

September 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
Cantor

Mohamed Jamoum
Sexton

Jeff Parrott
Council President

Lori Arias
Administrator
office.support@stpauldenver.org

1600 Grant Street
Denver, CO 80203
(303) 839-1432
saintpauldenver.com

Important dates in September

Sept. 9 **Volunteer Fair** **Page 6**

Sept. 10 **Congregational Meeting** **Page 2**

Sept. 17 **Potluck at Our Savior's** **Page 2**

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 Update for September

As I typed the word "September" at the top of this file, the reality that summer is over hit me. Not sure where the time went, but my ripe tomatoes and peppers tell me it is time for harvest. It is close to time for St. Paul to take in the harvest too.

The Transition Team and the Council have not been able to meet with our facilitator regarding Mission and Vision statements so we have nothing to share with the congregation. As a result the August 27 meeting was cancelled, and we will move the discussion to the already planned September 10th meeting.

September 10 – Mission and Vision Statement

September 24 – Summarizing our work and determining if we can move forward to a Call Committee

September 25 – Begin seeking names for Call Committee

October 10 – Council approves Call Committee

October 15 – Install Call Committee

October 29 – Reformation Commemoration and congregational celebration

We still have tasks, and most of them are getting done in small groups and/or the office.

Potluck: We are invited to Our Savior's, 915 E 9th, along with Messiah for the last of our "get-to-know" you potlucks on September 17 at noon, or as soon as we can get over there. They are changing the format a bit. They are asking that we all help stuff 25 or so bags with items for the homeless, and they are inviting their neighborhood. It should be an interesting day. Our Savior's is appealing for small donations of packaged ready-to-eat foods, small flashlights and batteries, single packets of tuna, peanut butter or cheese crackers, single-serve cups of cereal, fruit, gelatin, dried fruits, soups in cups, tissues, other supplies, and perhaps bus tokens or small grocery cards. Hope to see you all there with your goodies.

Directory: We need a new one! So, first, if you have changed your address, phone or email please call the office or send an email. Second, beginning Sept. 9 and 10 there will be a binder with our current information on you at the back of the Nave. We would ask that everyone check their information and correct if necessary. Finally, we will need a few people to make phone calls/email requests for those who haven't given us current information.

Prayer Vine: We have had very few people sign up so we are asking again. There is a signup in the back of the church, but you could also email or call if you are willing to participate in this important ministry.

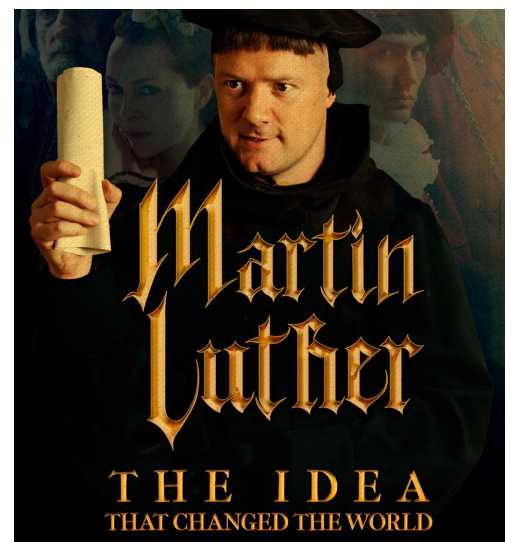
MOVIE SCREENING

Martin Luther: The Idea That Changed the World

The Rocky Mountain Synod Metro East Conference is presenting a screening of the new Luther documentary Wednesday, October 4, at 6:30pm at UA Colorado Center 9 & IMAX, 2000 S. Colorado Blvd, Denver, 80222. Tickets are \$12.

