



The Monthly Newsletter of St. Anthony on the Desert

February 2009

The Desert Wind

Our Mission: To Celebrate the Life-Changing Love of Christ Through Worship, Teaching and Outreach

SUNDAY SERVICE ON SATURDAY

5 P.M.
Evening Prayer & Holy Communion

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Childcare provided from 8 a.m. until Noon in the Nursery

8 A.M.
Traditional Holy Communion

Coffee Hour following the service

10 A.M.
Holy Communion with Children's Chapel during Ministry of the Word

Coffee Hour following the service

11:15 A.M.
Christian Education for all ages

WEDNESDAY

NOON
Holy Communion
Healing Service

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Have Trust in Our New Future



By The Rev. Dorian Mulvey

The prophet Isaiah offers God's promise to a people forlorn and in exile—a promise of a new beginning. Isaiah knew that in difficult times it was

all too tempting to look backward and bemoan what used to be. But he also knew that we can never return to the past—only move forward to the future. So he paints a picture to help make this future a bit more visible. In these new heavens and new earth God promises to create a place of joy, peace and tranquility—a place filled with God's blessings and grace:

*"They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit."
-Isaiah 65:21*

Isaiah's message is not reserved solely for an ancient people—it continues to speak God's truth to us today as we face our own economic difficulties and uncertainties. Recent news reports have been anything but cheery with stock market declines, corporate bail-outs, rising unemployment and jittery consumers. It is tempting in times such as these to wish we could simply turn back the clock. We may become cautious and more controlled in our decision making. We may avoid

"For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth."

Isaiah 65:17

taking risks and attempt to hold on to what we have. But while such behavior is pretty predictable, it is not at all what God calls us to do. Instead, we are called to look and trust in the new future God is creating for us.

Just a few short weeks ago we celebrated our new ministry together. This celebration did not mark an end point but, rather, a beginning. This is an exciting time as new leadership continues to emerge and ministries expand. I feel personally blessed to have been called to St. Anthony to share in ministry with you. I believe that one important step we can take together is to create a solid financial foundation for our parish. This will allow us to strengthen existing ministries and continue to reach out in new ways to serve others. So, while it may seem imprudent and risky to some to launch a capital campaign right now, I believe God is calling us to look beyond the present. We are called to imagine this new thing God is creating for us and in us. In taking this bold step we are asked to place our trust and hope in God.

In the coming weeks and months, we will have much time to explore the future of St. Anthony. Led by a gifted Capital Campaign team, with programs designed to reach all ages, we will dream together. I hope that everyone will be a part of this time of imagining as together we begin to see the new thing God is doing in our midst.

In Christ's Love,
Dorian

SHROVE TUESDAY & ASH WEDNESDAY EVENTS

Shrove Tuesday

Tuesday, February 24 at 5:30 p.m.

Shrove Tuesday is the day that anticipates Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of Lent. "Shrove" comes from the verb "to shrive," which means "to administer the sacrament of penance." Through the ages, confessing and receiving forgiveness have been associated with the Season of Lent.

In many traditions, Lent follows a carnival time. Shrove Tuesday corresponds to the mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday) of the French, and to the Pancake Tuesday of the English. In both traditions, Shrove Tuesday

(continued on Page 4)

DIRECTORY:

Rector:

The Rev. Dorian Mulvey

Deacons:

Susan Cihak
Grant Gilfeather
Jan Wilner

Minister for Evangelism:

Jill Kyler

Director of Christian Education:

Beth Hammond

Director of Operations for *Walking the Mourner's Path and Parish*

Administrator:
Peggy Sands

Music Director:

Joe Hacnik

Senior Warden:

Jeff Roberts

Junior Warden:

Jay Murrillo

Treasurer:

Barbara Ells

Finance:

Tom Cervino

Accounting:

Mary Hopeman

Sexton:

Cassidy Lavato

VESTRY

Stephen Cihak

Barbara Ells

Patricia Faiveley

Claudia Johnson

Jack Meinert

Jeanne Paige

Rebecca (Becky) Pearson

Mario Vassaux

Kit Wyper

'What If ...?'

By Jeff Roberts
Sr. Warden

What if ...? That is the question that we here at St. Anthony have been asking ourselves during the Sunday Cafés with the formation of new ministries focused on outreach, the need to expand existing ministries such as the youth program, and facilities improvements.

During the course of the last several months, the vestry, too, has asked, "What if?" in support of the needs of the congregation ... and it became painfully obvious that—although St. Anthony is a vibrant and alive church with much potential—there is one obstacle holding us back from reaching our full potential.

