

November 2017

Keeping in Touch

Newsletter of the St. Paul Lutheran and Catholic Community of Faith



Scenes from St. Paul

REFORMATION AND
RECONCILIATION SERVICE

ALL SAINTS' DAY

More Photos: See Pages 8-9



Our Mission

St. Paul Lutheran and Catholic Community of Faith nurtures a diverse people – seeking understanding together – in a welcome and sacred space – actively engaged in service to others.

Who We Are

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 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.

Church Staff

The Rev. Penni Walsh
Interim Lutheran Pastor

Mohamed Jamoum
Sexton

The Rev. Don Sutton
Catholic Pastor

Jeff Parrott
Council President

Deacon Mark Alan Filbert
Cantor

Lori Arias
Administrator

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Pastor's Updates

First, sincere thanks to all who made the Reformation and Reconciliation Service so wonderful. Especially Mark and the musicians: you were superb. But also, Pr Bev Piro for her help with the opening Entrance Rite, which was taken from the service in Lund, Sweden with the Pope last year. It seemed very relevant to our situation. It was a joy to have Pr Bev, Fr Michael, Fr Don and Bishop Jim with us as we commemorated the Reformation. Thanks to Bishop Jim for preaching.

I also want to thank Anna Hanel for her work getting such great PR for us. Because of her connections, Fr Don and I were able to do an interview with Colorado Public Radio on Thursday, Oct. 26, that was rerun several times over the weekend. We also had a reporter from the Denverite at worship who produced a very nice article for us. And Channel 4 posted a report on us on their website. Amazing exposure — now we need to be very aware of our visitors, I think we might get several!

Transition Team Nearly Done

The Transition Team continues with its paperwork, not the most fun task but necessary. It did make a small change to the Mission Statement as a result of our meeting on 10/22. It now reads: St. Paul Lutheran and Catholic Community of Faith nurtures a diverse people – seeking understanding together – in a welcome and sacred space – actively engaged in service to others. For those who want a sentence, just take the spaces out, and it goes together just fine.

The Team hopes to be done with everything in December, and we'll have a thank-you event for them at that time.

The Prayer Vine is up and working, but we do need to hear from you for prayers. Let Lori, me, or Fr Don know and we'll get the prayers going!

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The Directory is getting its last edits and will be out by Thanksgiving.

Street Reach replaced our broken hot water tank and is replacing out Fellowship Hall water fountain.

More thanks to Jeff Parrott for the great outdoor signs. They have been very effective.

The Council will be voting on a Call Committee Nov 14.

Sound System Repairs

The sound system has been adjusted and there is significant improvement, hopefully enough for everyone to finally hear the sermon!! The hearing assisted devices should also be working, but we will be getting upgrades soon. These changes are not what is needed in the long run, but will serve us for now.

Christmas Schedule

Christmas is coming soon. Here is an early outline of upcoming services.

Nov 22 – We are invited to a worship & pie fest at Our Saviors, Emerson & 9th at 7 pm

Dec 13 – We will hold a Santa Lucia Advent coffee and treats evening in conjunction with Messiah at 6:30pm at St. Paul.

Dec 23 – Catholic Mass for 4th Advent followed by decorating for Christmas and pizza

Dec 24

- No morning service
- 4pm Family Worship
- 7pm Festival Eucharist
- 10:30pm music and 11pm Festival Eucharist

Dec 25 – 10:30am worship led by Fr Don, with Pax Christi

Pastor Penni Walsh

Colorado News Media Covers St. Paul

News media in Colorado took an interest in the Reformation observance at St. Paul, one of the few joint Lutheran-Catholic congregations in the country.

