

Easter 2010

The monthly newsletter for the community of

Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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The Briefly

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2010 Holy Week Services

Mark your calendars now! Holy Week 2010 is going to be a busy one, with services designed to help everyone experience the full joy, sorrow, fear, and wonder of Christ's journey.

Palm Sunday, March 28, at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. — Palm Sunday services will evoke the joyous entry of Christ into Jerusalem. Palms will be blessed and the Passion Play will be incorporated into the services. At 10 a.m. we will have a big procession, with all the banners and people we can muster—maybe we'll even go around the block and invite our neighbors! Plan on a full triumphal experience.

Wednesday, March 31, at 7 a.m. — Eucharist (Julian Chapel)

Maundy Thursday, April 1, at 6 p.m. — Agape Feast with foot washing, followed by solemn stripping of the altar as we explore the transition from celebration to loss and grief.. Dinner will start at 6 p.m., with Celtic harp music. Foot washing will be in the cloister, dinner and communion in McBride Hall, with a procession to the sanctuary for the stripping of the main altar and the chapel.

Thursday night to Friday morning the Gethsemane Watch will be in the sanctuary, with a large cross in front of the altar. The sign up sheet will be available in the Narthex beginning on Palm Sunday.

Good Friday, April 2, at noon — Stations of the Cross and prayer service on the Labyrinth.

Good Friday, April 2, at 5 p.m. — Children's Stations of the Cross.

Good Friday, April 2, at 7 p.m. — The main service for Good Friday with full choir, Passion reading, psalms, and solemn prayers.

The Great Vigil of Easter will be on Holy Saturday, April 3, at 7 p.m. — A joyous celebration of Christ's Resurrection, with lessons, chants, and hymns, renewal of baptismal vows and asperges, and our first Holy Eucharist of the Easter Season. Come and make a joyful noise!

Easter Sunday, April 4, at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. — We will celebrate with trumpet. The 10 a.m. service will also include bells and incense, and there will be special activities for children at 11:30.



It's a GSP Tradition! OK, Grace St. Paul's has two Easter traditions. Simply put, they are food and hats! Please bring a potluck dish to share after the 8 or 10 a.m. services. It just wouldn't be Easter without deviled eggs, an assortment of casseroles, delicious salads and, of course, chocolate bunnies! Secondly, wear a hat. Any hat. Male and female, alike. Easter isn't quite Easter at GSP without Easter bonnets either!

From the Senior Warden

Ah, the signs of spring in the desert are glorious.... and it's a bit of a mystery, isn't it? It seems no small miracle that year after year the landscape around us is suddenly transformed by blooms that have been quietly germinating and gently encouraged over a period of months by just a few meager inches of winter rain. As I write this, the rains are still with us, but it's possible that by the time you actually read these words the moisture will have moved on and the desert's flora in all its beauty will have begun to blossom. We can't see it yet, but we know—we have faith—that new life is coming.

We await new life as a parish, too. The Search Committee will spend the next few weeks sifting through applications, interviewing candidates, and checking references in order to identify three candidates to give to the Vestry. Hopefully, by the time the next issue of *The Briefly* is in your hands, the Vestry will be engaged in prayerfully discerning which of those candidates to call as our new Rector. And it's even possible that by the time the issue after that is published, in early June, we will have more than an inkling of who our new leader will be. That's the plan, anyway, and since plans and timelines are human creations, we mustn't forget that God is present in this process, too, and may have other ideas... 'Tis a mystery.

In the meantime, there are other signs of new life to keep us hopeful at GSP. We anticipate

the imminent arrival of "mail art" that speaks to our expectation and experience of miracles. We look forward to new liturgical art installations for Easter and again for Pentecost. The mural project in the stairwell to the Undercroft unfolds each week before our eyes. Newcomers continue to find their way through our doors, seeking spiritual sustenance and a sense of community. Church ministries continue to grow and create new opportunities for the gifts of our members to be expressed. Outreach thrives and inreach provides. And all of this is occurring in spite of being in a time of prolonged transition when the future is uncertain and some among us grow weary from waiting. 'Tis a mystery, indeed.

Or is it? Maybe there is no real mystery at all. Perhaps this is simply what the journey of faith looks like—the journey that we all take, both as individuals and as a community in Christ, toward the promise of resurrection and of transformation. We take each hesitant step, one at a time, toward that promise with hopeful hearts that new life awaits at any moment and that redemption is around any corner. We just can't see it yet. May God be ever present in our hearts and minds as we take those steps through this Lenten season into the joy of Easter's resurrection. As always, I am so honored to make this journey with you!

