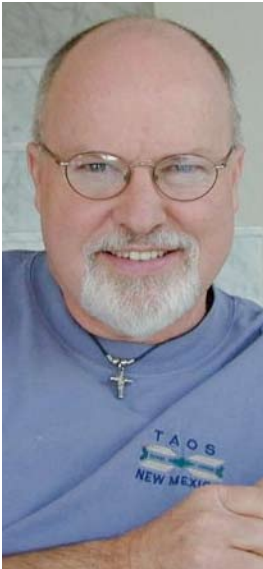
Young Life is located in more than 60 countries around the world.

The Capernaum Project is a special focus within Young Life reaching out to persons with disabilities.

Forrest introduced members of the ministry team who described the wonderful work they are doing.

Ministry Sunday Sunday, Oct. 7, McBride Hall 9 a.m. & 11:45 a.m.

No Adult Ed classes today so you can explore all the wonderful ministries at GSP!



Richard Rohr webcast in October

The Book of Common Prayer

Sunday, Sept. 16

9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Learn about the development and evolution of Anglican/Episcopal liturgy from the English Reformation to the present day, all captured within our tradition's most important document, The Book of Common Prayer.

Facilitated by Dr. Chuck Dickson, history teacher for more than 40 years.

Reading Group

Mondays, Sept. 24, Oct. 8, 22, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, 17 & 31

3 p.m., Bloom Education Center

A lively and thoughtful discussion of a wide variety of books, each one chosen by participants with a focus on spiritual and personal growth. You will enjoy the conversations and meet some new people, too. Everyone is invited. Come and explore this wonderful experience of fellowship and new insight.

Linda Hutson is convener and coordinator for the group.

Liturgy For the 21st Century

Sundays, Sept. 16, 23 & 30

11:45 a.m., Bloom Education Center

The "Revs" lead us through a thoughtful overview of the historical underpinnings of Christian liturgy in mainline worship, a discussion of GSP's liturgy today and where we are going in the Liturgical Renewal Movement of the future. Don't miss these examinations of our heritage, our present moment, and what might be ahead in our future. This is a great opportunity for general discussion about current liturgical procedures and a chance for you to make suggestions about the future development of liturgy in the parish.

Sessions will be led by Rev. Steve Keplinger, Rev. Debbie Royals, and Rev. Rosanna Kazanjian.

Setting Our Hearts:

Progressive Christianity for a New Era

Mondays, Sept. 17 - Nov. 26 (no class Nov. 19)

7-9 p.m., Bloom Education Center,

with in-house retreats Oct. 5-7 & Nov. 9-11

Are you seeking a safe place to explore what it means to be a Christian in the 21st century? Have you wondered what the term Progressive Christianity means? Are you searching for a small group that allows you to get to know other people deeply?

Setting Our Hearts is a ten-week experiential small group that invites participants to wrestle with what it means to live one's faith in a complex world that doesn't offer easy answers to life's questions. The course grapples with participants' desires for answers and certainty in an ambiguous and often unfair world. Ultimately, the class experience leads people face-to-face into discussions

about what matters most.

The course is for any adult—newcomer, old-timer, "cradle" Episcopalians, singles, couples and those who have previously taken the course. Cost for the program is \$75 which covers meals for both retreats. Partial scholarships available.

Class facilitators are Brian Arthur, Catherine Penn Williams, and Chris LaBour. For more information or to register, contact the church office at 327-6857.

Film & Fellowship

Fridays, Sept. 21, Oct. 19, Nov. 16, Dec. 21 & Jan. 18
6:30 p.m., Bloom Education Center

How can you beat a Potluck meal and a great movie!? Take part in the wonderful fellowship and the stimulating discussion of the evening's movie with old friends and new friends, too. Discussion and movie themes range from social justice to romance . . . something for everyone. The group selects each month's film, so what's your favorite?

Led by Kitt Cordero and Eric Carr, GSP members and film aficionados.

What Paul Really Said About Women

Sundays, Sept. 23 & 30

9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

The Apostle Paul is either appealing or appalling, all depending on how you read his letters to the young Christian communities described in our New Testament. In all fairness to the man, we need to go back and make sure what he said is what we heard from the evolving church of the 1st century. You may be surprised! Appealing or appalling, you decide by participating in the two sessions.

Led by Roger Pierce, GSP member, ordained minister, and fan of the "real" Paul.