Denverite sent a photographer/reporter to the Sunday service. If you're reading this on the computer, [click here](#) for the story and some gorgeous photos. The link is at: <http://bit.ly/2hcPkx7>

Colorado Public Radio interviewed Pastor Penni and Father Don for its Colorado Matters program. [Click here](#) for the interview that aired October 26. Link: <http://bit.ly/2zlt7HR>

And CBS 4 Denver covered the observance online. [Click here](#) for the story. Link: <http://cbsloc.al/2z0ZBHg>



Editor's Note: The November newsletter is late because of the heavy schedule of observances around Reformation and All Saints' Day.

St. Paul Council Highlights for October 2017

Staff and Officer Reports:

Pastor Penni's Report was distributed:

- Prayer Vine is established. Pastor Penni and Father Don will pass along prayer requests.
- Sound System Work with Wave Sound is progressing. It may be possible to aim the speaker above the Chancel to improve sound to the congregation below rather than to the balcony. Mike will investigate that this week. (Subsequent to Council Meeting, Mike did indeed re-aim the speaker with very good results.)
- Microphone Upgrades are still under consideration. There is a low cost, short term option and a replacement option with new equipment. We can perform the system tuning the week in October 23rd in time for Reformation Sunday.
- Picture Directory: postponed for now. We will continue with our directory update.
- Blessing of the Animals: We should continue this as we did get several walk-ins on Sunday and a good number of pets on Saturday.
- Newborns in Need Baby Shower Event: Maryann received a Thrivent Action Team approval to proceed with the kick-off event at Our Savior on Saturday, Nov. 11. We need a couple of volunteers to help. Messiah and Our Savior are invited to the event.
- Tri-Church News: Next meeting will be in January because pastoral changes for all three congregations are in the works. St. Paul was invited to attend Our Savior on Thanksgiving Eve for worship and pie. All three churches are interested in a Santa Lucia Event in December at St. Paul.
- Transition Team / Call Committee: The Transition Team finalized a Vision Statement and has proposed a new name – St. Paul Church: A Lutheran and Catholic Community. We hope to approve names for the Call

Committee by email after the October 22nd church meeting.

- Music at St. Paul: We need a fee structure for groups wishing to rent concert space. After discussion, we approved the following fees:
 - o \$600 – includes the concert event and a rehearsal
 - o \$350 of the fee goes to the concert coordinator
 - o \$250 of the fee goes to St. Paul
- Bylaws and Constitutions for both parts of the St. Paul Community are underway.
- There is an Intent to Spend form for all monies over \$100, which is available from the office and soon on the website.

Father Don's Report:

- The new bylaws for the ECC (Ecumenical Catholic Communion) should be simple and similar to the new Lutheran bylaws. Pax Christi Bylaws might be a guide.
- Members and clergy of local ECC churches will worship with us on Reformation Sunday, as will members of Messiah.

Treasurer's Report postponed till next Council meeting.

Committee Reports:

Building and Grounds:

- The hot water system is broken, and we're getting estimates. Street Reach has offered to help with the costs.
- Columbarium needs repairs. We're getting advice on these repairs as well.

Worship committee had a good meeting with lots of good plans.

Education programs are planned until the end

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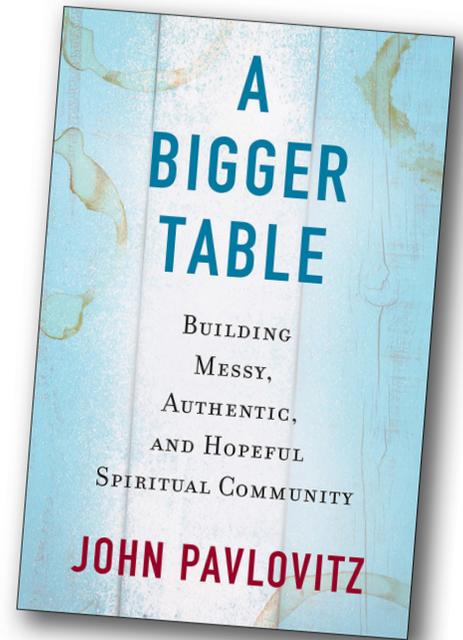
Adult Forum for Autumn A Bigger Table

Pastor John Pavlovitz asks, "How can we extend unconditional welcome and acceptance in a world increasingly marked by bigotry, fear, and exclusion? . . . *A Bigger Table* asks if organized religion can find a new way of continuing the work Jesus began 2000 years ago where everybody gets a seat."

