

BROADWAY ROSE THEATRE COMPANY

NEWS RELEASE

February 25, 2016
For Immediate Release

Contact: Alan Anderson
503.906.2380
alan@broadwayrose.org

Broadway Rose Theatre Presents a Deliciously Funny Musical



Tigard, OR – Broadway Rose Theatre Company continues its 25th anniversary season with ***Church Basement Ladies***, playing at the **Broadway Rose New Stage**. In rural Minnesota, 1965, the ladies of the local church fortify their flock with love, wisdom and, of course, the food they prepare in the church’s basement kitchen. Inspired by the best-selling book *Growing Up Lutheran*, *Church Basement Ladies* mixes together delightful original music, endearing characters, and side[dish]-splitting scenes to yield a deliciously funny musical comedy. Preview performance is Thursday, April 14 with opening night on **Friday, April 15**, and performances continuing through **May 15, 2016**. Evening performances are Thursday through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. Matinees are at 2 p.m. on Sundays, and on Saturdays, April 23, 30, and May 7. Performances are held at the New Stage located at 12850 SW Grant Avenue in Tigard. **Tickets are priced from \$30 to \$44** for adults (depending on date), with discounts available for groups and youth. For a full listing of show performances or to order tickets visit www.broadwayrose.org, call 503.620.5262, or visit the box office at 12850 SW Grant Ave., Tigard.

Church Basement Ladies, a celebration of the church basement kitchen and the women who work there, features four distinct characters and their relationships as they organize the food and the problems of a rural Minnesota church. From the elderly matriarch of the kitchen to the young bride-to-be learning the proper order of things, the book and music give us a touching, funny look at their lives as we see them handle a record breaking Christmas dinner, the funeral of a dear friend, a Hawaiian Easter Fundraiser, and a steaming hot July wedding. They stave off potential disasters, share and debate recipes, instruct the young, and keep the Pastor on course while thoroughly enjoying (and tolerating) each other. Funny and down to earth, audiences will recognize these ladies as they begin to see the church year unfold from below the House of God.

The cast of *Church Basement Ladies* features Kymberli Colbourne (Mavis), Debbie Hunter (Karin), Lori Paschall (Vivian), Zoe Randol (Signe), and Matthew Belles (Pastor E. L. Gunderson).

Inspired by the books of Janet Letnes Martin and Suzann Nelson, including the best seller *Growing Up Lutheran*, *Church Basement Ladies* was written by Jim Stowell and Jessica Zuehlke, with music and lyrics by Drew Jansen. The show is directed and choreographed by Jacob Toth, with music direction from Jeffery Childs. The creative team includes Chris Whitten (Set Designer), Grace O'Malley (Costume Designer), Rose Etta Venetucci (Lighting Designer), Elizabeth Wyatt (Sound Designer), Liz Carlson (Prop Designer), Jane Holmes (Wig Designer) and Jessica Junor (Production Stage Manager).

Broadway Rose's 2016 season is funded in part by the **Regional Arts & Culture Council**, the **Oregon Arts Commission**, and the **City of Tigard**. The Title Sponsor is **Pearson Financial Group**.

BROADWAY ROSE THEATRE COMPANY, a nonprofit arts organization, is Oregon's premier musical theater company. Under the artistic direction of Sharon Maroney, Broadway Rose has been successfully producing musical theatre in Tigard since 1992 and plays an important role in enriching the community's cultural arts. Committed to increasing opportunities for Oregonians to participate in the arts and working to retain Portland's talent pool and attract new talent to the area, Broadway Rose is resolved to keep live theater affordable and make its productions accessible to all ages and members of the community.

###