The film tells the rousing adventure story of Martin

Luther's life, following his bold quest for truth — a journey that would reshape the church and the world. A Q&A will follow. This event will only happen if 84 more tickets are reserved. To reserve your ticket go to: <https://www.tugg.com/events/martin-luther-the-idea-that-changed-the-world-6c1p>



From the Council President

Much is happening behind the scenes

The Council continues to do the work of the church with many “behind the scenes” projects underway. Here are updates on a few of them:

Technology: We had a scare recently when it appeared the computer server had crashed and died. It did, however, provide an opportunity to review our entire technology situation and make some changes. We hired a consultant who evaluated what we had, how it was managed, and how we could make changes to enhance performance and lower costs. The server has been resurrected and restored – it hadn’t really died! We created a “St. Paul Technology Umbrella,” which allows the church to control all aspects of our electronic life. The website and alternate addresses now reside under the “umbrella” along with other parts, including G-Suite (our email). We are updating our phone system (and reducing the cost). We upgraded our internet service, which greatly improves wifi performance. What originally appeared to be a disaster has provided the opportunity to create a highly effective “umbrella” that should serve us well in the years to come.

Financial Audit: Joe Roderick has offered to put together a team to audit our financial life from January 1 through June 30, 2017. Currently, documentation is being collected for the auditors. A completed audit report will be done early this fall.

HVAC: A state-of-the-art system was put in place during the last renovation of the building. Yet, we arrive at church and there is no air conditioning! Frank Gunn has offered to work with our contractors to determine what is creating our problems, remedy them, and work with the Council to create an operational manual for the system. Frank is also evaluating our maintenance contract and pursuing other monthly maintenance options to improve performance and reduce costs.

Sound System: We have been blessed with a nave that produces some of the highest quality acoustics for musical performances. The same acoustics terrorize those who speak in the very same space. It seems we update each decade or so as sound

system technology improves. It is time to take another look! Pastor Penni has taken on this project. We have contracted with a company to “tweak” the equipment we have without changing or adding anything new to keep the cost down. We should see improvement soon. A special thank you to the Foundation for financing this project.

Communications Wall: One of the topics that came through loud and clear in our recent congregational conversations is that we aren’t very good at communicating with one another. A display is being created in the west wall of the West Room to help us out. It offers a “one-stop” location to review all aspects of the life of our Church. Here you will find Council and committee reports, financial reports, audit reports, a comment card box (give your opinion or ask a question), a maintenance comment box (fill out a work order), a “thank you” pad (recognize someone’s special work), a who’s who photo wall, updates on the ECC transition, along with copies of many items to take home and review, and plenty more. Keep an eye on the wall as it evolves in the months ahead.

Call Committee: Soon there will be applications available for those interested in serving on the Call Committee. Watch the communications wall.

Constitution updates: Pastor Penni will work with a small group to review and update the Church’s constitution. Proposals will be presented for discussion and ratification at the next congregational meeting this winter.

Committees: The goal of the Council is always to work through its committees to do the work of the Church. A laser focused effort will soon be underway to revive the committee structure and “staff” each committee with able and willing worker bees! We will be making personal invitations to those around us to be a part of the action! Don’t be surprised when someone asks you to be a part of a committee – or beat us to the punch and volunteer!

All of this and much more is moving ahead through the work of the Council. More details to come!

Computer and sound issues to be addressed

Present: Pastor Penni Walsh, Father Don Sutton, Jeff Parrott, Aaron Oberg, Carolyn Bolden, Mike Wallin, Lori Eastman, and Maryann O'Brien; Irene McCahill sent regrets.

Staff and officer reports:

Pastor Penni Walsh

- Transition Team decided to move the mission and vision work to small groups and perhaps work with a marketing group. The team may be ready to present their findings at an August 27th congregational meeting.
- The Beer, Brats, and Luther Evening was very successful with about 50 people from three churches participating. Thanks to everyone who helped.
- Evangelism / Outreach team has taken off. The Volunteer Fair is September 9 and everyone is encouraged to participate or drop by and offer support.
- Our local Denver Police officer is helping us keep people off our roof, which is being destroyed and which will need very costly repairs. Drugs and needles are always a problem.
- October 15th is the Rock and Roll Marathon. We are continuing our tradition of worshipping together on Saturday evening, October 14th.
- Then on October 29, Reformation Sunday, we will again worship together, this time on Sunday morning. There will be a concert at St. Paul with the AGO at 4:00 and another concert at Augustana at 4:00 also.

Father Don's Report:

- The Ecumenical Catholic Community (ECC) at St. Paul is becoming a reality. The Catholic Community needs to be incorporated separately and will need a constitution, which they are working on. There is now a Board with five members headed by Greg Yonkers. We also need an umbrella for both of our communities to shelter under.