This January we formally launched our capital campaign with the purpose to retire our mortgage debt. Our recent Stewardship campaign was very successful and resulted in an operating budget that supports all of the ministries expansion and facility needs with one exception; the mortgage.

Other churches have traditionally built facilities to address a growing need for expansion as the congregation grew. St Anthony built our present facilities many years ago with a vision of, "What if?" ... a leap of faith, if you will.



As we go forward with this capital campaign, I ask you all to keep an open mind to your own journey of faith and become involved in the campaign. We here at St. Anthony have many blessings and much potential.

It is my hope that this year will bring a new beginning for your ministry work here at St. Anthony and your journey in faith.

Jeff

Domestic Violence Victim Support Group

By Gary Spedl

Thanks to all those who attended the Domestic Violence (DV) presentation at the Sunday Café. We had a great discussion and really raised awareness of DV issues for us all.

The DV group is sponsoring the Sunday Café on February 22. A speaker from the Arizona Coalition against Domestic Violence will be featured, and those who wish are invited to bring a baby shower gift for the new mothers at Save the Family.

The next regularly scheduled DV Group meeting will be Tuesday, February 10, at 7 p.m. in the Comfort Room. Everyone is invited to attend and get involved in this ministry!

In order to continue to educate ourselves about DV, we'd like to share some Myths and Facts about DV (taken from the Maricopa Assoc. of Governments-Domestic

Violence Council) in this and subsequent editions of *The Desert Wind*.

Myth: Domestic violence is a personal issue.

Facts: Domestic violence impacts the entire community. It affects our friends, neighbors, co-workers, and families. It diminishes the quality of life of every citizen in our community. Critical impacts on children, as well as costs to health care providers, employers, and governmental entities are displayed below.

Children:

Studies show that in 50-70% of cases in which a parent abuses another parent, the children are also physically abused (1988). Children also suffer emotional, cognitive, behavioral, and developmental impairments as a result of witnessing domestic violence in the home (1990). Studies also have shown that 30% of these

children model the abusive behavior later in life (1994).

Health Care:

The total health care costs of family violence are estimated at more than \$44 million each year (1987).

Business:

Domestic violence costs employers \$3 to \$5 billion annually due to worker absenteeism (1987).

Government/Criminal Justice:

Arizona law enforcement agencies consistently report that domestic violence is the single largest call for service. In each of the last three years, local police departments have received approximately 100,000 domestic violence related calls, written 39,692 reports, and made 21,404 arrests. State courts have issued an average of 36,648 Orders of Protection and Injunctions.

Look for more Facts and Myths about DV in next month's edition of *The Desert Wind*.



An Economy That Will Never Fail



By Jill Kyler
Minister for Evangelism

I try to keep up with *Musings*, the weblog of Bob Buford. You may not be familiar with this man; I wasn't until a short time ago. Bob launched FaithWorks in 1998, which has now become Halftime. Halftime's ministry enables business and professional leaders in the second

half of their lifetimes to put their faith into action and achieve effective results. As much as I don't like to think I'm past halftime, the marching band has definitely returned to the grandstands ...

Lately Bob has been "musing" about what's been on all of our minds constantly: the economy. As depressing as it might seem most days, his comments have put me back on track and even imparted to me some degree of calmness. It's oh-so-easy to be completely consumed by conditions that are way beyond my control.

Sometimes it takes adversity for us to decide what is really important in our lives. When things are going great, we never take the time to think

about it. We skate through the days and weeks living a seemingly charmed life. Consequently, when there is abundance, there is no need for discipline. When resources are stretched, we all must make choices and focus on priorities, especially the choice between fear and faith.

This brings to mind Jesus' words, "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

This is what keeps me at peace: the reality that what-

ever I own today will someday be someone else's. I'm only keeping it company for a while. It's not my life's sole—or soul—purpose, and it's certainly not where my heart is.

My heart—and soul—will continue to dream of what could be, regardless of the economy, perhaps even in spite of it. Dreams of the difference I might be able to make in the lives of people I meet. And deep gratitude—gratitude for each of my treasures, each of you—where neither moth nor rust destroys and thieves do not steal. That's an economy that will never fail.

Blessings,
Jill

Seniors and Snowbirds

By Barbara Ells

We had a change of pace last month with a wonderful brunch at the Eagle Mountain Golf Club. What a beautiful view and great food and fellowship!

This month we will have a Valentine's Dinner on Friday, February 13, in the parish hall. Mark and Ruena Close are hosting. Please watch the Sunday bulletin for more information.

