

April 2017

KEEPING IN TOUCH

NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. PAUL LUTHERAN AND ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Church Staff

The Rev. Penni Walsh
Interim Lutheran Pastor

The Rev. Don Sutton
Roman Catholic Pastor

Mark Alan Filbert
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You are invited to Holy Week at St. Paul

Thursday, April 13
Maundy Thursday liturgy • 7pm

Friday, April 14
Good Friday liturgy • 7 pm

Saturday, April 15
Easter Vigil • 8-10pm

Sunday, April 16
**Easter Sunday worship
8:30 am and 10:30am**



Our Mission

Saint Paul Community of Faith is an open, affirming and diverse community of faith representing two Christian traditions, that of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and that of the Roman Catholic Church.

Each tradition maintains and honors its own heritage, and each worships according to

its own liturgical practices. As one community of faith, the members of the respective traditions work together in social outreach and shared hospitality. Together, we rejoice in the manner in which diversity has enriched, nurtured and challenged the life and ministry we share in Christ and regret actions and attitudes

throughout the Church that may have inhibited or prevented access to Word and Sacrament because of age, race, socio-economic or marital status, physical or mental capacities, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

We are a Reconciling in Christ Community.

Pastor's Updates: Transition Work is Underway

We have now moved into the true transition process with the appointment of our Transition Team: Joe Rodrick, Ron Hoffman, Mary Fulton, Judy Marxhausen, Bobbie Hobbs, Don Sutton, Jeff Parrot and me. The team is meeting every Tuesday at 5 pm. If you have any input you would like to share, please talk to anyone on the team.

From the Office of the Bishop:

The major goal of the Transition Team is to discover a new and deepened sense of identity and purpose for the congregation. This team allows the Congregational Council to focus on continuing to support the ministries of the congregation and the regular business of the church. Other purposes of the transition team are:

- To help congregational members grieve after the loss of their pastor and to gain perspective on the chapter of congregational life that has now ended.
- To gather the feelings and ideas of both members of the congregation and people living in the surrounding community about their church.

The team has begun doing some one-on-

one interviews with former members. These interviews will be summarized and shared with the congregation.

- To provide a forum for sharing and focusing hopes and aspirations for the future.
- To help the congregation move from a preoccupation with the past to a state of readiness for a new chapter in its life under the leadership of a new pastor.
- To involve the congregation in accomplishing the developmental tasks of the intentional interim period:
 - Coming to terms with history
 - Discovering a new identity
 - Managing shifts in leadership
 - Strengthening our sense of being church together
 - Committing to our future and new leadership

This is an exciting time and the Team will need everyone's input and participation. We will be holding regular congregational meetings after worship. The first one will be April 2 at noon, and we will plan hearty foods for fellowship.

Congregational Council Check List

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept pastor's letter of resignation and notify the congregation in writing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of the Bishop will recommend an intentional interim pastor | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of the Bishop mails official call documents to Council President |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contact the Office of the Bishop to set up an exit interview | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agree on recommended interim pastor and compensation package | <input type="checkbox"/> Contact Office of the Bishop for a synod representative to be present at the congregation vote |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schedule a farewell event for pastor | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Welcome interim pastor | <input type="checkbox"/> Immediately contact candidate with results of the congregational vote |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Congregational Council and pastor fulfill all obligations | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Select a Transition Team | <input type="checkbox"/> Mail signed call papers to the Office of the Bishop |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council facilitates an internal review of Parochial Records | <input type="checkbox"/> Support the work of the Transition Team during the self-study process | <input type="checkbox"/> Receive acceptance/rejection of call from candidate |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certification of financial records and obligations between pastor and congregation | <input type="checkbox"/> Elect/Appoint Call Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Upon acceptance of a call, contact Office of the Bishop to set up a date/time for installation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clarify new relationship with departing pastor, complete Letter of Agreement, notify congregation | <input type="checkbox"/> Install Call committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule Healthy Congregations workshop |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conduct an exit interview with pastor and the Office of the Bishop | <input type="checkbox"/> Receive name of primary candidate from Call Committee | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meet with the Office of the Bishop to talk about transition | <input type="checkbox"/> Call Committee Chair, Council President and candidate discuss and agree on compensation package | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Council votes to accept candidate (2/3 majority) | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Set date for congregational vote with at least two weeks' written notice to members | |

Done Not done due to illness



Holy Seed, Holy Ground Stewardship at St. Paul

Do you remember the first time you planted a garden? Of course you do. No doubt when you were a tad of five or six your kindergarten teacher gave you a paper cup, a bit of potting soil and a big fat bean. With great care and expectation you pushed your bean into the moist dirt and waited impatiently for results. Remember the thrill of seeing that first bit of green peeping through the layer of soil? Remember the watering and watching as you lived out the incredible thrill of being a partner in creation?