- Music on Saturday evenings. Stephanie and Abraham will leave us on August 26th. There will be a wine and cheese reception to thank them for their service over the years to the Catholic Mass. Cheryl and Dan Kapsack have volunteered to provide music when they can; otherwise, Mark will play on Saturday evenings.
- The ECC Vicar (Father Michael) of our region is joining us on Reformation Sunday and again at the Labor Day Volunteer Appreciation Potluck Picnic.

Treasurer's Report: In July, the budget was overspent. Some of this shortfall may be due to summer vacations, when giving is typically below normal.

Evangelism / Outreach Report:

- A new form for upcoming events, projects, and expenditures will now be available to everyone on our website. Forms must be filled out and sent to the church office and to Jeff Parrott before any work is done or any plans are made.
- Transition Team has requested advertising money for signs and notices in the papers. The Evangelism budget includes money for advertising and promotion of our church.
- Prayer Vine Ministry is signing people up who are interested in praying as teams for people who request it. A sign-up sheet is in the back of the church.
- The Newborns in Need project with Our Savior and Messiah will be postponed till November instead of October. Maryann will apply for a Thrivent Action Team.
- Volunteer Fair is being advertised in Next Door, Life on Capitol Hill, etc. for \$290. Thanks to Anna and Joe Hanel for their work on this project. Anna received a Thrivent Action Team for this event.
- Littering for the Lord, putting postcards at local businesses, etc. is a possibility.

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Adult Forum, Autumn 2017

September

Adult Forum begins for the fall on Sunday, September 10. We will focus on social justice, advocacy, and serving our neighbors. However, the first forum will take a look at some of our ethnic churches of the past in the United States, long before the ELCA was formed. Were you raised in a Swedish Lutheran household? Perhaps a Danish or German or Norwegian church family? Dorothy Stenman, Jeri Rodrick, and Bonnie Carlson will lead the discussion with their own stories. Bring your memories along too.

Then on September 17, we begin our forums on social justice with Peter Severson from the Rocky Mountain Synod, who will speak on how we can become agents of change through advocacy. This series continues with similar discussions through October 1.

Look in your worship folders this fall for the multi-colored flyers noting the following week's topic, which you might care to read and bring back with you the following Sunday. Everyone is welcome downstairs from 9:15 to 10:15 on Sunday mornings.

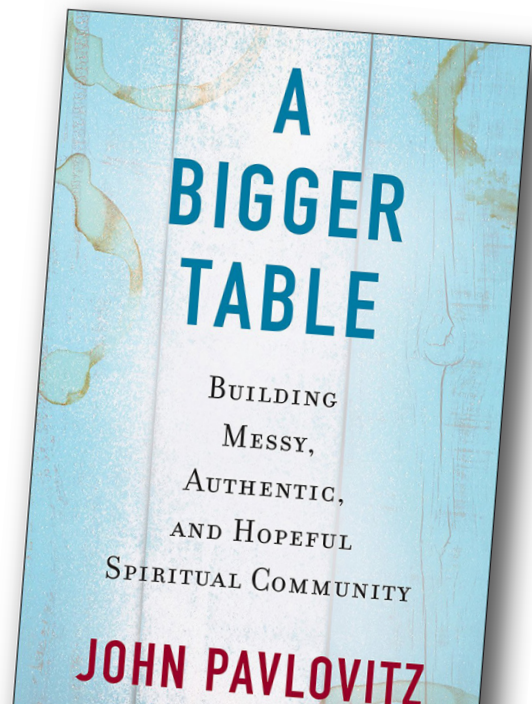
October

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 will be released on October 6. You may pre-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.



August council meeting highlights, continued

New Business:

- Computer issues. Jeff could ask Bryce Baker to evaluate all our computer problems and suggest fixes to our system, starting with connectivity issues. This would cost \$1,000. It was moved and seconded that we grant \$1,000 for our computer system to be so evaluated. Passed unanimously.
- Sound system problems. It was moved and seconded that Pr. Penni ask the Foundation for

\$6,000 to optimize our sound system. Passed.

