



THE VOICE

View from the Pulpit

It's Back to School time.

The school buses are rolling around our village streets again. Middle schoolers with backpacks are trekking past the rectory to and from Central School every weekday. And here at Saint Elisabeth's, the Glencoe Montessori School is back in session and our hallways are filled with kiddos laughing and singing and running out to recess.

We will be returning to "school" - to educational programming - here at church this fall too. On Wednesday evenings at 7pm, beginning October 19th, we'll offer **Zoom book discussions** on a variety of theological topics led by our partner parish clergy. **Saint Elisabeth's Sunday School** will return this fall on a date still to be determined. Our **Confirmation class** for youth kicks off on Saturday, September 10th. And starting that same day at 4:30 PM, one Saturday afternoon a month throughout the academic year (alongside the Confirmation class), we will have **intergenerational education time for kids and adults of all ages** with our partner parishes. I know I have personally learned so much about faith and God from folks of all ages - from the youngest child to the oldest adult - and these



intergenerational gatherings will give us an opportunity to do just that together.

Finally, we will be hosting one very special student as we "return to school" this fall. Seán Hansen will be joining us as a seminarian for the 2022/2023 school year as he completes his required field education for his Master of Divinity

degree. My time as a seminarian was so very important in my growth as a person and as a priest and I will forever be grateful to my field ed parish and the people there for the ways in which knowing them and working among them shaped me and my faith. I know that Saint Elisabeth's will be an equally wonderful and formative place for Seán to learn and grow. He will join us in church on Sunday, September 11th. Sean's bio is included later on in this newsletter.

I hope that you and your family will join us for one or all of the many opportunities to grow in our faith together in the days ahead. I look forward to learning with and from you as we journey together through another "school year."

Faithfully,
The Rev. Adam Spencer, *Rector*

The Warden's Corner

Highs and Lows



I think of my grandmother when I hear the hum of locusts in the trees in late summer. She taught first grade, and she said it was the sound that called her back to the classroom. She listened to the hum with feelings of both joy and dread. She loved teaching students, but dreaded the end of summer days and nights, and the return to structured routine and busy workdays.

I have listened to the song of the locusts with similar feelings this August. Sometimes, when they are chirping softly in the background and I can hear the breeze in the trees, I thank God for the gift of a beautiful summer day. At other times, the drone increases to a distracting and distressing volume that heightens the anxiety I feel. Anxiety about returning to the hectic pace of a busy school year. Anxiety about juggling work and college searches for my twins. Anxiety about my how my son is getting along on the other side of the world during his study abroad in Australia. And most of all, anxiety about the end of a summer that felt anything but normal, while wondering how we will ever feel “normal” again.

Many of us experienced extreme highs and lows this summer. Even watching weather reports was a roller coaster as many parts of the nation faced extreme heat and flooding. At St. Elisabeth's we enjoyed many wonderful moments of community celebrating at our annual parish and Pride picnics, as well a bonus third picnic with our partner parishes. We also came together to grieve, support and comfort each other through the loss of members of our parish family. We faced unspeakable terror, anger and grief as the innocence and joy of a 4th of July parade was stolen from us.

Through all these highs and lows, I have been grateful for our St. Elisabeth's family. I cannot imagine how we would have gotten through the events of this summer without the support and grace we have provided each other. I am thankful that our parish has been able to experience Adam and Dillon's pastoral leadership and care. Though I am anxious about what comes next this fall, I am confident we will experience moments of joy, and that the strength of our parish community will make the low points bearable.

Leslie Alter, Jr. *Warden*

Introducing Our Seminarian: Seán Hansen



Seán is a second-year M.Div. candidate at Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston and an aspirant for the priesthood with the Episcopal Church. He grew up in Des Plaines, IL, and graduated from Loyola University Chicago in 2015 with a degree in English. His main academic interests are philosophy of ethics and systematic theology, and his hobbies including reading, playing tabletop games (such as Dungeons and Dragons), and cooking. He lives in Rogers Park with his partner, Ellie, and their two cats, Gus and Astrud.

Seán will be with us at Saint Elisabeth's for the 2022/2023 academic year. He will be helping out on Sunday mornings, preaching, and assisting with various ministries and programs as he learns about parish life at St. E's. Please give him a warm welcome to our community!