Some of us are still gardeners. Planting, plowing, reaping, we carry out God's plan for the care of the earth. But gardeners or not, we treasure the growing things all around us.

And yet, the kindergarten miracle remains the most precious. To stand there with those big fat beans in your hands; to plant them ever so carefully in the rich dark soil; and then to water and watch as the miracle of growth begins. To be so small, and to be part of making something happen was truly glorious.

It was vital to the kindergarten miracle that we

started with good soil. Here in this place — at St. Paul Lutheran and Roman Catholic Community of Faith — we have exactly that kind of soil. This place, this parish, provides a connection to the God who blesses our comings and goings — our work and our play. Here there is Holy Soil in which we can plant our precious “seeds” — seeds of time, talent and treasure.

The season of Spring will soon be upon us. The time for planting is almost here! As you take into account the number and kind of Holy Seeds you hold in your hands, we ask that you thoughtfully consider how many seeds you can plant in this place, and how much energy you can devote to their nurture and care.

Of course, the “beans” you now hold are really money . . . prayer time . . . spare time . . . and the abilities you possess to serve with and for others. You will soon receive a pledge card which will provide you with the means to indicate your intentions regarding the God-given gifts you possess. How much of your blessed bounty will you give back? What are the gifts you will choose to share here . . . on this Holy Ground?

Gracious God, we come to your altar with gifts of heart and soul. Fill us with your love, so that our lives might bear the fruit of your Word, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

MUSIC AT SAINT PAUL

Saint Paul Choir Welcomes Easter Singers

Calling all singers! Do you like to sing but feel you cannot commit regularly to the Saint Paul Choir? Then why not become a "seasonal singer," and sing with the choir during part or all of HOLY WEEK, including Passion Sunday, 9 April (10:30 am liturgy); Maundy Thursday, 13 April (7:00 pm liturgy); and/or Easter Sunday, 16 April (10:30 am liturgy)? If you would like to do so, please contact Mark at mark@stpauldenver.org or 720.274.4708, and plan to join us for the Saturday morning dress rehearsal on 15 April (9:00 am-11:00 am), in addition to at least two of the following Thursday evening rehearsals: 23 March, 30 March, 6 April (7:00-9:00 pm). You'll be glad you did!

On Sunday, April 2, at 3:00 pm, the **Saint Martin's Chamber Choir**, led by Artistic Director Timothy Krueger, will perform a program entitled Forsaken, featuring the eighteen Tenebrae Responses of the Spanish Renaissance composer Tomás Luis de Victoria. Visit www.stmartinchamberchoir.org for more information.

On Friday, April 28, at 7:30 pm, **Ars Nova Singers** will perform Rachmaninoff: The Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, Op. 31.

Upcoming Events

Stewardship effort kick-off Sunday, April 30

Spring Clean-up Day

Saturday, April 8, 9am-1pm
Lunch provided



Bring some Pledge, a couple of rags, and a lot of elbow grease.

Doors Open Denver

St. Paul will welcome our neighbors into the church on April 29 and 30.

From the Doors Open Denver website:

Doors Open Denver is an annual two-day event that provides opportunities for residents and visitors to explore our city, creating meaningful connections to the built environment. Each spring, the Denver Architectural Foundation inspires the community to connect through self-guided or expert-guided (fee-based) tours of our city's



unique spaces, including high-profile, historic, and/or artistic feats of architecture and design. Doors Open Denver tells the story of where Denver is, where it has been, and where it's going.