- Audit needs more people to help. We will ask Mark Mulligan from the Catholic congregation and Joe Rodrick from the Lutheran congregation to help.

The next Council meeting will be on Tuesday, September 12.

*Minutes respectfully submitted
by Maryann O'Brien, Secretary*

Volunteer Fair Sept. 9

Seeking help for our community event

by Anna Hanel

Calling all folks passionate about the work we do at St. Paul! We are looking for a few helpers to assist with our big September event.

The Evangelism/Outreach Task Force is finalizing plans for our community Volunteer Fair on Saturday, September 9th, from 1-4 p.m.

This will be an opportunity for people to meet face-to-face with nonprofit organizations seeking help. It's free, open to the public, and a great opportunity not only for the organizations who can connect with potential volunteers, but for our congregation to spread the word about our church! It serves our mission of being In The City For Good.

The Fair is free and open to the public, and we've been working hard to publicize the event. You can help spread the word! Here is a link to the Facebook event listing.

The organizations participating include:

- Metro Caring
- Lutheran Family Services
- Spring Institute for Intercultural Learning
- Volunteers of America/Meals on Wheels
- Denver Asset Building Coalition
- Denver CASA
- Denver Health
- Central Visitation Program
- Suicide Prevention Training (Carolyn Swenson & Father Don)

We will also have a St. Paul table where we will hand out brochures about our church, be able to answer questions about our ministry and programs, and provide information about volunteer opportunities with Street Reach (we are working with Street Reach to get that information).



Do you have a couple hours to help on Saturday the 9th in the afternoon?

We'd like at least one person (preferably two) each for two shifts at our table at the fair: 12:45-2:45, and 2:45-4:30. The first crew will help set up the table (we will provide brochures, etc), and the second crew will help clean up the table.

Do you volunteer with Street Reach? We'd love to have you help out at the table and tell folks about what happens at St. Paul on Mondays and how they can help.

We can also use help with set-up or clean-up for the event! Everyone helping will get a Thrivent Action Team t-shirt and we'll have refreshments available!

If you can help on September 9th, please contact

- Anna Hanel at annabhanel@gmail.com or 303-332-8761.
- or Irene McCahill at i_mccahill@yahoo.com or 303-761-4326.

Thank you to all the folks helping with this event!

Volunteer Fair

Let's work together to help our neighbors!

Representatives from local nonprofits will help you learn how to use your time & talent to make a difference in our community.



St. Paul
Lutheran and
Roman Catholic
Community of Faith

IN THE CITY FOR GOOD • 1600 GRANT STREET

saintpauldenver.com

Saturday,
September 9th
1-4 pm

Free & open to the public.
All are welcome!

This advertisement ran in the August edition of *Life on Capitol Hill*.



MUSIC AT SAINT PAUL

2017-2018 Choir Season Begins Soon

The month of September not only marks the beginning of a new school year, but also of a new Choir Season at Saint Paul Church. The Saint Paul Choir regularly provides musical leadership for the Sunday morning liturgy as well as for seasonal liturgies and Music at Saint Paul events. The choir is open to any adult (high school age and older) who enjoys singing and is willing to commit to regular participation in Thursday rehearsals from 7:00-9:00 pm in the Dorothy Day Room AND to Sunday liturgies with warm-up at 9:30 am in the Choir Loft. Fall rehearsals begin on Thursday, 7 September 2017. Contact Mark at mark@stpauldenver.org or at 720.274.4708 for more information, and plan now to sing with us this year at Saint Paul Church!

Reformation 500 Festival of Hymns on October 29!

On Sunday, October 29, at 4:00 pm, our year-long observance of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation will culminate with a hymn festival entitled, The Hymns of Martin Luther: A Festival of Hymns in Commemoration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. Co-sponsored by the Denver Rocky Mountain Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and featuring all of the Martin Luther hymns we have learned this year through our Luther Hymns of the Season program, the festival will feature music for congregation, choir, organ, brass, and percussion. Watch for more details in the October issue of the newsletter, but save the date, and mark your calendars now. You won't want to miss this festive event!

Cristo Rey Music, Art, and Bible Camp a Great Success!

