



My Promise, My Faith Workshop

Welcome Packet

March 14, 2021

Goals for the Workshop

Thank you for joining **Epiphany Lutheran Church**
in **Burtonsville, Maryland** for our second annual Girl Scout Sunday!

We are offering this celebration and 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. More information on Epiphany can be found at 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 guests are **Rebekah Bruesehoff** and **Jamie Bruesehoff**.

For more information on the ELCA or to search for a congregation near you, visit: www.elca.org (click on “Find a Congregation” in the upper right corner).

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)
 - c. My Promise, My Faith Worksheets

2. Read Bio of **Rebekah Bruesehoff** and **Jamie Bruesehoff** (see below) and check out any of these videos or articles about Rebekah and Jamie:
 - a. TIME for Kids article, “Meet an Activist,” February 19, 2021:
<http://bit.ly/2NmvTWO>
 - b. Jamie and Rebekah speaking to 31,000 people at the ELCA Youth Gathering, July 2018: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=16v4H70hqRk>
 - c. Marvel Hero Project, Season 1, Episode 5, “Mighty Rebekah” (on Disney+):
<https://www.rebekahbruesehoff.com/marvel>
 - d. Rebekah’s Website: <https://www.rebekahbruesehoff.com/>
 - e. Jamie’s Website: <https://www.jamiebruesehoff.com/>

3. If you would like, submit a question for Rebekah and/or Jamie by emailing Jennifer at jaslagle@gmail.com. Please include your name, scout level and troop number, and which Girl Scout Council you are from. A varied selection of questions will be posed to Rebekah and Jamie during the workshop.

4. Gather materials:
 - a. Scissors
 - b. Glue stick (or other glue to add information to your booklet)
 - c. Writing utensils
 - d. Superhero Project Options:
 - i. **Popsicle Stick Superhero (Daisies/Brownies)**– use popsicle stick(s), construction/colored paper, and markers to create your own superhero.
 - ii. **Superhero Rocks (any age)**– design your own superhero logo and paint it on a rock.
 - iii. **Superhero Comic Strips (Brownies and up)** – use the worksheets to make your own comic starring yourself as a superhero.

5. Review and agree to the terms of the Girl Scout “Parental Permission Single Activity Form” available at: <https://bit.ly/3tWkiUP>

Agenda for March 14, 2021

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. Link to the bulletin and Facebook Live video available at: www.elcserver.org/services-3

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

- What does it mean to “be courageous and strong”?
- What does your faith tradition say about being courageous and strong?
- How was the Kitchen Table Gathering like other worship services you have attended before? How was it different?
- Was there anything said that resonated with you? What? Why?
- Was there anything said that you disagree with? What? Why?

12:00 pm (Eastern) – Join us via Facebook Live to discuss and complete the steps to earn your My Promise, My Faith Pin. We will:

- Talk about the connection between Christianity and the part of the Girl Scout Law that calls us to “be courageous and strong”;
- Work through the My Promise, My Faith Booklet;
- Interview Rebekah Bruesehoff and Jamie Bruesehoff; and
- Do a superhero project.

What to do After the Workshop

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

1. **Certificate:** Talk about what you learned and complete the My Promise, My Faith Booklet (see certificate of completion on the last page).
2. **Survey and Fun Patch:** Fill out our google form survey (link provided at the event) so we can send you a fun patch! We will send fun patches to the first 300 scouts who fill out the survey.
3. **Pictures:** 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.
4. **Order your Pin:** If you would like, you can order your My Promise, My Faith Pin at the Girl Scout Shop (www.girlscoutshop.com). Note that there is a pin for each year of Girl Scouting, so you should look for your scouting level and your year within that level (e.g., Brownie year 1 pin or Brownie year 2 pin, etc.)

Speaker Biographies

Rebekah Bruesehoff (she/her) is a fourteen-year-old transgender youth activist. In 2018, she was the first openly transgender person to speak at an ELCA Youth Gathering in front of 31,000 youth and adults. She continues to boldly proclaim that God does not make mistakes while striving for a more inclusive church. Rebekah is a member of Marvel's Hero Project, a series streaming on Disney+. She was immortalized in her very own comic, the Mighty Rebekah, making her one of Marvel's first transgender superheroes. Rebekah is also a Champion with the GenderCool Project where she works with Fortune 500 companies to create a workplace where everyone belongs. Most recently, she was a Top 20 Finalist for Time's Kid of the Year 2020. By being an out and proud transgender young person, Rebekah inspires people of all ages and identities to show up fully as themselves and dare to make the world a better place.



Jamie Bruesehoff (she/her) is an award-winning writer, speaker, and advocate. She is an openly queer woman married to a Lutheran pastor and mom to three spirited children, including a fourteen-year-old transgender daughter, Rebekah. Jamie advocates for LGBTQ+ youth and adults creating opportunities for learning and conversation in schools, churches, workplaces, and beyond. She works for legislative and policy change on a local, state, and federal level. Jamie holds a Masters in Religion from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg and previously worked in outdoor and youth ministry. Whether it's in front of ten people or more than thirty thousand, Jamie shares her experience in a way that touches hearts, changes minds, and inspires positive change.



Jennifer Slagle Peck (she/her) 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.



Pastor Dave Slagle Peck (he/him) 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.