



Annunciation of Our Lady

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Magnificat

Sept 2017

REMINDER: Resume TWO service schedule:
September 10th

Children's Chapel at Annunciation

Children's Chapel Lead
Susan Schunk



We are happy to announce
that Children's Chapel (CC)
will resume on Sunday,

September 10. We are excited for another year of helping our young parishioners grow in their faith. CC is for children 11 and under. On most Sundays from September to May we offer our children a developmentally appropriate alternative to the sermon, prayers of the people and confession portions of the 10:00 am (or 9am) service. CC takes them out of the church where they can move around a bit, sing, dance and hear the Word in a child-friendly way. Hopefully this helps them to focus better when we celebrate the Eucharist together. The children will process out of church after the Gospel, following the 2nd crucifer, and return during the exchange of the Peace. Parents are welcome to accompany their children to CC at any time. CC is a loosely structured mirror of what is occurring in the Nave for the adults. Children help set a worship table and have an opening prayer. Following a song they hear a very brief summary of the Gospel and then respond to the Gospel through a game, worksheet, discussion, etc. This is followed by a creed, prayers, confession and dismissal. Because CC serves a wide age range, everything is presented in easy-to-understand language, and all are encouraged to participate at whatever level they are able. We hope this alternative worship offering will enrich the children's church experience, understanding and spiritual growth. This year look for familiar as well as new faces in our CC leader lineup. We are so grateful for the dedication of these leaders to our youngest parishioners. Children's Chapel leaders do not need to have children of CC age - just a love of children. If you would like to be a leader, need more information or have a question, please

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Sunday Night Live



September 17, 5 pm

contact Rev. Elizabeth or Susan Schrunk. Children's Chapel Schedule for 2017-2018 Sept 10 & 24; Oct 1, 8, 22 & 29; Nov 5 & 12; Dec 10; Jan 7, 14 & 28; Feb 4, 11 & 25; Mar 4 & 11; Apr 8?, 22 & 29; May 20

A "Toast" to our Veterans!



A "Toast" to our Veterans! Please join us on Sunday, Sept. 24th as we honor veterans and learn about the Midwest Veterans Closet organization of North Chicago. Mary Carmody, who works with the Veterans Closet, will be our guest speaker at adult forum that day and will share with us how she began this

important work of offering hope, resources and many needed items to local veterans and their families.

One item seldom donated to the Closet (but much appreciated) is toasters. We invite you to "toast" veterans by donating a 2 or 4 slice toaster; financial donations to the Veterans Closet are also appreciated. At the communication center in the narthex is more information about this organization, as well as empty medication bottles. Please feel free to take a bottle (or two!) and fill it with monetary donations of loose change/ bills to be collected and donated September 24th.

Questions? Please see Dale Sander, Miriam Berry or Sue Whipple. Thank you!!



Sunday Night Live will resume on September 17th.

Full schedule and details on the website!



Adult Forum sessions resume on Sunday, September 10, between the 8am and 10am services. Sessions are held in the adult forum room, just off the parish hall, near the kitchen. Everyone is welcome to attend, and no advance preparation is needed; just come with an open mind and a willingness to participate in lively discussion!

September 10, 2017 Resilience

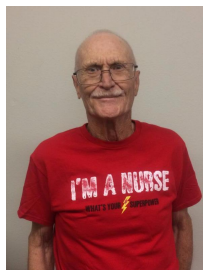
Presenter: Rev. Elizabeth

Many of our adult forum sessions this year will take a closer look at some of the characters, major and minor, in the Bible. That we know who they are thousands of years later is a testament to the resilience of the ancient Hebrews and early Christians. But just what is resilience? We'll talk about that in two sessions, looking at modern examples of resilient people/characters. Part 1 of 2

[2017 Adult Forum](#)

NOTES FROM THE NURSE

Dale Sanders, RN



HAPPINESS

Wouldn't your day be more enjoyable if you felt moments of happiness throughout your day? Try these strategies to experience instant joy:

ORGANIZE YOUR AREA Straighten up a bit to reap feel-good benefits. Clean organized areas reduce stress and increase productivity.

KEEP HAPPINESS HINTS IN SIGHT Put items that make you smile in places where you'll see them. Photos of spouse &/or family doing fun stuff, Or items that bring back good memories like the picture from the Cubs game or the tassel from your graduation.

COMPLIMENT A COWORKER OR FRIEND Letting a colleague know you appreciate him or her makes them feel the love, and you'll feel it too!

