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**CONTACT:**

Jennifer Weismann

612-716-0556

[Jennifer@owl-marketing.com](mailto:Jennifer@owl-marketing.com)

**THE LOONEY LUTHERANS CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS IN  
“HOLD THE LUTEFISK! — IT’S BEGINNING TO SMELL A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS”**

*From the team behind “Church Basement Ladies”*

*comes an original musical comedy to delight seasonal audiences*

**PLYMOUTH, MINN. —August 31st, 2017—** When you want an old-fashioned Minnesota Christmas, you know who to turn to — the musical, merry, menopausal members of the Looney Lutherans! These warm and witty women have created a brand new show of family-friendly comedy skits and songs to help audiences enjoy the spirit of the season, and maybe even create a new holiday tradition to boot. [\*Hold the Lutefisk! - It’s Beginning to Smell a Lot Like Christmas\*](#) runs at the Plymouth Playhouse from November 1 to December 23—and you don’t have to be Lutheran to love it!

Audiences will unwrap a Christmas present like no other: unusual holiday advice crafted with cheer from the Looney Lutherans, a trio of Lutheran ladies who have written a cookbook and lifestyle guide — *Use Your Food: A Guide to a Healthy Holiday, From Our Kitchen to Yours, Eat Like a Lutheran!* With years of cookie exchanges, in-law visits, and church Nativity programs under their belts, they’ve put their knowledge to good use, and are ready to give away their secret to getting on Santa’s “nice list” (hotdish, anyone?), entertain with a song of praise for their new Cuisinart 12-speed mixer, and share the trick to staying faithful to post-holiday workout goals while cleaning up after visiting relatives.

“The Looney Lutherans love singing together as much as we love dessert bars, so the show also pays tribute to over 40 of our favorite Christmas songs... of course, we won’t necessarily be the only ones singing them! We love drawing the audience into our shows,” said Looney Lutheran creator/actress Greta Grosch, who acted in and wrote the scripts for many of the *Church Basement Ladies* shows. “We created *Hold the Lutefisk!* because we’re always making each other laugh with ideas for a quirky song or a hilarious bit, and we know audiences find these characters as endearing as we do.”

Grosch, who writes and performs as one of the Looney Lutherans, is joined in *Hold the Lutefisk!* by two faces familiar to *Church Basement Ladies*’ fans, veteran Twin Cities singers and actresses (and Looney Lutherans cofounders!) Dorian Chalmers and Robbie Mancina. Audiences will get to know the trio as Ginger Johnson, Looney life coach and mastermind behind the Lutheran Food Wheel; Bella Anderson, Italian by birth, Lutheran by marriage, and proud owner of her own exercise franchise; and Lutheran beauty maven Lois Jenson.

Tickets for **Hold the Lutefisk!** are available for \$29 and up. Group discounts are available. Visit the [Plymouth Playhouse](#) website for more information, or call 763-553-1600, ext 1. For group sales, call 763-383-1073. Groups also have the option of dining at the Green Mill before the show, which will be offering a special (lutefisk-free!) *Hold the Lutefisk!* buffet where turkey and mashed potatoes will be accompanied by Lutheran holiday favorites like green bean casserole and marshmallow salad—call Green Mill Banquets for more information at 763-553-2086.

The Looney Lutherans were first cooked up in 2006 when the founding members were appearing in the cast of the hit musical *Church Basement Ladies*. The company has now expanded to include additional “Loonies,” but all of these talented women have been performing for years as professional actresses, writers, singers, and improvisers. As the Looney Lutherans, they have appeared together around the country sharing tips from their (fictional) cookbook and lifestyle guide. For more information, visit [thelooneylutherans.com](http://thelooneylutherans.com).

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