SPARK
@ ST. GREGS

Saturday at 4:00pm

So what about "alternative worship," like SPARK?
The alternative service offered on Saturdays at 4:00 p.m., titled SPARK, is an opportunity to continue in this needed practice of creative prayer and praise. And if you have participated in a SPARK service before you will realize that this service is unlike other Episcopal services insomuch as the music is contemporary and the speakers are not necessarily priests or members of the Christian tradition. Each Saturday we come together to listen to individuals just like me and you who are doing wonderfully creative and important work in our community with the hope that their message and story will inspire you to do the same.

Saturday, July 9th – Mary White, Director, Gems Uncovered

Sadly, Los Angeles County is recognized as one of the major hubs for sex trafficking in the nation, primarily of girls as young as 11 and 12.

Gems Uncovered is a faith-based organization and operates as a street outreach that goes out every Friday evening in the streets of Long Beach and Compton to minister to the young girls and women on the street. Their mission is to provide resources, love and support to young girls and women who are survivors of Human Sex Trafficking. Loving and praying with whomever God presents, Gems Uncovered is determined to provide food, gifts, clothing and to let these girls and women know that they are not alone. For more information, please visit www.gemsuncovered.org

Saturday, July 16th – Robert Probst, Executive Director, Long Beach Rescue Mission

"Helping The Homeless. Changing Lives."

Since 1972, Long Beach Rescue Mission has opened its doors to thousands of men, women and children. The Mission provides food, clothing, shelter and spiritual guidance to the homeless and less fortunate people of the community. They stand dedicated to helping individuals overcome the homeless cycle, achieve long term goals and make a world of difference in today's society. The Long Beach Rescue Mission also provides meals and worship services in the evenings and on Sundays to senior citizens and neighborhood families. The mission provides loving care and spiritual guidance to help people who are homeless find purpose, direction and hope.

Saturday, July 23rd – Lailanie Cruz, Executive Director, Precious Lamb

"Breaking the cycle of homelessness, one child at a time"
Through nurturing and consistent full-time early education, Precious Lamb Preschool meets growing demands of Long Beach's homeless and underserved community. Their goal is to develop school readiness through an emphasis on academic, social and emotional development with curriculum nuanced toward trauma. In partnership with local shelters and rehab facilities, children ages 18 months to 5 years old receive full-time, high quality preschool education at absolutely no charge while their parent pursues employment, education, rehabilitation, and counseling. Precious Lamb was founded in 1999 in response to the city's need for affordable child care, and since then has served hundreds of at-risk kids.

Our Music underscores each of our speakers and their message.

Drift Away (Dobie Gray), Lean On Me (Bill Withers), What's Up (4 Non Blondes), Country Roads, Take Me Home (John Denver), What A Wonderful World (Louis Armstrong), Everybody (Ingrid Michaelson), Video (India Arie), Big Yellow Taxi (Joni Mitchell), Hey Jude (The Beatles), Man in the Mirror (Michael Jackson), Brave (Sara Bareilles)