

March 2020

Keeping in Touch

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

**COURAGEOUS
CONVERSATIONS**
about race

**LENTEN
DISCUSSION
SERIES**

**LED BY PASTOR BARBARA BERRY-BAILEY
AND PASTOR RICHARD GIANZERO**

Wednesday Evenings During Lent • See Page 5

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. Barbara Berry Bailey | Lutheran Pastor

The Rev. Don Sutton | Catholic Pastor

Deacon Mark Alan Filbert | Cantor

Valerie Brown | Musician

Aaron Oberg | Council President

Contact Us

Address: 1600 Grant Street
Denver, CO 80203

Phone: (303) 839-1432

Website: saintpauldenver.com

Email: office.support@stpauldenver.org

Adult Forum in March



A Lenten Quilt

Journey through Lent with Adult Forum

Unlike Jesus' seamless tunic that he wore to the Crucifixion (John 19:23), our discussions in Lent will be more like a patchwork quilt.

Using the Lectionary as our guide, we will explore different topics such as white privilege (Living Lutheran January 2020), the ELCA Living Simply Program, continuing with Bonhoeffer, and many other patches in our quilt.

Every Sunday will be a surprise, so please join us and our presenters for the six Sundays in Lent. Everyone is welcome.

We meet downstairs from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

St Paul Education Committee: Jim Harrer, Tim Perlick, and Maryann O'Brien, Co-Chairs

Parents: Child Care is Now Available

Child care during Sunday worship will begin on Sunday, March 1!

Karlene Burrell, one of our newest Council members, will be available to babysit your children during church.

She says “I really appreciated this free service when my own kids were little. Anyone who would like to assist or substitute, would be welcome. I’m a former kindergarten teacher and curriculum writer. I have been screened through the Colorado Bureau of Investigation and have a copy of my fingerprints for your children’s safety. I hope to see you then!”

Email Karlene at
pitza19@comcast.net



March Birthdays

Drop by coffee hour on the first Sunday of each month to sing “Happy Birthday” and have a piece of birthday cake, too.

If you have a March birthday and your name is missing from this list, please contact the church office at office.support@stpauldenver.org

Doris Zesbaugh	March 5
Paulette Trubey	March 7
Mark Filbert	March 10
Jim Jackman	March 11
Kristine Overland	March 15
Diane Lundstrom	March 16
Jim Harrer	March 17
Breanna Nelson	March 30



Got News? Please Share It by Wednesday!

Beginning March 1, we’re asking that all announcements be emailed to office.support@stpauldenver.org before 5 p.m. on Wednesday of each week in order to allow for them to appear in that week’s announcements on Saturday and Sunday.

Understandably, important things happen after that time, and late-breaking announcements will be able to be added until Friday afternoon at 4, when the office closes for the weekend.

If you have questions about this, please contact Lin in the church office at office.support@stpauldenver.org or by calling her cell: 303-915-2502. Thanks very much.

Many, many thanks to **Jeff Parrott** for being so kind and diligent in making sure the weekly announcements have been available for Saturday Mass and for Sunday Eucharist. Since he has taken on the duties of Congregation Treasurer, he no longer has time or passion for doing this job, too.

Council Seeks Your Thoughts on Women's Homeless Initiative and St. Paul

By Irene McCahill

At a recent January Council meeting, Diana Flahive, the founder of the Women's Homeless Initiative in Denver, spoke to us about an opportunity to partake in a ministry for the poor.

The Women's Homeless Initiative (WHI), coordinated through Capitol Hill United Ministries, is a consortium of over 50 congregations, agencies and other supportive organizations along with over 1,000 volunteers offering safety and hospitality every night for women who are homeless. WHI has filled over 50,000 cots and served over 100,000 meals in the last 6 1/2 years.



Currently, St. Paul's Congregational Council is discerning if and how we can be involved in this ministry of service to others. There are multiple ways in which St. Paul, as a community of faith actively engaged in service to others, might become involved.

- Use our social space as a shelter for one night; about every 6 weeks.
- Greeters 5:30 - 9 p.m.
- Prepare and serve dinner for 25 women by 6 p.m.
- Overnight Guardian Angel Volunteers (9 PM to 6 AM)
- Clean-up site (6 AM to 7 AM)
- Make 25 breakfast bags
- Take care of laundry for sites
- Work with special projects (special events, grants, fundraising, marketing, PR, volunteer coordination, administrative assistance, etc.)

The Council would like to hear from you. Your thoughts and concerns about our potential commitment and level of involvement are needed at this time. Two meetings for discussion regarding the possibilities of this ministry are scheduled for:

Saturday, March 14, 6 p.m.: immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass

Sunday, March 15 - 11:45 a.m.: following the 10:30 Worship Service

Please bring your interested friends or family who might be willing to be involved with ministering to the poor.

