

ST. PAUL COMMUNITY
OF FAITH

CHURCH STAFF

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Roman Catholic Pastor

The Rev. Fr.
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Cantor

Mark Alan Filbert

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SEPTEMBER 2015

KEEPING IN TOUCH

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF SAINT PAUL CHURCH



OUR MISSION

Saint Paul Church 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 we 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.

DR. KEVIN MALY

FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY

From the American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition:

catechism *n.* A book giving a brief summary of the basic principles of Christianity . . .

catechesis *n.* Oral instruction given to catechumens [those studying a catechism].

From 1 Peter 3.15-16:

“Always be ready to make . . . an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.”

From Charles P. Arand, Professor of Systematic Theology, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis:

“In an age of mission, when increasing numbers of people have little acquaintance with Christian thought, the church faces no greater task than that of rethinking and renewing its catechesis for children and adults alike.”

Do you want St. Paul to grow? Numerous studies indicate that the critical variable in whether or not people come to affiliate with a faith community is being invited not by the pastor, but by you – ordinary believers who are able to explain what our tradition is all about. Do we have something special to offer those whom we invite

to St. Paul? I believe we do. I believe that here at St. Paul the Gospel is communicated in all its lovely grace and the Holy Sacraments are administered according to the Gospel Promise. But are we able confidently and respectfully to account for the hope that is in us? If you are concerned with mission,

I believe that here at St. Paul the Gospel is communicated in all its lovely grace.... But are we able confidently and respectfully to account for the hope that is in us?

if you are concerned with whether we grow in grace and in numbers at St. Paul, if you do indeed want to be able to speak with confidence and respect about who we are at St. Paul, it's time to attend Sunday Catechism Study!!

Twice each year, the people of St. Paul and those interested in formally affiliating with the community through the Affirmation of Baptism gather together for several

weeks of catechism study. In the past, we have gathered for catechesis on an evening during the workweek, but due to the complicated schedules we all keep, only a few people have been able to take advantage of this learning opportunity, this opportunity for mission. We have heard your requests that catechism study happen on a Sunday morning, and so it is with great pleasure we announce that we will gather in Adult Forum for four Sundays beginning 27 September to take a look at the two catechisms of Martin Luther that are explications of who we are as Lutheran Christians.

Catechesis at St. Paul has not typically been akin to what some remember from the Catechism classes of their youth where study often meant rote memorization of the Ten Commandments and their meanings; the Confession of Faith and its meanings; the Lord's Prayer – and its meaning; Baptism and what it means; the Lord's Supper and what it means. Certainly we will look at these aspects of Luther's Small and Large Catechisms, but with an eye toward

Continued on Pg. 4.

MUSIC CANTOR MARK ALAN FILBERT at St. Paul

2015-2016 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. There are many ways to become involved in music ministry here by participating in one or more of the choral and instrumental activities listed below. Contact Mark at mark@stpauldenver.org or at 720.274.4708 for more information, and plan now to sing, ring, and/or play this year at Saint Paul Church!

Singing Opportunities

The Saint Paul Choir regularly provides musical leadership for the 10:30 am Sunday 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, 10 September.

Ringing Opportunities!

The Saint Paul Bell Choir has openings for a number of new ringers this fall. In past years, the ensemble has generally rung for Sunday liturgies every 4-6 weeks and has also participated in some seasonal liturgies as well as in Music at Saint Paul events. The choir is open to any young person or adult (junior high age and older) with an interest in learning the art of handbell ringing and a willingness to commit to regular participation in Thursday rehearsals from 5:45-6:45 pm AND to liturgies and events for which the choir is scheduled to ring. No prior ringing experience is necessary, though basic music reading skills would certainly be helpful. Fall rehearsals begin on Thursday, 24 September.

Other Musical Opportunities

If you play a musical instrument and would be willing to share your talents as a soloist, choral accompanist, or ensemble member, please let Mark know. Surely there are guitarists, bassists, flutists, pianists, percussionists, even kazoo players (well, maybe not kazoo players!), who might enrich our worship life by sharing their gifts with the community here at Saint Paul Church.





Adult Forum

MARYANN O'BRIEN

Adult Forum Programs—Fall Schedule 2015

Adult Forum begins on Sunday, September 13. In our first session, Jennifer Calderone will continue the discussion about Kinder Kirche, our children's church.

"A Plethora of Poetry and Prose" follows on September 20. Please bring something to share with the group if you can.

Beginning September 27, Pastor Kevin Maly will lead a Catechism study using Timothy J. Wengert's book *Martin Luther's Catechism: Forming the Faith*. This invaluable book is available from Fortress Press or Amazon. It's well worth having in your library and will enrich this fall's Catechism class which is being held during Adult Forum on Sunday mornings so more people can attend.

For more information, contact Maryann O'Brian at maryannobrien88@comcast.net.