Faithfully,
Catherine Penn Williams

Briefly Deadline

The next deadline for *The Briefly* is Tuesday, April 20, for the May issue.

Please send electronic articles to Martha P.L. Whitaker at: jartham@cox.net. Either MS Word or WordPerfect format is acceptable, or you may simply paste the article into the body of your email.

If you do not have access to a computer, please call the parish office and ask if there is a volunteer who can help you type it into an electronic file. *Lynne Albright is no longer working in the office to receive articles on Mondays prior to the deadline.*

Please send graphics and photos directly to John Banks jdbanks@gmail.com.

Transition News

Report from the Search Committee

The Search Committee is anxiously awaiting the arrival of the names of applicants from the Diocesan Office in mid-March. Once we receive the list, the Committee will screen the applicants to select those who will receive a questionnaire that will allow us to further narrow the field. We will then have a smaller pool to interview by phone.

The Committee hopes to have three candidates to present to the Vestry by the end of April. We remain on target for the Vestry to issue a call to a new Rector by the end of May.

In the meantime, we have been developing criteria for screening the pool of applicants and crafting a questionnaire to be sent to those applicants selected for a more detailed review.

The Lenten Lunch and Dialogue programs will continue after the 10 a.m. service through March 21. A second opportunity for those who attend the 8 a.m. service to have discussion with the Search Committee will be held on Sunday, March 14, at 9 a.m. in McBride Hall. The topics are March 7, "Stewardship;" March 14, "Outreach;" and March 21, "Spiritual Formation."

Please come to one or all of these opportunities for the Committee to gather more input from the congregation about your wishes for the direction of the parish and the selection of a new Rector. All are welcome!

—*Lynne Albright & Ernie Galaz, Co-Chairs*

Social Justice & Outreach

The Millennium Development Goals: Eight Steps Toward Healing a Hurting World

By **Kim McClain**

Lent is traditionally a time for inward reflection and analysis of what is and is not working in our spiritual lives. Though the focus is inward, many choose to begin reaching out beyond themselves using Jesus' life as an example. Many desire to fulfill Jesus' mandate found in Matthew 25. In this passage, Jesus portrayed himself as a person suffering from the conditions associated with poverty and blessed those who responded to his needs. In Jesus' story, people didn't remember helping him. They asked, "Lord, when did we see you hungry...or thirsty...or sick?" His response was clear: when we serve others, we serve him. "Just as you did it to the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

At the end of the last century, many around the world realized that something had to change. In 2000, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were established to reduce, by the year 2015, the number of people who live in extreme poverty. Developed by the international community including leaders from 191 countries, the eight goals were endorsed by development institutions and religious bodies, and have galvanized unprecedented energy and effort. Each goal works toward alleviating poverty and disease by establishing targets that will directly improve people's lives:

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women

4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development

Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD) uses the MDGs as a framework to guide their efforts and help them measure the impact of their programs. Each of their focus areas and all of their programs work to achieve one or more of the MDGs. As individuals and as a congregation, it is up to each of us to start making a difference for global change by choosing to do something. ERD recommends a guideline of 0.7% of income be given towards addressing the needs covered by the MDGs.

Sunday, March 21, will be Episcopal Relief and Development Sunday at Grace St. Paul's. Come pick up your MDG refrigerator magnets at the Welcome Table! More detailed information about specific targets and actions for all eight goals can be found in the orange pamphlets and the ERD White Paper at the Welcome Table, or online at www.erd.org/MDGs.

Please prayerfully consider a contribution towards the Millennium Development Goals. Living in the richest nation on the planet, we too often are insulated from the conditions of the rest of the world. One *billion* people live on less than \$1.00 a day, and one person dies from hunger every 3.5 *seconds*. Each one of them is a child of God.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

By **Lynn Marie Hunter**

One of the quiet ministries at GSP is the Prayer Shawl Ministry. People receive the shawls (which are hand-made by members of the parish) to bring them comfort for a variety of reasons. Some receive shawls for comfort while recovering from an illness or injury, or during points of transition, such as the loss of a job or the death of a friend or family member. A couple of people have used them to enrich their prayer life.

If you know of someone who might benefit from receiving a prayer shawl or would like to be a part of this ministry, please contact me at lmhunter@gmail.com.

The Immigration Academy

By **Paul Gobdes**

Bridging Borders was pleased with the attendance at the Immigration Academy on Feb. 13. Information and discussion covered a lot of ground and answered many of the questions that were on our minds.

