

The Briefly

September 2014

The monthly newsletter for the community of
Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church
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Rector's Letter

Yesterday I opened a piece of mail in the office and saw the image at the bottom left of this page, a photo taken by my friend, Stan Burman. It is a shot in Long Canyon in the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, just over the border in Utah. The cottonwood tree has just begun to leaf out in the early spring picture. An equinoctial storm has dropped a very late snow in the canyon.

The photo immediately made me smile, as I started thinking of my own days and nights traipsing through those exquisite canyons. It also made me happy as I thought about Stan and the generous sharing of his talents and treasures over the years. His photos grace the rectory as well as my church office, all gifts from him. I also remembered all the hours he spent with me setting up this computer, upon which I write this article. He helped me set it all up in preparation for our new life at Grace St. Paul's.

When I opened the card, I was greeted with this message:

"Dear Father Steve,

Please use this to help with the kids over Labor Day."

Stan had heard about our hosting of migrant women and children who risked their lives to come to America to escape the violence going on in Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador. He wanted to do something about the crisis and rather than send money to a humanitarian organization, he chose to send it to us.

This kind of thing happens often. People well outside the GSP circle learn of something we are doing to serve others. They find out about our social service ministry, our food pantry, our shower program. They also see our liturgies, read our sermons, and respond to our programs like Christianity 3.0. They see what we are teaching in our Spiritual formation classes. They respond when they see us sending our youth to serve

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The challenges before us will always be high, because the bar we have set for ourselves is high....



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Submissions to *The Briefly*

Please submit articles to Joyce Henderson, BrieflyEditor@gracestpauls.org. John Banks receives photos, charts, and graphics at jdbanks@gmail.com.

The deadline for the October 2014 issue will be Tuesday, Sept. 9.

Rector's Letter

Continued from Page 1

others. They see how we are influencing the wider church and changing people's lives, and they want to be a part of it.

The fact that there are individuals around the country who want to support what we are doing at GSP says so much to all of us. It is affirmation that we really are living into our vision statement to change the world. Their generosity of spirit is an inspiration to all of us.

During the month of September, we will be talking about how all of you live into this generosity constantly. You will have a chance to share your own stories of generosity and what has inspired you. We will also talk about

what it is going to take, both financially and in volunteer hours, to continue to serve others, to inspire each other, and to change the church and the world.

The challenges before us will always be high, because the bar we have set for ourselves is high. But that is the only way we will continue to make the gigantic impact on our community we have in the past. I have no doubt that all of you are up to that challenge as we continue to create the Beloved Community around us.

Thanks for all you do and all you contribute to allow our dream to become reality.

Steve+

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

Prayers of the People

Following the creedal statement in the Order of worship in Eucharistic services are the Prayers of the People. If you look in the Prayer Book, you will discover six different forms of Prayers. In many Episcopal churches, the practice is to use these six forms in a regular rotation each Sunday. However, that was not the intention of the editors. The forms in the book were supposed to be examples of potential ways that prayers might be done. Since they are, after all, the prayers of the people, the hope was that they would actually come from the people. The only thing the Prayer Book does require is that the prayers include intercessions for the following: the Universal Church, the nation, the world, the local community, those who suffer, and the departed.

Here at Grace St. Paul's, we have designed the prayers to match the liturgical seasons of the church. We have a different prayer structure to match the themes in Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, Pentecost, and our own season of Creation. Each week, we take that structure and add prayers for what is happening in our community, nation, and world now. The Rev. Claudia Heath, a member of our parish, wrote most of our prayer structures.

Crafting Prayers of the People each week

is time consuming. We scour the news from various sources and choose the items we feel most match the concerns of the GSP community in each category. In this way, we have prayers that match the themes of the rest of the service, while simultaneously allowing us to pray for what is happening in the world around us at that moment.

In addition, we create each prayer in a way that everyone in the congregation has an opportunity to add a specific prayer. Sometimes events happen after we have gone to press, and this is a great way to create prayers on the spot and add a bit of extemporaneous praying too.

To highlight that these prayers are your prayers, the prayers of the people, we have anyone who is moved by the spirit, recite each prayer. I personally believe this has led to some of the most beautiful moments in our service. I have often been moved to tears when one of you chooses to read a prayer that has affected you.

We encourage the entire congregation to take part in Prayers of the People, not only by reading them, but also contributing to the content. If you know of something you would like to be in the prayers, please send it to me by Tuesday of any week. If it's later, send it anyway and we will still try to insert it. Thanks to all of you for making our Prayers of the People so beautiful and meaningful.