The once-again annual Cristo Rey Music, Art, and Bible Camp from August 14-18 was a great success! This year around twenty-five children participated in general music, recorder, and drumming classes led by Deacon Mark Filbert; art classes led by Pastor Dena Williams, Pastor Mark Meyer, and Deacon Mary Black; and Bible classes and recreation activities led by a Rainbow Trails team. In addition, each day began with worship led by Pastor Dena, Deacon Mark, and Cristo Rey Pastor Quirino Cornejo. Lunch each day was provided by various Lutheran congregations around metro Denver, and additional resources were available through the Office of the Bishop of the Rocky Mountain Synod. The dates have already been set for next year's camp (August 6-10, 2018), so plan now to set aside some time next summer to volunteer to help with the exciting ministry!



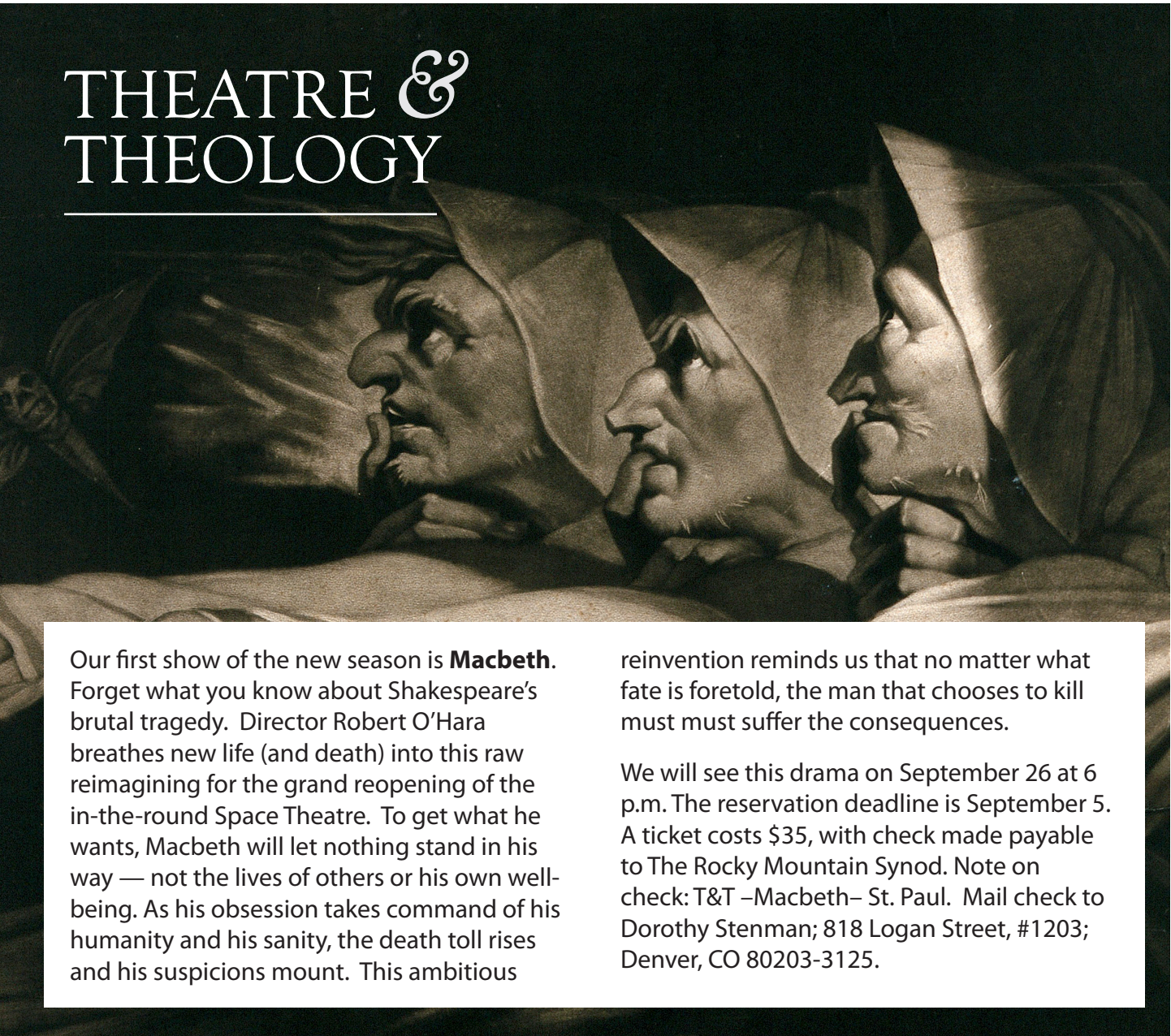
Safeway, King Soopers Cards Are Available

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.