The immigration issue affects us predominantly in two ways in Arizona. The first is economically. An estimated 100,000 undocumented immigrants have fled the state in recent years. That means more than lost jobs with the

income and social security taxes they pay. It also means lost patronage at our stores, and greater vacancy rates in our housing. A marked decrease in the number of shoppers from Mexico has resulted in a considerable decrease in sales tax revenue, and economic hardship for our border cities and towns.

The second way is best described by our Bridging Borders Sunday speaker, Father Glenn Jenks, a previous assistant rector at Grace Church. "It isn't what you believe, it isn't what

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Liturgy & Music

Notes from the Choir Stalls

by *Christina Jarvis*,
Director of Music



Here's a fun fact to know and tell about Lent—originally it was rather like Ramadan. The forty weekdays were fast days, when you were allowed one meal in the evening, and then you could take a break from fasting on Sundays, except you still couldn't eat flesh. I'm giving up sweets for Lent, and I promise not to snivel this year. To my Lenten discipline I will add cheerfulness. My cheeks already ache from smiling.

My Scottish husband was just wondering aloud why the Scots don't traditionally observe Lent, but then he thought it's because, thanks to Calvinism, they stretch Lent out over the whole year. Say, there's an idea! Fasting instead of Christmas... well, maybe not.

Without our forty days of preparation, however, Easter would not glow as brightly. The choir has started rehearsing from 7-9 p.m. on Thursdays as part of our own preparation for a heavy singing season. I'm happy to say that we have a growing choir, which is exciting—we've just added Angel Wang to the alto section. Altos rule!

The Lenten music will be diverse this year. Sometimes we do all early music, but this year is different. Having a robust choir means we can do some difficult pieces, like the Hermann Schein "Die mit tränen säen", but we will also do an arrangement by Winifred Williams of "Amazing Grace" set to the tune of "The House of the Rising Sun." Thanks to Tom Ruhoff for the idea. That should be a wailing good time. That same Sunday I will sing "Way-faring Stranger" for the communion anthem. This Lent we're also doing a setting of the John Donne poem, "A Hymn to God the Father" by

John Ness Beck, which is a choir favorite.

For the Palm Sunday offertory, we're finally singing a piece I've wanted to do for years by early French Baroque composer Guillaume Bouzignac called "Ecce homo" ("Behold the Man")—the dialogue between Pontius Pilate and the crowd. James Callegary will sing the Pilate solos. For communion we'll sing an Iona community piece called "Hymn of the Passion." For Maundy Thursday, we sing another Iona Community piece based on the tune "The Lark in the Clear Air". For Good Friday, I'm pulling out a Samuel Barber setting of an Emily Dickinson poem, "Let Down the Bars, O Death," which always makes me weep. Then I remember that Truman Capote said you can sing just about any Emily Dickinson poem to the tune of "The Yellow Rose of Texas," which dries me right up. Fortunately, it doesn't work for that particular poem. It works for a lot of them, though: "Because I could not stop for Death, He kindly stopped for meeeee"...but I digress.

Easter offers too many choices, as usual. We're having trumpeter Betsy Bright, who will blow your socks off, as usual. Easter music will include Bach, a spiritual called "Can't Keep-a That Glory In!" and Charles Villiers Stanford. After the complications of Holy Week services, Easter seems almost normal. I said almost. We don't usually sing for the 8 o'clock service. Then we will break our collective fasts in a big feast and kick back. No choir on Thomas Sunday—we'll see you on April 18.

Have a holy Lent and a joyful, blow-out Easter!

Peace!

Training for Chalice Bearers & Subdeacons

By *Beth Miksa*

We haven't had any formalized training for Chalice Bearers in a donkey's age! It's time to brush up on our skills and "affirm our training and experience through licensing." Thus we are holding training in March. Everyone is required to attend.

Training and licensing is meant to enrich and strengthen us in our Chancel Ministry. In addition to the simple mechanics of the job, why do we do the things we do, what do these things mean? What is the importance/significance of these sacramental functions? The more we know about "what" we are actually doing and "why" we are performing these rituals, the more

sacred, meaningful and enriching these acts will be for us and to those whom we serve.

When: March 14, immediately following the Lenten Luncheon.

Where: In the sanctuary.

Please mark your calendars. Questions? Ask Willie Schlentz or Beth Miksa. Thank you all for your excellent service!

What is a Verger?

By Beth Miksa

Beth Miksa was commissioned by the Rev. Deborah Heathcock to serve as Verger on Sunday, Jan. 17. Since then, many people have asked about the role and duties of the Verger. Many thanks to Beth for providing us with this explanation!

The office of Verger dates back to the Middle Ages when the Verger was the “Protector of the Procession.” He led the Procession into the Church or Cathedral, clearing the way, protecting it from vagabonds and animals that tried to attack it, and keeping members of the procession in line (literally and figuratively).

