



**Church of the
Incarnation**

United Methodist

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A Message from Church of the Incarnation United Methodist

On the 330 W. Golf Road Senior Housing Project

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On behalf of Church of the Incarnation United Methodist, we want to thank the Arlington Heights Village Board of Trustees, Village staff, and everyone who attended or shared feedback during the August 3 Early Review of our proposed affordable senior housing project. We heard real, thoughtful questions from trustees and neighbors alike, and we take them seriously. The Early Review exists precisely so we can listen before committing further time and design work to this project, and we're grateful for that opportunity.

Several themes came through clearly, and we want to speak to each in plain terms.

On building height and closeness to neighboring homes, one of the most significant questions before us is the building's height and its proximity to neighboring homes. We expect the design to evolve as we listen to feedback and continue refining the proposal. Part of why the current concept takes the shape it does is a real trade-off we've been wrestling with: building taller lets us preserve more of the campus as open space rather than paving over it. Our church property has long served as a shared community green space, providing walking paths, open lawns, and quiet areas for reflection. Preserving as much of that natural space as possible is important to us and, based on the feedback we've heard, important to many of our neighbors as well.

We also want to clarify a point that has recently begun to appear in public discussion. Several comments have referenced a "23-foot setback" along the west side of the property. That figure reflects the distance to the site plan's improvement boundary, not the final distance from the proposed building itself to the property line. The building face and screening improvements are set back farther still. The appropriate buffering and relationship to adjacent homes remain important design questions, and we will continue working through them as the Village process moves forward.



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On buffering and privacy for the homes around our property, protecting our neighbors' quality of life has been part of this project's intent from day one, and we're actively strengthening it further with the Village.

On parking, we see this as a legitimate, well-precedented planning question that comparable local projects have worked through before us, and we're committed to resolving it transparently.

On site access, we're working through these details directly with Village engineering staff as routine design refinement.

On the number of homes proposed, this project has already been meaningfully scaled back once, at the Village's own direction, which we see as evidence of a process that listens.

On outreach to our neighbors, direct conversations with the families who border our property are among our next steps, and we're approaching those conversations to listen first, not to persuade.

On who will live here, state law doesn't allow us to restrict these homes to current residents only, but every senior who moves in becomes a full neighbor with the same stake in this community as anyone else.

On how the property is structured, our land remains under long-term lease rather than sale, and we're glad to walk anyone through exactly how that works.

And on our church's own future, our ministry isn't going anywhere. We stand within a wider denomination that supports congregations doing exactly this kind of work, and this project adds to what we do for our senior neighbors; it doesn't replace it.

We don't expect this statement to answer every concern, and we don't intend it to. What we do intend is this: we will keep listening, we will keep softening this project's impact on the people who live around us at every step, and if you call us, write to us, or stop one of us after service, you will hear back from us promptly, every time.

We look forward to the conversations ahead.

— **Church of the Incarnation United Methodist**

