

“CHURCH BASEMENT LADIES 2: A SECOND HELPING !”

GENERIC PRESS RELEASE

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**THEY'RE SERVIN' IT UP AGAIN ...
CHURCH BASEMENT LADIES 2: A SECOND HELPING!
(ALTERNATE TITLE: A SECOND HELPING, THE CHURCH BASEMENT LADIES
SEQUEL)**

They're servin' it up again in the Church Basement kitchen. Troupe America, Inc., the Producer of the highly successful musical comedy Church Basement Ladies now brings us the sequel **Church Basement Ladies 2: A Second Helping!**

Because of the original musical's phenomenal success, Executive Producer, Curt Wollan decided to continue the story of this same group of women, these "Steel Magnolias of the Prairie," as they deal with life, death and new adventures in the world and their lives. Eight years ago, Wollan crafted the idea of developing a new musical comedy Church Basement Ladies inspired by the books of Janet Letnes Martin and Suzann Nelson, the creators of the best-selling book Growing Up Lutheran that brought their unique brand of humor to the stage. It was a well-conceived project dedicated to those stalwart women of the church who volunteer to work in the church kitchen ... those under appreciated ladies of the church who cook and arrange the food and coffee for weddings, youth gatherings, and pot luck suppers ... our mothers, grandmothers, aunts and moms.

The original production of Church Basement Ladies opened at the Plymouth Playhouse September 8, 2005, and performed to more than 250,000 patrons, in 1123 performances during its two and one half year run. The show has toured nationally in 58 cities across the country as well as having been performed last year in Nashville at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center, at Circa 21 in Rock Island, Illinois, and at the nationally acclaimed New Theater Restaurant in Kansas City, starring Bill Christopher as Pastor (Father Mulcahy from the TV show M*A*S*H*).

This time around, the year is 1969 and the world is a changing. As folks protest the Vietnam War and women are demanding equal pay for equal work, in their small rural Minnesota community, the ladies of the Lutheran church basement kitchen are dealing with changes of their own. With their heartwarming humor and hilarious antics, **Church Basement Ladies 2: A Second Helping!** The show takes us from serving the High School students at the Luther League Banquet to a church sponsored Missionary Night and the rise and fall of a Viking's Super Bowl Sunday. From the elderly matriarch of the kitchen to the young mom-to-be, these women find strength in each other as they deal with the joys and upheavals from below the "House of God!"

In developing an all-new score and script for the sequel, Wollan has gathered an impressive new creative team. He's merged the talents of composer/songwriter Drew Jansen, who wrote the original score and the lyrics for Church Basement Ladies with another well-known Twin Cities composer, Dennis Curley, arranger of the stage version of Schoolhouse Rock Live! based on the popular TV series. Known for her comedy sketches and as head writer for the Medora Musical, Greta Grosch collaborated with this music duo to develop the script. Again, directed by Curt Wollan, Church Basement Ladies 2: A Second Helping! is choreographed by Wendy Short Hays, with set and lighting design by Scott Herbst, costume design by Katrina Benedict and musical direction by Dennis Curley.