Theatre & Theology

The curtain is about to rise for the 2015-2016 season of plays at the Performing Arts Complex. The first production is entitled *Lookingglass Alice*. Imagination soars and laughter and awe abounds in this marvel for all ages. The audience is transported down the rabbit hole to a circus-infused playground for an exhilarating wonderland adventure inspired by Lewis Carroll's beloved stories. We will see this play on September 22 at the Stage Theatre. The performance begins at 6:30 pm and the ticket price is \$35.00. Make your check payable to the Rocky Mountain Synod and note on the check "T&T: Lookingglass Alice; St. Paul Lutheran Church." Mail your check to Dorothy Stenman, 818 Logan Street - #1203; Denver, CO 80203-3125. The deadline for purchasing a ticket is September 8. Join your friends for this social evening of theatre entertainment.



BETTY WOOLSEY

FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY *cont'd.*

participants being able to explain to others who we are and what we are all about, with an eye toward being able to explain what we mean by saying we are a part of the *Evangelical* Lutheran Church in America. (*Evangelical* does not have to be a dirty word!!)

To reiterate, if you do believe in *advancing the mission of the St. Paul Community of Faith*, if you do believe that we *do in fact have something important to offer* broken and frail human beings, then Catechism Class is for you!

Now for some nuts and bolts. The Catechisms will be studied for four Sundays, 27 September through

18 October from 9.15 to 10.15. We will use as our guides Martin Luther's *Small Catechism* and *Martin Luther's Catechisms: Forming the Faith* by the Rev. Dr. Timothy J. Wengert and published by Fortress Press. The Wengert volume is readily available through on-line book sellers. Copies of the *Small Catechism* will be given to all of you who attend. Our fondest hope is that there will be so many participants that we'll run out of copies of the *Small Catechism* and have to order more!!!

See you at Catechism, 9.15-10.15, Sundays, 27 September through 18 October!!!!

Kevin +

ST. PAUL FINANCE MINISTRY NEWS

Finance Report: 7 months, ending July 31, 2015

Our regular offering is a sign of worship and thanksgiving for all that God has done and continues to do for us and through us for others. In our offering and other gifts, we return to God a portion of what God has so graciously entrusted to us. THANK YOU for remembering your offering as a regular part of your worship and gratitude!

	Actual	Budget	Over Budget/ (Under Budget)	% of Budget
Offerings	\$ 155,866	\$ 193,258	\$ (37,392)	81%
Transfers from reserves ¹	34,430	29,167	5,263	118%
Investment income	3,758	12,521	(8,763)	30%
Other revenues	<u>3,836</u>	<u>2,391</u>	<u>1,445</u>	160%
Total Revenues	197,890	237,337	(39,447)	83%
Total Expenses²	<u>239,590</u>	<u>237,462</u>	<u>2,128</u>	101%
Net Revenues	\$ (41,700)	\$ (125)	\$ (41,575)	

¹"Reserves" represent bequests and other large contributions set aside by Council outside the operating budget. Our goal is to reduce—and eventually eliminate—transfers of the principal of these gifts in future years.

²Actual expenses to date are somewhat higher than expected, due to: paying 2014 delinquent bills, non-budgeted required expenses, increased snow removal, and Sexton/Janitorial costs.

DAVID CARLSON



ROOM FOR HOPE

A Palestinian Arts Celebration
Denver – Boulder – Fort Collins
Week of September 20-27, 2015

Music, Dance, Fine Arts, Film,
Food, Learning



Book
Talk

Connect with sisters and brothers from the Holy Land. Meet talented students and faculty from Dar al-Kalima University, Bethlehem, Palestine, and elsewhere in the Middle East.

Denver: Bethany Lutheran Church, Augustana Lutheran Church and Abiding Hope Lutheran Church; Iliff School of Theology, University of Denver and Ten Thousand Villages

Fort Collins: Trinity Lutheran, Redeemer Lutheran, and Ten Thousand Villages

Boulder: First United Methodist Church

Details on Bright Stars website:

<http://www.brightstarsbethlehem.org/room-for-hope-2015>

Sponsored by Bright Stars of Bethlehem and Peace Not Walls,
Rocky Mountain Synod—BrightStarsBethlehem.org

Tuesday, 29 September 2015, we will meet at the residence of Bonnie & David Carlson (480 S. Marion Pkwy. #1206A, Denver 80209). This month, we will be discussing the book *Dinner at the Homesick Restaurant* by Ann Tyler. For more information, please call Bonnie at 303.722.9892.

NADIA BOLZ-WEBER

APPEARING AT THE TATTERED COVER—9.12.15

Nadia Bolz-Weber is the founding pastor of House for All Sinners and Saints in Denver, Colorado. She is the author of the upcoming book *Accidental Saints* (Convergent, 2015), in bookstores on September 8, 2015. She's also the author of *Salvation on the Small Screen? 24 Hours of Christian Television* (Seabury 2008) and the New York Times bestselling theological memoir, *Pastrix: the Cranky, Beautiful Faith of a Sinner & Saint* (Jericho, 2013). Nadia has been featured in *BBC World Service*, *The Washington Post*, *Bitch Magazine*, NPR's *Morning Edition*, *More Magazine*, *The Daily Beast* and on CNN—AND, spent her internship right here at Saint Paul!



