



Dear Parents,

Religious life and our Christian environment are at the core of who we are and what we do at St. Luke's Episcopal School. As our school expands, we need to be intentional and clear about what we are trying to accomplish. Information concerning religious life, chapel, and general communication regarding religious topics can be found under the Episcopal Education and Religious Life sections of the School's website. In addition to these features, starting today, you can also visit the the Religious Life section to view the lessons for upcoming chapel services each week on the University Campus. If there is a guest participant, information about the guest will also be available. Should you have questions about chapel, I encourage you to direct these to Father Ken as he is responsible for our weekly chapel services and religious life and welcomes conversations that will help with communication.

Monday mornings have been and will remain a wonderful time of worship. Students have been and will continue to be expected to attend chapel services, and as has been the custom, parents are always invited to attend and worship with us as well. Each day, including chapel days, ask your child about what he/she learned and discuss the day's events. Your child only goes through school once, and as parents, we can walk through the school years with our children. Don't miss the once in a lifetime opportunity that we are granted with our children each day.

With regard to a visiting group or speaker, appropriate lines of authorization must be followed. When any organization or class invites a speaker to our school, appropriate administrative approval must be granted. Relative to religious instruction, or groups that have a religious nature, this would also include the Chaplain/Rector. Internal school groups that meet regarding religious topics also need to follow similar processes. As with any organization within the school, a school sponsor is a necessary component of the group. This sponsor should make certain that groups are congruent with the understandings of our school as a mission of St. Luke's Episcopal Church.

At this time there are no plans to offer a Bible class or comparative/world religion class. Discussions about an elective courses are on-going as we continue to unveil our upper school curriculum. These potential elective courses would be treated with the same rigor and structure as other academic, credit bearing courses with all college prep and NCAA considerations.

I hope this letter finds you well and clarifies some questions that have arisen. We are having a tremendous year, and we continue to expect great things. I hope to see many of you at the Robotics competition tomorrow morning at the Mitchell Center. Please see the web for more details. Have a great weekend. Thank you for your trust and support.

Sincerely,

Palmer