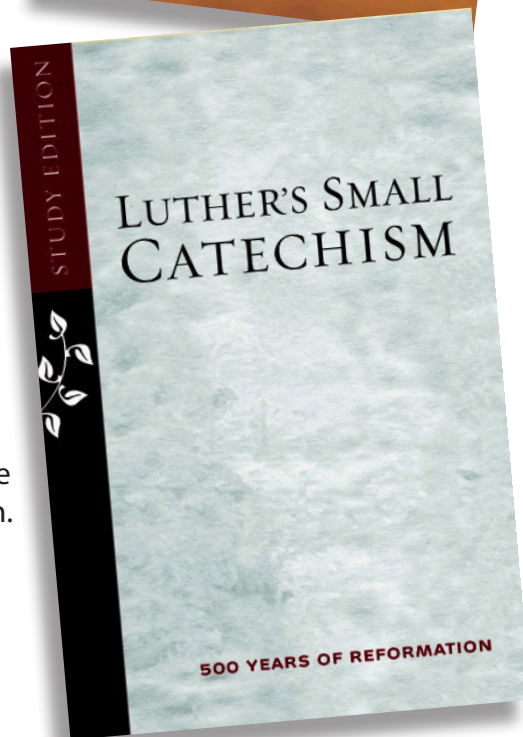
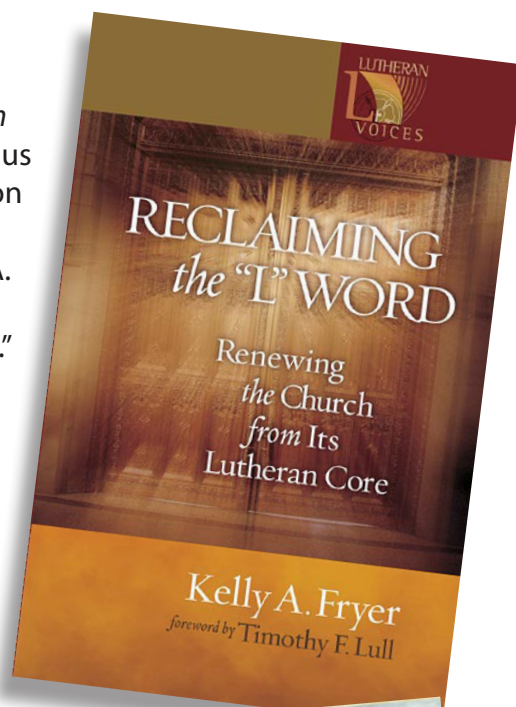
Timely Studies on Lutheranism

Adult Forum in April

We are continuing to work our way through *Reclaiming the L Word: Renewing the Church from its Lutheran Core*. The book asks us to welcome God's transformation of our community. How does this happen? The author, Kelly A. Fryer, says that the Spirit of God creates "an openness to change." If you would like to be a part of this discussion, come on Sundays at 9:15. We will finish the book on April 2 before a break for Palm Sunday and Easter.

During the Easter season Pastor Penni leads a study of Luther's Small Catechism. Some of us bought the new Reformation edition last fall, and many of us have the regular little books. If you don't have one, we'll give you one.

Our Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth Eaton, asks every congregation to study the Catechism in depth this year to mark the anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation. Let's join our Lutheran sisters and brothers all over the nation as we study together what we believe. Begins Sunday, April 23.



METRO CARING

ENDING HUNGER AT ITS ROOT

EST.  1974

Help fill the pantry at Metro Caring

As Denver's leading hunger-prevention organization on the front lines, Metro Caring meets the needs of so many persons who struggle to keep food on the table. Please buy a few extra items when you do your weekly shopping. If each one of us would buy even one or two extra items when doing the weekly shopping, our shelves would be filled to capacity. Some suggested donations are:

- Canned or dry beans
- Peanut butter
- Canned tuna or chicken
- Rice
- Pasta
- Honey
- Olive or canola oil
- Whole grain cereals

You can also support our work by financial contributions or volunteering your time. If you have any questions, talk with Dorothy Stenman, Betty Woolsey or David Stubbs.

Safeway, King Soopers Cards Now Available

Remember to get and use your grocery cards! King Soopers and Safeway are available, see Fr Don or Pastor Penni. Cards can be reloaded at the store, and St. Paul gets a portion of the proceeds.

THEATRE & THEOLOGY



On April 25th, we will see ***Disgraced*** at the Ricketson Theatre. In this “breathtaking, raw and blistering” play, Amir has spent his adulthood downplaying his upbringing to build the perfect life.

But as a high-profile court case and his wife’s Islamic-inspired art show reveal just how little his culture is understood by the people around him, their misconceptions become too much to bear.