Nobody really believes she's an ordained pastor in the ELCA. Maybe it's the sleeve tattoos or the fact that she swears like a truck driver. Either way... she's fine with it. Nadia lives here in Denver with her family of 4 where she can be found writing bios in the third person, lifting weights and walking her Great Dane, Zacchaeus.

In her latest book, *Accidental Saints*, Nadia invites readers into a surprising encounter with what she calls "a religious but not-so-spiritual life." Tattooed, angry, and profane, this former standup comic turned pastor stubbornly, sometimes hilariously, resists the God she feels called to serve. But God keeps showing up in the least likely of people—a church-loving agnostic, a drag queen, a felonious Bishop, and a gun-toting member of the NRA.

Nadia will be holding a discussion and signing of *Accidental Saints* on Saturday, 12 September 2015 at Denver's Tattered Cover Book Store (2526 E. Colfax Ave.) All are invited to come and experience the unique message of this Saint Paul alumnus!

Saint Paul Archives

St. Paul English Evangelical Lutheran Church was established in 1884 with 18 charter members. The history of St. Paul is fascinating and worth being remembered. A few of us are going through the boxes in our attic (the tower room) to continue keeping the story of St. Paul alive for the next 131 years. From time to time, we'll share interesting bits of information as we sort and organize the records. If anyone is interested in helping with this project, please speak with Dorothy Stenman or Maryann O'Brien.

St. Paul's Reminder was the name of the Sunday bulletin in the 1920s, when the church was located at 22nd and California. The Pastor was The Rev. Elmer H. Harner. Watch the Sunday Announcements for occasional updates on this project!



Birthdays in September

9.2	Irma Furbeck-Boltman
9.2	James Poling
9.6	Caleb Fahlin
9.8	Jeffrey Adams
9.9	Audrey Eastman
9.10	Marcia Bollman
9.10	Stephen Fiess
9.15	Zuriel Benson
9.18	Carolyn Swenson
9.26	Renee Grahn
9.26	Dorothy Stenman

ST. PAUL COMMUNITY OF FAITH

 **September 2015** 

CHURCH CALENDAR

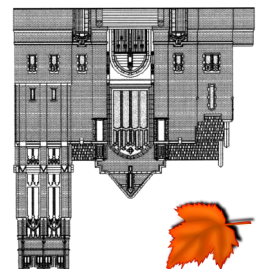
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Ordinary 22 AUGUST 30 8:00 am - Lutheran Mass 9:15 am - Hospitality 9:15 am - Bible Study 9:45 am - Summer Choir 10:30 am - Lutheran Mass 11:45 am - Hospitality	31 1:00 pm - Grant Ave. Street Reach 6:30 pm - Rocky Mountain Ringers	1 SEPTEMBER	2 11:00 am - Staff Meeting 12:00 pm - Lunch Bunch	3	4 5:00 pm - Catholic Mass	5
Ordinary 23 6 8:00 am - Lutheran Mass 9:15 am - Hospitality 9:45 am - Summer Choir 10:30 am - Lutheran Mass 11:45 am - Hospitality	7 1:00 pm - Grant Ave. Street Reach 6:30 pm - Rocky Mountain Ringers	8 T&T "Lookingglass Alice" Deadline 6:30 pm - Congregation Council meeting	9 11:00 am - Staff Meeting 7:00 pm - Choir	10	11 5:00 pm - Catholic Mass	12
Ordinary 24 13 8:00 am - Lutheran Mass 9:15 am - Hospitality 9:15 am - Adult Forum 9:30 am - Choir warmup 10:30 am - Lutheran Mass 11:45 am - Hospitality	14 1:00 pm - Grant Ave. Street Reach 6:30 pm - Rocky Mountain Ringers	15	16 11:00 am - Staff Meeting	17 Newsletter Deadline!	18 9:00 am - Choir retreat 3:00 pm - WEDDING: StoufKobayashi 5:00 pm - Catholic Mass	19
Ordinary 25 20 8:00 am - Lutheran Mass 9:15 am - Hospitality 9:15 am - Adult Forum 9:30 am - Choir warmup 10:30 am - Lutheran Mass 11:45 am - Hospitality	21 1:00 pm - Grant Ave. Street Reach 6:30 pm - Rocky Mountain Ringers	22 6:30 - Theatre & Theology "Lookingglass Alice"	23 11:00 am - Staff Meeting 5:45 pm - Bell Choir 7:00 pm - Choir	24	25 5:00 pm - Catholic Mass	26
Ordinary 26 27 8:00 am - Lutheran Mass 9:15 am - Hospitality 9:15 am - Catechism begins 9:30 am - Choir warmup 10:30 am - Lutheran Mass 11:45 am - Hospitality	28 1:00 pm - Grant Ave. Street Reach 6:30 pm - Rocky Mountain Ringers	29 7:00 - Book Talk	30 11:00 am - Staff Meeting 5:45 pm - Bell Choir 7:00 pm - Choir	1 OCTOBER	2 5:00 pm - Catholic Mass	3

FUTURE NEWSLETTERS FROM ST. PAUL...

Please contact Ryan at 303.839.1432 or ryan@StPaulDenver.org if you'd rather receive our newsletter by email!

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

SEPTEMBER 2015 NEWSLETTER



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Denver, CO 80203

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