The Seniors and Snowbirds are branching out! In February we are planning a trip to the Art Museum, and in March we are planning a trip to the Desert Botanical Gardens to see the Nature of Glass exhibit created by Dale Chihuly. It is a fabulous exhibit and you won't want to miss this one! Thanks to Ruena Close and Mary Anne Bost who are helping with these special events. More information to follow.

And don't forget to come out on February 27 and help the Youth Group with the set up for their Rummage Sale the following day. Volunteers are also needed the day of the sale.

If you would like to be on the email distribution list for up-to-date information on the Senior and Snowbirds activities, please contact Barbara Ells at drbrells@msn.com.

Acolyte Ministry is Looking to Increase Membership

By Bill Ferris, Convener

We would like to expand our ministry at the Saturday 5 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m., and Holy Day services, as well as at weddings and funerals. To do this, we need to double our current membership! We are looking for youth and adults to join. If you are looking for a ministry, consider becoming an Acolyte! Below is a brief description of some of our duties.

Acolytes perform various ceremonial duties during our worship services.

- Our First Servers directly assist the deacon and priest at the altar during Holy Eucharist and carry the Cross during procession.
- Our Torch Bearers carry torches during processions and pass alms plates to the ushers and after collections hands them to the celebrant.
- Our Gospel Bearers carry The Gospel Book for the deacon or priest during the reading.
- Our Thurifers carry the Thurifer and incense during procession and at the altar.

We will be scheduling training for new members and refresher training for current members throughout the year. In addition, we are planning team building

and fun activities such as, fund raisers, bowling, and a trip to Trinity Cathedral in Phoenix to observe and meet Acolytes at the cathedral, and possibly send some of our acolytes to The National Acolyte Festival in October at The National Cathedral in Washington DC.

Please contact Bill Ferris (480.285.9460 or wf1066@aol.com) or Aaron Graves (aarongravesj@gmail.com or 602.867.1842).

Music Ministry Update

by Joe Hacnik

Attention all vocal and instrumental musicians! The St. Anthony's music ministry always welcomes new members. At this time we are in need of a bass player for liturgies during Holy Week.

Adult Choir rehearsals are Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. in the choir room. The choir sings at the 10 a.m. Sunday liturgy.

Junior Choir (4th-8th grades) rehearsals are held on Wednesdays from 4:45 to 5:30 p.m. They sing on the third Sunday of every month as well as special Liturgies.

Bell Choir rehearsals are held on Wednesdays from 6 to 7 p.m. in the choir room.

Please join us!



It's Never Too Late!

By Barbara Ells, Treasurer

It was a difficult year in the financial markets, which has left many with financial anxiety. This was reflected in our giving for 2008. While some were able to give more than they had pledged, their \$8,789 additional contributions did not offset the pledges that we did not collect.

For the year, we were \$32,501 under budget on pledge income and were \$14,850 under budget in other giving. As a result, we were not able to pay \$44,667 of our expenses for 2008. These are expenses that we still owe.

Our largest single expense is our annual mortgage payment of \$116,671. While not a normal operating expense, it is paid out of our annual giving and is one of the first checks we write each month. Just imagine what we could do if we did not have that expense every year!!! For 2008 we would not only have been able to pay all of our bills, but we would have had excess funds of over \$35,000.

You will be hearing more about the opportunity to retire the mortgage so that we can move forward with all the wonderful programs and ministries that we have at St. Anthony's. In the meantime, if you did not pay your full 2008 pledge, it is not too late! While the IRS requires you to pay by December 31, 2008 to get a tax deduction for 2008, we welcome your gift at any time. You can just indicate on your check that the contribution is in payment of your 2008 pledge; these gifts will be reported on your Giving Statement for 2009. It's never too late!

Many thanks to all who have contributed to St. Anthony's ministries – not only through your financial gift, but your gifts of time and talent.

Financial Forum

Please join us at the Financial Forum following both services on February 1. We will discuss the results of 2008, as well as the budget for 2009.

SHROVE TUESDAY & ASH WEDNESDAY

(continued from page 1)

celebrates the final feasting before Lenten fasting begins. The word "carnival" means "lifting off of meat."



Shrove Tuesday celebrations give us a rich opportunity to feast and play. The rowdy festivities of carnival come when folks are tired of winter, long for spring, and need to let off some steam. Before we settle down for Lent, carnival invites us to celebrate.