If you cannot attend either meeting, please email Irene McCahill, who serves on the Evangelism/ Outreach team with your thoughts, concerns and or questions at i_mccahill@yahoo.com

An email to the Saint Paul General email would also be welcomed.

We are called to become a compassionate people.

When: Wednesdays in Lent, Meal of soup, salad and bread at 6 p.m. Discussion at 7 p.m.

Facilitators: Pastors Barbara Berry Bailey and Richard Gianzero

Statement of Intent

We gather as Christian people, followers of Jesus, with the courage to engage conversations about issues facing our churches and society.

Our time together is courageous because we know division exists in society and Christ calls us to unity. It takes courage to ask how God calls us to live as Christ's Body.

We call our time together "conversation" because we share differing opinions and levels of awareness about difficult issues. Conversation implies a desire to share with and hear from one another. Our courageous conversations are about race because race remains divisive in our society and churches.

As Christians engaged in courageous conversations about race we can learn, grow, and share as Jesus' disciples who seek to live out the command to "love one another" as Christ loved us.

What to expect during our Lenten gatherings

We gather around a simple meal as the earliest Christians did to express our unity in Christ.

We pray together as Christ taught us and ground ourselves in courageous faith.

We reflect on a biblical passage to ground our conversation in the values of our faith.

We engage in large group and smaller groups during the sessions.

We engage conversation about the material shared based on the following four agreements:

1. Stay engaged: Staying engaged means "remaining morally, emotionally, intellectually, and socially involved in the dialogue."



COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS about race

2. Experience discomfort: This norm acknowledges that discomfort is inevitable, especially in dialogue about race, and that participants make a commitment to bring issues into the open. It is not talking about these issues that create divisiveness. The divisiveness already exists in the society and in our Church. It is through dialogue, even when uncomfortable, that healing and change begin.
3. Speak your truth: This means being open about thoughts and feelings and not just saying what you think others want to hear. This also means using "I" statements. Your truth may not be someone else's.
4. Expect and accept non-closure: This agreement asks participants to "hang out in uncertainty" and not rush to quick solutions, especially in relation to racial understanding, which requires ongoing dialogue.

We will conclude with an evening prayer service.

Basic sources we will use

First two sessions: Race the Power of an Illusion, Episode 2. PBS/CA Newsreel, 2003.

Race timeline from Race: The Power of an Illusion, California Newsreel, 2003.

Glossary: From www.racialequitytools.org

Everyone is welcome!



Choir Boy, Until the Flood Round Out the Season

Once again, we will see two plays in April, thus ending our theatre season until September 2020. The first play is **Choir Boy**.

THEATRE & THEOLOGY

Pharus doesn't fit in at The Charles R. Drew Prep School for Boys. Despite embodying the strong ethical morals the school seeks to ingrain in its black students, being gay has made him an outsider within its hallowed walls. But this year, his talent and perseverance have paid off with a chance to lead the prestigious choir, a position where he may finally shake the dogged bullying by his fellow classmates.

Featuring gorgeous gospel music, you'll want to raise your voice and cheer as one student boldly stands up to the traditions that seek to silence his voice. This soaring coming-of-age musical drama was the Broadway debut of Oscar-winning screenwriter Tarell Alvin McCraney (*Moonlight*) whose deeply human storytelling illuminates the chaotic collision of masculinity, tradition and self-discovery on the path to adulthood.

This play will be seen at the Space Theatre on April 21 at 6:30 p.m. You can get your ticket(s) at 06:15 p.m. Deadline for buying a \$35 ticket is March 31. Please make check payable to The Rocky Mountain Synod and write on the memo line: T&T – Choir Boy – St. Paul ELCA.

The second play is **Until the Flood**. Briefly, the play is about Michael Brown, who was unarmed when a police officer fired 12 shots at him on Canfield Avenue in Ferguson, Missouri, on August 9, 2014, two days

before the 18 year old boy was to enroll in a technical college. The officer, Darren Wilson, was white. Mr. Brown was black. We don't know the answers to questions that arose. These questions seem irretrievably lost in a cloud of contention. What we can say is that one man having avoided indictment is free three years later and the other is still dead.

Playwright Dael Orlandersmith portrays only 8 people – nine if you include her own alter ego. She conducted a series of interviews in and around Ferguson. If you are into dramas that go beyond the headlines, then this show is for you. This play will be seen at the Jones Theatre on April 28 with a reservation deadline for buying a \$35 ticket being April 7. Please make check payable to The Rocky Mountain Synod and write on the memo line: T&T – Until the Flood – St. Paul ELCA. Mail it to Dorothy Stenman; 818 Logan Street #1203; Denver, CO 80203.

