

**Trinity Lutheran Church
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Mary of Magdala Ecumenical Catholic Community
Fort Collins, Colorado**

PRESS RELEASE: Immediate release

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Ft. Collins Churches to Share Facility

Trinity Lutheran Church, St. Paul's Episcopal Church and Mary of Magdala Ecumenical Catholic Community announce an agreement for St. Paul's and Mary of Magdala to share Trinity's facility at 301 East Stuart in Fort Collins. St. Paul's, who shared their facility at 1208 W. Elizabeth with Mary of Magdala, has recently sold their property which has facilitated the move.

While each church will operate independently, they will each have worship, office, fellowship and meeting space at Trinity and will look for opportunities to work together in joint activities and cooperative ministries. The first day of shared space will be Sunday, October 29th and will be celebrated with a joint worship service at 10:00 a.m. followed by a fellowship event and meal.

Trinity's Council President, Dave Karst says: "Trinity is excited to share God's House with our brothers and sisters from St. Paul's and Mary of Magdala. The three churches share similar theology, practices and mission and we look forward to opportunities to work together in ministry and community service".

Fr. Jim DeMuth, pastoral director at Mary of Magdala is also excited at the prospect of shared ministries. "As an independent catholic community with a core value of inclusivity and a focus on service, I certainly feel we can together respond to the call of service to our community – within our three churches, and within our local and global communities."

Mary of Magdala is very grateful for the wonderful hospitality of St. Paul's Episcopal Church the past few years and as Fr Jim say, "we are so pleased about the warm welcome we have received from Trinity Lutheran., Ecumenism is alive with the 'Three in One'. All are truly welcome."

The Rev. Lyn Burns, Interim Rector of St. Paul's, says "Since our prayerful decision to move last year, St. Paul's has actively pursued many alternative options for relocation. It was with growing excitement and anticipation that we entered into conversations with the leadership of Trinity Lutheran Church, who demonstrated great openness and hospitality to both St. Paul's and the Mary of Magdala Community in terms of the possibilities of sharing space. All three faith communities were aware of the need to consider new models of "doing church" in the 21st century. So, it is with much joy that we enter this new phase of our journey with our ecumenical brothers and sisters in Christ. We anticipate our engagement to be rich and dynamic and are deeply grateful to the many thoughtful and loving people who have facilitated this truly historic venture,"

Worship Services will be as follows:

Saturday: 5 pm Trinity Praise Worship

Sunday: 8 am 1st & 3rd Trinity will lead Worship and 2nd & 4th St. Paul's Episcopal will lead Worship

9 am St. Paul's Episcopal Worship

10:30 am Trinity Worship

5 pm Mary of Magdala Worship

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Mary of Magdala

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