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GENEROUS

GOD... PEOPLE... VISION...

November 18 and 19, 2017

We celebrate that the new self, the Christian's 'real me,' looks like our heavenly Father. He creates us to be generous like he is generous.

BELLS AND WELCOME

OPENING HYMN 234, vv. 1-4

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

BAPTISM (Sunday 9:15 am)

Adeline Cheyenne Wicinski

Daughter of Matthew and Kelly (nee Faherty) Wicinski, born October 15, 2017

M In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

M Brothers and sisters, Jesus warns us that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. In fact, he says that it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.

C We are rich compared to so many in our world. In fear, we join with the disciples and ask, "Who then can be saved?"

M With man this is impossible. We too easily fall prey to the allure of money and possessions. We put our trust in earthly wealth. We are plagued by discontent and greed. Let us, therefore, turn to God, humble ourselves before him, and confess our sin.

C Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior, Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

LORD HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy
on us. Lord, have mer-cy on us. A - men.

M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

RESPONSE HYMN 234, v. 5

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

**Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen Sound from his people again;
Gladly forever adore him!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

M Let us pray.

Lord God, the eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time.

C **You open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.**

M Teach us to listen closely to your Word and to hold tightly to your promise to care for us.

C **Remove all doubts and worries from our minds. Help us to trust you.**

M We pray in Jesus' name. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Proverbs 3:1-10, Bible page 630

Honor the Lord with your wealth.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalms 45, Hymnal page 83

As we consider the mighty acts of our Savior King, we are moved to perpetuate his memory through all generations.

SECOND LESSON

Colossians 4:2-6, Bible page 1185

Paul encourages us to make the most of every opportunity we are given to share Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY 487

O Lord of Heaven and Earth and Sea

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (*Saturday*)

(*Sunday 7:45 am*)

(*Sunday 9:15 am*)

Simple Living, *Laura, Rose, and Pastor Bonack*

Simple Living, *Lutheran Elementary School Grades K-8*

What a Friend We Have in Jesus, *Mike and Emily Krill*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN 488

Savior, Thy Dying Love

CLOSING PRAYER

M Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BLESSING

M The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

C **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESIDING MINISTER (*Sunday*) *Pastor David Kuehl*

ORGANIST *Kathy Bremer*

DORCAS SOCIETY BAKE SALE - SUNDAY



The Dorcas Society is having a bake sale to raise money for missions on Sunday, November 19, after all services, in the Faith Room. Proceeds will benefit the St. Paul's Tuition Assistance Fund, Lutheran Women's Missionary Society, and the Malawi African mission.

THANKSGIVING FESTIVAL WORSHIP SERVICES AT ST. PAUL'S



Wednesday, November 22, at 7:00 pm
Thursday, November 23, at 9:15 am

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES



Midweek Advent worship services: December 6, 13, and 20 at 3:30 and 7:00 pm.
(A soup supper will be served in the Grace Room from 4:30 to 6:30 pm during Advent.)

Saturday, December 23: Traditional Worship Service at 5:00 pm (4th Sunday in Advent)
Sunday, December 24: Traditional Worship Service at 8:00 am (4TH Sunday in Advent)
Contemporary Worship Service at 10:00 am (4th Sunday in Advent)

Christmas Eve Festival Worship Services: 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, and 10:00 pm
Christmas Day Festival Worship Services with Holy Communion: 8:00 and 10:00 am

** The Lutheran Elementary School Christmas services are Friday, December 22, at 5:00 and 7:00 pm.
There will be no Bridge service Christmas weekend.
There will be no Wednesday worship service on December 27.
New Year's Eve and Day schedule will be the regular weekend worship schedule with Holy Communion.



Our vision is that by every possible means we bring every person in our area of influence closer to Christ through regular worship, small groups, and serving together.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of November 20, 2017

