

A Grace Note from the Rector
September 21, 2023

Dear Ones,

Next week I will be driving to the University of the South in Sewanee, TN where my dear friend The Rev. Dr. Lizette Larson-Miller will be delivering the seminary reunion lectures on Baptism. Mtr. Lizette is one of the first friends I made when I moved from New Haven to Minneapolis in 1983. I will be available via email, text, and telephone as I travel (Tuesday – Thursday), but there will be **no Wednesday Eucharist next week.**

BIBLE STUDY ON THE GOSPEL OF MARK

The Rev. Dr. Steve Holdzkom will be leading a Bible Study on the Gospel of Mark. Mark is the core Gospel for the liturgical year that begins with the First Sunday of Advent, December 3. The class, which will last for five sessions, will begin the week of October 15, and conclude before Thanksgiving. If you need a study bible, we have a dozen NIV study bibles available at no cost. The New International Version is slightly different from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) that we hear in church every week but will be useful in our work. Please let me know if you would like a copy.

As you know, **scheduling** is always tricky, so **we're asking for your help.** One of the tools that Connie Turner, Katherine Mitchell and I learned at this summer's College for Congregational Development is called *kinetic mapping*. It'll work like this. For the next couple of Sundays, there will be newsprint sheets on the windows of the Cloister. We ask that you indicate any of the times you would commit to attending, which time(s) of day (afternoon or evening), and whether you'd be interested in a simple meal beforehand or not. This will enable us to offer the Bible Study when the most people are able to come. The options are Monday, Tuesday, or Friday. I'm excited to gather around the Word with you this fall.

The chart will look something like this...

	Monday	Tuesday	Friday
Class (12:30)			
Lunch (Noon)			
Class (7:00)			
Supper (6:30)			

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Rose Early (September 22)
Heather Cowin (September 17)
David Ferrell (September 25)

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our neighbors at **First Baptist Church** (309 E. Adams Street) are inviting us to an Open House on **Saturday, September 23** from 11-3. (See the flyer in the Parish Hall.)

A BETTER WAY – SEPTEMBER NEEDS

Hygiene Items – deodorant, shampoo, hair conditioner, children's toothpaste, and hair brushes. They are in desperate need of coffee/tea mugs. They are also in need of new or gently used coffee mugs. Check your kitchen cabinets!

CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES ~ ONGOING NEEDS

Food Pantry: Canned fruit, meats, and soup, crackers, cereal, pasta & pasta sauce, mac & cheese. **Personal Care Items:** Bar soap, shampoo, toothpaste, dish soap, laundry detergent, toilet paper, lg/med diapers, towels, washcloths, blankets.

NEW ART AT GRACE



A few months ago, we received some items from St. Stephen's, Elwood, as they closed their building. Most of them were items of utility: candles, altar linens, etc. There was also one decorative item, a Della Robbia wreath. Andrea della Robbia (1435 –1525) was an Italian Renaissance sculptor, especially in ceramics. Around 1490, he created a series of medallions with reliefs of the Infant Jesus in white on a blue ground. The medallions were set into the façade of Florence's orphanage (*Ospedale degli Innocenti*) designed by Filippo Brunelleschi in the 1420s. Brunelleschi is most famous for completing the dome of Florence's Duomo (Cathedral).

Reproductions of della Robbia's works, such as ours, are often framed with realistic yet decorative garlands of fruit and flowers painted with colored enamels, while the main relief is left white. For the time being, it will be placed in the Prayer Room. Stop by for a look on Sunday morning or Wednesday noontime, and remember the people of St. Stephen's in your prayers.

God bless you in these days,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. R.' or similar, written in a cursive style.

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