A Bigger Table: Building a Messy, Authentic, and Hopeful Spiritual Community was released on October 6. You may order your copy from Amazon for about \$15.

Father Don and Pastor Penni will begin discussing the book beginning on October 22 and continuing until Advent. It's not necessary to have the book, but order it if you can.

Adult Forum meets every Sunday from 9:15 to 10:15 downstairs. Everyone is welcome.



St. Paul Council Highlights, continued

of the year – A Bigger Table through November and the Lectionary during the three Sundays available in Advent.

Old Business Updates:

- Jeff is working on getting a history grant of \$15,000 from Historic Denver. This would give us money to study the building with an engineer and have a professional appraise the work.
- Monthly parking slots are now filled.
- Outside groups insurance coverage – Street Reach will give us its information.
- Money to safe – Assisting Ministers need to be reminded to take the money down to the safe.

New Business Updates:

- Feasts – Irene will form a committee to look into reviving the Supper Club outings
- A rummage sale will be held, perhaps in the

courtyard in May.

- Epiphany Dinner – Lori Eastman is working on a Fundraiser for the Foundation with a dinner to honor three Wise Women of St. Paul: Dorothy Stenman, Jan Miller, and Denise.
- The semi-annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 10. Lori Eastman will form a nominating committee to find at least one person to replace Mike Wallin, outgoing.
- Moved and seconded that we refer the name St. Paul Church: A Lutheran and Catholic Community to the congregation at the December 10th meeting.

Approved unanimously.

Father Don offered a closing prayer. Our next Council Meeting will be held on November 14.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Maryann O'Brien, Secretary



You Are Invited to a Baby Shower!

When: Saturday, November 11 from 11:00 to 1:00.

Where: Our Savior Lutheran Church, 915 E. 9th Ave.

Why: To benefit the Newborns in Need Program at Denver Health.

What: Bring a new baby item from the following list if you can, and stay for a light lunch to get to know some of the other volunteers and hear more about the project. This is Phase One. Phase Two is a knitting group that will meet at Emerson Gardens to continue contributing baby clothes to Denver Health. St. Paul is inviting everyone from Our Savior's and Messiah, so together we can load up our cars with much-needed donations.

RSVP: Please let your church office know if you are coming, so we will have plenty of food.

Thank you all and if you can't make the kickoff, Denver Health also welcomes case donations! Contact Maryann O'Brien at maryannobrien@comcast.net for more information.

List of Items for the Baby Shower — Must be New

Disposable diapers (size 1)

Baby wipes

Baby wash, lotion

Sleep sacks

Clothing- Onesies, sleepers, outfits (Sizes 3-6 months)

Baby Blankets

Burp Cloths and Bibs

Nursing supplies (nursing pillows, pads, cream, etc.)

Strollers

Convertible car seats

Cribs and crib sheets

Cash donations – Checks made out to St. Paul with "Newborns" in the memo line

THEATRE & THEOLOGY



Theatre & Theology is a special arrangement by the Rocky Mountain Synod and the Denver Center for the Performing Arts to provide reduced price tickets and a theological talk-back after each performance.

A ticket costs \$35 made payable to The Rocky Mountain Synod. Note on check: T&T – St. Paul ELCA. Mail check to Dorothy Stenman; 818 Logan Street - #1203; Denver, CO 80203-3125.

There is a lull in the schedule until late January. Here is a look at the schedule for the rest of the 2017-18 season.

Next Play: Zoey's Perfect Wedding

Disaster after disaster follow one unfortunate bride down the aisle, from brutally honest boozy speeches to a totally incompetent wedding planner. Watch in awe as this wildly funny fiasco destroys her expectations with the realities of commitment, fidelity and growing up.