The expectation to be true to yourself and to fit into mainstream society collide in this 2013 Pulitzer Prize-winning play. The reservation deadline is April 4th. Tickets cost \$35.00. Make checks payable to The Rocky Mountain Synod. Note on check: T&T – Disgraced – St. Paul. Mail to Dorothy Stenman; 818 Logan Street, #1203; Denver, CO 80203-3125.

Our final play of the season is a beautiful musical adaptation of the much-loved novel ***The Secret Garden*** by Frances Hodgson Burnett. This tale of childhood bereavement and eventual healing takes us from the exotic climes of India to the windswept marshes of Yorkshire, as our young heroine, Mary Lennox, learns to embrace love and friendship in the most unlikely of places.

When she discovers a key buried in her late aunt’s walled garden, she decides to nurse the garden back to life. She meets Dicken, a local boy, who helps her cultivate it. She discovers a long-lost relative with whom a childhood bond is established. The family then finds the path to healing and love.

We will see the play in the Stage Theatre on May 16th at 6:00 PM. Join Pastor Dan Bollman for a talkback with the cast immediately following the performance. The reservation deadline is April 25th. Tickets cost \$35.00 made payable to The Rocky Mountain Synod. Note on check: T&T – The Secret Garden – St. Paul and mail to Dorothy Stenman; 818 Logan Street, #1203; Denver, CO 80203-3125.

Lunch Bunch at the Buckhorn Exchange

The April Lunch Bunch are on their way to the Buckhorn Exchange, Denver’s Oldest Restaurant. They’re gathering on Thursday, April 6th, at 1000 Osage Street at noon. The Buckhorn Exchange has served disreputable and upstanding patrons since the early days of Denver, so there is plenty of room for us among this bunch. If you would like to reserve a place, call Janice Ahrendt at 303 797-7288. See the menu below and get set for a nice slice of headcheese!

The Dutch Lunch

We found in an old menu that the Buckhorn served Dutch Lunch. Many times this included headcheese and scrapple derived from Pennsylvania Dutch cooking. Buckhorn is currently offering the authentic Dutch Lunch, served to cattlemen, railroaders, rogues and tycoons in the early days. It includes:

- Buckhorn famous bean soup
- Platter of bratwurst
- Baby back pork ribs
- Beef brisket
- Baked beans
- Cole slaw

Lunch Bunch Schedule 2017

- April 6** Buckhorn Exchange, 1000 Osage St. Denver
- May 4** Bone Fish Grill, 14770 W. Colfax, Lakewood
- June 1** El Rancho, 29260 U.S. 40, Evergreen
- July 6** Creekside Cellars, 28036 Hwy. 74, Evergreen
- Aug. 3** The Lariat Lodge. 27618 Fireweed Dr., Evergreen
- Sept. 7** Chad’s, 275 Union, Lakewood
- Oct. 5** 240 Union, Lakewood
- Nov. 2** Brio’s 2500 First Ave. Cherry Creek, Denver
- Dec. 7** Briarwood Inn, 1630 Eighth St., Golden



Church Leaders Gather for Lutheran-Catholic Liturgy

Lutheran and Catholic leaders from around the region joined in a Lutheran-Catholic Common Prayer Service led by Bishop James Gonia and Archbishop Samuel Aquila on March 19 at Bethany Lutheran Church in Cherry Hills Village.

Bishop Gonia wrote the following in the Rocky Mountain Synod's newsletter:

This! More of this!

Dear Church,

On Sunday afternoon I participated in the third Lutheran-Roman Catholic Common Prayer services taking place across the Rocky Mountain Synod, one part of our commemoration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. As Lutherans and Catholics gathered together to acknowledge past sins and celebrate our ongoing journey towards unity, I witnessed the Spirit's Re-Forming work in Christ's Church. Dear Church, as I heard Archbishop Aquilla pray "that we may be one," my heart sang "This! More of this!" This is the witness of unity and love our divided world needs to hear. I pray dear Church that as part of the Spirit's Re-Forming work among us, we may find more opportunities to be transformed through prayer and worship together so that we may fully embody God's love for the sake of the world.