The “virge” is the staff that a verger carries in procession. Originally a weapon, its use is now ceremonial. The name comes from the Latin “virga” which simply means a rod or staff; hence, a “verger” is one who carries a staff. The virge is related to ceremonial maces used to lead civic processions and the “beadle” used to lead academic processions. The size, style, and shape of virges can vary, but they typically have a small cross on top. We

have at least one virge here at Grace St. Paul’s. It is a wooden pole with small brass cross, mounted on the back wall of the Narthex. (Aside: we have discussed the possibility of more modern virges...)

Verger’s vestments are not particularly standardized. However, most wear a simple black cassock with or without something over it. Many wear a Chimere, which is a long, loose, sleeveless gown. I will wear a black cassock and chimere.

Verger’s in America today are usually volunteers who are called to help organize liturgical participants and see that the everyone knows what to do, when to do it, where, and how

during the liturgy. The goal of the verger is to relieve the clergy of the burden of liturgical detail so that they can concentrate on preaching the Gospel and administering the Sacraments. There is an organization called The Vergers Guild of the Episcopal Church, founded in 1988, which provides information and training for vergers.

Deborah asked me to take on the role of

Verger to help coordinate the many liturgical ministries here at Grace St. Paul’s. In any given service we may have the choir, the chalice bearers and subdeacon, acolytes, ushers, readers, and lay ministers, not to mention the various clergy people. My job will be to coordinate with the leaders of each of the liturgical ministries, provide training, and be the “point person” to communicate details of special services to all participants. This will be especially important for holy days, when we have lots of added “moving parts.” Most Sundays you’ll see me participating as a chalice bearer, subdeacon, or acolyte as usual, but I may take on



the ceremonial verger role and lead the procession for special occasions.

My goal is to help the services run smoothly, remove some of the detail burdens on the clergy, help with general communication of what is required for each service, and create formalized training documents for the parish. I won’t be replacing any liturgical coordinators, but I hope I can make their jobs a bit easier. Sitting in the pews I hope you won’t notice anything at all, which would be a sign that everything is happening as it should be!

Adult Spiritual Formation

The Adult Spiritual Formation and Education Covenant Group offer the following classes for March and April, continuing the spring theme of Sacred Spaces. Be sure to note the date of our next planning meeting if you would like to participate in the ongoing development of this successful formation experience!

Lenten Fellowship at Grace St. Paul's Sunday, March 14, & 21

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

Come and share a Lenten meal and fellowship in place of the usual coffee hour every Sunday during Lent. GSP's EfM groups will prepare a lunch of hearty soup, salad and bread, and the Search Committee will provide a program focused on topics related to our journey of transition.

Bible Workbench Study Group

Monday afternoons, through March 29

1-3 p.m., St. Francis Room

Join a small group for a study of the lessons for the coming Sunday, considering relevance to our society and our personal lives.

Co-facilitated by Gretchen & Walter Collins.

Sacred Spaces, Sacred Places: Forming Community on the Lenten Journey

Sunday, March 14

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

The creation of community is a challenging endeavor, and where a community gathers figures strongly in the creative process. Sacred places around the world, such as Stonehenge, Iona, and the Holy Land, can forge a powerful unity amongst those who assemble in them. However, not all can travel to sacred spots such as these. In this class we will examine how the places of our lives may become sacred, where the Presence of Christ, the true bond of Christian Community, may be revealed and experienced. We will also consider the Celtic approach to space, place, and the sacred.

Facilitated by the Rev. Fred Masterman.

Youth Confirmation Class

2nd & 3rd Sunday of each month: March 14 & 21, April 11 & 18

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Bloom Education Center

Come and discover the joy and highlights of the Episcopal path! This will be a combination of Episcopal Church 101 and sharing your journey in the Twenty-first Century.

Conducted by the Rev. Deborah Heathcock.

Tribute to Bishop Oscar Romero on the 20th Anniversary of his Assassination

Sunday, March 21

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

The martyred archbishop was a leading advocate of liberation theology, who, when the national Cathedral was destroyed in an earthquake, shocked the wealthy in Salvador by proclaiming it was a waste of money to rebuild, because, he said, "the church is the people." Elected as an "apolitical" archbishop who was supposed to quiet the priests and catechists who spoke against economic injustice, Bishop Romero instead grew increasingly sympathetic to them, and to the poor, and wound up at odds with the military rulers of his country. He persevered with a weekly radio address to the whole country until a Salvadoran death squad shot him down while he was saying Mass. His international legacy lives on in the struggle to secure human rights and a decent way of life for all people.