Giving & Receiving

Living

Generosity

By Peggy Scott,

Co-Chair,

Giving & Receiving

Ushering is where my heart is. And my absolute favorite part of the usher's duties is taking up the collection. What a blessing to receive your offerings to God and be able to thank you with my brightest smile.

The Rev. Emily Mellot gets to the heart of why the offertory is so special. She states, "It's sacramental: the outward and visible sign of the incredible grace that comes together at the altar. The symbol of our work and of our commitment is embodied in cash and checks, and the symbol of God's unlimited commitment to us is embodied in the bread and wine made by human labor from God's gifts of grain and grape (and purchased with those same cash and checks)."

This miracle of sacrament is an outward response to God's invitation to embody generosity

and it is a core expression of the spirit of Grace St. Paul's, our desire to provide food for the journey. I encourage you to join us at one of the weekly Giving & Receiving presentations, starting on Sunday, Sept. 7, and ending on Sunday, Oct. 5.

These are the dates and times of the Giving & Receiving gatherings. All will take place in the Bloom Room. There will be refreshments, the showing of a special video and a drawing for a secret prize.

Sept. 7—11:45 a.m.

Sept. 1—11:45 a.m.

Sept. 21—6 p.m.

Sept. 28—11:45 a.m.

Oct. 5—6 p.m.

Come, see and share how each one of us live generosity every day.

LIVING GENEROSITY in 2015

"LIVING GENEROSITY" is the theme of this year's financial support campaign for GSP's ministries in 2015. This theme reminds us that generosity is a living part of our Christian faith and a lifestyle of the followers of Jesus. Here are details:

- Kick-off is Sunday, Sept. 7, at the morning worship services.
- There will be a special video featuring GSP folks reflecting on generosity in their lives.
- A "LIVING GENEROSITY" daily devotional booklet written by GSP members and friends is available at church and online.
- Five small group gatherings are scheduled on Sundays during the campaign. We will watch the video and discuss the role of "LIVING GENEROSITY" in our lives.
- AND... one person at each small group will go home with a wonderful door prize!
- Celebration Sunday!, Oct. 12, when we will finalize our financial commitments for the coming year

Watch for details about times and locations—be ready to express your LIVING GENEROSITY—our ministries make a difference in the world, so let's support them!

Notes from the Choir Stalls

By Christina Jarvis,
Director of Music



Signs of change and renewal are all around us. That seems like an odd thing to say in September, when the wheel of the year has turned three quarters of the way around, and Late Pentecost continues its long stretch through the summer and into the fall, like a cat extended to limits of nose tip to tail.

For the choirs, it means bidding farewell to some and saying hello to new members as people leave and join the church. St. Cecilia's choristers move on to become Zombies, and new children take their place. Life is change, which can be hard to embrace but impossible to stop. My motto: There is always Plan B.

In the renewal category, Jane Click is moving forward with the Lieto Ensemble, a group of instrumentalists in the parish who play together for the love of God and the gift of music. We are blessed by their passion.

I have been on a spending spree for new music (which will not be music to our church treasurer's ears). I fear for the limits of my budget. The problem with going to choral workshops is that one hears such cool new music one wants it, yesssss, my precioussssss. Because Grace St. Paul's values diversity, I've selected a few pieces representing cultures other than the dominant Anglo. Some of the works, particularly for the Season of Creation, are not overtly religious, which dodges thickets of theology we want to avoid. However, the texts work well in our context.

For example, I've ordered a piece called "Boat on Tai Lake." Given that the boat is a symbol of the church, one can read the text as a reflection either on the beauties of nature or on the serenity of spirit we seek in faith as our boat moves forward through the water. The tune is from either the Chinese Ming or Qing Dynasties, i.e., somewhere between 1368-1911, which doesn't exactly pin it down.

In another example, I've sent for a piece called "Cherokee Traveler's Greeting." If I schedule this piece during the Season of Creation, it is not to stereotype Native Americans as being more in tune with nature. Instead, it's intended to be a non-standard take on the Prayer of St. Francis: "Like a brother/sister of my own blood, I will love you. I will wipe the tears from your eyes, when you are sad I will put your aching heart to rest. I will pull thorns from your feet, we will walk the way of life together forever." I'll let you judge whether it works in this context. I just can't get the tune out of my head.