— *Bishop James Gonia*



Rocky Mountain Synod World Hunger News

Exciting things are happening in ELCA World Hunger right here in the Rocky Mountain Synod! Download the next issue of [Daily Bread](#) and share with your congregation upcoming opportunities:

ELCA Hunger Ambassadors

Domestic Hunger Grants available to social ministry organizations

[RMS Hunger Campaign: 500 years on the move for hunger](#)

500 Years on the Move for Hunger

Join the Rocky Mountain Synod's Hunger Network and get MOVING in 2017 to commemorate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. The roots of the poverty and justice ministries of our church come directly from the soil of Martin Luther's teachings... especially his concern for the need of our neighbors. From February 1, 2017, through January 31, 2018, we are encouraging congregations to try something NEW this year! Some have already embarked on a new ministry. Others are thinking about what might work for them. What can YOU and your congregation or organization do?

[Find out more](#)

Interfaith Summit on Homelessness



Tue, March 28, 2017
9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Iliff School of Theology
2323 East Iliff Avenue
Denver, CO 80210
Cost: FREE!
Click [HERE](#) to register

We are seeking faith leaders from interfaith congregations across Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas and Jefferson counties interested in learning sustainable ways for their congregation to address homelessness in their community. Whether you are a pastor, rabbi, imam or are tasked with leading a ministry or missions committee, you play a vital part in leadership toward ending homelessness through access to housing. This summit will feature a panel from community and congregational leaders, interactive breakout sessions from community agencies, time for networking and an action plan to equip you with the tools needed to educate, engage and advocate around homelessness in Metro Denver.

We are pleased to bring this summit to you free of charge, supported by the following partners:

- Metro Denver Homeless Initiative
- Iliff School of Theology
- Interfaith Alliance of Colorado
- Colorado Council of Churches
- Close to Home Campaign
- Family Promise of Greater Denver

Our committees need your help

By **Jeff Parrott**, *Council President*

Committees! Is there a scarier word? Some would say that a committee is where a good idea goes to die. Others would say that teamwork divides the task and multiplies the success.

The life and times of St. Paul's in 2017 depends on all of us working together in a more structured environment. We have a great deal to accomplish. Now is the time to consider participating in the renewal of St. Paul by serving as a member of one of the Congregational Council's committees: Property, Education, Evangelism, and Worship.

Each committee chair was challenged in the March Council meeting to add members to committees — to get as much input as possible from as diverse a team as we can. Won't you join us and help to get more done with less effort on any one person's part? Don't simply rely on others to get the work done.

Contact Jeff Parrott at jeffparrott1962@yahoo.com or Lori in the office at office.support@stpauldenver.org for more information.

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

Margaret Mead

APRIL 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 5pm Catholic Mass
2 Lent 5 9am Adult Forum 9:30am Choir 10:30am Lutheran Worship 11:45am Coffee 12 Bell Choir rehearsal 12 Congregational meeting 3pm St Martin's Chamber Choir	3 1-5pm Street Reach 6:30pm Rocky Mountain Ringers Rehearsal	4 5pm Transition Team 6pm Theatre & Theology	5 6pm Lenten Soup and Study	6 7:15pm St Paul Choir rehearsal	7	8 9am-1pm Spring Clean-up Day 5pm Catholic Mass
9 Sunday of the Passion 9:30am Choir 10:30am Lutheran Worship 11:45am Coffee 12 Bell Choir rehearsal	10 1-5pm Street Reach 6:30pm Rocky Mountain Ringers Rehearsal	11 5pm Transition Team 6:30pm Congregational Council meeting	12	13 7pm Maundy Thursday liturgy	14 7pm Good Friday liturgy	15 9am-1pm St. Paul Choir rehearsal 8pm Easter Vigil
16 Easter 8:30am Easter Worship 9:30am Choir 10:30am Easter Festival Worship 11:45am Coffee 12 Bell Choir rehearsal	17 1-5pm Street Reach 6:30pm Rocky Mountain Ringers Rehearsal	18 5pm Transition Team	19	20 7:15pm St Paul Choir rehearsal	21	22 5pm Catholic Mass
23 Easter 2 9am Adult Forum 9:30am Choir 10:30 am Lutheran Worship 11:45am Coffee 12 Bell Choir rehearsal	24 1-5pm Street Reach 6:30pm Rocky Mountain Ringers Rehearsal	25 5pm Transition Team 6pm Theatre & Theology	26	27 7:15pm St Paul Choir rehearsal	28 7:30pm Ars Nova concert	29 9-5 Doors Open Denver 5pm Catholic Mass
30 Easter 3 9am Adult Forum 9-4 Doors Open Denver 9:30am Choir 10:30 am Lutheran Worship 11:45am Coffee 12 Bell Choir rehearsal						