Facilitated by Laura Briggs.

Adult Education & Spiritual Formation Meeting (open to all)

Thursday, March 25

7-8:30 p.m., 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 group by yourself, or with a friend on a spiritual path? If so, come to the Adult Education planning meeting. Topics and class facilitators for the 2010 summer 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.

Adult Spiritual Formation

Enneagram: A Tool For Spiritual Development

Thursdays, April 8, 15 & 22

7-9 p.m., Bloom Education Center

Pre-registration required by April 1

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

Facilitated by Ardis Pitello.

An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith

Sundays, April 11 & 18

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

Discussing Barbara Brown Taylor's book of the same title, we will share concrete ways to discover the sacred in the small things we do and see. Learn how to pay attention to what we are doing and take time to attend to the sights, smell, and sounds around us. Discover how the many and different occurrences in our daily lives attend to the divine.

Facilitated by Linda Hutson & Chris Ledyard.

Celebrate God's Creation

Sunday, April 25

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

This class will inspire parishioners to "celebrate and protect God's creation." The class will look at approaches through Franciscan spirituality towards protecting our Sister, Mother Earth, as well as information on protecting the San Pedro River in southern Arizona. The class will be based on A Catechism of Creation: an Episcopal Understanding, prepared for study in congregations by the Committee on Science, Technology and Faith of The Episcopal Church.

Co-facilitated by James Callegary, Ph.D., and Chris Ledyard, TSSF.

Animals & Spirituality: The Bond that Connects Us to Our Animal Companions

Sundays, May 2, 9 & 16

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

Gain more awareness of the powerful bond that exists between our animal companions and us. Topics to be covered will include animal health, end-of-life issues, and grief when we lose a beloved pet. The last session will focus on ways to expand GSP's companion animal outreach ministry.

Facilitated by the Reverend Nadine Martin.

Budgets: Planning for Now and Tomorrow

Thursdays, May 13, 20, & 27

6:30-7:30 p.m., Bloom Education Center

The class will start with basic budgeting techniques and concepts, and then move on to planning for your financial future. You will be given valuable information to assist in your personal budgeting for today as well as assist with planning for retirement and related matters. It is never too soon to begin to budget and plan—especially in these times of continuing financial uncertainty. This class provides a resourceful approach to budgets, and financial goal setting replaces the results from none to poor budgeting.

Facilitated by Virginia Zuelow.

Parish Life

HVAC Fundraising II: Retire the Debt!

Thank you to all who made Armen Dirtadian's On Broadway concert a successful fundraiser for HVAC Retire the Debt! While we enjoyed the great singing and the wine afterwards, GSP was able to retire an additional \$2,106.50 of debt.

Here's where we stand: we owe \$73,281.71 on the balance of the loan to Commerce Bank, and we have outstanding pledges of \$52,261. The gap is narrowing and you can make an even greater difference if you can pay your pledge early. Early pledge payments will be applied to retire that loan amount and GSP will end up paying less interest. Together we have already made a significant effort to retire our debt.

We are looking for ideas for additional fundraising events. These ideas should be easy to implement and easy to manage, allowing us to have some fun and retire this debt too. Please contact Tom Pitello at usazztom@mac.com with ideas.

Last minute news: The Vestry voted on Feb. 23 to apply the \$4,174 surplus from the J. Philip Newell event in December 2009 to Retire the Debt! This has been a blessed first two months of 2010. Thank you all.

—*The Vestry HVAC
Fundraising II Committee:
Ann Bates, Henry Dirtadian,
Tom Pitello & Tricia Galvin*

Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure

This year's Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure is scheduled for Sunday, April 11. In past years, we've had a team from GSP walk together to raise awareness and funds for breast cancer research. If you are interested in walking with others from GSP, contact Holly Shinn at hols6@juno.com or 320-0727.

Green Corner: Being Good Stewards of our Resources

By Kim McClain

As stewards of God's Creation, we are called to respect and care for the earth around us. As such, we should be very concerned with our use of limited, non-renewable resources such as paper, oil, and water.

As stewards of Grace St. Paul's Church, the staff and vestry are very concerned with using the limited resources provided (pledges and offerings) to maintain the church's activities and buildings in the most efficient and effective manner possible. With a decrease in the number of pledges and a smaller amount of money pledged for 2010, we are working with a smaller budget than last year, with every expectation that expenses will continue to rise. As a result, we are in the process of identifying ways to contain and reduce costs to meet our lower budget target.

Our printed newsletter *The Briefly* goes out ten times per year, and 618

copies of each issue are currently mailed out. Annually, this corresponds to 24,720 pieces of paper (\$900), postage of \$1,320 plus the expense of processing at Digipost (mailing service).