MON	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	7:00 pm	Through the Bible in a Year (Grace Room)
	7:00 pm	Woodwind Rehearsal (Church Balcony)
TUE	9:15 am	Ministerial Team Meeting
	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study (Faith Room)
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	5:30 pm	Food Pantry Thanksgiving Food Basket Distribution (Trinity Café)
	6:30 pm	Alzheimer's Support Group (Church Library)
	6:30 pm	Handbell Rehearsal (Church Balcony)
	7:00 pm	Dorcas Society (Grace Room)
	7:00 pm	Volleyball League (Trinity Gym)
	7:00 pm	<i>Following the Promise</i> Membership Bible Study (Faith Room)
WED	9:30 am	Pre-K and Kindergarten Thanksgiving Program (Centennial Gym)
	1:00 pm	Through the Bible in a Year (Grace Room)
	7:00 pm	Thanksgiving Festival Worship Service
THUR		Thanksgiving Day
		No Lutheran Elementary School – Thanksgiving Break
	9:15 am	Thanksgiving Festival Worship Service
FRI		No Lutheran Elementary School – Thanksgiving Break
	6:00 pm	Gedemer / Nelson Renewal of Vows Rehearsal
SAT	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room)
	3:30 pm	Katrina Gedemer and Jack Nelson Renewal of Vows (Main Church)
	5:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
SUN	7:45 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:15 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:15 am	Grace Room Bible Study
	9:15 am	Parents Club (School Classroom 8)
	9:15 am	Kids Club and Boost Youth Ministries
	9:45 am	The Bridge Communion
	10:15 am	The Bridge
	10:45 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
6:30 pm	TUG Talk (Trinity Café)	

Holiday Office Hours – *The church and school office will be closed Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24, for the Thanksgiving holiday.*

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

THE DOMINO EFFECT

One thing leads to another. A generous God creates generous people with a generous vision.

November 22 and 23 - Thanksgiving

A generous God gives us a generous vision to help those in need.

November 25, 26, and 29

He has given us a generous vision of greater work to be done.



SUNDAY MORNING NURSERY

If you have small children, you might appreciate being able to focus on the sermon without interruption. We have a staffed nursery during the 9:15 and 10:45 am services in the east wing of the church. A silent pager system allows childcare providers to alert you of any need your child has. Ask a worship host for directions.

HOSPITALIZED

Norman Boye, Roger Musack, and Jeanne Steinbrecher has been discharged from the hospital.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Please pray for the following individuals in their time of need: Dawn Brown, David Burkowitz, Jodie Crosby, Sharon Dreyer, Namine Eiche, Brittany Gillespie, Janelle Gray, John Hansen, Daniel Holtz, Dawn Jahns, Keith Jahns, Sandra Merfeld, Sonia Neuberger, Marvin Pellmann, Jeanne Steinbrecher, and Sergeant Christopher Verhein (protecting our country).

ATTENDANCE

1067 were in attendance last week.

EVANGELISM FOR EVERYONE: MARTIN LUTHER ON VOCATION

As Christians, and especially as Lutherans, our attention on vocation is unique. God grants us our place in life to glorify him and to help people in need, especially in the need to know Jesus as their Savior. Join Pastor Mike Hintz, director of the WELS Commission on Evangelism, for this 4-week study — Sundays, November 26 through December 17, in the Grace Room at 9:15 am.

FOLLOWING THE PROMISE BIBLE STUDY – MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Join us in this “Bible boot camp.” You will track the promises of the Savior from the Garden of Eden down to your own heart and life. The study is led by Pastor Pete on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm. Register on the Connection Card.

HOUSE OR HOME: GOD'S BLUEPRINT FOR BIBLICAL PARENTING

House or Home? God's Blueprint for Biblical Parenting is the current Parents Club offering facilitated by School Administrator Seth Fitzsimmons. It is an 8-week DVD-based series, continuing through Sunday, December 17, in school classroom 9.

INSTITUTIONAL MINISTRIES PRESENTATION

All are invited as the Dorcas Society welcomes Pastor Joe Radsek of WELS Institutional Ministries on Tuesday, November 21, at 7:00 pm, in the Grace Room. Come and hear about the most recent efforts to reach those who are hungry for peace in the prison system.

NOVEMBER TUG TALK

Sunday, November 26, at 6:30 pm, is the next Teens Under God (TUG) Talk in the Trinity Café. A 30-year-old St. Paul's member, who contemplated suicide when younger, will share his story and express how glad he is to still be alive, and entertain questions. It will be a riveting and awakening session.

GENEROUS – GOD... PEOPLE... VISION...

A Generous God

Our God is a God of infinite resources who has “been pleased to give you the kingdom” (Luke 12). His generosity and love for us should guarantee “financial peace”! Yet, our finances are often a source of stress. We invite you to attend the next **Financial Peace University** course offered here at St. Paul’s, beginning in January. Join others in this nine-week DVD-based course as we walk together through the seven baby steps toward financial peace. Indicate interest on the Connection Card.