Parish Picnic & Back Pack Blessing

Back to School Parish Picnic: On September 11, following our 10:00 AM service with a **backpack blessing**, we will have our traditional parish picnic – Barbecue on the lawn. If you can contribute a salad, dessert or help with clean-up that would be great. Please add your name to the poster board at the back of the church or call the church office to be added to the board. Please call Phil Miller [847-477-4564] or Carrie Miller Mygatt [202-714-7741] for more information.



Adult Confirmation/Reception/Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows



Confirmation

As we begin a youth confirmation program this fall, I wanted to extend an invitation to the adults of our parish, as well. If you have never been confirmed OR if you've been confirmed in another Christian tradition (Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, Lutheran, etc.) and would like to be formally received into the Episcopal Church OR if you would simply like to revisit the basics of your faith as an adult and re-affirm your Baptismal Vows - let me know! I would be very happy to talk with you and put together a program of theological learning and reflection for us to prepare you for Confirmation, Reception or a formal Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows. If you have any questions (like, for instance, "What's this Confirmation business all about anyway?"), please feel free to call or email me or just pull me aside after church.

--Faithfully, The Rev. Adam Spencer, *Rector*

Formation Starting in the Fall

Intergenerational Education

The Better Together Partners will be holding intergenerational educational programming from **4:30 to 6:00 PM** on the same days and at the same locations as our confirmation classes so that adults and children/youth who are not participating in confirmation will have special formation time as well. All participants will have a meal together at the end of each session. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us as we explore the Scriptures together.

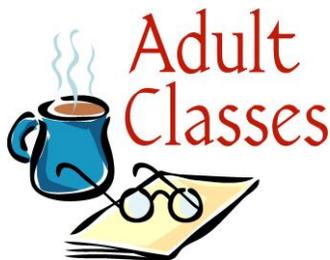
The dates for the 2022-23 school year are:

- Sept 10 - at St. Gregory's, Deerfield
(Confirmation retreat will be from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM)
- October 1 - St. Lawrence, Libertyville
- November 12 - at Trinity, Highland Park
- December 3 - at St. Elisabeth's, Glencoe
- January 21 - at St. Gregory's, Deerfield
- February 11 - at St. Lawrence, Libertyville
- March 11 - at Trinity, Highland Park
- April 1 - at St. Elisabeth's, Glencoe



Watch for Sunday school information coming soon!
Shelley Byrnes, *Coordinator for Children, Youth and Family Ministry*

Adult Education



Beginning this Fall, on **Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM**, we will gather on Zoom for a series of book discussions led by our partner parish clergy. The first session will be **Wednesday, October 19** and our first book will be announced in the weekly E-Reflect and in the October issue of The Voice. The Zoom invitation for all Wednesday sessions will be available on the "Saint E's Virtually" section of our website. Stay tuned!

Pet Blessing

On the first weekend of October each year, we celebrate the life of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals. We invite you to bring your pet companions with you to our 10:00 AM Inclusive Language Holy Eucharist on **October 4** to be blessed during the service. We hope you'll join in this special outdoor service of blessing with your pet companions.



Updating our Church Database and Directory

We are asking everyone to check their membership details in the Church Database. This is so we can publish a new edition of our parish directory this Fall.

We will be sending the link in a parish email, if you have would like to have the link sent directly to you, please let Pam know.

Please include the years in the details (they auto fill to this year). That will be especially helpful when we are pulling reports.

If you would like, you can always contact Pam in the office and give her the details that you would like to change or added. You can email the information to office@steglencoe.org.



Bishop's Consecration Webcast



On Saturday, September 17, our Bishop-elect Paula Clark will be consecrated bishop at a special service at the Westin in Lombard. That service will be livestreamed by the Diocese of Chicago. The service will begin at **11:00 AM** but there will also be some musical preludes before the actual 11:00 AM start time starting around 10:30 AM. We will send the livestream link out by email when it is made available.

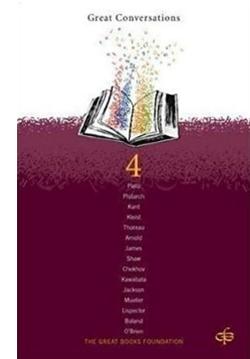
St E's Book Group

Can there be Perpetual Peace?

