

# January 2019

## Keeping in Touch

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



Photo by Lin Holly

## 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.**

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## 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.*

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## Church Staff

**The Rev. Barbara Berry Bailey** | Lutheran Pastor

**The Rev. Don Sutton** | Catholic Pastor

**Deacon Mark Alan Filbert** | Cantor

**Valerie Brown** | Musician

**Jeff Parrott** | Council President

**Lori Arias** | Office Manager

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## Contact Us

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## Christmas at St. Paul



Photos by Lin Holly

## Watch Your Email for a Fellowship Survey

The Fellowship Ministry Team is going to be sending out a Survey Monkey poll shortly after New Year's Day to help to determine what kinds of activities folks would be interested in doing and helping to put on during the upcoming year. The responses will be anonymous and will come directly to Lin Holly's personal email, so please take the time to fill it out and send it back. It will really be helpful.

# ‘Denver Homeless Out Loud’ Shares Ideas with St. Paul Task Force

St. Paul's Task Force on Homeless and Hungry in Our Neighborhood met on December 12 to learn about “Health and Safety Issues for Denver's Homeless Community: How City Ordinances Threaten Both and What Can Be Done About It.”

Our presenters were Dianne Thiel and Terese Howard from Denver Homeless Out Loud (DHOL).

A few highlights from the slide presentation and discussion that followed:

- “Move On” ordinances and police sweeps violate at least three amendments to the U.S. Constitution and one article of the Colorado Constitution.
- DHOL has piloted a locker storage program for homeless persons but has run into opposition from the city; a detailed discussion followed.

- Several DHOL members spoke against building more shelters and strongly advocate focusing on affordable housing. Yet the city's current affordable housing programs grossly underserve persons whose incomes are 0-30 percent of the Area Median Income.
- All of the presenters are part of a larger movement, the Denver Right to Survive Initiative, which has succeeded in filing a ballot initiative for Denver voters to consider in the May 2019 municipal elections. They are beginning a fund-raising campaign.

All in all, the evening has opened a frank and informative dialogue with a group of volunteers, firmly committed to advocacy with (not for) those who experience threats to health and safety on a daily basis.

— **David Carlson**

## Adult Forum in Epiphany: Heaven and Hell



Join us in January for a program entitled *Heaven, Hell, and the Hereafter*.

What is your personal eschatology? Where do we get our beliefs about what happens when we die? Were we taught that if we were “bad,” we would not get into heaven at all? What has our culture taught us about the hereafter? Can we earn heaven by doing good deeds? What is heaven? We’ll begin with a video and continue with Timothy Wengert’s article in October’s *Living Lutheran* entitled “Heaven and Hell.” This series is basically an invitation to re-think our beliefs in light of the Gospel. Everyone is welcome.

Sundays in January: 6, 13, 20, and 27. Adult Forum meets from 9:15 to 10:15 am downstairs.

# Congregational Council

Here are the highlights from the Congregation Council meeting on December 11, 2018.

## **Staff and Officer Reports**

### **Pastor Barbara**

Ric White and Jeff Harms, from Rocky Mountain Ringers, who use our space every Monday evening, have asked to replace the existing light bulbs in the sanctuary with LEDs. Jeff and Ric would need to work with Greg Yonker after the first of the year on this project if it has Council approval.

### **Father Don**

Pastor Barbara and Father Don attended a CHUM (Capitol Hill United Ministries) meeting. CHUM would like our participation in the Women's Homelessness Initiative, which we used to do. We might help with meals once a month.

Last Sunday, the ECC had an ordination in Aurora with its Presiding Bishop.

What could we do with our space now that Street Reach has found a new home? Food Bridge (handout provided at the council meeting) is looking for a commercial kitchen to train immigrants to be caterers. Father Don will ask for a written proposal of their needs. Services to immigrants might fit with our mission outreach.

### **Treasurer**

Aaron asked that Judy Strasen, Ron Hoffman, and Jeff Jacobs be added to the Finance Committee. It was moved and seconded. Passed.

Amazon Smile has now been set up with St. Paul as a designated receiver of a percentage of members' purchases. (Go to **smile.amazon.com** when you buy from Amazon.)

The Finance Committee is committed to a mission-grounded budget. Our mission is considered first and the money comes last. The Finance Committee will draft a budget and take it to Council for approval before taking it to the members at our Congregation Meeting in May. Jeff will set the May date for this meeting.

Who will head the Stewardship Ministry? To be discussed at the council retreat in February.

96.2 percent of the pledges are up to date, which Aaron says is right on schedule.

### **Ministry Team Reports**

**Education:** The Lectionary Class is very well attended! In Epiphany, we will have a course called "Hell, Heaven, and the Hereafter." During Lent, we plan to have a class on Mary through the Ages, hoping to find a way to include both Catholics and Lutherans. The Wednesday night Lenten program involving Education and Evangelism / Outreach will be discussed at our council retreat.



# Highlights Dec. 11, 2018

**Evangelism:** Advertising the Christmas services on the postcards was a very good idea, along with our banners, etc. We are so grateful for Joe and Anna Hanel and all they do for St. Paul. Children's education issues will be discussed at the retreat. It is a hopeful sign that more children are attending, even if sporadically.