St. Anthony Mardi Gras and Pancake Supper

- All the pancakes and sausages you can eat
- Entertainment by our very own youth and their leaders
- Creation of the Alleluia Banner in preparation for the farewell on Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday Activities

Wednesday, February 25

Noon: Imposition of Ashes Service

4 p.m.: Children's Ash Wednesday Service

To explore the meaning of Ash Wednesday

..... participate in creative activities which teach us about Lent

..... participate in the Imposition of Ashes and Eucharist

Although this program is suitable for children age 4 through 5th grade, all are warmly invited to attend.

7 p.m.: Imposition of Ashes

Avid Readers Welcomes You!

Join us for some or all of our monthly discussion groups. We meet in the Comfort Room at 7 p.m. on the dates listed below. If you have questions or would like more information, please call Eloise Crosman at 480.551.2136.

February 17:

***Water for Elephants* by Sue Gruen** (Fiction, 384 pgs.)

This novel, told in flashbacks by an elderly man, relates the story of his life with a travelling circus after dropping out of veterinary school during the depression. He devoted his life to the exotic creatures and fell in love with Marlana, the wife of a sadistic circus boss. The great variety of people who travel with the circus are skillfully humanized in this novel.

March 17

***People of the Book* by Geraldine Brook** (Fiction, 384 pgs.).

This emotionally rich, thrilling fictionalization retraces the journey of the Sarajevo Haggadah. Hanna Heath, a rare-book restorer uncovers the story of the group as she works on restoring the manuscript in 1996 Sarajevo. Their history, told with a series of fictionalized short stories, is "a complex love story, thrilling mystery, vivid history lesson, and celebration of the enduring power of ideas ..."

April 21

***Bridge of Sighs* by Richard Russo** (Fiction, 544 pgs.)

Set in a declining blue-collar town of Thomaston, NY, where tannery runoff is spreading carcinogens, this is the story of three families whose lives intertwine in various ways, most of them unpleasant. *Publishers Weekly* reviewer Jeffrey Frank sums up his review by saying "*Bridge of Sighs*, on every page, is large-hearted, vividly populated and filled with life from America's recent, still vanishing past."

May 19

***Brother, I'm Dying* by Edwidge Danticot** (Nonfiction, 288 pgs)

Edwidge Danticot's powerful memoir of her Haitian immigrant family "explores how the private and the political, the past and the present intersect." The Haitian diaspora, the Duvalier regime and post-9/11 immigration policy are interwoven with the story, focusing on (her uncle) Joseph's trip to the U.S. at age 81 (*Bookmarks Magazine*).

June 9

Book Choosing Meeting.

St. Anthony Arts Council

By Claudia Smith

(Written for *The Fountain Hills Times* – modified for *The Desert Wind*)

"Good company in a journey makes the way to seem the shorter."

-Izaak Walter (1593-1683)

The mission of St. Anthony on the Desert Episcopal Church Arts Council is to inspire and nourish spirituality and faith through the arts. Both artist and viewer travel this journey together. By encouraging and giving individuals a chance to exhibit their God-given talent—which originates from the soul—beauty is produced and shared. In turn, this gift connects to the viewer's soul, giving them a glimpse of wondrous possibilities, including the healing powers of art, and an understanding of the mysterious unity and "Oneness" of all things. This chain of events helps fulfill God's purpose. All benefit from this journey.

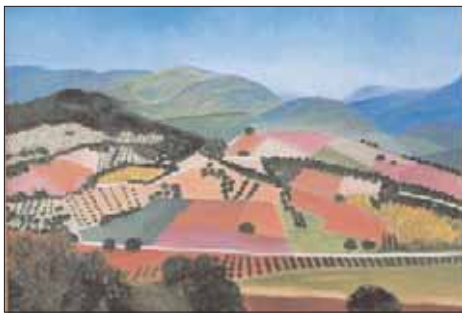
Artists are on journeys continually. They are always searching, with "antennae" on constant alert for diverse subject matter, a fresh approach and new materials to best produce and reach their desired destination: that "mirror" which reflects their inner being. These entities usually are found in their own imaginations and surroundings, but sometimes their journeys lead them to faraway places.

Gratia Gibaut, one of the two artists whose work is currently on display at St. Anthony, asks us to accompany her on a journey she titles, "European Memories." This collection includes two strong displays of Gibaut's inner spirit.

The first resulted from a trip Gibaut took in October, 2001, to Spain and Portugal. She states, "I was very ambivalent about the trip following the tragedy of 9/11."

The trip, however, provided solace for her soul, and one particular view in Spain captivated her. "This peaceful panorama near Ronda seemed light years away and serene." And, as is her custom (for future reference), she took a photograph.

