



Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Elisabeth von Trapp to Perform in Five-City ‘Concert of Caring’ Tour, Benefiting LSSI’s Services for People in Need**

Elisabeth von Trapp, whose family was immortalized in *The Sound of Music*, will perform in a five-city concert tour between October 21 and October 25. The “Concerts of Caring,” to be held at five churches in different regions of the state, will benefit Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI), which serves children, families and adults of all ages, including seniors.

Participating churches include: Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Downers Grove, located at 4501 Main Street, on Wednesday, Oct. 21; First Lutheran Church in Rockford, located at 225 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, on Thursday, Oct. 22; First Lutheran Church in Moline, located at 1230 5th Avenue, on Friday, Oct. 23; St. John’s Lutheran Church in Springfield, located at 2477 W. Washington Street, on Saturday, Oct. 24; and Epiphany Lutheran Church in Carbondale, located at 1501 W. Chautauqua Street, on Sunday, Oct. 25. The concerts, which all begin at 7:00 p.m., will conclude with a reception offering light refreshments and an opportunity to meet Ms. von Trapp. Tickets cost \$15 per person. (A concert schedule, including information on where to purchase tickets, is available as a download on the homepage of [www.LSSI.org](http://www.LSSI.org).)

“This concert tour is about bringing the joy of Elisabeth von Trapp’s music and the story of the caring mission of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois across our state. We are pleased to have these five congregations hosting our Concerts of Caring, showcasing the talents of this remarkable artist,” says the Rev. Dr. Denver Bitner, president of LSSI.

Born and raised in Vermont, Elisabeth is the granddaughter of the legendary Maria and Baron von Trapp, whose story inspired *The Sound of Music*. Singing professionally since childhood, Elisabeth has enthralled audiences all over the world, in venues including European cathedrals to Washington D.C.’s Kennedy Center.

Inspired by her father Werner von Trapp’s guitar playing and singing, Elisabeth has carried on the legacy of the internationally renowned Trapp Family Singers. She began taking piano lessons

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when she was eight, and by the age of 16, she was playing guitar and traveling the back roads of New England performing with her siblings at weddings, gospel meetings and town halls.

Building on her famed family’s passion for music, Elisabeth has created her own artistic style, at once ethereal and earthy, delicate and powerful. Listeners have likened her to Judy Collins and Loreena McKennitt. Critics have called her voice “hauntingly clear,” “joyfully expressive” and “simply beautiful.”

Elisabeth’s concert repertoire ranges from Bach to Broadway ... Schubert to Sting. With equal ease and eloquence she sings timeless wonders like Rodgers and Hammerstein’s *Favorite Things* and *Edelweiss*, *Lieder* by Mozart, *O Mio Babbino Caro* by Puccini, soaring gospel tunes, pop classics like *A Whiter Shade of Pale* and her own stunning compositions. Her music has been featured on National Public Radio, BBC-Radio, Japanese National Radio and CNN Spanish Radio. She has appeared on CBS’s *Eye on People*, ABC’s *Good Morning America* and BBC-TV.

For more information, contact Theresa Coglianese at 847/635-4672 or at [Theresa.Coglianese@LSSI.org](mailto:Theresa.Coglianese@LSSI.org). For more information about Lutheran Social Services of Illinois, visit [www.LSSI.org](http://www.LSSI.org).

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### **About Lutheran Social Services of Illinois**

Founded in 1867, Lutheran Social Services of Illinois is a statewide, not-for-profit social service agency of the three Illinois synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. For more information on Lutheran Social Services of Illinois, visit [www.LSSI.org](http://www.LSSI.org).