

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Leetonia, hosts "Doubt: A Parable," a production of The Rude Mechanicals Theater Company, February 14-23.**

Set in a Bronx Catholic school, John Patrick Shanley's Tony Award and Pulitzer prize winning play DOUBT: A PARABLE is a powerful exploration of doubt and certainty, evidence and accusation. The year is 1964 and social changes have begun to affect the church. The school's first African-American student has arrived. Facing ostracism by the other students, the young Donald Muller is befriended by the progressive Father Flynn. But was this more than friendship?

The strict and stern Sister Aloysius, principal of the school, is certain that it is and takes it upon herself to delve into the nature of this relationship. Armed with her certainty, she begins a campaign of accusations against Father Flynn, starting a confrontation which will raise questions of the nature of doubt and certainty and the hierarchy of the church.

Caught in the middle of this circle of accusation and denial are the young, idealistic teacher Sister James and Mrs. Muller, the mother of the young man at the center of this controversy. Does anyone truly have the boy's best interest in mind? Or is he merely a pawn in this power struggle?

Directed by Mark Frost and starring PK Lankford, Rob Schmidt, Kim Akins, and Allyson Oyster, this thought-provoking work asks if there are any simple truths.

DOUBT: A PARABLE is a production of The Rude Mechanicals Theater Company. Six performances will begin on February 14<sup>th</sup> and run through February 23rd at St. Paul's Church in Leetonia, Ohio. Friday and Saturday performances will be at 8:00 p.m. with Sunday matinee performances at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15.00 for general admission and \$10.00 for students and seniors.