Our first push to lower these costs is to encourage people to sign up for email delivery of the monthly newsletter. Not only will this reduce paper usage, processing costs, and postage, but also reduces production and collation time. You can still print the newsletter at home if you want a hard copy to read. Of course, if you don't have access to email, or truly prefer a printed copy, we will accommodate your preference.

To Sign Up for the Electronic Version

Contact Kim McClain, Parish Administrator, either by email to parishadmin@grace-stpauls.org (put "SUBSCRIBE" in Subject line) or by calling the church office at 520-327-6857.

50th Annual Diocesan Convention: Back to the Future!

By Catherine Williams

The theme of the 50th Annual Diocesan Convention, to be held on October 15-16, 2010, will be Back to the Future! The *Back* will be a look at the history of our Diocese as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the creation of Arizona as a full-fledged Diocese of The Episcopal Church. The *Future* will offer alternative views of where we are going over the next 50 years.

The Diocese has asked for help in telling the story of the history of the Diocese. They are looking for photographs, videos, historic accounts of each of the congregations, institutions and

organizations going back to the first days of the Episcopal Church in this territory and state. They are also seeking technical support of historians, writers, photographers, editors, video artists and others with ideas for telling this story.

Kay Bigglestone has volunteered to coordinate GSP's participation in telling the history of the Diocese. After all, we (Grace Church) are one of the oldest congregations in the state and the host (St. Paul's) of the first Diocesan Convention! If you would like to help Kay with the project, please leave a message for her in the church office (327-6857).

A Letter from Nancy Meister

Dear GSP Community,

My ordination to the diaconate on January 23 at Trinity Cathedral was a very moving and joyful experience thanks to so many of you who offered prayers and many who were present in spite of the very stormy weather. Our entire class of six deacons was from southern Arizona, and the cathedral was packed to the rafters with all of you and many clergy. As you may know, ordination was the culmination of a 2½ year process and study in the Deacon Formation Academy of the diocese. My parents started me on this path as a young child, and it was good fortune that I found Grace St Paul's with its inspiring leadership—the Rev. Canon Gordon McBride and the Rev. Elaine Breckinridge, rich spiritual formation programs, very meaningful worship experiences, and opportunities to serve.

A special thanks goes to my discernment committee which was chaired by Chris Eastoe, and included Kay Biggle-

stone, Ann Schlumberger and Steve Metz, whose support and acute listening guided me through the process. Also thanks to my presenters, our Interim Rector the Rev. Deborah Heathcock, the Rev. Anne Sawyer, Senior Warden Catherine Penn Williams, Jay Book and Dana Deeds. I also appreciate the mentoring of Deacon Nadine Martin and the ministry mentoring of Paul Gohdes.

Thank you for supporting the food collection for Casa Misericordia, a Borderlinks Community Center in Nogales, Sonora on Border Sunday last month. It is the only community center in Nogales and is in one of the poorest colonias. I learned from Veronica Ritson, the Archdeacon at Trinity Cathedral, that one's ministry is always changing and evolving. I plan to make time this Lent to be still and listen to where I am being led. I am discerning what it is to "be still" and "act boldly" at the same time. It helps to know that God truly is present and here among us.

Sincerely,

Deacon Nancy Meister



Thank you from GSP's Two Brownie Girl Scouts

Dear Grace St. Paul's Community,

Thank you for letting us sell Girl Scout Cookies in McBride Hall. Thanks to your support, you helped us both exceed our sales goals! But buying Girl Scout cookies not only helps the two of us, it also supports our Brownie-Daisy Troop #645. Our troop plans to use some of our earnings to go camping and we also plan to donate some of our earnings to the Humane Society and relief for Haiti. The part of the earnings that go to the Sahuaro Girl Scout Council will help many local girls who need scholarships to become Girl Scouts. Also, a lot of people bought cookies and donated them, and we gave them to Joseph's Pantry here at Grace St. Paul's. We hope you enjoyed the yummy Girl Scout Cookies!

—*Rachel Whitaker
& George Ballenger*

Children & Youth

Where Does New Life Come From?

Lent is one of my favorite seasons in the church year because it demands that I find some “Mary time” in the midst of “Martha” busyness ... and I don’t have to feel badly about it either! My prayer for our young people at Grace St. Paul’s this year is that families will be able to take on something instead of giving something up... something like time to be together and eating a favorite dinner at home, playing a board game, taking a walk, singing in the rain... giving thanks for each other...going to church in Holy Week.

