



WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WE GATHER ON THE DAKOTA HOMELAND

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THE LIFE HE PROMISES WILL PREVAIL

—by Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton

I planted a garden last summer during the pandemic. Here in Chicago, March and April 2020 were cold and dreary. And it snowed. All around us was the oppressive reality of COVID-19: the lockdown, the fear, the daily grim statistics of rising cases and deaths, the isolation. I longed for a project that would look to the future and be life-giving. A garden would be just the thing. I planted green beans and tomatoes, basil and lavender. I even planted raspberry canes, which turned out to be a challenge because there was a run on them—everybody must have been planting their own patch of Eden. I also planted petunias for a splash of color. When all was in, I admired the colors and waited for vegetables to grow.

With human beings in quarantine, the rest of creation had a chance to breathe and thrive. The smog had abated so much in India that people could see the Himalayas for the first time in decades. Penguins roamed the streets of Cape Town, South Africa, and mountain goats strolled through towns in Wales. I heard coyotes howling at night in my urban neighborhood. Rabbits and squirrels had the run of the place. At first this was a welcome sign of life flourishing despite the pandemic. But soon the rabbits and squirrels became brazen, and they turned their attention to my garden.

The squirrels chewed the raspberry canes down to a nub. The rabbits treated my petunia bed and green beans like an all-you-can-eat salad bar. Just as the tomatoes were beginning to ripen, the squirrels took them right off the vine. It was maddening. I tried all kinds of deterrents—Tabasco sauce mixed with dish soap, chunks of Irish Spring soap tied to stakes, constant vigilance—all to no avail. I even considered the possibility of an air rifle, but I’m pretty sure that there is an ordinance prohibiting the discharge of weapons in the city limits.

Eventually I came to believe that the rabbits and squirrels had formed an unholy alliance and were organizing against me. My suspicions were confirmed when I found tiny copies of *Water-ship Down* (the rabbit liberation manifesto) tucked in the bushes. All that was standing by the end of the season was the lavender, which I found remarkable because I was sure they would have taken the opportunity to fashion little wreathes to adorn their burrows and nests. To add insult to injury, the rabbits kept producing more little bunnies. They were adorable! Darn it!

I planted a garden this summer. Green beans, tomatoes, lavender, basil, zucchini, sage, rosemary and thyme. Flowers will follow soon. The rabbit and squirrel populations are robust, and it doesn’t help that my husband feeds the squirrels and has given them names. I thought about constructing a garden compound topped with razor wire, but I’m not going to do that. I will try the traditional methods of Tabasco sauce, dish soap, Irish Spring soap and vigilance. I will also place some fencing around the green beans and tomatoes. And I will hope.

(continued in next column)

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



READINGS

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9; Psalm 15;
James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

ADULT FORUM

10:00 A.M. IN THE BARTSCH ROOM

View the Adult Forum from August 22 [here](#).

Holy Trinity Adult Forums now feature in-person presentations in the Bartsch Room, beginning at 10:00 a.m. The presentations will also be available on Zoom for those unable to attend.

*ID and password remain the same:
ID 858 5687 1594; Password 317879.*

AUGUST 29

“Sexuality”

Karleigh Crepin

Let’s talk about sexuality! Luther Seminary intern Karleigh Crepin will be presenting on Queer Theory, Sexuality and how to combine that all together to expand our ministries. .

SEPTEMBER 5

Labor Day Weekend—No Adult Forum

View the worship service from Sunday, August 22, [here](#).

OUTDOOR WORSHIP WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 7:00 P.M.

Join us for worship on Wednesday, August 25, at 7:00 p.m. in the rain garden. Social distancing will be encouraged, but not required. Masks are optional. The service will be approximately 40 minutes long and will include Holy Communion and congregational singing. The Martin family steel pan band will be performing.

(continued from previous column)

Legend has it that Martin Luther once said: “If I knew that the world were to come to an end tomorrow I would plant an apple tree today.” This is a powerful statement of faith in the God who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ. This is the confidence that, when “he will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end” (Nicene Creed), God will restore all of creation and this will be a good end.

This is the faith which declares that through pandemics, droughts, floods, famine, deadly bigotry, war, all the death-dealing things in nature and the human heart, life—the abundant life that Jesus promises—will prevail.

Plant something in the summer.

PARISH INFORMATION

A BIG WEEK FOR LINE 3 RESISTANCE ACTIVITIES

A huge *Treaties Not Tar Sands* gathering is planned for this week at the State Capitol to honor treaties, honor clean fresh water and resist the Line 3 tar sands pipeline. Join indigenous grandmothers from White Earth as they hold ceremonial space. Activities will take place Monday and Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and then culminate in a huge day long gathering Wednesday, August 25.

Help is also needed to set up artwork on the Capitol lawn Tuesday and Wednesday, August 24-25. More information and a sign-up form are located [here](#).