(Adapted from the Healthy Nurse Healthy Nation program of the American Nurses Association)

From Our Rector

Elizabeth Molitors

A colleague posted this recently on social media:

"My church is composed of people, like me. We make it what it is. It will be friendly, if I am. Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them. It will do great work, if I work. It will make generous gifts to many

Rector's Study Groups

The Rector's Study Groups will resume **September 13/14**; the **Wednesday** group meets at **10am** in the adult forum room, and the **Thursday** evening group meets at **7pm** in the church office. This fall's book will be, *The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World* by the Dalai Lama and Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu. The book's content comes out of a five-day meeting in 2015 between these two religious leaders, focused on the question, How do we find joy in the face of life's inevitable suffering?



causes, if I am a generous giver. It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship, if I bring them. It will be a church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, a church with a noble spirit, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with these traits. Therefore, with the help of God, I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all the things I want my church to be." (Author Unknown)

Put another way, an Annunciation parishioner, Joan Reinhardt (who passed away 5 years ago, just about this time of year) is remembered for saying, It doesn't matter who is up there (meaning the pulpit), it could be a monkey; this is MY church.

I never met Joan - she died shortly before I started at Annunciation - but her sentiment, and the words of the unknown author, ring true for this gathering of God's people we call Annunciation Episcopal Church in Gurnee. Our church will be what its people are; our church will reflect the qualities that we - all of us - demonstrate: lay or ordained, in a formal position of leadership or not, relatively new in the community or have been here forever.

As we begin a new program year, let this be a time when we intentionally remember this, when we again say "YES" and dedicate ourselves - re-dedicate ourselves - to being all the things we want Annunciation to be.

From Our Seminarian

Shay Craig



Keep Calm and Carrion

Now, Rev. Elizabeth has a different version of this story, which you should hear, but this is mine. A couple of weeks ago, I arrived at church before services on Sunday morning to find a dead bird in the parking lot.

Now, this wasn't just an "oh there is a dead bird" kind of dead bird, it was a "Holy Moly, who filmed a horror film in our parking lot!" kind of dead bird.

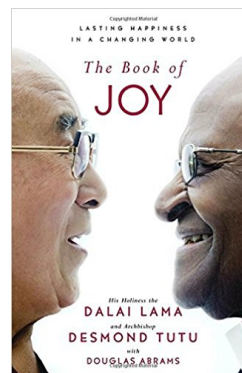
It had once been a Morning Dove, but was now a ribcage, blood and guts and gore and feathers streaming out away from it like a gory comet. I know this because I drove by it, before parking some distance away.

And then I sent a text to my esteemed field education supervisor asking her how I could be of assistance in removing it. Without touching it or really coming near it in any way.

(This is a good time to tell you that my "camp name" as a Girl Scout growing up was "Squeamish." I don't do nature. Nature is the thing I pass through between my front door and my car. I don't even eat outside without a waiter. And it's not because I am a snob. It's because I will throw up. Really, it's me being considerate of other people that keeps me from camping. Ever.)

So, I sent this text to Rev. Elizabeth and figured I had checked the box for "seminarian hard at work" for the morning.

When she arrived at church, Rev. Elizabeth determined that the remains needed to be picked up. She quickly found - thway that only an ordained priest can - just the right pitchfork for the job. She then asked a parishioner to help her clean up the parking lot before more of the church family came. He grabbed a garbage bag,



For more information, or if you have questions, please contact Rev. Elizabeth.

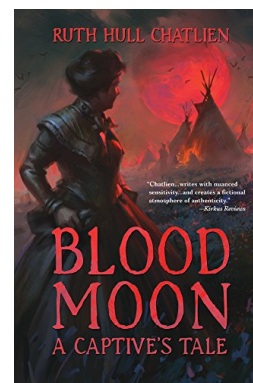
Book Club 2017



Book Club West
 Mon, **Sept 11th**
 Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm
 Location: Celebuski

Book Club East
 Mon, **Sept 18th**
 Time: 6:00pm-8:00pm
 Location: Potesta's in Waukegan

On **Monday, October 16, 2017**, the **two book clubs** at Annunciation will have a combined meeting at the church. Parishioner and award-winning novelist Ruth Hull Chatlien will discuss her new book *Blood Moon: A Captive's*



Tale. The meeting, which begins at 7:00 pm, is open to all parishioners and to the general public. Feel free to bring friends.

Lunch Bunch

and his wife to hold it open for him, and out they went to scoop up the carrion and dispose of it. When they got closer, they found there were yellow jackets, which it turns out are "meatitarians" as my children call them. Which is just another reason to hate them. Anyway, our brave crew: Rev. Elizabeth and two steadfast parishioners, braved the ickiness with good natured efficiency. They were champions. If there were such a thing, I would have given them tee shirts that said, "Keep Calm and Carrion." All so that we could worship on a lovely summer Sunday without images from the worst moments of Animal Planet in our minds.