Rev. Richard Rohr Webcasts

Saturdays, Oct. 13 & Dec. 8

9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Richard Rohr is a highly acclaimed speaker, conference leader and spiritual guide. Founder of the Center for Action and Contemplation in New Mexico, Fr. Rohr, a Franciscan, has produced some of the most exciting books in recent decades about developing the spiritual life after the patterns of Jesus' teachings. He is an excellent and captivating speaker as you will discover in these two Webcasts. In September he will speak about *Practicing Contemplation and Facing Paradox* . . . then in December about *The True Self and the Risen Christ*. Sessions typically last 1.5 to 2 hours.

Peggy Scott and Brian Arthur will facilitate the sessions and lead discussion.



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 September

WEEKLY SERVICES

Tuesdays

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

Wednesdays

7 a.m., Holy Communion

Thursdays

5:30 p.m., Spirit Now

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., GSP's GPS (11th & 12th grades)
11:30 a.m., J2A Youth Group (9th & 10th grades)
11:30 a.m., Rite 13 (7th & 8th grades)

10th

9 a.m., Pastoral Care meeting
11:30 a.m., Spiritual Direction
12:30 p.m., GSP Communications Group Meeting
3 p.m., GSP Reading Group
6:30 p.m., Long Range Planning Committee

7 p.m., Joseph's Pantry
7 p.m., Green Church Committee meeting

11th

7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
5:30 p.m., Family Caregiver Support Group

12th

9 a.m., EfM
10 a.m., Quilting Ministry
3 p.m., Campus Ministry Board meeting

13th

7 p.m., EfM
3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal

14th

6 p.m., Old Pueblo Community Services

15th

8:30 a.m., Altar Guild
1 p.m., TiHAN Volunteer Orientation

16th

9 a.m., *The Book of Common Prayer*
11:45 a.m., *Liturgy for the 21st Century*
12:30 p.m., Youth Ensemble Choir
3 p.m., Musica Sonora

17th

11:30 a.m., Spiritual Direction
6 p.m., Primavera Meals—Third Monday Group

18th

7 p.m., Setting Our Hearts
7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic

19th

6 p.m., AZ Repertory Singers
9 a.m., EfM
10 a.m., Quilting Ministry
10 a.m., Spiritual Directors Peer Group meeting

20th

12 p.m., Prayer Shawl Ministry
1:30 p.m., Liturgy Planning Meeting
7 p.m., EfM

21st

12 p.m., Prayer Shawl Ministry
3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal
9:30 a.m., Community of Hope
1 p.m., Tucson Desert Harmony Chorus rehearsal

22nd

6:30 p.m., Film & Fellowship monthly movie & potluck
8:30 a.m., Altar Guild

23rd

5:30 p.m., ISO Dance & Dinner
9 a.m., *What Paul Really Said About Women*
11:45 a.m., *Liturgy for the 21st Century*

24th

12:30 p.m., Youth Ensemble Choir
1 p.m., Mother's Kitchen (Primavera cooking team)

25th

9 a.m., Pastoral Care Meeting
11:30 a.m., Spiritual Direction
3 p.m., GSP Reading Group
7 p.m., Setting Our Hearts
7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
9 a.m., Primavera Cooks! Fourth Tuesday Primavera Meals Group

26th

6 p.m., AZ Repertory Singers
6:30 p.m., **Vestry Meeting**
9 a.m., EfM
10 a.m., Quilting Ministry
1:30 p.m., Liturgy Planning Meeting

27th

7 p.m., EfM
7 p.m., Old Pueblo Community Services

29th

3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal

30th

8:30 a.m., Altar Guild
9 a.m., *What Paul Really Said About Women*
11:45 a.m., *Liturgy for the 21st Century*
12:30 p.m., Youth Ensemble Choir

October

1st

11:30 a.m., Spiritual Direction
12:30 p.m., GSP Communications Group Meeting
7 p.m., Setting Our Hearts
7 p.m., Green Church Committee meeting

2nd

7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic

3rd

6 p.m., AZ Repertory Singers
9 a.m., EfM

4th

10 a.m., Quilting Ministry
12 p.m., Prayer Shawl Ministry
1:30 p.m., Liturgy Planning Meeting
7 p.m., EfM
12 p.m., Prayer Shawl Ministry
3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal