

Adult Spiritual Formation
AND
Education Classes



SUMMER 2010



Grace St. Paul's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



A PROGRESSIVE COMMUNITY

Loving God, Helping Others, Journeying Together




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EPISCOPAL CHURCH



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2331 East Adams Street  Tucson, Arizona 85719
(520) 327-6857  www.gsptucson.org

*Located four blocks north of Speedway,
one block west of Tucson Boulevard*

Introduction

GRACE ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH is blessed to present a rich array of classes that provide a gateway to adult spiritual formation. You'll find that our classes are –

- Innovative and intriguing
- Facilitated by parishioners and members of the larger spiritual community
- Guaranteed to make you think while on your spiritual journey
- Opportunities to become part of the Grace St. Paul's community

Additional Opportunities

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES for adult spiritual formation at Grace St. Paul's are available through participation in pastoral care ministries such as Intercessory Prayer Team, Healing Touch, Lay Eucharistic Visitors, and Community of Hope, as well as outreach ministries such as Joseph's Pantry, Bread from the Pantry, Primavera Meals and Bridging Borders. Please visit our web site at www.gsp-tucson.org, or the Welcome Table and Sunday bulletin for current information about what's happening. Children and Youth spiritual formation opportunities are also available at Grace St. Paul's. For more information, please contact Harriet Claiborne, Director of Children's Ministries, through the church office at 327-6857.

Vision Statement

GRACE ST. PAUL'S WILL BE KNOWN for its commitment to the spiritual formation of people, that they might live a dynamically transformative Christian life. This vision will be embodied in –

- Experience of Christ's love
- Innovative Episcopal worship
- Education in progressive Christianity for all ages
- A diverse congregation and full integration of children and youth
- Celebration of individual gifts
- Action in the community

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– A –

Adult Education and Spiritual Formation Meeting (open to all)

Thursday, July 22, 7–8:30 p.m. in the Weeks Room

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED about a special topic in your spiritual life? Alternatively, have you read a book that you think would help others grow in their spirituality? Ever wanted to facilitate a class or small group? If so, come to the Adult Education planning meeting. Topics and class facilitators for the 2010–11 Fall and Winter Schedule are wanted and needed. The more the merrier! If you need a class proposal form, or have any immediate questions, contact Chris LaBour or Chris Ledyard, TSSF, Co-Chairpersons of Adult Spiritual Formation and Education Covenant Group, through the church office at 327-6857.

– B –

Bridging Borders Film Series

June 11 and 25; July 9 and 23, 6:30–9:00 p.m.

in the Bloom Education Center

BRIDGING BORDERS IS PLEASED TO PRESENT entertaining and thought-provoking films addressing migration within and between countries from a variety of points of view. They range from a dreaming athlete to a lonely farmer to a desperate mother, and finally to an examination of our own situation in Tucson. A discussion after each film will focus on the issues raised in the film and what they mean for us as 21st century people of faith.

JUNE 11: *Sugar* – Fascinating story of a young Dominican Republic

baseball player who encounters a clash between hope and reality as he pursues his dream after being recruited to play in Iowa.

JUNE 25: *Sweet Land* – A German mail order bride encounters prejudice when she joins her husband to-be in a Norwegian farming community in Minnesota.

JULY 9: *Amreeka* – A Palestinian mother brings her son to Illinois just after 9/11 to reinvent their lives amid the domestic repercussions of the attack.

JULY 23: *The 800 Mile Wall* – This movie illustrates, in great detail, the ineffective and deadly results of a failed border policy and offers some effective strategies to help resolve the current rights crisis.

Moderating the films will be members of the Bridging Borders Committee including Lynne Albright, Kay Bigglestone, Joan Cooney, Dolores and Paul Gohdes, and the Rev. Nancy Meister.

– C –

Catherine & Terry's Summer Film Series:

Life, Death and What Comes After

Friday, June 18, July 16, and August 20, 6:30 p.m.
in the Bloom Education Center

OUR SERIES THIS SUMMER deals with the dead, heaven and angels. We start with a film about a man who inadvertently gets a job preparing bodies for burial and finds his true calling in an ancient tradition. The next film moves us to a place between heaven and earth where people have to recall a defining moment in their lives. This is one director's interpretation of what heaven might be like. The

final film is a thought- provoking and moving drama about life and mortality as angels on earth interact with the living.

JUNE 18: *Departures* (2008 Japanese) – A cellist reevaluates his career and happens into training as a person who prepares the dead for burial. This film deals with finding your bliss and how we look those who have died through a process of preparing the body for burial.

July 16: *After Life* (1999 Japanese) – This film is set at a way station between heaven and earth. The dead sift through their memories to find one defining moment in their life. This moment will be recreated in heaven. This film reveals surprising and ambiguous consequences of human recollection.

AUGUST 20: *Wings of Desire* (1987 German) – An angel falls in love with a circus performer and decides that he wants to be human. Bruno Ganz and Peter Faulk star in this deeply moving drama dealing with desire and mortality.

Coordinated by Catherine Penn Williams and Terry Shreve who both simply love going to movies. They have facilitated a film series every summer at GSP since 2006.

Celtic Spirituality – A Practical Application

July 25, 9–9:45 a.m. in the Bloom Education Center

AS WE CONTINUE OUR ONGOING STUDY of Celtic Spirituality at Grace St. Paul's, you may feel it is time to discuss practical applications to daily life. This session will recall the ideas presented by Dr. J. Philip Newell and guide us to consider ways of incorporating them into our lives.

Facilitated by the Rev. Fred Masterman, a priest associate at GSP.

The Evolution of God

August 1 and 8, 9–9:45 a.m. in the Bloom Education Center

BASED ON ROBERT WRIGHT’S BOOK of the same title, this class, in Part 1, will discuss how the evolution of traditional ideas about God can show that the religious quest is varied and how a modern, scientific worldview leaves room for something that can meaningfully be called divine. In Part 2, the class will consider Wright’s answers to the questions, “Can religions in the modern world reconcile themselves to one another, and can they reconcile themselves to science?” Neither the purchase nor reading of the book prior to the class is required. Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the Rector’s Bookshelf.

Presented by Peggy Scott, who is an avid reader and former EFM mentor.

First Century Music

August 15, 9–9:45 a.m. in the Bloom Education Center

Listen and develop a sense of spirituality as presented through First Century Christian music.

Our esteemed Music Director will share her insights into this music and perhaps lead us in a few favorites that have been passed down through the centuries.

Facilitated by Christina Jarvis, Music Director at Grace St. Paul’s.

First Friday Film Series: Art & Spirituality

Friday, June 4, July 2, and August 6, 6:30–9:00 p.m. in the Bloom Education Center

LET'S EXPLORE the intersection between art and spirituality in three powerful documentaries featuring the poet David Whyte, artist/sculptor Andy Goldsworthy, and singer-songwriter Leonard Cohen.

JUNE 4: *David Whyte: Live in San Francisco* (2009) – One of the singular experiences of human beings is the ability to imagine what is pulling us toward a far horizon. Speaking in San Francisco's historic Herbst Theatre, David Whyte illustrates how the close reading of good poetry engages us in conversation with this imaginative vision: a fierce attention to the poet's voice leads us, in turn, to discern our own.

JULY 2: *Rivers and Tides* (2001) – Imagine art that cannot be put in a museum or purchased by a wealthy collector because it disintegrates over time, months, days, even hours. As an artist, Goldsworthy seeks the “energy that is running through, flowing through the landscape.” Watching him work is like a 90-minute session with a Zen master showing the viewer how to “be here, now.”

AUGUST 6: “Leonard Cohen Live at the Isle of Wight 1970” (2009) – At 4 a.m. on Aug 31, 1970, a 35-year old Leonard Cohen went on-stage at the third annual Isle of Wight music festival. The audience of 600,000 was in a frenzied mood, trampling fences and setting fire to structures. As Cohen followed the incendiary Jimi Hendrix, onlookers watched in awe as the then relatively unknown Canadian folksinger quietly tamed the angry crowd.

Coordinated by Catherine Penn Williams who loves art and often

finds the presence of the Divine in many forms of artistic expression.

First Light: Jesus and the Kingdom of God

July 4 and 11, 9 – 9:45 a.m. in the Bloom Education Center

JULY 4: *The Lake as the World*

JULY 11: *Parables as Lures*

DURING THESE TWO SESSIONS, we will view short video presentations from the DVD series, *First Light*, featuring John Dominic Crossan and Marcus Borg, two of the world's leading Jesus scholars. We will discuss parables and metaphors used by Jesus and explore ways to incorporate them into personal spiritual development.

Facilitated by Chris LaBour and Chris Ledyard, TSSF.

– J –

Jesus and Buddha

June 20 and 27, 9–9:45 a.m. in the Bloom Education Center

IT HAS BEEN SAID, “If Jesus and Buddha were to meet, they would recognize one another as fellow prophets because they were teaching the same truths.” The often violent history of Christianity may lead us to forget that Jesus’ original teachings promoted peace and turning the other cheek, passive resistance rather than armed insurrection. This discussion will be derived from the book of the same title by Jack Kornfield, a well-known American Buddhist author and Marcus Borg, a Christian and Jesus scholar. Purchase of the book is not necessary, although will be offered for sale at the Rector’s Bookshelf.

Facilitated by Ed Leigh, former Presbyterian Minister and long-

time member of Asbury United Methodist Church in Phoenix, Arizona.

– L –

Liturgical Storytelling

July 18, 9–9:45 a.m. in the Bloom Education Center

LET'S EXPLORE Liturgical Storytelling! This is a unique way to find meaning in Biblical passages that relates to our everyday experiences. Ron Lancaster, a Tucson storyteller, will share a story or two and explain how he takes a Bible passage and weaves it into real life. This class could lead to the formation of a group that would like to learn this skill, to be shared with adults and children in our congregation.

Facilitated by Ron Lancaster, Tucson Storyteller and Teacher

– M –

Making Crosses: Art as Prayer

August 7, 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. in McBride Hall

LET'S NOURISH OUR CONNECTION TO GOD and to our tradition with a one-day Arts Retreat. We'll explore alternate forms of prayer as we move beyond analytical thinking into a prayer of doing, for "making crosses is a way for God to pray through you." Participants should bring fabric scraps, images from magazines, and **CANCELLED** with which to decorate their cross. Pre-made crossbeams, glue and wire will be provided. Participants are encouraged to sign up by August 31, as additional instructions will be emailed before the retreat. Participants can pre-register through the Church office by phone (327-6857), email at

gsf1@dakotacom.net or in-person at the Welcome Table on Sunday mornings.

Facilitated by Catherine Penn Williams, who wishes she had more time to make art!

– R –

Richard Rohr and The Non-Dual Mind

August 22 and 29, 9–9:45 a.m. in the Bloom Education Center

DO YOU WONDER why our public discourse has become so polarized? Why are people so welded into their worldview and not able to see other perspectives? Richard Rohr explores the concept of the dualistic and non-dualistic mind in his book *The Naked Now*. This class will explore Rohr's ideas, consider how we have gotten to this impasse and how we can utilize these concepts for our own spiritual growth.

Facilitated by Lynne Albright

– S –

Speaking Christianity: Redeeming Christian Language

June 6 and 13, 9–9:45 a.m. in the Bloom Education Center

THIS CLASS WILL EXAMINE THE PREMISE of Marcus Borg's forthcoming book, *Speaking Christianity*, which claims that religions are like languages and that to be part of a religion includes using, hearing and understanding that religion's language. The language of Christianity is unfamiliar to many and often misunderstood by even more. We will take a look at the history of the literalization of Christian language and try to understand Christianity's core message through such terms as salvation, sacrifice, mercy, repentance,

redemption and faith. Borg's book will not be published until later in 2010 and will be available later this year at the Rector's Bookshelf.

Facilitated by Catherine Penn Williams and Linda Hutson who had the great pleasure of hearing Marcus Borg give a lecture on this topic in February and have his permission to shamelessly use his lecture notes for this class.

Looking Ahead

Education for Ministry: Starting September 2010, Wednesday morning or evening classes. Laypersons face the difficult and often subtle task of interpreting the richness of the church's faith in a complex and confusing world. Many of us find the need for a theological education that supports our faith and teaches us to express that faith in day-to-day events. Classes begin meeting in the fall, with sign up in August. For more information about the current and future GSP EFM groups, contact the church office at 327-6857 and watch the bulletin for further information.

Setting Our Hearts

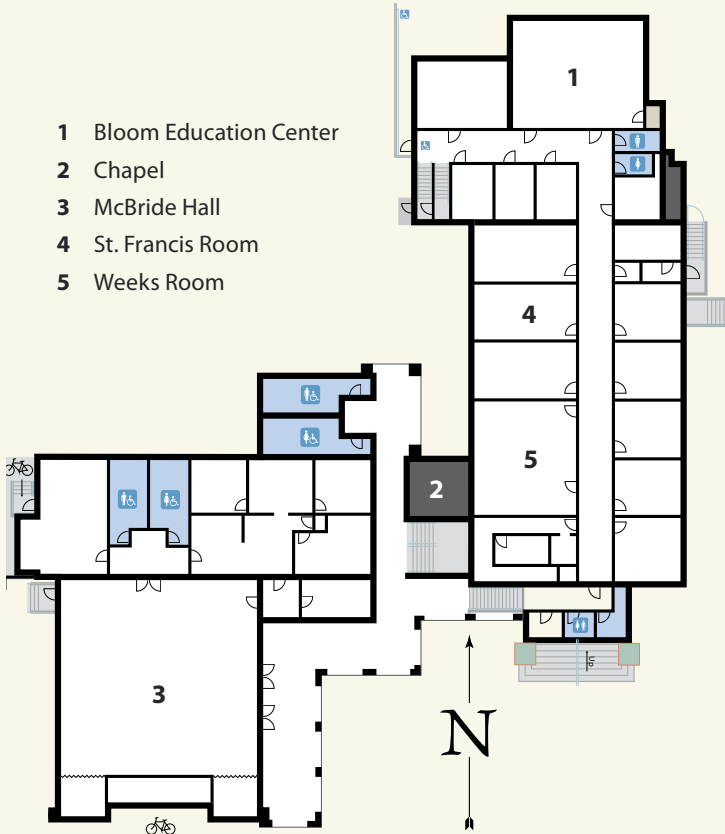
8 Mondays, September 13 through November 1, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

2 Retreats: October 1-3 and November 5-7 (Fri. eve through Sun. a.m.)

SETTING OUR HEARTS is an eight week experiential small group designed to give participants an opportunity 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. There are eight weekly meetings, plus two at-home retreat weekends. Attendance at all group meetings and retreats is strongly encouraged. There is no outside reading or homework involved! A Grace St. Paul's tradition since 1999, the course is appropriate for newcomers and old-timers, seekers as well as cradle Episcopalians-anyone desiring a small group experience. There is a one-time fee of \$75 to cover meals at the retreats (partial scholarships are available; for more information please contact Catherine Penn Williams).

Facilitated by Catherine Penn Williams and Chris LaBour, both grateful and enthusiastic graduates of SOH.

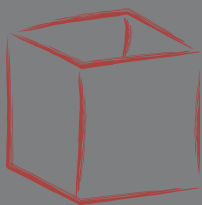
Medicare 101: GSP will offer a class to help understand the maze of healthcare available to seniors. Family members, elders and caregivers are invited to attend and learn more about navigating this very important issue. Dates and facilitator will be announced.



While we do our best to honor the published dates and times, changes are inevitable. For the most up-to-date information, visit our website at www.gsptucson.org.

*T*HE ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION and Education Covenant Group offers opportunities for parishioners and other community members to explore the spiritual dimensions of their lives by –

- creating, planning, describing and promoting classes, workshops, book readings and lectures, and offering access to additional learning media such as books and DVD's.
- assisting and supporting long-term programs, such as Setting Our Hearts and Education for Ministry, and small group learning opportunities, such as home-based Bible Study groups.
- keeping each other in their prayers and supporting and encouraging participants as they seek to deepen their experience of God.



*T*aking religion out of the box
and keeping the question of
God alive!

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