



# **My Promise, My Faith Workshop Welcome Packet**

July 12, 2020

Thank you for joining **Epiphany Lutheran Church**  
in **Burtonsville, Maryland** for this inaugural workshop!

## **Goals for the Workshop**

We are offering this workshop to help Girl Scouts across the country earn their My Promise, My Faith pin. Whether you are Christian (Lutheran or another denomination), another faith, or you do not identify with any particular faith tradition, we hope you will use this workshop as a launch pad to discuss what you believe and how those beliefs relate to the Girl Scout Law.

## **Who We Are**

Epiphany Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). More information on Epiphany can be found at [www.elcserves.org](http://www.elcserves.org)

What we believe:

- We believe strongly that all persons have valuable stories and infinite worth.
- We seek to ensure that the **WHOLE** Body of Christ receives nourishment: the nourishment of food, and of love, and of welcome, and of support, and of respect.
- As members of Epiphany Lutheran Church, we welcome you regardless of gender identity, sexual orientation, race, culture, addictions, physical or mental health, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, or anything that too often divides us. Everyone who gathers here is expected and encouraged to share in the sacramental and general life of this congregation. We pledge to ourselves and to all others that we will strive to live as a reconciling people, in our life together and in our outreach to the world.

Your hosts for the event are **Jennifer Slagle Peck**, Girl Scout Leader in the Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital, and **Pastor David Slagle Peck** of Epiphany Lutheran Church. Our special guest is **Bishop Leila Ortiz** of the Metropolitan DC Synod of the ELCA. See bios below for more information.

## **What to do Before the Workshop**

1. Print the following materials:
  - a. **The Welcome Packet** (this document)
  - b. **My Promise, My Faith Booklet** (suggest stapling along the left side either before or after the workshop; can print two pages to a page to make it half size)
  - c. **My Promise, My Faith Worksheets** (these will be used with the booklet and with the swap activity; suggest printing on different color paper if you have it)
2. Read Bio of Bishop Leila Ortiz (see below) and, if your scout would like, submit a question for Bishop Ortiz by emailing Jennifer at [jaslagle@gmail.com](mailto:jaslagle@gmail.com). Please include your scout's first name, scout level and troop number, and which Girl Scout Council you are from. A varied selection of questions will be posed to Bishop Ortiz during the workshop.
3. Gather materials that will be needed during the workshop.
  - a. Scissors
  - b. Glue stick (or other glue to add information to your booklet)
  - c. Writing utensils
  - d. You can join us in making a swap in one of the following ways (or do more than one!):
    - i. **Safety Pin Swap** – large safety pin, three pony beads (or any beads that will fit on a safety pin), piece of paper to write a short message or picture to include on your safety pin.
    - ii. **Bracelet** – piece of string or yarn that will fit around your wrist, three pony beads (or any beads that you like!).
    - iii. **Friendship Rocks** – three rocks, supplies to paint your rocks.
4. Review and agree to the terms of the Girl Scout “Parental Permission Single Activity Form” available at [www.gscnc.org](http://www.gscnc.org).<sup>1</sup> Your participation in the workshop is an acknowledgement of parental permission to attend.

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<sup>1</sup> The direct link to the form: [https://www.gscnc.org/content/dam/girlscouts-gscnc/documents/Frequently%20Accessed%20Forms/1\\_Parental\\_Permission\\_Single\\_Activity\\_Form.pdf](https://www.gscnc.org/content/dam/girlscouts-gscnc/documents/Frequently%20Accessed%20Forms/1_Parental_Permission_Single_Activity_Form.pdf)

## **Agenda for July 12, 2020**

**10:30 am (Eastern)** – Join us for our “Kitchen Table Gathering” worship service on Facebook Live. Wear your uniform, and if you would like, take a picture of yourself participating in the service/workshop to Jennifer at: [jaslagle@gmail.com](mailto:jaslagle@gmail.com). Link to the bulletin and Facebook Live video available at: [www.elcserves.org/services-3](http://www.elcserves.org/services-3)

### **Questions to discuss with your family after the service (discuss any or all):**

- What does it mean to “respect myself and others”?
- What does your faith tradition say about respecting ourselves and others?
- If you have attended other worship services before, how was the Kitchen Table Gathering like other worship services you have attended? How was it different?
- Was there anything said that resonated with you? What? Why?
- Was there anything said that you disagree with? What? Why?

**11:45 am (Eastern)** – Join us via Zoom Webinar (where you can submit questions to the hosts via chat) or Facebook Live ([www.facebook.com/elcserves](http://www.facebook.com/elcserves)). At the workshop, we will discuss and complete the steps to earn your My Promise, My Faith pin and will:

- Talk about the connection between Christianity and the part of the Girl Scout Law that calls us to “respect myself and others.”
- Work through the My Promise, My Faith Booklet.
- Make a swap.
- Interview Bishop Leila Ortiz of the Metropolitan DC Synod of the ELCA.