One corollary to this diversity is that we are singing in different languages—Chinese, Hebrew, Latin, Spanish, and, um, Icelandic. Well, I tell myself, everybody knows Spanish, and for the rest, we're spacing them out so the choir does at least one anthem in English every week. The foreign language texts are mostly transliterated by the editor. Except for *Heyr hymna smíður*, of course, which I got directly from Iceland, but hey, there will be a soloist on the middle verse who has been listening to it on YouTube. What could possibly go wrong?

The junior choirs will be singing in African languages and Spanish as well as English. I'm toying with the idea of preparing the Zombies to sing a march in *solfege* (do re mi) for the Annual Meeting. It's all good stuff. Other languages keep our brains flexible and connect us to the world in healthy ways, even if it's just the world of moveable "do" (that's a music teacher in-joke, by the way—feel free to google it).

Not all the choir offerings in September will be non-traditional. We commence the season with the mighty "O God, Beyond All Praising" (Thaxted) with music by Gustav Holst. This tune was the central theme in his "Jupiter" movement of *The Planets*, and is also known in Britain as "I Vow to Thee, My Country." Also in September, we will sing a piece by Georg Philipp Telemann gleaned from the choral library at St. Matthew's, when they were divesting themselves of music. You will hear a beautiful setting of "Jesu, the Very Thought of Thee" by Richard Proulx, as well as some old friends from the stacks—"Jesus Christ the Apple Tree" (Elizabeth Poston), "Tis the Gift to be Simple" (Aaron Copland), and "The Eyes of All Wait Upon Thee" (Jean Berger). It's wise to start the season with works most of the choir already knows, particularly when Chinese and Icelandic loom in the offing. And then there's Christmas. *Loads* of time to worry about that!

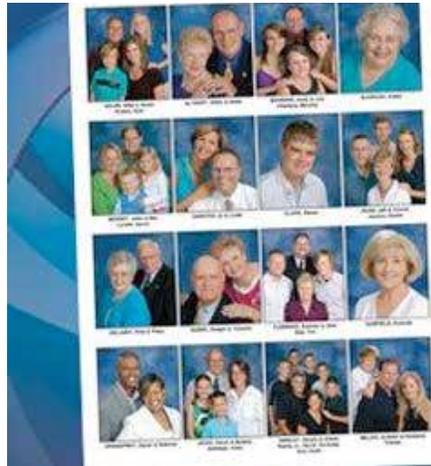
So, as we have rested and renewed ourselves for the new season, which is really part of the old season, but never mind, eh, I hope you all had a refreshing summer and are returning to the tasks of fall full of energy and commitment. Especially commitment to choir. We like commitment to choir. Thanks to all choristers out there, past, present, and yet to come sing!

Peace,

Christina

Sign Up to Have Your Photo Taken

By Martha Whitaker,
Communications
Ministry Chair



Be a part of our family album

PORTRAIT SIGN-UP

It's September, and now is the time to sign up to have your portrait taken for the forthcoming GSP Photo Directory! There are two ways you can schedule a portrait appointment:

1. On Sept. 7, 14, & 21 we will have a sign-up table in McBride Hall.
2. We will soon have an online sign-up system linked to the GSP website, and it will be available 24 hours per day through Sept. 21, except during the on-site sign up times on Sundays in McBride Hall.

Photo Directory FAQs

Q: What is the name of the company that's taking the photos and making the directories?

A: Photographs will be taken by Life Touch Photography

Q: What dates will portraits be taken?

A: Portraits will be taken on:

Friday, 10/3

Saturday, 10/4

Tuesday, 10/28

Wednesday, 10/29

Thursday, 10/30

Q: May I bring my animal companion to the portrait session?

A: Yes, of course! Pets are welcome and encouraged for your portrait session. Please remember to have your animal companion secured (leash or sturdy carrier) prior to your photo session, as other animals may be having their portraits taken too!

Q: May I bring other props for the portrait?

A: Yes! A child may want to bring a favorite book, toy, or stuffed animal. At another church, one family brought in their grandfather clock because

it belonged to their grandparents, and having it in the portrait was symbolic of having them there. Another man posed with his golf clubs. Yet another person brought their musical instrument. You are encouraged to bring whatever you'd like that will enhance the photo because it says something about who you (or your family) are.

Q: Will I have to buy anything?

A: No. Just for having your portrait taken, you will receive a complimentary 8"x10" portrait, and of course you will receive a GSP directory when they are completed. GSP have been assured and reassured that there will be no hard-sell sales tactics. You are under no obligation whatsoever to purchase anything. If however, you want to take advantage of the opportunity to purchase a portrait package, you will receive a \$5 coupon if you bring in a food donation for Joseph's Pantry. Life Touch Photography believes that the quality of their work and your positive experience with their professional photographers is what will inspire you to purchase a photo package.

Q: I will not be able to attend any of the scheduled portrait sessions. Will I still be able to be included in the Parish Directory?

A: Yes, you don't have to have your portrait taken to have your contact information included in the directory, but of course we'd like to have as many pictures of parishioners included as possible.

Q: May I submit my own photograph?

A: If you prefer to submit your own picture to be included in the GSP photo directory, you may do so for a fee of \$10. Please contact the parish office for details on how to do this.

Children & Youth Program Year Starts Soon!

Sept. 7—Registration Sunday—sign up for all children and youth programs; including choirs and acolytes*

Sept. 14—First day of the program year.

Sunday School & Youth Group Age Ranges:

Nursery: 6 weeks-age 3

Pre-school:

age 3-Kindergarten

1st-3rd grades

4th-5th grades

Rite 13: 6th & 7th

grades

J2A: 8th & 9th grades

GPS: 10th-12th grades

*Please contact

Christina Jarvis (clj@delegation.org) to inquire about participation in St. Cecilia's Choir or St. Zeno's Zombie Choir. Please contact Beth Miksa (verger@grace-stpauls.org) regarding acolytes.



4th Annual Arts for Summer Camp Successful

By *Rosalind Garcia*

Some 28 kids and 12 adults gathered for GSP's annual Arts for Summer Camp, July 7-11.

This year's theme was "Streams through the Desert," so naturally the focus was on water. We learned about how plants and animals survival in the desert with little water, did several science experiments with water and weather, learned about Holy Baptism, worked with water colors and sang water related music.

The Desert Museum visited us with live animals! As usual, on the last day of camp, our participants displayed their art work and preformed their musical numbers for friends and family members. It was a week full of learning, laughter and fun!

Many, many volunteers make Arts for Summer possible and the majority of our kids can attend because of generous scholarship donations from the the GSP congregation and a grant from Episcopal Community Services.

Thank you to everyone who made camp possible!

Memories from Pilgrimage

By *Minda and Noah Dettman*

This summer seven youth and three youth leaders from Grace St. Paul's had the wonderful opportunity to participate in a pilgrimage. Thanks to generous donations, fundraising and support, we traveled to Taizé, Canterbury and London, visiting cathedrals, churches, and monasteries.

Taizé (Monastery)

Minda: Taizé is very hard to explain in words. Located in the French countryside, this monastery is known for its programs for youth. People travel from all over the world to live, work, and learn within this community.

My job was to help in the church, getting the books ready for the services and doing various other odd jobs that are necessary in keeping an area ready for the community. While doing this, I got to know the other people in my group, who were from Germany, Columbia, Mexico, and Finland.

I was with another small group for daily





to Canterbury, England, the heart of Anglicanism.

This town has many churches, including St. Martin's, the first church founded in England; the ruins of St. Augustine's Abbey, a monastery destroyed in the Protestant Reformation; and, most notably, Canterbury Cathedral, the largest church I have ever seen in my life.

The first time I walked through the main gates that block off the outside market

Bible study, where one of the Brothers talked about that day's verse before we broke into smaller groups to discuss various questions and see where the conversation led. My group had surprisingly interesting conversations, given how dry the provided questions were. However, the questions were open-ended enough to evolve into conversations about different cultures, languages (we were there during Pentecost), religion, and morality. We discussed what we each believed, and how we had reached that point.

My group was made up of people from various Christian denominations, as well as someone who was agnostic, someone who was Muslim, and others who weren't sure what they believed. These discussions, combined with the morning, afternoon, and evening prayer services, created a peaceful, reflective atmosphere where no opinion was disregarded.

Through discussing your personal beliefs with people (even if I'm not the type of person to typically open up that much), those beliefs could grow. Through our differences and similarities, we could find ourselves.

Canterbury/London (the Cathedrals)

Noah: After our weeklong stay at Taizé, and two days spent in Lyon, France, we travelled

streets and into the quiet grounds in which the Cathedral stood, I was struck with awe. The nave was massive, and the idea of centuries of pilgrims travelling here in order to attend service in this sublime space made me realize the importance of the trip we were on.

After Canterbury, we travelled to London, and attended evening mass at Westminster Abbey, as well as a Sunday worship service at St. Paul's Cathedral. Each of these places was a unique and awe-inspiring space for worship.

Each of us experienced this trip in our own way, but all the members of our group matured. Though it was difficult at times, we learned to live together in community. We are grateful to everyone at Grace St. Paul's for all of your support and your thoughts that traveled with us.



