



# THE VOICE

## The Rector's Desk

Happy Easter, St. Elisabeth's,

When First Lady Barbara Bush died last week, those of us keeping up on the news were reminded of the things that made her public persona: a classy well-educated statesman's wife with steady discipline and a good wit. She followed Abigail Adams to be both the wife of a US President and the mother of another one. I'm glad that people also remember her focus as First Lady, one that her daughter-in-law Laura Bush carried on when she became First Lady.

Barbara Bush championed the cause of literacy. She reminded us all that the ability to read and write empowers people, sets them free, puts them on better footing in a society awash in the written word.

Since then, "literacy" has come to mean more, stretching across many facets of society and public life. Not long ago, we started hearing about numeracy, which means skills in math, whose champions claimed were every bit as important as literacy. There is also renewed appreciation for emotional "literacy," scientific "literacy," and intercultural "literacy."



As we head into graduation season with celebrations of academic accomplishments, and the ends of school years with promotions, final exams, and saying goodbye to teachers and school, I ask: what about religious literacy? What about biblical literacy?

Some branches of Christianity hold these at a very high value. My United Methodist Sunday School was almost what you would call rigorous. And we weren't nearly as rigorous as some other churches around...at least with the Bible. Other churches emphasize knowledge of the liturgy, or the breadth and depth of church music, or the lives of the saints, or in other churches -- "the rules."

I sense at this time in American society, in the Episcopal Church, on the North Shore, we might do well to reinvigorate our thirst for religious literacy for ourselves and our children. What do we expect our families to know about our own faith, or other faiths? What skills and language do we want to make sure we and our children have as we live and move as followers of Jesus in a pluralistic world? If we value such literacy, we'll have to make time for it, and there's no better time than the present.

*Daphne*

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## The Warden's Corner



The Vestry met on April 6-7 for their annual retreat. Retreat is a time for us on the Vestry to get to know one another better by sharing and working on larger projects. This time together helps to facilitate our future decision making and planning.

One of the exercises we did in getting to know one another was to introduce ourselves, particularly for the benefit of our two new members, and then describe who or how we were first welcomed to St. Elisabeth. Everyone had a different story about how they were greeted. Long term members remembered names of greeters that I remembered from the past. Others had memorable stories of hospitality. The welcomes were all different but still remembered clearly today.

What I remember was the Sunday that Bud and I and our 5-year-old son Michael being early morning risers decided to attend the 8 am service. As it is today, the service was held in the Chapel with a few

parishioners attending. After the service Nancy Wittleder approached us and, of course, asked us where we lived. We indicated Glencoe and then we were asked exactly where. We told her we lived at 258 Walden Drive. Nancy immediately responded that her family had lived in our house. With that we immediately had a connection. We felt at home and thus began attending the 10 am service thereafter and have done so for 33 years.

This exercise reminded me and the other Vestry members the importance of welcoming new people. The original greeting people receive is not forgotten and often results in the person or family joining the church. No matter who makes the welcome, the effort is worthwhile.

In the future if you see someone you do not know whether in church or at coffee hour consider taking time to introduce yourself. You may not know if the person or a family is new or just someone you have not seen before but a warm welcome may be just what is needed to make a connection. Guests and potential new members remember fondly the first hospitality they received from a St. Elisabeth parishioner.

-- Glenna Foley, Senior Warden

## A French Dip



*Nine of the twelve travelers from Nantes who will be discovering religion in America October 17-29, 2018*

On Sunday, April 22, French treats, flags, decorations, and music graced our Coffee Hour, and we offered the first of two Information Sessions about our project to host a dozen French travelers coming October 17-29. If you couldn't make it then, come, *s'il vous plaît*, for the second one on Tuesday, May 1, at 7:30 PM in the Living Room. We will lay out the plans and respond to your questions.

--- Susan Newcomb, Daphne Cody, and Hall Healy

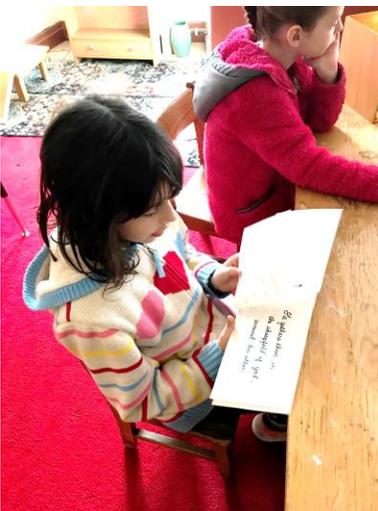
## Children's Education

Recently, I had the honor of sharing one of my favorite CGS presentations called The Origins of the Eucharist. Designed for Level 2 (ages 6-9), it highlights the most essential details that connect the Last Supper to the Eucharist today. While the younger children also see a parallel presentation, at this level, one adds the apostolic succession from the disciples to our present day clergy. I love this presentation because when I first saw it presented, it brought to life how Jesus' words at that supper were lovingly passed on from generation to generation. At those few precious moments presenting to these adults (who were, incidentally sitting in a circle around a table), I was struck by how we were collectively moved through the centuries with the words Jesus astoundingly spoke during what we believe was a Passover Seder. Those words, "Take this bread, my body...; Drink this cup, my blood...Do this in remembrance of me," are repeated many times during the presentation and each time I relayed them, I felt grateful and generous.