## **What to do After the Workshop**

THANK YOU for participating in this inaugural event! We hope you had fun and that this leads to good conversation with your family. Additional steps to take:

1. **Talk about what you learned** and complete the My Promise, My Faith Booklet (see certificate of completion on the last page).
2. **Fill out our Google form survey** (link provided at the event) so we can send you a fun patch! Given the overwhelming response to this event, we need to ask you to fill out this one last form to help us manage the distribution of fun patches. We appreciate your understanding in that regard. Fun patches will arrive later this summer depending on volume and shipping speeds.
  - a. We have had some people ask if they can contribute funds to help us cover the cost of the fun patches and shipping. Thank you for asking! This is by no means required, but if you would like to contribute, you can donate via PayPal at <https://www.elcserves.org/giving/> or you can mail a check to the church (Epiphany Lutheran Church, 14411 Old Columbia Pike, Burtonsville, MD 20866). Donations to the church are tax-deductible 501(c)(3) donations.
3. If you would like, **send us a picture** of yourself / your scout attending the workshop! Sending us a picture gives us permission to use it for future Girl Scout events like this one.
4. If you would like, you can **order your My Promise, My Faith pin** at the Girl Scout Shop ([www.girlscoutshop.com](http://www.girlscoutshop.com)).

## **Bishop Leila Ortiz**



The Rev. Leila M. Ortiz is a pastor and theologian in The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and serves as the Bishop of The Metropolitan Washington D.C. Synod since September of 2019. She works alongside pastors, councils, and church members as they discern their call in the church for the sake of the world. Leila joined the synod staff in 2016 as Assistant to the Bishop.

Leila is also a doctoral candidate at United Lutheran Theological Seminary of Pennsylvania with a concentration in Systematic/Contemporary Theology. Her areas of interest are Protestant Latinx Liberation Theologies in the United States and the impact of Latina hermeneutics and spirituality on Lutheran ecclesiology.

Given her particular perspective and call to the church, in the fall of 2012 Leila served as a representative from the United States at The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) Global Theological Consultation in Wittenberg, Germany, to assess Lutheran heritage and the Reformation in defining what it means to be Lutheran in a fast-changing world. She served in this capacity again at the 2016 consultation in Geneva, Switzerland.

Leila is an alumna of the 2015 Lewis Fellowship sponsored by the Lewis Center of Church Leadership of Wesley Theological Seminary. She is also an alumna of A Convocation of Christian Leaders, a series of four gatherings designed for promising young leaders from around the country who seek extended conversation about the theology and practice of leadership in Christian institutions hosted by Leadership Education of Duke Divinity.

## **Jennifer Slagle Peck**

Jennifer Slagle Peck was involved in Girl Scouts as a child and has been a volunteer Girl Scout Leader in the Girl Scout's Council for the Nation's Capital since 2017. She is a full-time attorney, working in consumer finance law for a federal agency. She is also on the Synod Council for the Metropolitan DC Synod of the ELCA and is a registered yoga teacher.

## **Rev. David Slagle Peck**

Pastor Dave Slagle Peck has served as pastor of Epiphany since 2014. He attended the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg (now United Seminary), spending a year studying in Washington, DC through the ecumenical Washington Consortium and interned outside of Sioux Falls, SD. He also serves as the chair of the worship team for the Metropolitan Washington, DC Synod and is a member of the board of directors of Greater DC Diaper Bank.

## **Mission & Vision of the ELCA**

### **Our mission**

Together in Jesus Christ we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly and serve joyfully.

### **Our vision**

A world experiencing the difference God's grace and love in Christ makes for all people and creation.

### **Our values**

Our values are grounded in faith, in our biblical and Lutheran confessional sources and our love of God and neighbor. They speak to the way this church lives and practices our faith, and they will guide how we journey forward in Christ as church together.

**Forgiveness and reconciliation** – We are reconciled to God by God's forgiving mercy. Forgiveness and reconciliation flow from what God has made us to be in Jesus Christ and what God is doing with us in the world. As a people of God, we embody forgiveness in speech, action and relationships, and our ministry in reconciliation is foundational.

**Dignity, compassion and justice** – Each person is created in God's image. We respect this God-given right to dignity and, inspired by the life of Jesus, show love and compassion for all people. Through proclamation of the gospel, through worship and as servants of God working for healing and justice in the world, we uphold and seek to protect the dignity and human rights of all people.

**Inclusion and diversity** – As Christ's church, we value the richness of God's creation and offer a radical welcome to all people, appreciating our common humanity and our differences. We are a church that does not view diversity as a barrier to unity. We recognize and will challenge dynamics of power and privilege that create barriers to participation and equity in this church and society – for women, people of color, minority ethnic groups, people with disabilities, people who are marginalized or living in poverty, and the LGBTQ community.

**Courage and openness to change** – Because we trust in God's promise and understand faith to be a living, daring confidence in God's grace, we are emboldened to embrace learning and change in our spiritual and institutional journey as church. This means we are open to new ways and willing to take risks to discover God's plan for this church.

**Faithful stewardship of God's creation and gifts** – As church together, faithful stewardship is about holding to God's purpose and ensuring the responsibilities and resources that God has entrusted to us are used with great care and with accountability to God, to each other and those served by this church.

For more information on the ELCA and to search for a congregation near you, visit: [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org) (click on "Find a Congregation" in the upper right corner). You can also learn more about Reconciling in Christ at [www.reconcilingworks.org](http://www.reconcilingworks.org).