Senior Focus

Millie Zuniga
By Deacon Nancy Meister

Millie found her way to Grace St. Paul's when a friend invited her to play bridge. She ended up working in Bread from the Pantry sorting and delivering bread and became a friend of Doree Ramey's, the ministry leader. She also was a regular participant in the Thursdays at Grace program led by Lynne Albright.

Millie was born in 1920 and grew on a farm in a small town near Toledo, Ohio. As fifth down in the pecking order, she is the only survivor of her six siblings. Her parents were of German and French heritage. At a young age she left Ohio and went to California where she went to Santa Monica City College while doing factory work for MacDonald Douglas.

She proudly told me about being active in the USO during World War II in theater productions. She studied Spanish at UCLA and met her husband while living in California. He was Honduran and they moved to Tegucigalpa near where his family had a coffee plantation. She returned to the U.S. and taught English and Spanish in Lansing and Kalamazoo Michigan. She received two master's degrees from Western Michigan University, one in special education.

She didn't like the cold so she got a job teaching early childhood education at the University of Arizona. Eventually she taught Second Grade at Sam Hughes elementary because the pay was better than at the college

level. Recently Curtis, one of her students contacted the church through Facebook



wanting to find his favorite teacher. Catherine Penn was able to connect them and they shared great memories of her as a teacher, going to the Gallagher Theater and her class during Black History week. She retired from Sam Hughes at 67. She also has had a career in real estate. Millie has a passion for many things, among them travel, pottery, amateur theater and music. Her favorite was South Pacific.

She is very proud of the two daughters she raised, Carmen Dunlap, a recently retired Associate Dean at Cal State Fullerton and Jennifer Zuniga, an administrator for the Area Health Education Centers at the University of Arizona. She has five grandchildren and two great grandchildren. One grandson is a sophomore at the U of A.

Millie has lived at Handmaker's in Assisted Living for the last two years. While she has some health challenges she remains her upbeat and lively self, however she misses the world travel she was able to do earlier in her life. When asked about GSP, she said "they practice what they preach" and are very spiritual. She remains connected to GSP through other GSP residents at Handmakers, Janet Kells and Robert Rosenberg, lunch out with the Zuelows and pastoral care visits.



Millie Zuniga (above) and with her granddaughters (above right)



GSP assists the Tohono O'odham in saguaro harvest

By Eric Carr

This was our fourth summer participating in the sacred saguaro harvest with the Tohono O'odham Nation.

This year's harvest was different, though.

Stella Tucker, the official harvester for the Nation, suffered a series of setbacks and the harvest was in jeopardy. Just as it was in Jesus' famous parable, the harvest was plentiful but the laborers were few. Ripe fruit hung on the saguaros, lettering the desert floor with its unclaimed sweetness, but Stella was unable to harvest, and her family, resounding to a significant

crisis, had no time to launch the season.

In a last-ditch effort, Stella asked if GSP would be willing to help. We immediately used Facebook and talked to groups of people at church to send out the call, and that same night we started to organize groups.

Altogether, we went out four times and gathered about ten gallons of fresh saguaro fruit as well as several bags of naturally sun-dried fruit. This was hardly anything compared to previous harvests, but was enough to save the harvest and supply the Nation with everything it needed to make the precious syrup and wine necessary for the Bringing Down the Clouds ceremony. Plus it gave many people at GSP an opportunity to experience creation in a beautifully sacred and meaningful way that few people get to see.

We were also invited to participate in next year's Dia de San Juan Feast Service, which happens on June 24th. It is a huge honor, and we are so grateful for this unique relationship GSP has formed with the Tohono O'odham people and tradition.



The Value of Adult Spiritual Formation

By Margaret Delk Moore,
Co-Chair of

Adult Spiritual Formation

This summer, the Adult Spiritual Formation Committee has been hard at work planning a variety of opportunities for spiritual growth at Grace St. Paul's which will continue well into the fall. Topics this spring and summer have been presented by members of the Parish as well as by those whose passion intersects with who we are as a progressive Episcopal church.

As I have worked in Adult Christian Education for over 30 years, too often I continue to hear well-meaning folks say, "I don't really come to Christian Ed because I haven't got time." Others may say, "I'm already confirmed, so I just come to church each Sunday. Isn't that enough?" So what is the importance, really, of joining in on the various opportunities to grow spiritually?

I once entered into a friendly debate with a priest friend regarding the importance of theological exploration. He actually saw no real benefit coming from group discussions regarding what we believe, while I subscribed to the thought that the study of theology was where one gained an understanding of faith through the sharing of our faith journeys with others. If we do not have opportunities to articulate what we believe nor to explore ideas and new knowledge with fellow

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What We Episcopalians

Think We're Doing in the Holy Eucharist

Sundays, Sept. 7 & 14, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center

Join us for an informative two-session media presentation on the Eucharist. In the course we will explore:

- What do our prayers say about the Holy Eucharist?
- What are the major Biblical references?
- What does Justin Martyr write about early Christian worship?
- What do we teach in an outline of the Christian Faith (the Catechism)?
- What did the Reformation Church teach in the Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion?
- What does the Exhortation say about the Holy Eucharist?
- What are the basic parts of a Eucharistic celebration?
- What is the outline of the Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer, or Anaphora?
- What are the customary movements of a musical Mass?
- How does the celebration end?

Facilitated by Chuck Dickson, retired college teacher and long time GSP member.

Film Series: How Do We Live Abundantly?

Fridays, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, & Nov. 14, 7-9 p.m., Bloom Education Center

"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."
—John 10:10

We are constantly tempted by aspirational desires created by the marketing strategies of a global consumerist culture that attempts to convince us that having more stuff, acquiring the latest gadget or owning a certain brand of clothing will make our lives better. How do we live the promise of abundant life that the Gospel of John promises? How do we know when we have enough? How do we define abundance for ourselves? What really makes us happy? Join us for three documentary films that attempt to illuminate how others have grappled with finding answers to these questions. A discussion will follow each film.

Sept. 12: *"Tiny: A Story About Living Small"* (2014)—TINY is a documentary about home, and how we find it. The film follows one couple's attempt to build a "tiny house" from scratch, and profiles other families who have downsized their lives into homes smaller than the average parking space. Through homes stripped down to their essentials, the film raises questions about good design, the nature of home, and the changing American Dream. (61 min)

Oct. 10: *"Living Without Money"* (2010)—"I had everything I needed, I had a house and I had raised two

children. I gave it all away." —Heidemarie Schwermer

This documentary portrays the life of 68 year old Heidemarie Schwermer, a German woman who made a deliberate choice to stop using money 14 years ago. She cancelled her apartment, gave away all of her belongings and kept nothing but a suitcase full of clothes. The film follows Heidemarie in her day to day life and shows the challenges she meets by living an alternative lifestyle. Today, she is still living almost without money and claims she is feeling more free and independent than ever. (55 min)

Nov. 14: *"Happy"* (2011)—HAPPY takes us on a journey from the swamps of Louisiana to the slums of Kolkata in search of what really makes people happy. Combining real life stories of people from around the world and powerful interviews with the leading scientists in happiness research, HAPPY explores the secrets behind our most valued emotion. (75 min)

The series is offered by Catherine Penn Williams and co-sponsored by the Giving and Receiving Ministry. Catherine is an Episcopal layperson and experienced small group leader. She has a longstanding interest in finding spiritual themes in contemporary films.

ANIMATE: Practices

Mondays, Sept. 15, 22 & 29, Oct. 6, 13, 20 & 27, 7 p.m., at Catherine Penn Williams' home

What are the central practices of the Christian faith, why are they important, and how we can take part in them today? In this course we will explore seven spiritual disciplines—the practice of prayer, eating together, making worship, celebrating sacraments, sharing money, serving others, and forming community—as essential elements of our faith in action. We will utilize short videos featuring leading voices in the Emerging Church, time for personal reflection and journaling, and sharing ideas in a small group setting. Each week, participants will take home specific suggestions for practicing a different discipline during the following week.

Facilitated by Catherine Penn Williams, an Episcopal layperson and experienced small group leader. She has been teaching the ANIMATE series for over a year at GSP and finds this thought provoking and edgy program to be just right for Christian seekers.

Advanced registration is required. You may register via email to adulted@grace-stpauls.org or sign up sheet in the church office. The deadline to register is Friday, Sept. 12. There is a \$15 materials fee, payable at the first class. Scholarships are available. Contact adulted@grace-stpauls.org for more information, and for the address where the class will be held.



Spiritual Formation

Continued from Page 10
seekers, then we will find ourselves stuck on a plateau of outdated beliefs. For me, I find that when I can share my faith journey with other pilgrims along the way, I gain a deeper understanding of my relationship with Christ and am enriched and inspired by the insights of others. I can read and study on my own, however, when I hear broader perspectives, I am challenged to move beyond my own limited set of ideas.

