

Play Summary: *stained glass*

Time and Setting: 2010, Northfield, Minnesota, a suburb of Minneapolis.

Roles: 5 women and 4 men.

Genre: Drama

First Lutheran Church is in the midst of a building project and they cannot agree on what should be done with the church's stained glass windows, some of which are in pretty bad shape. Charlene "Charlie" Romano, general contractor and friend of church council president Conway Harding, squares off against Rich Saunders, First Lutheran's Youth Director and worship leader, supported by Sophia Lumens, a stained glass consultant. Caught in the crossfire is the newly called Pastor Rachel Paulsen. Charlie believes that the whole building complex should be brought down and the windows, which are expensive, hard to maintain elements of a bygone era, be sacrificed. Sophia is passionate that the windows are the sublime work of a master artist that needs to be preserved. As if this wouldn't be enough to cause factions, Charlie, emboldened by her view that the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America – the liberal one, for you non-Lutherans) is sympathetic to gay marriage, seeks to wed her partner, Naomi Stone, at First Lutheran. Is tradition standing in the way of progress and can Pastor Rachel keep this powder keg from igniting? *stained glass* offers a view of mainstream America set squarely in the intersection of religion and sexuality.