Upon her return, Gibaut painted the scene, letting her imagination run free. In it, Gibaut portrays a vast landscape like a patchwork quilt. Each field is a different color, arrayed in blues, greens, and lush shades reminiscent of melons and ripe berries. Rows of growing things—tufts of dark green, like knots in a quilt—add texture and directional interest. A small road threads its way through the landscape.



Like the warmth of a quilted comforter, Gibaut's clever portrayal of this peaceful valley welcomes, offers serenity and promises security.

Gibaut's second painting from her "European Memories" collection features the "Old Walled City of Dubrovnik, Croatia." Gibaut relates that Dubrovnik is a visual and spiritual marvel, which seems unchanged, despite centuries of conflict in the Balkans. She states, "In painting this view from the Adriatic Sea, I could sense the strength, determination and faith of those people from the past to the present day."



Done in the blues of sea and sky, and the browns of rock and earth, Gibaut's rendition of Dubrovnik is strong in composition and technique. It equates strength and solidity. The painting depicts the ancient city, behind its protective wall, standing resolute upon steep cliffs, overlooking the Adriatic Sea. Below, waves crash, to no avail, against the rocky shoreline.



In contrast, St. Anthony's second exhibiting artist, **Carol Stewart**, offers a

"journey" displaying paintings with more familiar scenes. Her route is closer to home. In "Family Oriented," a father quail leads his three young ones. This family "parade" is close to the hearts of all of us who live in the Southwest. Done with a wonderful salt-resist background, and using tan, off-white, and soft shades of blue-grays, mauve and greens, Stewart conveys the gentle side of desert living through her deft use of watercolors. She says that quail are her favorite desert species. She goes on to say, "I never tire of watching them—(just) like my cats!"



A black-and-white menu cover she saw in a restaurant inspired another of Stewart's paintings. Each time she went there, she studied it, visualizing it as a watercolor. Eventually, she couldn't resist, and her rendition was born. She titled it, "Garden Solitude." Done in vivid greens, warm whites and tans, with splashes of burnt reds, this lush, sunlit patio scene invites the viewer into its domain. It promises abundant peace and soul renewal—a place to rest during your life-journey. And to that ... we say, "Amen!"

The Gibaut - Stewart exhibit will run through February. Visitors are warmly welcomed.

A Pastoral Care Ministry

Helping Hands and Hearts

Your Pastoral Care Teams are ready to help! Please contact us if you know anyone in our church who:



- **Needs a ride** to church or a medical facility. Our drivers are available!
- **Needs home-cooked meals delivered** to them because of illness or other infirmity. Our meal makers are ready!
- **Would like a visit** from our team of visitors.
- **Would like a call** from one of our team callers.
- **Needs or wants assistance with a funeral reception** in our parish hall. Our team is ready to help!
- **Needs help in dealing with grief issues** after the loss of a loved one.

This team is trained and ready to help. Please call Pat Schmid at 480.837.5020 or Kit Wyper at 480.272.8817.

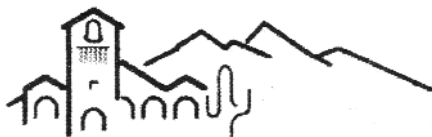
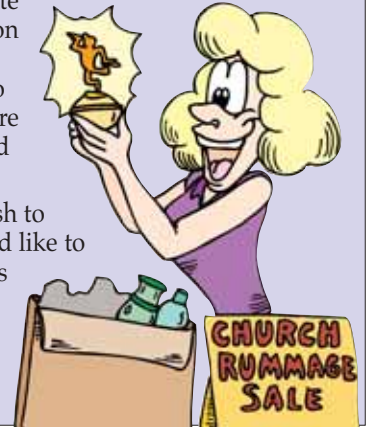
Annual Senior High Rummage Sale Saturday, February 28, 2009

Cleaning out and organizing are all signs of spring. Fortunately, the Senior High Youth group rummage sale is, too! This is the biggest fundraiser for the Senior High Mission Trip, and we need your help. We would love the stuff that is still in good condition, but just not right for you. Furniture, children's clothes, better adult clothes and toys are our biggest sellers.

If you, or a friend or neighbor, have furniture to donate, we would love to have it for our sale. We provide a pick up service for furniture on Friday, February 27. All donations are accepted at the church on Friday, February 27, from noon until 6 p.m. We would also appreciate

volunteers to help with set up on Friday and with the sale on Saturday. This is a great way to help our youth and to meet more of our St. Anthony family ... and surprisingly a lot of fun, too!

If you have furniture you wish to donate and need pick up, would like to volunteer or have any questions please contact any St. Anthony Sr. High Youth Group member or Catherine Gilbert at 480.836.0637.



St. Anthony on the Desert Episcopal Church

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