St. E's Book Group will reconvene Tuesday Sept. 13 to discuss Immanuel Kant's essay, "To Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch." The group meets at noon in the parish Fireside Room for a brown bag lunch.

Kant's essay explores two major themes— (1) knowledge and truth and (2) War and Morality. Although written in 1795, the essay, which proposes that perpetual peace can be achieved through democracy and international cooperation, is as timely today as it was in the late 18th century.

The Book Group bases its discussion on the Great Books Foundations method of shared inquiry. The essay can be found in its anthology Great Conversations, volume 4. A loaner copy is available in the office. All are welcome. Questions? Contact Joyce Newcomb at JoyceRNewcomb@gmail.com.



Pumpkins are Coming!

One of our Better Together partners (St. Gregory's) has a HUGE pumpkin patch as a fundraiser for food pantries. The funds from this patch will be shared with all the Better Together feeding programs - including the Interfaith Action Soup Kitchen, which St. Elisabeth's supports.

Unloading:

The pumpkins are tentatively scheduled to arrive on September 24 at 10:00 am. We will unload a full semi-truck load of pumpkins with the help of a couple of backhoes. Unloading day is a fun day outside that will wear out your children so they sleep well! Many hands make less work and new friends. Even if you are not able to lift pumpkins there are opportunities to help and participate. If you are interested, there will be a link in the eReflections on Thursdays.



Sometimes the delivery is delayed

due to traffic or weather. When you sign up, we will have your emails to send a confirmation of the date and time when we hear from the truck driver.

St. Elisabeth's Legacy Society Dinner
Sunday, September 25 at 5:30 PM
at Skokie Country Club. Dress is casual.

The Baehr Legacy Fund

When long-time Saint Elisabeth's member William Baehr died in 1981 he bequeathed a monetary gift totaling \$384,425 to St. Elisabeth's Church, Glencoe, which became **the Baehr Legacy Fund**. Mr. Baehr directed the money in the Fund to be used to support the continued life of the church. Other caring friends of St. E's have made contributions to the Fund over the years.

It should be mentioned, from the original gift and contributions there have been approved disbursements from the Fund of \$1,395,264 over a 31-year period. These monies have contributed to many capital renovations on the church property and the operating budget. **The Baehr Legacy Fund** truly has been a financial blessing to our church.



St. Elisabeth's Legacy Society

Realizing the importance of **the Baehr Legacy Fund**, in 2012 the trustees of the Fund decided to create **the St. Elisabeth's Legacy Society** to encourage others to make contributions to the Fund. A gift can be a cash donation now or stipulated in your estate documents or any other investment vehicles. A pledge to support the Fund is a very meaningful investment in the future of St. Elisabeth's Church. **There is NO MINIMAL AMOUNT required to join.**

Anyone who makes a pledge to the Fund becomes a member of the **St. Elisabeth's Legacy Society**. We celebrate this membership with a dinner in the fall every year. This September 25th the dinner will be held at Skokie Country Club.

If you are not a member of the Legacy Society, we would like you to join our camaraderie. It is not too late to be included in this fall dinner.

If you have any questions or if you would like to join the St. Elisabeth's Legacy Society with a gift or pledge to the Baehr Legacy Fund, please contact: The Rev. Adam Spencer (Office 847-835-0458) or Phil Miller (Cell 847-477-4546)

-Phil Miller, Baehr Legacy Fund Trustee

Saint Elisabeth's Calendar

Regular Weekly Schedule

Sundays

8:00 AM Traditional Language
Holy Communion in the church (& via FBL).

10:00 AM Inclusive Language
Holy Communion in the church (& via FBL).

Mondays

7:15 PM –Boy Scout Troop #28
8:00 PM – AA Group

Saturdays

5:00 PM –AA Group

*(FBL) Facebook Live

Special Events

Thursday, September 8

Soup Kitchen

Sunday, September 11

10:00 AM Blessing of the Backpacks

11:00 AM Back to School Picnic

Tuesday, September 13

7:15 PM Vestry Meeting

Saturday, September 17

11:00 AM Consecration of Bishop-Elect Clark

Sunday, September 25

5:30 PM St. E's Legacy Society Dinner

St. Elisabeth's Episcopal Church

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