Performance date: Tuesday, January 30

Reservation deadline: Tuesday, January 9

American Mariachi

Tuesday February 13.
Reserve by January 29.

The Great Leap

Tuesday March 6.
Reserve by February 13.

Native Gardens

Tuesday April 17.
Reserve by March 27.

The Who's Tommy

Tuesday May 1.
Reserve by April 10.

Human Error

Tuesday May 29.
Reserve by May 8.

Synod Seeks People to Accompany Migrant Children

Volunteers are needed for the ELCA Guardian Angel Program for Unaccompanied and Migrant Children.

This program provides spiritual and physical accompaniment of unaccompanied migrant children and families through their immigration court process.

Volunteers will accompany unaccompanied minors and migrant children through the immigration court system. I have signed up to participate. Once enough volunteers sign up, the ELCA office will send someone to train us. Spanish language proficiency is not necessary for all volunteers -

some of us who have signed up do speak Spanish. Pastor Alena Lamirato of the Rocky Mountain Synod is organizing the program for our region. We need five more volunteers to proceed with the training that will be scheduled in early 2018.

Contact Carolyn Swenson for information.



Reformation at St. Paul

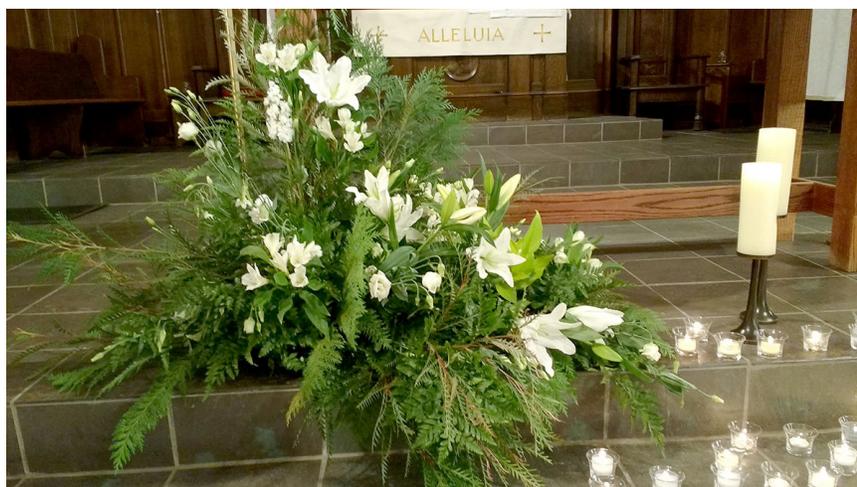


The service of Reformation and Reconciliation featured choir and instrumental music. Celebrants included Lutheran Bishop James Gonja, ECC Regional Vicar Michael Nicosia, Pastor Penni Walsh, Father Don Sutton and Pastor Bev Piro.





All Saints' Day



Greetings from Rwanda

Ryan Campbell has been attending services at St. Paul, but this August he left Denver for Africa, serving in Rwanda for a year through the ELCA's Young Adults in Global Mission volunteer program. Eighty-five young people will be serving in 11 different countries, working in churches, schools and social service ministries.

Here is an update from Ryan:

Mondays and Wednesdays I work as a classroom supplement to English classes at a primary school, Child Care Academy. There I help with English listening, speaking, and comprehension. I work with grades: 2,3,4, and 5. I enjoy the teachers there a lot. I often eat meals with them. The first is a breakfast. Although, it's more of a 'morning tea.' Taken at 10 am, it consists of porridge, (which you drink instead of eat!) and a roll. Then at 12-2, it's lunch. They eat lunch with the students in a classroom. It's quite nice to sit on these tiny chairs and make faces with shy or excited students. It's pretty consistently rice and beans in a sauce, if we're lucky, with small fish the size of minnows or anchovies. On Wednesdays, after lunch, the students go home and the teachers stay to work. I teach a beginner's and advanced computer class. The school has 2 computers, a printer, and photocopier. The teachers have varying degrees of computer fluency. A lot of exams are hand written then photocopied. Some are printed.