Also, the Treaty People walkers, some of whom have walked the 256 miles from the Mississippi headwaters, have reached Minneapolis. HT member Donna Goodlaxson is among them. All are welcome to join them, or cheer them on this week, particularly Wednesday morning on the Lake/Marshall bridge around 8:00 a.m. as they begin their walk to the Martin Luther King Center in St Paul (arriving around noon) and then on to the State Capitol, arriving there around 2 p.m. People thinking of joining the walk are asked to read the [expectations document](#).

SUNDAY SCHOOL & CONFIRMATION BEGIN IN-PERSON

We will kick off on-site activities for children and youth on Sunday, September 12. In preparation, we are hoping to gather some information from everyone. All families who plan to have young ones join faith formation activities are encouraged to fill out both the [Student Information Form](#) and the [Adult Information Form](#). Contact Deacon David (612-729-8358 ext. 19 or drojasmartinez@htlcmpls.org) with questions.

NEW SCHEDULE FOR WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

The schedule for September-October is now live. You can login to your Ministry Scheduler Pro account and request dates and times to help. ***Beginning August 30, the office will assign people for all remaining positions.*** If you were active as a communion assistant, you may want to consider signing up to usher while we continue to use pre-packaged communion cups. Call the office to be added to the usher list.

MIGIZI OPEN HOUSE

All are welcome at Migizi's open house on September 23, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. They will be celebrating the achievements of their young leaders from the past year and the 13+ years of work from John Gwinn as he departs from Migizi. Come enjoy a meal and get to know one another. No RSVP needed. Migizi is located at 2610 E. 32nd St., Minneapolis.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA GATHERING OCTOBER 2

The women of Bethlehem Lutheran Twin Cities are excited to host the WELCA Gathering October 2. The plan is to have time to be together and share time with other women in the Minneapolis Area Synod. Pastor Bonnie Wilcox of First Lutheran will lead the Bible study using verses from Hebrews 10:22-25. The afternoon keynote panel will hear about the diversity of and how different women are affected by their ethnicity. Learn how you can help others feel loved. Cost is \$50; scholarships are available.

For more information, contact Marie Wiegert (612-724-3017).

YOUTH CHOIRS BEGIN REHEARSALS SEPTEMBER 15

Children's Choir (grades 1-4) will rehearse outdoors (weather permitting on Wednesdays from 6:00 to 6:45 p.m. *Cantate!* Youth Ensemble (grades 5-8) will rehearse on Wednesdays from 6:45 to 7:30 p.m. (mostly outdoors, weather permitting). To provide a safe singing experience, face masks are required for singing activities. If you're interested in joining the choir for the first time, contact Ann Schrooten (612-309-9583 or aschrooten@htlcmpls.org).

ADULT CHOIRS BEGIN REHEARSALS SEPTEMBER 8

Rehearsals begin Wednesday, September 8, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Trinity Singers and Adult Choir will be combined. To provide a safe singing experience, face masks are required for singing activities. Contact David Sims (dsims@htlcmpls.org) if you wish to join the choir.

TELL CONGRESS TO SUPPORT A CLEAN ENERGY STANDARD

Please call Sen Klobuchar (202-224-3244), Rep Phillips (202-225-2871) and Rep Craig (202-225-2271), and ask them to support Sen Tina Smith's initiative to ensure we'll have 100% Clean Energy by 2025. More information about her initiative is located [here](#) The Caring for Creation Team is working with MN InterFaith Power and Light to promote this initiative to address better care of our creation.

TRANSITION STAGE: A COMMUNITY HEALING ART PROJECT

Prior to the worship service on Wednesday, August 25, you can stop and share your hopes for the neighborhood at 2612 E. Lake Street at 5:00 p.m. Dakota artist Angela Two Stars is helping to nurture our community's shared vision by weaving laments and hopes for the neighborhood into an art piece that will be installed at the same location later this summer.



PARISH EVENTS AUGUST 29-SEPTEMBER 4

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| Sunday | 8:45 am | Worship Service of Holy Communion |
| | 10:00 am | Adult Forum (Bartsch Room) |
| | 11:00 am | Worship Service of Holy Communion |
| | 2:00 pm | Swahili Service |
| Tuesday | 11:00 am | Worship Readings Discussion |
| Thursday | 6:45 pm | Big Meeting Night |

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR AUGUST 29, 2021

| <u>8:45 AM</u> | | <u>11:00 AM</u> |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Angela Khabeb | Preacher | Angela Khabeb |
| Angela Khabeb | Presiding Minister | Angela Khabeb |
| Needed | Crucifer | Needed |
| Rick Liedholm | Assisting Minister | Margaret Kelly |
| Chris Engen | Ushers | Needed |
| Chris Engen, Needed | Counters | Needed |
| | Closer | Needed |