WHAT, you are wondering, is the point of this ridiculous story? It is this. In my almost nine months at Annunciation I have been repeatedly amazed and overwhelmed by your willingness to be for one another whatever is needed. The congregation of Yes! has demonstrated that ethic time and time again - by stepping in when we needed more ushers, by helping out in the garden, by raising their hands at the parish planning meeting, by not just teaching me to make the coffee but doing it for me when I am too-early-brain to get it right.

You are - we are - a congregation that steps up and steps in for one another in astonishing and beautiful ways. It seems to be "just the way you are" but as a relative outsider - and person seeking to learn how to "do church" well - I feel compelled to tell you how exceptional you are. How grateful I am for you. And how sure I am that God takes great pleasure in who you are to one another and in God's sight.

From Our Sr. Warden

Deb Gallinger



As we read this newsletter we are marking the end of summer with the celebration of worship and hospitality at the parish picnic, and we are preparing to resume our yearlong programs in worship, outreach and education. We return to two services each Sunday, with adult forum between the services. Our book studies resume twice a week, and our Sunday night live and children's chapel restart. We return to cooked meals from sandwiches at PADS.

If you have been attending Annunciation for a little while you are used to this pattern and you may greet it with a level of comfort or at least a sense of habit. But it occurs to the vestry that we have not canvassed the full parish recently about their interests and passions regarding worship, Christian education, outreach and hospitality. We meet semi-annually at the planning meetings to set the calendar, but this does not allow us much time to find out whether someone has a desire to pursue new forms of outreach or evangelism, or different avenues of education.

We want to know from you where your passions and interests lie and we will be using a variety of ways to encourage you to let us know what you would like to see happen in the future at Annunciation and what you are interested in participating in around the church. Are you interested in helping with PADS or delivering



Date:

Wednesday, Sept 27th

Time: 1:00pm-2:00pm

Location: Lunch gathering for women of the parish at 1 pm. Location will rotate and date will be 4th Wed of each month. For reservations contact Jane Schaefer at 224-372-7940 or at cs.js@comcast.net



Outreach Opportunities

LET'S DO LUNCH - PADS SUMMER LUNCHES

We will prepare 40 bagged lunches at



12:00 noon on the second Friday of each month. Our assigned days are:

September 8.

Watch the Parish News and the PADS sign-up board for more details on how you can volunteer to help with this ministry. Let's do lunch!



For more information or to help, please contact Jane Schaefer at 224-372-7940 or at cs.js@comcast.net.

Feed My Starving Children

Starbucks food to local charities or providing a meal to someone in the parish who is suffering or ill? Or do you have a particular cause you would like to see us support? Please let us know! Would you like to join the group at adult forum on Sundays or one of the book studies during the week? Is there a particular subject or topic you would like to see us explore as part of our Christian education? Please let us know! What do you think we can be doing to further children's and youth programs at Annunciation? Please let us know! In the coming weeks we plan to give you the opportunity to express your opinions and we look forward to hearing from you. All of us are Annunciation and it is vital that we all feel that our voices are heard and respected. Please let us know!

for I was
Hungry
and you
gave me food...
Matthew 25:35

If you would like to be a part of this ministry of feeding the hungry please join us. Mark your Calendars ... Here are the Saturday dates,

9:00 am to 11:00 am

+Sept 30, 2017

Last Saturday every Month

God's Peace and Blessings!
text/call @ 847-340-3253
Lindalutter@hotmail.com

From Our Deacon

Linda Lutter



Our hearts have been tugged ... Cindy Pullinger and I have started to work with the people at A Safe Place to help draw attention to all that they do for the women/men and children who are being abused in their home. A Safe Place is exactly that ... a place where the abused people can live without fear. In the future you will be

hearing more from us about this ministry. But let me give you an idea of what A Safe Place does and has to deal with:

- 1 in 3 women and 1 in 7 men will be victims of domestic violence from an intimate partner in their lifetime.
- Domestic violence is the third leading cause of homelessness among families.
- Every minute, 20 people are victims of domestic violence; more than 10 million people each year.
- 94% of the clients leaving the A Safe Place emergency shelter DID NOT return to their abuser.
- 91% of the children in A Safe Place therapy demonstrated a reduction in trauma symptoms related to witnessing abuse.
- The CDC has gone on record to state that if domestic violence was a disease we would have an epidemic.