Tuesdays and Thursdays I work at the other school, St. Matthews-a nursery, primary school, and Jr. high. Since we're close to the end of the term, I'm helping



Teaching a computer class.

them to type exams. They have one computer for each: Primary and Secondary grades. I also take morning porridge with them, around the same time, although this is more of a working tea time. Sometimes I take lunch with them-similar fare, and sometimes I'll finish early and go home for lunch.

Thursdays in the evening, I teach a small class of a court employees including a judge. It's an hour, to an hour-and-half. I teach English with the Bible as my primary textbook. All of them are over 30 years old and all have families. They are a fun group to work with, and I always look forward to meeting with them. I even was invited to one of their children's birthday celebrations!

Saturdays, after the Bible school, I help teach English to a small group of students in a range of ages. We have been working through a kids book a little at a time. Worship is pretty similar to a Lutheran service back home. There's a children's choir, with a drum pictured and they sound very good! There's church

Greetings from Rwanda

announcements, prayers of the people, greeting each other, hymnals from a green Kinyarwanda hymn book — the Green Book, I call it, versus the Blue book of American fame. We read the weekly scripture verses set out in advance. There's a sermon, sometimes translated for me, and more hymns, an offering. Then we walk out in song

together, and greet each other. In and out in 2-3 hours, depending on the service.



Kamembe Church

The big news is that the Kamembe Parish here is planning to build a new church. The space we have is currently rented, small, and difficult to network being a temporary location. Physical

space-permanent physical space is very important culturally to the Church in Rwanda. There's a pride, and logistical aspect to having your own address, your own building. The church will be called St. Luther Kamembe Parish Church. The aim is that it will be an anchor for the congregation here to grow, and support the surrounding region, being the only Lutheran establishment for several hours (the nearest is Huye). They are also planning to hold a bible camp for elementary students here in December. I am looking forward to it a lot, having helped in one or two growing up.

As you read this, please feel free to reach out and let me know how I can pray for you, your family, or your community. I am honored at the opportunity.

God Bless, Ryan Campbell



Child care center (above) and Ryan's parish commissioning ceremony



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>November</h1>			1	2	3	4
				7pm St Paul Choir rehearsal		5pm Catholic Mass
Ordinary Time 31 5 9:15am Adult Forum 10:30am Lutheran Worship 11:45am Coffee 6:30pm SAA Meeting	6	7	8	9	10	11
	1-5pm Street Reach 6pm Rocky Mountain Ringers	5pm Transition Team		7pm St Paul Choir rehearsal		8am SAA meeting 11am Newborns in Need baby shower 5pm Catholic Mass
Ordinary Time 32 12 9:15am Adult Forum 10:30am Lutheran Worship 11:45am Coffee TBA Foundation meeting 6:30pm SAA Meetingg	13	14	15	16	17	18
	1-5pm Street Reach 6pm Rocky Mountain Ringers	5pm Transition Team 6:30pm Congregational Council		7pm St Paul Choir rehearsal		5pm Catholic Mass
Ordinary Time 33 19 9:15am Adult Forum 10:30am Lutheran Worship 11:45 Coffee 6:30pm SAA Meeting	20	21	22	23	24	25
	1-5pm Street Reach 6pm Rocky Mtn Ringers 7pm St Paul Choir rehearsal	Newsletter deadline 5pm Transition Team	7pm Thanksgiving service and pie at Our Saviors	Thanksgiving		5pm Catholic Mass
The Reign of Christ 26 9:15am Adult Forum 10:30am Lutheran Worship 11:45am Coffee 6:30pm SAA Meeting	27	28	29	30		
	1-5pm Street Reach 6pm Rocky Mountain Ringers	5pm Transition Team		7pm St Paul Choir rehearsal		