Our spiritual growth and development should not stop at a point in time. I believe that as followers of Christ, we are called to continually seek to deepen our faith, to share our understanding with others, and live out that faith in community. Whether we regularly attend a Sunday morning offering, take advantage of study groups such as EFM, attend an alternative worship service, or choose to be a part of a small group that explores an aspect of faith, our faith journeys will be that much richer. Ongoing spiritual formation encourages one to seek God in the obvious and not so obvious. It opens the door for us to see God not only in ourselves but in each other. That, coupled with our rich worship experiences at Grace St. Paul's, equips us to put our faith into action as each day we carry the gospel into the world in faith, word, and deed. Opportunities abound to keep growing in our faith at GSP. Come join in as our journeys intersect.

Living Generosity—Go and Do!

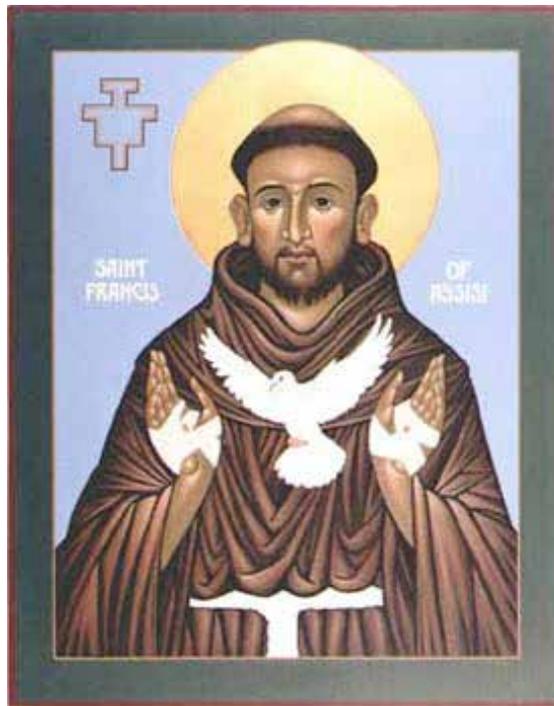
Sunday, Sept. 21, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center.
Explore a compassionate, active faith lived out in real time. Are you skeptical about the status quo? Confused about just what you should “Go and Do”? Join the conversation.

Facilitated by Roger Pierce, Senior Warden of GSP

Exploring Today's Lectionary

Sunday, Sept. 28, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center
We have had many requests to provide opportunities to discuss the Bible readings of the day more in depth in a small group. Today's class is the third opportunity of this kind. Come join us.

Facilitated by Margaret Moore, Co-Chair of Adult Spiritual Formation



Spiritual Relationships through St. Francis & Animals

Sunday, Oct. 5, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center
We'll take a look at the life of St. Francis and how we can adapt the “Prayer of St. Francis” to our lives. We will also discuss the life of animals and our role in developing relationships with them.

Facilitated by Gale Odion and Chris Ledyard. Gale is interested in developing a spiritual practice using the Prayer of St. Francis. Chris is a deacon and interested in the spiritual ministry of animals.

Way of the Monk, Path of the Artist:

Seeking God through Contemplation & Creativity
Saturdays, Oct. 11, 18 & 25, & Nov. 1, 10-11:30 a.m., McBride Hall

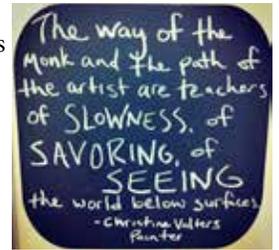
Based on “The Artist's Rule” by Christine Valters Paintner, this course will be organized around St. Benedict's monastic ideals of obedience, stability, and commitment to “listening deeply to the ways God calls you in everyday life”

as participants seek to answer to the question, “What would it mean for you to dance, make art, write poetry, and pray purely for the delight in the act of creation?”

Methods will include contemplative practices such as guided meditation, *lectio divina* and reflection questions, visual art activities with markers, crayons, watercolor, and collage, creative writing such as composing poems and blessing prayers, and music activities to inspire and energize. No art experience is necessary!

Registration is limited; please pre-register via email to adulthood@grace-stpauls.org or the sign-up sheet in the church office by Monday, Oct 6.

Facilitated by Pat Dickson, spiritual director and artist; Georghan Polk, art therapist; and Jane Click, music therapist.



Sunday, Oct. 12 – No Class

Exploring Today's Lectionary

Sunday, Oct. 19, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center
We have had many requests to provide opportunities to discuss the Bible readings of the day more in depth in a small group. Today's class is the fourth opportunity of this kind. Come join us.

