



October 2018

Keeping in Touch

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



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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 Ecumenical Catholic Community.

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. Stephanie Kopsch
Bridge Lutheran Pastor

The Rev. Don Sutton
Catholic Pastor

Deacon Mark Alan Filbert
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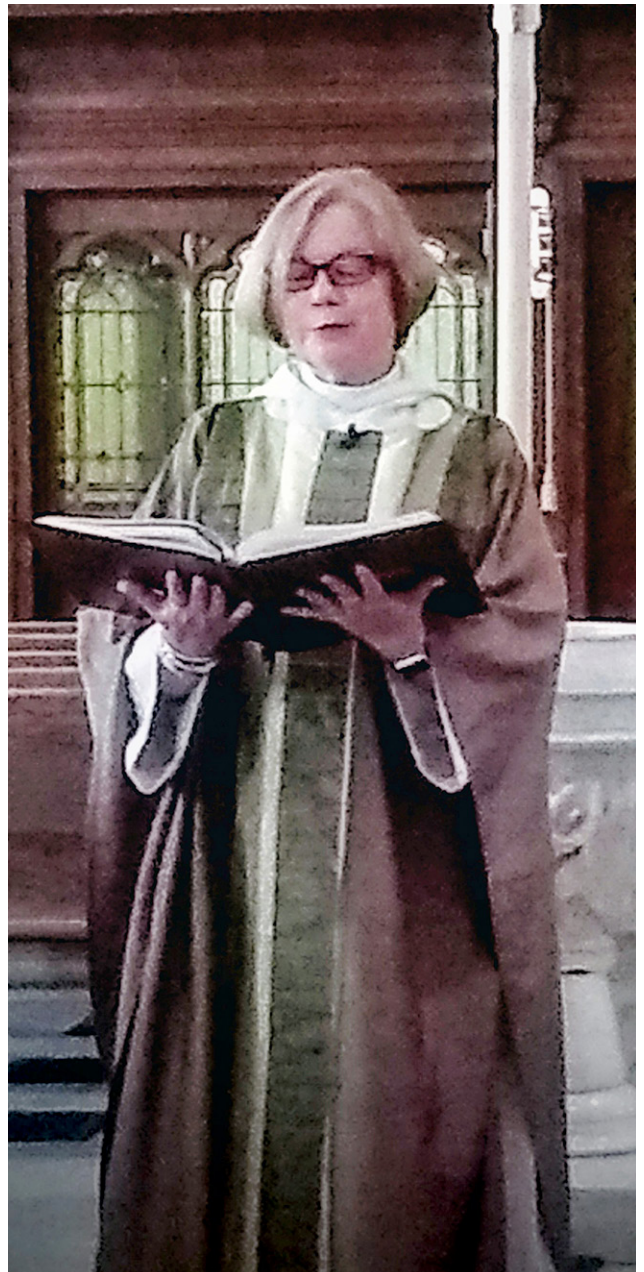


Photo by Lin Holly

Welcome, Pastor Stephanie!

Pastor Stephanie Kopsch joined us as our Bridge Pastor on September 16th and will be with us until Pastor Barbara is here.

Pastor Stephanie just finished a call as Bridge Pastor in Montana at a much smaller congregation and is excited to meet as many of us as she can and to share her ministry with us.

Be sure to say “hi” and to welcome her to St. Paul!

Letter from Pastor Stephanie

Dear People of God at St. Paul's:

Thank you for your generous welcome. Our time together is short, but important, especially considering the recent changes in St. Paul's outreach ministry. I was asked to be here until, though not including, the weekend of October 28 when Pastor Barbara will take the helm. Expect a memorable installation for her that Sunday afternoon!

As it is (unfortunately) common in transitions, an important meeting has fallen through the cracks: I learned this week that the annual Metro East Conference (which includes St. Paul's) meeting with the Bishop took place last Saturday morning, September 22, at All Saints Lutheran Church in Aurora, and we missed it. We have, however, been given permission (and encouragement!) to instead attend the meeting for the Metro South Conference which takes place on Thursday, October 11, at Abiding Hope Lutheran Church in Littleton, from 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. These conference meetings are the Bishop's annual 'check in' with his congregations and congregation leaders and vice versa. It is requested that 3-4 members/leaders of the congregation attend, and I hope you will let me know if you can join me.

Please note that my workdays at St. Paul's will be Wednesdays and Thursdays (I'm at 60 percent of full time). I'm also available on Sundays after worship and, of course, for pastoral emergencies and meetings (such as Council) outside these two days. I would very much appreciate scheduled visits with me because I will be making home visits and hospital calls on those days also.

Let us give thanks to God for the time we spend together. Transition ministry is very exciting; I never know what I get to do next. Spending these weeks with you is a gift.

See you in church,

Stephanie +

*Office hours by appointment on
Sunday afternoons, Wednesdays
and Thursdays.*



Behind the Scenes at the Denver Center

Story and photo by Lin Holly

“Tour Time” was great fun on Monday, September 17, when Pastor Dan Bollman led a band of eight on a walking tour of the Denver Center Theater Company facilities.

Who knew there were so many people involved in making a production happen? We saw costume makers, set builders, painters and prop artisans all hard at work. We were able to ask a few questions; learned that rehearsals all take place in rehearsal halls until the dress rehearsals; saw miniatures of the stages where productions like *The Taming of the Shrew* were presented; and much more.

Did you know that the pieces of chocolate on a set probably start out as pieces of foam and are transformed into delicious looking tidbits by going through numerous steps that add color, texture and shine so that they look real enough to be tempting?