It is no surprise that I felt both gratitude and generosity since the focus of level 2 is *gift*. We are so loved by God that an array of gifts has been bestowed upon us since the beginning of time in a planned and prepared sequence. And humans were the last to arrive in God's Plan of Salvation! We wonder together, who could have prepared such an amazing world for us? We notice that it is akin to a banquet that has everything we need. So many gifts for us! We conclude that the greatest gift is Jesus, with his time on earth and his gift of the Eucharist which we partake in to remember Him and where He stays with us until He comes again. We wait and live in hope.

On May 20, 2018, we join those that waited in hope over 2,000 years ago for the glorified Jesus to return as promised. The children of St. Elisabeth's will plan and lead the service on this year's Pentecost Sunday. Even though the readings for the day might mention tongues of fire and speaking in many languages, we will be focusing on the gifts of the Holy Spirit. It is with the level 2 theme of *gift* that will guide the service. The entire congregation will be invited to choose and receive one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit: *fortitude, wisdom, counsel, understanding, piety, knowledge or the awe of God*. Which one will you choose to nurture you this year?



Aside from the gifts of the Holy Spirit, there will many other gifts we will receive that day. It could be a new revelation, a sunny day to garden, an outstanding cup of coffee, something you saw your child do, a memorable moment with a loved one, a connection at communion with all those who have gone before us and are still to come. Whatever it may be, the children at church on Pentecost Sunday will lead us all to ponder the choices we are offered and those we accept with gratitude and generosity.

--Leslie Davey

## Soup Kitchen.....



Our next date is Thursday, May 10. We welcome volunteers to help with both the packing of sack lunches ( 3 p.m. at St Elisabeth's) and with the preparation and serving of dinner (starting at 5 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Evanston). Let one of us know, either in person, or signing up at the Church, or contacting John Tuohy at [JohnLTuohy62@gmail.com](mailto:JohnLTuohy62@gmail.com).

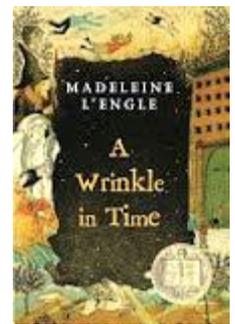
--Thanks in advance. John Tuohy and Chuck Chadd

## St. Elisabeth's Book Group

The Book Group will explore Christian themes within the book [A Wrinkle in Time](#)

For its final meeting this spring, St. E's book group will discuss Madeleine L'Engle's *A Wrinkle In Time* on May 15 at 10:30 AM in the parish living room. The science-fiction-fantasy novel, published in 1962 for middle school readers, became an instant success and won a Newberry Medal.

There is much to discuss for adult readers as well. L'Engle explores several themes relating to Christianity, including Good versus Evil, Free Will, Fate, Knowledge, Love and Fear. When Disney recently made the book into a movie, the screen version down plays or ignores certain aspects of the book.



The book is available in public libraries, on line and in a book store near you. Come join the conversation. If you have any questions call me at 847-234-6532 or email [JoyceRNewcomb@gmail.com](mailto:JoyceRNewcomb@gmail.com).

-- Joyce Newcomb

## Family Promise Week – May 13-20



Our next week of hosting Family Promise will be May 13-May 20. Right now, there are two families in the program consisting of two adults and four children ranging in age from 10 years to 4 months. I will continue to give you updates as I receive them. We will be co-hosting with St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in Wilmette. If any of you who have not been involved in this important mission would like to participate, let me know and I will make sure that you are trained. Please call (847-784-8863) or email ([cchadd@earthlink.net](mailto:cchadd@earthlink.net)) if you have any questions.

--Chuck Chadd

## Annual Church Picnic Sunday, June 3



***This is your invitation.*** All are WELCOME!

Immediately after the Sunday church service on June 3 we will have our church picnic. As usual there will be plenty to eat and plenty of friendly camaraderie.

“BIG JOHN” our super grill will be fired up.

There will be,

Hamburgers	Salads	Brats
Desserts	Hot dogs	etc.

Oh, it will be good. Nobody should leave hungry.

***To RSVP:*** Please sign-up on the tag board at the back of the church you will be attending.

This always helps plan the purchasing for this annual event.

Also, we are asking if you can bring a salad, dessert, or help in setup or cleanup on June 3 check the appropriate box on the board. If you can't, no problem. We just want you at this festive picnic.

--Phil Miller and the Grill Master Team.

## May 6 Forum

On March 11, many of us took part in engaging discussions for our All Parish Eyes on Worship Day. After church, we gathered in the Guild Room for lunch, followed by four breakout sessions where the participating parishioners both examined how we currently worship here at St. Elisabeth's, and dreamt about ways we could worship here in the future.