Cindy and I are drawn to this ministry and we are hoping to get others to assist in getting the word out inside and outside of this parish ... we will be taking our aspirations for A Safe Place into the community. God's Peace,

From Our Jr. Warden

Mike Bill



This Church year has been moving very fast, we have experienced national tragedy fueled by poverty, ignorance, and lack in the faith of our God, and this sadly is a repeating story every year. The political folly that so polarizes us; so much against each other opinions, damages

friendships and relations that will be very hard to heal. Jesus told us to love one another and have no other god before the Father. Those two commandments are so hard to obey mainly because we usually put ourselves in the position that we are right and all that must happen is for everyone else to get with the program. Loving one another is difficult because we need to look at that



CHECK US OUT !!!

Impact Statement for Adult Education

At Annunciation of Our Lady, adult education is committed to the view of spiritual development being an ongoing process throughout a person's life, as opposed to stopping at adulthood. Adults continue to grow in their faith journey as they face the challenges of daily life. With this in mind, Annunciation offers a variety of adult education programs, including Adult Forum, the Rector's Study Group, and the Lenten Supper Program. In Adult Forum, Rev. Elizabeth Molitors, guests, and parish members lead presentations about pertinent topics, such as setting healthy boundaries in our lives, looking at half-truths and their effects, and discussing how the arts convey Christ's message. The Rector's Study Group has lively discussions about books dealing with current issues and perspectives in Christianity, including Searching for Sunday by Rachel Held Evans and Accidental Saints by Nadia Bolz-Weber. During Lent, Rev. Elizabeth leads programs that pair biblical passages with poetry selections. All of these programs encourage an honest sharing of thoughts and reflections about Christ's presence in our lives and in our world.

Below, participants of some of these programs share their thoughts.

"When I heard we were going to have a series of discussions about

commandment as God does, we are all children of God's creation and our God is both father and mother of us all; and parents do not dislike their children they love them. I believe God wants us to mirror his love and we should be humble to know and believe that we are but a small part of his creation and but a blink of an eye in relevance. We should welcome the diversity we have in physical and mental skills that make each unique. The second commandment of having no other god before the Father is often mistaken (I believe) as an indication of one religion being superior to another or getting side tracked in worship of wealth, power, beauty, food, and all other distractions.

We have a lifetime (ours) to learn what that all means, and I firmly believe that a person practices a religion by honoring a set of traditions. We say we are Episcopalians and live our time out in this Parish called Annunciation. Let us all be humble unto our Father, Jesus his son, and the Holy Spirit which we believe became part of us in our baptisms. Our time is short so let us love one another and live this life in respecting that is a great gift and not something we earned or deserved.

PS The Total Eclipse of the Sun 2017 was fantastic!! Thank you, God, for the view.

The Parade

Gurnee Days Parade! On August 20th about 25 people from our Annunciation family joined Boy Scout Troop 627 and participated in the Gurnee Days parade! The theme was, "Let's Play Ball" so we wore our Annunciation shirts and sports hats and enjoyed a great day of beautiful weather, community and fun! We are already making plans and looking forward to next year. Thank you to everyone who decorated our pennants, walked in the parade or cheered us on along the route!



boundaries in Adult Forum I wondered how that connected with the kinds of spiritual faith related forums we have usually experienced. But as we progressed through the program I realized how important this topic is to every part of our lives and the word "boundaries" has become part of my everyday conversation."
- Deb Gallinger on the Adult Forum program, Boundaries

"The movies, novels, poetry, and music used in the program represented the many aspects of how we live our lives ... we were privy to looking at the lives of others and how they relate to anger, fear, temptation, forgiveness . . . The thing that amazed me during these sessions was that I could relate to every single example used pertaining to the "cultural expressions." The "Learning to Love Yourself" portion of the sessions spoke to me deep in my heart."
- Linda Lutter on the Adult Forum program, Cultural Expressions

"We have been stretched and challenged in unexpected ways to consider things in a different light and to consider ideas we would never before have entertained. A book that one person finds engaging, another dislikes, and sometimes we change our viewpoint when we discuss the book with others. The trick here, I think, is to be willing to open ourselves to the challenge."
- Deb Bill on the Rector's Study Group

"The group discussions were always lively and enlightening with a lot of insight and storytelling. It was a very revealing format that brought together Biblical passages with more contemporary writings that could be related to each other. One could compare and contrast how the different writers addressed similar issues that are as relevant today as they were two thousand years ago."
- Charles O'Morchoe on the Lenten Study program

Summer Special Adult Education Opportunity

We had a lot of fun touring Faith Spaces this summer.

Baha'i House of Worship



Serbian Orthodox Church



Summer Picnic

Was great fun - check out the pictures here and on Facebook



See you on Sundays!



Annunciation of Our Lady Episcopal Church, 5725 Stearns School Road, Gurnee, IL 60031

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