Facilitated by Roger Pierce, Senior Warden of GSP

The Great Mystery: What's a Deacon?

Sunday, Oct. 26, 9 a.m., Bloom Education Center
Let's discuss the meaning of Servant Leadership, briefly process together the vows of a Deacon and how they are similar to our Baptismal Covenant, and review a brief description of the various ministries conducted by Deacons. Ministries have evolved—so let's also talk about how ministries have changed Grace St. Paul's.

Led by Deacons Nancy Meister Book, Linda Hutson and Chris Ledyard.



Grace St. Paul's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

What's Happening in September 2014

WEEKLY SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

Sundays

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

Mondays

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

Tuesdays

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

Wednesdays

- 7 a.m., [Holy Communion](#)
- 10 a.m., Quilting Ministry
- 5 p.m., Spirit Dojo

Thursdays

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

Saturdays

- 9 a.m., Altar Guild

1st **LABOR DAY: Church Office & Social Services Closed**

7 p.m., [Green Church Committee](#)

3rd 12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry

5th 6:30 p.m., Spirit Players Play-Reading

6th 8:30 a.m., E/M Eternal Group

7th 9 a.m., *What Episcopalians Think They're Doing in the Holy Eucharist*

11:45 a.m., [Living Generosity](#)

8th 7 p.m., [Joseph's Pantry Meeting](#)

12th 11:30 a.m., GSP Reading Group

6:30 p.m., [Adult Spiritual Formation Film Series](#): "How Do We Live Abundantly?"

14th 9 a.m., *What Episcopalians Think They're Doing in the Holy Eucharist*

11:45 a.m., [Living Generosity](#)
6 p.m., SpiritSong: Worship & Prayer in the style of Taizé

17th 12 p.m., Prayer Shawl Ministry

19th 9:30 a.m., Community of Hope Meeting

6:30 p.m., Film & Fellowship

21st 9 a.m., *Generosity*

7 p.m., [Living Generosity](#)

23rd 9 a.m., Primavera Cooks!

6:30 p.m., [Vestry Meeting](#)

28th 9 a.m., *Exploring Today's Lectionary*

11:45 a.m., [Living Generosity](#)

1 p.m., Mother's Kitchen (Primavera cooking team)

What's Coming in October

1st 12 p.m., Prayer Shawl Ministry

3rd 12 p.m., [Photographs for Directory](#)

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

4th 10 a.m., [Photographs for Directory](#)

5th [CREATION SUNDAY](#)

9 a.m., *Spiritual Relationships through St. Francis & Animals*

7 p.m., [Living Generosity](#)

6th 7 p.m., [Green Church Committee](#)

10th 11:30 a.m., GSP Reading Group

6:30 p.m., [Adult Spiritual Formation Film Series](#): "How Do We Live Abundantly?"

11th 10 a.m., [Adult Ed Art Class](#): "Way of the Monk, Path of the Artist"

12th **CELEBRATION SUNDAY!**

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

13th 6:30 p.m., E/M Eternal Group

7 p.m., [Joseph's Pantry Meeting](#)

15th 12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry

17th **Diocesan Convention**

6:30 p.m., Film & Fellowship

18th **Diocesan Convention**

10 a.m., "Way of the Monk, Path of the Artist"

19th 9 a.m., *Exploring Today's Lectionary*

25th 10 a.m., "Way of the Monk, Path of the Artist"

26th 9 a.m., *The Great Mystery: What's a Deacon?*

1 p.m., Mother's Kitchen (Primavera cooking team)

27th 10 a.m., E/M Post Graduate Forum

28th 9 a.m., Primavera Cooks!
12 noon, [Photographs for Directory](#)

6:30 p.m., [Vestry Meeting](#)

29th 12 noon, [Photographs for Directory](#)

30th 12 noon, [Photographs for Directory](#)

What's Coming in November

1st 10 a.m., "Way of the Monk, Path of the Artist"

3rd 7 p.m., [Green Church Committee](#)

5th 12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry

7th 6:30 p.m., Spirit Players Play-Reading

9th **6 p.m., SpiritSong: Worship & Prayer in the style of Taizé**

10th 6:30 p.m., E/M Eternal Group

7 p.m., [Joseph's Pantry Meeting](#)

14th 11:30 a.m., GSP Reading Group

6:30 p.m., [Adult Spiritual Formation Film Series](#): "How Do We Live Abundantly?"