

## **Maureen Ebenhoh approved profile**

**An SFX parishioner since:** 2007. We joined the parish when we were looking for a place to help our kids learn about God. A friend told us about the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program at SFX, which she described as a way to invite children to “fall in love with God.” That sounded beautiful to us and was something we wanted to share with our kids. So, my husband, Dave, and I joined with our daughter, Grace, who was two at the time. Our son, Jonah, arrived in our family and the parish in 2009.

**Living my faith:** When we were newly married, Dave and I helped with the Marriage Prep program and continued this work after we joined the parish. I also served on the Antiracism Team for a few years as it formed and began its work. Most recently, I helped create and began leading the 7<sup>th</sup> grade Religious Education Ephesians program. You may see me most Sundays at the 10:30 Mass in my blue Ephesians t-shirt with “How Wide, How Long, How Deep” on the back, reflecting our guiding scripture and prayer for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade year: Ephesians 3:16-18.

**Why I’m involved:** My faith has ebbed and flowed through some dry times and some rich times. The parish has been a steady presence for my kids when I was struggling with my faith. It’s been amazing to watch them grow here, from being the littlest ones in our arms, then the tiny ones coming back from Atrium time during Mass, ready for hugs, all the way to proclaiming readings at Mass as teens. College Church has also been a place where I have felt God stir in my heart during Mass, homilies and music when I needed it. I’ve felt God’s patient presence while I’ve grown, and have recognized the invitation to be a partner in God’s unfolding work in this community. I consider my time with the 7<sup>th</sup> graders and my Ephesians team to be sacred work: proclaiming each week that we are loved by God no matter what.

**Three words that describe SFX:** Steady, Inspired, Growing

**My neighborhood:** I live in the Franz Park neighborhood of St. Louis City. Our home is literally on the city-county line of the City and Maplewood. I love the old homes and big trees in our neighborhood and how close we are to so many fun places around Maplewood and Forest Park.

**Fun facts:** I’ve been a speech-language pathologist for 22 years. I love helping little ones (and some big ones) communicate and find more ease and connection in their lives. Outside of work, I’ve tried some adventurous things like skydiving, rappelling, backpacking and rafting. While those activities were amazing, my favorite things are long conversations with dear friends, time with my family, watercolor painting, curling up with a book, cooking and soaking in the smell of trees and flowers on hikes.