A little history of the Complex revealed that the building where sets are built was once a trolley car barn and it still bears the numbers of the stalls where the trolleys were housed.

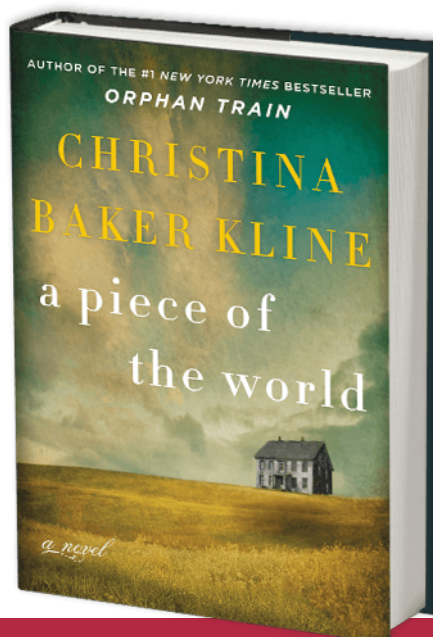


We saw the largest walk in closet in the world where costumes are stored and got to ham it up with some heads that were smiling down on us from their storage place.

There are numerous fun and interesting stories and facts that go along with a tour of the Center. If you weren't able to attend this time, check out the Center website to see when you might be able to go, OR we might even be able to talk Pastor Dan into another in the future.

Book Talk

Book Talk will be discussing **A Piece of the World** by Christina Baker Kline. We will meet at Bonnie Carlson's home, 480 S Marion Pkwy #1206A, at 7 pm on Tuesday, October 16. All are welcome. For more information contact Bonnie at 303-722-9892.



Lunch Bunch Schedule

October 4: Black Eyed Pea, 94 Wadsworth, Lakewood

November 1: Brio's, 2500 First Avenue, Cherry Creek

December 6: 240 Union, Lakewood

Congregational Meeting: The Future of Street Reach

On Monday, September 24, 2018, St. Paul Lutheran and Catholic Community of Faith and Grant Street Reach suspended lunch service for homeless people in the city of Denver for a period of six months.

St. Paul Lutheran and Catholic Community of Faith Congregational Meeting

October 21
11:45 a.m.

First Task Force Meeting

*The Homeless
and Hungry in our
Neighborhood Task
force will hold its
first meeting on
Wednesday, October
3 at 6:30 p.m. Please
bring ideas and
information relevant
to creating a faith-
based service to
those in need.*

A task force called the Homeless and Hungry in Our Neighborhood (HHN), chaired by Lori Eastman, was established to explore the very best means for St. Paul to engage with the homeless and poor. The Homeless and Hungry in Our Neighborhood Task Force has scheduled its first meeting for Wednesday, October 3rd, 2018 at 7 p.m. Grant Street Reach and our neighbors have been invited to attend as we pray and discern how to best serve the homeless and poor in our neighborhood.

In August, 2018 the St. Paul Church Council made an extremely difficult decision to give Street Reach a “time out” or suspension of operation at St. Paul. This decision was not made hastily or without intensive and extensive review.

For over fifteen months Father Don, Pastor Penni and members of the Church Council have met with Grant Street Reach organizers and managers. Monthly discussions focused on steps forward to remediate congestion, safety concerns, kitchen cleanliness, trash removal and a number of other issues with arose during this time period. A contract was drawn up, and time lines were set with outlined expectations from St. Paul. As these meetings continued, St. Paul representatives realized that Grant Street Reach continued to struggle with structure and management of the program.

The volume of the Grant Street Reach program (750 - 1000 meals served every Monday) was often discussed and Council members were keenly aware that regretfully the Grant Street Reach Program exceeded the limited space at St. Paul.

Most recently our neighbors — business owners and apartment managers representing over 500 apartment residents — collectively voiced their concerns about GSR and the programs’s affect on the neighborhood in general. The secure housing needs of the residents in the affordable apartment units was extremely important to us. The multitude of concerns from our neighbors simply could not be ignored or dismissed by St. Paul Church.

St. Paul Lutheran and Catholic Community of Faith will remain “In the City for Good.” Let us pray together and discuss our capacity for serving the poor and homeless.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
10:30am Lutheran Worship 11:45am Coffee 6:30pm SAA meeting	6pm Rocky Mountain Ringers rehearsal			7pm St Paul Choir rehearsal		5pm Catholic Mass
Ordinary Time 27 7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9:30am Choir warmup 10:30am Lutheran Worship 11:45am Coffee 6:30pm SAA meeting	6pm Rocky Mountain Ringers rehearsal	6:30pm Congregational Council		7pm St Paul Choir rehearsal		5pm Catholic Mass
Ordinary Time 28 14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9:15am Adult Forum 9:30am Choir warmup 10:30am Lutheran Worship 11:45am Coffee 6:30pm SAA meeting	6pm Rocky Mountain Ringers rehearsal			7pm St Paul Choir rehearsal		<i>Newsletter deadline</i> 5pm Catholic Mass
Ordinary Time 29 21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9:15am Adult Forum 9:30am Choir warmup 10:30am Lutheran Worship 11:45am Congregational meeting on Street Reach 6:30pm SAA meeting	6pm Rocky Mountain Ringers rehearsal			7pm St Paul Choir rehearsal		5pm Catholic Mass
Reformation Sunday 28	29	30	31	October 2018		
9:15am Adult Forum 9:30am Choir warmup 10:30am Lutheran Worship 11:45am Coffee 6:30pm SAA meeting	6pm Rocky Mountain Ringers rehearsal					