Those four topics included looking at new ways we could use the Chapel and Chapel Terrace, exploring other images of God and pieces of art that we could display in the church during different seasons of the year, considering what a new, different worship service look like for St. E's, and reflecting on how worshipping here impacts us. There was positive energy in all of the group conversations, and creative ideas were given around each topic.



On May 6, everyone is invited to grab some refreshments after the 10:00 AM service, and then gather in the Living Room for some further discussion around these four worship topics. Daphne and I have been in the process of reviewing the many notes taken from the breakout groups, and would like to share what we learned and where it seems to be leading us. This forum will also be a chance for those that weren't able to attend Worship Day to offer a few thoughts.

Come be part of this continuing conversation, as the Spirit moves us towards exciting new things!

--Dillon Shipman

## March For Our Lives, In Chicago March 24



The March for Our Lives was started after the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., in February, 2018 when 17 people were killed. These high school students planned a march on March 24<sup>th</sup> for student safety and gun control. The march was originally planned just for a demonstration in Washington D.C. but it quickly spread to over 100 cities across the world including Chicago. The Chicago March For Our Lives was organized by local students.

Members of St. Elisabeth church organized a sign making event (plus pizza) on the Friday night before the march. A number of St. Elisabeth students and parents participated. The next day, Daphne Cody, Anne & John Tuohy, Sally Graver, Izzy and Robert Fischer met up with 500 other Episcopalians at UE Union Hall near Union Park on the morning of March 24<sup>th</sup>. After a blessing from Bishop Lee, we all marched to Union Park. The show of support was astonishing and made the march that much more powerful.

The Union Park rally began at 11 a.m. The park is located on the west side of Chicago. After a series of student speakers, participants marched down the streets toward the Loop. The rally was expected to attract about 30,000 demonstrators. It is estimated about 85,000 attended as the crowd grew into neighboring streets. Police cooperated with the demonstrated and allowed the March to continue east down Washington Street. Over 500,000 attended the March For Our Lives demonstration in Washington DC. Millions attended the hundreds of local marches around the world.

The future of our nation depends on the children growing up now and being exposed to gun violence this often has a monumental impact on all our lives. Students have recently decided to take control of their rights to demonstrate –to protect themselves and future generations from gun violence.

I found the march inspiring and moving. I feel that I now have a sense of this issue and how to make a difference. If we work together we can change the world and make it a better place. Walking with hundreds and thousands of other people made me realize that it does not matter how much you have gone through it only matters what you do about it. The experiences and the stories told at the march were tragic yet empowering. I am thankful to not encounter a horrific event like some of the Stoneman Douglas students had to go through. However, I am still going to take a stand in the fight for survival. I want to be part of the change that helps students in the future. I'm proud that St. Elisabeth helped participate in the March For Our Lives.

-- Izzy Fischer



*St. Elisabeth's joined up with 500 other Episcopalians including the bishop at March for Our Lives Chicago.*

## Easter 2018



Easter at St. Elisabeth's Church was especially beautiful this year. Lilies, hyacinths, tulips and kalanchoes filled the chapel and main church to celebrate Maundy Thursday through Easter, and are still blooming in mid April. A special thank you to all of the individuals and families who supported the flower and music funds making this lovely display and Easter Music possible. The planters by the red entrance doors to the church were beautifully filled by Adrienne Zimmerman. Anne Tuohy, Sherry Schellenbach, Susan Newcomb, Daphne Cody and Mac DuBose helped to plan the flowers and decorate the Church on Easter Saturday. Dorothy Generes' s wreaths were displayed on the entrance doors and within the Church. Anne Tuohy arranged lovely scented plants for the altar in the Chapel and designed the huge dried arrangement under the cross in the Church. Blooming plants were used in the dining room for the coffee hour following our Easter morning service. So many people devoted significant energy and enthusiasm to create a special atmosphere and beauty within St. Elisabeth's for the Easter Season. Thank you to all for such a very special celebration during an important time of year.

-- Anne Healy



*The lighting of the new Paschal Candle on Easter Day morning.*



*In Easter, the communion wine is champagne. Next year maybe we can use the sparkling kind for the grape juice option*

## Pastoral Notes

Congratulations to Buzz Thornton and Debe Menard who were married in Northbrook on April 21, 2018.

## Saint Elisabeth's Calendar

### *Regular Weekly Schedule*

#### **Sundays**

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist (Rite I)  
9:50 AM Children's Education  
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (Rite II)  
11:00 AM Coffee Hour  
11:20 AM Education Time

#### **Mondays**

7:30 PM Boy Scout Troop 28  
8:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous

#### **Tuesdays**

7:30-8:30 AM Glencoe Roast Office Hour  
8:30-9:30 AM Lectionary Study Hour

### *Special Events*

#### **Tuesday, May 1**

7:30 PM A French Dip Information Session

#### **Friday, May 4**

Plant Sale Pick-Up

#### **Wednesday, May 9**

7:15 PM Vestry Meeting

#### **Thursday, May 10**

Soup Kitchen

#### **Tuesday, May 15**

10:30 AM St. E's Book Group

#### **May 13 to May 20**

Family Promise Week

#### **Sunday, June 3**

Parish Picnic

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