Book Talk

Our next selection is Lilac Girls by Martha Hall Kelly. We will meet at my home: 480 S Marion Pkwy #1206A on Tuesday, October 3 at 7:00 pm. All are welcome. Any questions, contact Bonnie at 303-722-9892. We are not meeting in September because too many of us will be on vacation.

THEATRE & THEOLOGY



Our first show of the new season is **Macbeth**. Forget what you know about Shakespeare's brutal tragedy. Director Robert O'Hara breathes new life (and death) into this raw reimagining for the grand reopening of the in-the-round Space Theatre. To get what he wants, Macbeth will let nothing stand in his way — not the lives of others or his own well-being. As his obsession takes command of his humanity and his sanity, the death toll rises and his suspicions mount. This ambitious

reinvention reminds us that no matter what fate is foretold, the man that chooses to kill must must suffer the consequences.

We will see this drama on September 26 at 6 p.m. The reservation deadline is September 5. A ticket costs \$35, with check made payable to The Rocky Mountain Synod. Note on check: T&T –Macbeth– St. Paul. Mail check to Dorothy Stenman; 818 Logan Street, #1203; Denver, CO 80203-3125.

Lunch Bunch

Food and friends, kale optional

On September 7, the Lunch Bunch will meet at Chad's Grill, 275 Union, Lakewood.

If you're feeling virtuous, you can order the Superfood Salad with kale, arugula, pumpkin seeds, quinoa, and edamame. If you're feeling decadent, you can

dig into the Santa Fe Bar-B-Que Chicken. But the best part will be catching up with friends old and new.

Let Janice Ahrendt know if you are coming and she'll include you in the reservations for 12 noon: 720-448-6045.

Lunch Bunch Schedule 2017

- 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



Annual Labor Day Party

St. Paul Lutheran and Catholic
Community of Faith

Everyone is welcome as we appreciate one another and all that folks contribute to the life of our community.

- **Potluck supper (meat provided)**
- **Swimming pool – please bring your own towels**

**Father Don's condo building
1250 Humboldt St., Denver
(Limited parking across the street)
4:30 p.m. until..?**

SEPTEMBER 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
						5pm Catholic Mass
Ordinary Time 22 10:30am Lutheran Worship 11:45am Coffee 6:30pm SAA Meeting	4 1-5pm Street Reach 4:30pm BBQ at Father Don's condo	5 5pm Transition Team	6 11:30 CSOR lunch	7 7pm St Paul Choir rehearsal	8	9 1-4pm Volunteer Fair 5pm Catholic Mass
Ordinary Time 23 9:15am Adult Forum 10:30am Lutheran Worship 11:45am Coffee 12 noon Congregational Meeting 6:30pm SAA Meeting	11 1-5pm Street Reach 6pm Rocky Mountain Ringers	12 6:30pm Congregational Council	13	14 7pm St Paul Choir rehearsal	15	16 2pm Wedding 5pm Catholic Mass
Ordinary Time 24 9:15am Adult Forum 10:30am Lutheran Worship 11:45 Coffee 12 noon Potluck at Our Savior's 6:30pm SAA Meeting	18 1-5pm Street Reach 6pm Rocky Mountain Ringers	19	20 Newsletter deadline	21 7pm St Paul Choir rehearsal	22	23 5pm Catholic Mass
Ordinary Time 25 9:15am Adult Forum 10:30am Lutheran Worship 11:45am Coffee 6:30pm SAA Meeting	25 1-5pm Street Reach 6pm Rocky Mountain Ringers	26 5pm Transition Team	27 5pm CALM Meeting, Messiah Lutheran	28 7pm St Paul Choir rehearsal	29	30 5pm Catholic Mass