If you plan to see both plays, please write a check for each one.

After each play, join Pastor Dan Bollman as he examines the show through a theological lens.

Gun Violence Prevention and Migrant Justice

*AFSC & Coloradans For Immigrant Rights, Denver
Justice & Peace Committee, & Colorado Faith
Communities United to End Gun Violence*

Tuesday, March 3, 5-7 p.m.

1420 Ogden Street, Basement Conference Room,
Denver, Colorado 80218

AFSC will provide interpretation, childcare and
snacks.

For background info read *Where the Guns Go: US
Arms and the Crisis of Violence in Mexico* [www.afsc.
org/resource/report-where-guns-go](http://www.afsc.org/resource/report-where-guns-go)



Local Perspectives on Asylum: Stories of Immigration

Thursday, March 12, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Saint John's Cathedral – Dagwell Hall

1350 N. Washington St, Denver, CO 80203

Join us for the unique opportunity to hear from an asylum seeker who spent time in an ICE facility. Other immigration professionals will be on a panel to provide insight into different asylum scenarios. The discussion will give way to table dialogues, where attendees can reflect on their points of view.

Lunch Bunch at Helga's German

Lunch Bunch will be dining at Helga's German Restaurant & Deli in Aurora on Thursday, March 5, at 11:30 am.

Helga's is located at 14197 East Exposition. Come join us for schnitzel, assorted wursts, and apple strudel.

On April 2, we will go south of the border to Hacienda Colorado, located at 5056 South Wadsworth Blvd.

New people are always welcome.

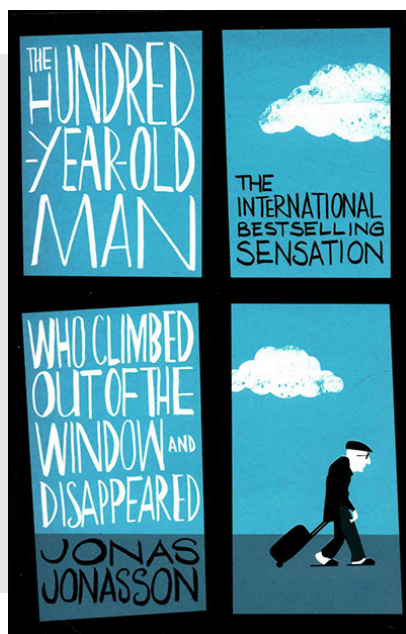
Say Hi to Janice

Janice Ahrendt is currently recovering from some health issues at Rose of Sharon Assisted Living located at 7487 S. Washington St., Centennial, 80122. Brighten her day with cards, prayers, notes, and visits; she'll appreciate knowing that you're thinking about her.

Book Talk

The book for March is **The Hundred-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared** by Jonas Jonasson. We will meet at 7 p.m. on February 19 at Bonnie Carlson's home, 480 S. Marion Pkwy #1206A.

For more information call Bonnie at 303-722-9892.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Lent 1 1 	2 	3 6:30pm Evangelism/ Outreach Committee	4 6pm Lenten soup supper and conversation	5 11:30am Lunch Bunch 7pm Choir rehearsal	6 	7 5pm Catholic Mass
Lent 2 8 9:30am Choir warmup 10:30am Lutheran Worship 12noon Annual meeting	9 6pm Rocky Mountain Ringers	10 6:30pm Congregational Council	11 6pm Lenten soup supper and conversation	12 7pm Choir rehearsal	13 	14 5pm Catholic Mass
Lent 3 15 9:15am Adult Forum 9:30am Choir warmup 10:30am Lutheran Worship 11:45am Coffee	16 6pm Rocky Mountain Ringers	17 	18 6pm Lenten soup supper and conversation	19 7pm Choir rehearsal	20 <i>Newsletter deadline</i>	21 5pm Catholic Mass
Lent 4 22 9:15am Adult Forum 9:30am Choir warmup 10:30am Lutheran Worship 11:45am Coffee 4pm Columbine Chorale Concert	23 6pm Rocky Mountain Ringers	24 	25 6pm Lenten soup supper and conversation	26 7pm Choir rehearsal	27 7:30pm Margaret Ozaki Voice Recital	28 5pm Catholic Mass
Lent 5 29 9:15am Adult Forum 9:30am Choir warmup 10:30am Lutheran Worship 11:45am Coffee	30 6pm Rocky Mountain Ringers	31 	March 2020			