We had a good Lenten beginning at the 5 p.m. Ash Wednesday service, digging in the dirt, right in front of the altar, to see if we could find out what happens to a seed when it breaks apart and dies, giving new life to a plant that will be ten times more beautiful than the original

seed. We wondered together, “How does this happen? Where does the power come from?”

The church invites us to share in the power of Jesus’ last few days on earth, the mystery of his death and resurrection, so please consider coming to the 6 p.m. Maundy Thursday dinner and the Children’s Stations of the Cross at 5 p.m. on Good Friday. We will take a hands on look at Jesus’ gift of himself as the Good Shepherd lays down his life for his sheep. Easter morning will be filled with shared JOY, not to mention the resurrection of the A...s or the fun and games after the 10 a.m. service. All in all, a most wonderful answer to the question, “How does new life happen?”

Blessings,

Harriet Claiborne

Growing, Praying, Learning: 1st, 2nd & 3rd Grade Sunday School

*By Holly Shinn
& Clif Click*

Our class is doing fantastic with the Seasons of the Spirit curriculum. We began the year with themes of welcoming and acceptance. Since then we have discussed God’s love, giving from the heart, justice and peace, the children’s unique gifts, baptism, and much more. The children have been hearing key stories from the life of Jesus and finding out what can be learned from them. These students are challenged to apply the lessons to their own lives. The children really seem to understand how important it is to show

concern for others, and they are seeing that the world can be a better place, if we all work on it. This growth in character is occurring within an Episcopal framework; we follow the liturgical seasons and celebrate church holidays. Currently, we are on a Lenten journey that will take us to Easter, remembering that God was with Jesus and God is with us.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to play a part in the spiritual formation of Grace St. Paul’s first, second and third graders.

Immigration Academy

Continued from 3

you say, it is what you do that counts!" Our religious tradition, he said, welcomes the foreigner and stranger and requires that we treat them as we want to be treated. Immigration/migration has been part of that tradition as Israel traveled to a new land in order to thrive. Joseph's brothers traveled to Egypt because of famine in their land. And Mary and Joseph immigrated there to save their newborn son from Herod's wrath. Motives for immigration are fairly similar today: avoiding persecution, and escaping poverty and want.

The problem is complex, and cannot be solved at the local or state level. That's why it is essential that we have national comprehensive immigration reform as soon as possible. To keep up on the issue, visit www.immigrationforum.org.

www.pimacountyinterfaith.org, and the Arizona Episcopal website, azdiocese.org/peace-justice/.

We are all challenged to live the life modeled for us by Jesus. The "Do" advocated above might be a joint meal with a parish (probably non-Episcopalian) that had a significant percentage of undocumented and documented Hispanic parishioners. Father Glenn said you can't "hate your friends" and what a better way to make friends than to share a meal together. The second way is to continue urging our elected officials to pass reform at the national level. They all have websites through which you can communicate to them.

To be part of the solution, contact Paul or Dolores Gohdes, co-chairs of Bridging Borders at p-dtucson@cox.net.

Shredding Party 2010!

By Lynne Albright

We will have a professional shredder here on Wednesday, May 12, at 9 a.m. in the GSP parking lot. It will cost only \$5 to shred an entire banker's size box of documents. We can get our own shredding done and pay for the church's shredding!

While you work on your income taxes, sort through all those old records and set them aside for the party. You will feel so much better to clear out your drawers and files, and the church

will thank you, too.

The shredding company is AVID, a well respected business in town. You can watch your papers being shredded through a little window, so you can know all has been taken care of professionally.

Please sign up in the office and let us know how many banker's boxes you will have. (Smaller amounts are OK — cost will be pro-rated.) We need to have a minimum number of boxes or we will cancel, so please sign up!

Keep Sending those Artsy Postcards for 'Expect a Miracle'!

By Liz Durham

Our "mail art" project is underway in preparation for Easter! The theme for the project is *Expect A Miracle*.

Using drawings, markers, collage, stamps, photographs, or whatever you wish, make a Mail Art postcard on one of the 5x8-inch blank cards that are available after Sunday services in McBride Hall. Affix postage, and send to:

Mail Art Project
Grace St. Paul's
Episcopal Church
2331 E. Adams St.
Tucson, AZ 85719

Deadline to receive the postcards is March 28.

This project is for all ages. There will be no jury, and no returns, but everyone who sends in a card will get a reply documenting their participation. All entries will be part of a display in McBride Hall in time for Easter, and will be part of a virtual gallery on our website and Facebook page.

Please see Liz Durham in McBride Hall after the 10 a.m. service for more information and to see examples of other "mail art." You can also email Liz at emjod@yahoo.com.

Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church
 2331 E. Adams
 Tucson, AZ 85719
 Tel 520-327-6857
 www.gsptucson.org

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 Permit No. 442**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

What's Happening in March		
13th	5 p.m., Mass for the 3rd Millenium (M3M)	10 a.m., Sunday School (Preschool-5th grade)
14th	Fourth Sunday in Lent 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist 9 a.m., Child Care 9 a.m., <i>Sacred Spaces, Sacred Places</i> 10 a.m., Sunday School (Preschool-5th grade) 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist 11:30 a.m., eYouth13@gsp 11:30 a.m., Youth confirmation class	10 a.m., Holy Eucharist 11:30 a.m., Youth confirmation class
15th	10 a.m., EfM6 1 p.m., Bible Workbench Study Group 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic	29th
17th	7 a.m., Holy Eucharist 9 a.m., Education for Ministry (EfM) 6 p.m., Global Chant 6:30 p.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)	Monday in Holy Week 1 p.m., Bible Workbench Study Group 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
18th	3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic	30th
20th	9:30 a.m., Anamcara Circle 5 p.m., Mass for the 3rd Millenium (M3M) & potluck	Tuesday in Holy Week 31st
21st	Fifth Sunday in Lent 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist 9 a.m., Child Care 9 a.m., <i>Tribute to Bishop Romero</i> 10 a.m., Sunday School (Preschool-5th grade) 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist 11:30 a.m., eYouth13@gsp 11:30 a.m., Youth confirmation class	Wednesday in Holy Week 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist 9 a.m., Education for Ministry (EfM) 6 p.m., Global Chant 6:30 p.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)
22nd	1 p.m., Bible Workbench Study Group 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic	...in April
24th	7 a.m., Holy Eucharist 9 a.m., Education for Ministry (EfM) 6 p.m., Global Chant 6:30 p.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)	1st
25th	3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic 5 p.m., EfM Seder	Maundy Thursday 3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic 6 p.m., Holy Eucharist & Foot Washing
27th	5 p.m., Mass for the 3rd Millenium (M3M)	2nd
28th	Food Ministries Sunday & Palm Sunday 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist 9 a.m., Child Care	Good Friday Noon, Stations of the Cross 7 p.m., Holy Eucharist
		3rd
		Holy Saturday 7 p.m., Great Vigil of Easter
		4th
		Easter Day 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist 11:30 a.m., Special Children's Activities
		5th
		Office & Joseph's Pantry Closed 10 a.m., EfM6 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
		7th
		7 a.m., Holy Eucharist 9 a.m., Education for Ministry (EfM) 6 p.m., Global Chant 6:30 p.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)
		8th
		3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic 7 p.m., <i>Enneagram</i>
		10th
		9:30 a.m., <i>Anamcara Circle</i> 5 p.m., M3M
		11th
		8 a.m., Holy Eucharist 9 a.m., Child Care 9 a.m., <i>An Altar in the World</i> 10 a.m., Sunday School (Preschool-5th grade)
		10 a.m., Holy Eucharist 11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour 11:30 a.m., eYouth13@gsp 11:30 a.m., Youth Confirmation Class 12:15 p.m., Blenman-Elm home tour ticket sales
		12th
		7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
		13th
		6:30 p.m., EfM Year 10 Group
		14th
		7 a.m., Holy Eucharist 9 a.m., Education for Ministry (EfM) 6 p.m., Global Chant 6:30 p.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)
		15th
		3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic 7 p.m., <i>Enneagram</i>
		17th
		5 p.m., M3M & 3rd Sunday Potluck
		18th
		8 a.m., Holy Eucharist 9 a.m., Child Care 9 a.m., <i>An Altar in the World</i> 10 a.m., Sunday School (Preschool-5th grade) 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist 11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour 11:30 a.m., eYouth13@gsp 11:30 a.m., Youth Confirmation Class
		19th
		10 a.m., EfM6 7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
		21st
		7 a.m., Holy Eucharist 9 a.m., Education for Ministry (EfM) 6 p.m., Global Chant 6:30 p.m., Education for Ministry (EfM)
		22nd
		3 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic 7 p.m., <i>Enneagram</i>
		24th
		5 p.m., M3M
		25th
		Food Ministries Sunday 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist 9 a.m., Child Care 9 a.m., <i>Celebrate God's Creation</i> 10 a.m., Sunday School (Preschool-5th grade) 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist 11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour 11:30 a.m., eYouth13@gsp
		26th
		7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic
		27th
		6:30 p.m., EfM Year 10 Group