**Fellowship:** Anna put an ad in Capitol Hill Newsletter. We might consider a quarterly potluck after Sunday worship service. More at the council retreat.

**Homeless and Hungry Task Force:** David Carlson organized a speaker about advocacy. There may be a proposal on the May ballot to rescind

the camping ban. In January, the Task Force will begin to choose projects to work on.

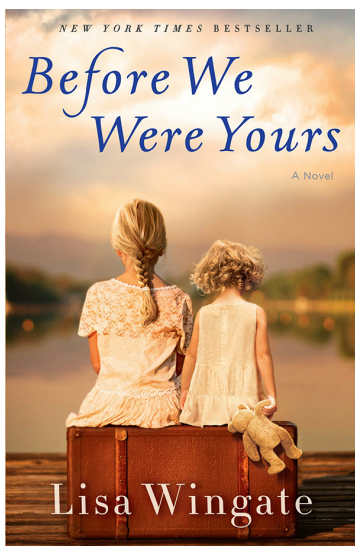
## New Business

**Targeted Fundraising:** At the council retreat, we will work on a policy about targeted fundraising, as questions have been raised.

Council Retreat to be held in the New Year. Pastor Barbara will set the date.

Our next Council meeting will be on Tuesday, January 8, 2019.

*Minutes by Maryann O'Brien, Secretary*



## Book Talk

Our next book is **Before We Were Yours** by Lisa Wingate. We will meet at the home of Bonnie Carlson, 480 S. Marion Parkway, #1206A at 7pm on January 8. All are welcome. For more information call Bonnie at 303-722-9892.

# January Birthdays



<b>Joseph Cooper</b>	January 2
<b>Judy Strasen</b>	January 2
<b>Maryann O'Brien</b>	January 7
<b>Mary Fulton</b>	January 10
<b>Janice Hoffman</b>	January 14
<b>Jim Bolden</b>	January 18
<b>John Zesbaugh</b>	January 21
<b>Emma Fry</b>	January 24
<b>Lin Holly</b>	January 28



Our February play is **Anna Karenina**. This acclaimed modern adaptation of Tolstoy's beloved novel tells the sprawling tale of passionate betrayal in economical strokes. Love holds the power to bind us together or tear us apart and no one knows it better than Countess Anna Karenina. As a noble woman and socialite, her glamorous lifestyle shrouds her unhappy marriage, but everything changes when she meets the dashing army officer Count Vronsky. She risks her social status, marriage, friends and family for the thrill of forbidden love. Anna Karenina uses the romantic backdrop of

## THEATRE & THEOLOGY

Tsarist Russia to tell a turbulent tale of passion and betrayal, dreams chased and lost, and the consequences of getting swept off your feet. This lush adaptation of Tolstoy's masterpiece brings the opulent setting heart-wrenching story to life. We will see this play on February 12 at the Denver Performing Arts Center. The deadline for purchasing a \$35 ticket is January 22. Make your check payable to the **Rocky Mountain Synod** and write **T&T – Anna Karenina – St. Paul ELCA** on the memo line and mail check to Dorothy Stenman; 818 Logan Street #1203; Denver, CO 80203-3125.

## Lunch Bunch

### It's a Gaby Gourmet to Start the New Year

The Lunch Bunch goes to the new **Gaby's German Eatery** in Lakewood on Thursday, January 10, at noon. (Note the venue change), The address is 245 S. Harlan Street, Lakewood 80226. Gaby was Maryann's German teacher last year and she can vouch for the fabulous and delicious cooking! Save room for her luscious German desserts! Let Janice Ahrendt know if you're coming. 303-448-6045.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>January</div> <div>2019</div>			2	3	4	5
<b>Epiphany</b> <b>9:15am</b> Adult Forum <b>9:30am</b> Choir warmup <b>10:30am</b> Lutheran Worship <b>11:45am</b> Coffee <b>6:30pm</b> SAA meeting	7	8	9	10	11	12
	6pm Rocky Mountain Ringers rehearsal	6:30pm Congregational Council	7pm Hungry and Homeless Task Force	7pm St Paul Choir rehearsal		5pm Catholic Mass
<b>Baptism of Our Lord</b> <b>9:15am</b> Adult Forum <b>9:30am</b> Choir warmup <b>10:30am</b> Lutheran Worship <b>11:45am</b> Coffee <b>6:30pm</b> SAA meeting	14	15	16	17	18	19
	6pm Rocky Mountain Ringers rehearsal			7pm St Paul Choir rehearsal		5pm Catholic Mass
<b>Epiphany 2</b> <b>9:15am</b> Adult Forum <b>9:30am</b> Choir warmup <b>10:30am</b> Lutheran Worship <b>11:45am</b> Coffee <b>6:30pm</b> SAA meeting	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Newsletter deadline			9am Colo Faith Community Lobby Day to End Gun Violence 7pm St Paul Choir rehearsal		5pm Catholic Mass
<b>Epiphany 3</b> <b>9:15am</b> Adult Forum <b>9:30am</b> Choir warmup <b>10:30am</b> Lutheran Worship <b>11:45am</b> Coffee <b>6:30pm</b> SAA meeting	28	29	30	31		
				7pm St Paul Choir rehearsal		