Perhaps God has granted you financial peace. Now the question in your mind is: “What more could I do?” Join us in **The Legacy Journey** by Dave Ramsey. We will also learn about St. Paul’s Legacy and Gift Trust Funds that have been designed to help us leave a legacy. Indicate interest on the Connection Card.

A Generous People

St. Paul’s is a generous family of faith. Sometimes we don’t even realize how God has used us to make a difference for eternity in the lives of so many people. Did you know that...

- St. Paul’s is a leader in our synod. In 2016, we gave \$279,000 as we partnered with the other congregations in our synod to support mission work in 24 nations and in 160 mission fields in our own country, as well as training the next generation of pastors and teachers at our synod’s four worker-training schools.
- St. Paul’s is a leader of the Wisconsin Lutheran High School Conference, providing \$135,000 in support. Through your generosity, these 10 young people were baptized in January 2017 at a chapel service. Every week, your generosity allows 733 young people to gain a Christian worldview at the feet of Christian instructors.
- St. Paul’s provides an average of \$3,700 in offering subsidy for every student in our K-8th grade Elementary School. Through your generosity, we can tell any parent interested in Christian education, “Don’t let the cost hold you back from considering this option.”
- Tuition is also part of our generosity. We don’t view tuition as a “payment for services” business transaction. Rather tuition received is part of the generous and willing response of God’s people here at St. Paul’s to support gospel ministry that benefits your children and others.
- St. Paul’s offers Christian education to nearly 200 children in our Sunday morning ministries and offers this same gift to our community, especially through our *Christmas for Kids* and *Easter for Kids* programs.
- St. Paul’s supports community organizations like the Muskego Food Pantry, the Senior Taxi, and provides thousands of dollars in aid to individuals in need both within our congregation and in our community.
- St. Paul’s is partnering with Garden Homes Lutheran Church and School and Lighthouse Ministry to serve the disadvantaged youth on Milwaukee’s north side.



All this is not to our glory, but to the glory of a generous God who has created us to be his generous people.

THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS NEWS

PROVIDE A THANKSGIVING MEAL

Our Food Pantry Team will be distributing food to needy families within our congregation and community on November 21. If you know of a family in need or if your family would benefit from a Thanksgiving food basket, please contact Coordinator Steve Graham at steve0828@hotmail.com or 262-232-0928 or Pastor Kuehl at dkuehl@stpaulmuskego.org or 414-422-0320, ext. 121.

REMEMBERING ST. PAUL'S HOMEBOUND

Since many of you like to remember our homebound members with a card, note, or phone call at this time of the year, a list of our shut-in members has been placed at the Welcome Center. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Kuehl or any visitor who serves on our Homebound Visitation Ministry Team. Their names and numbers are included on the roster.

GIFT TREE FOR MUSKEGO CHILDREN AND ELDERLY IN NEED

As is our custom at St. Paul's, we will once again be showing Jesus' love by gathering gifts for many of the most vulnerable residents in Muskego. We have the following 3 ways set up to participate:

1. Select a tag from one of the Christmas trees in the church lobby and follow the instructions. Tags include names of children provided by the Muskego Food Pantry, as well as nursing home patients at the Muskego Health Care Center. Return the wrapped gifts by December 1. Gifts are usually priced \$30 - \$50. (New tags will arrive each week.)
2. If you don't have time to shop and prefer to contribute funds towards a gift, we have volunteer shoppers that are happy to do the purchasing and wrapping. Any dollar amount is welcome and you can even select which tag(s) you would like to sponsor.
3. Adopt-A-Family is another option this year. Please let Outreach Coordinator Sally Wallner know of your interest or mark the line on the back of your Connection Card and you will be contacted with more information. Adopting a family would involve about a \$450 investment.

St. Paul's Christmas postcards, which include our Christmas worship service times, will be provided for you to include with your gifts. Please contact Outreach Coordinator Sally Wallner (414) 422-0320, ext. 294, with questions.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS DECORATING

Are you one of those people who *LOVE* Christmas? Do you start counting down the days until Christmas on the day after Christmas? Are you playing Christmas music in July? If so, join us in decorating the church for Christmas! It's happening on Saturday, December 2, at 9:30 am. Contact Pastor Bonack at jbonack@stpaulmuskego.com or text Emily Krill at (262) 510-8109 to be part of this awesome event! (Cookies and elf hats welcome!)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS!



St. Paul's 2017 *Christmas for Kids* is Saturday, December 9, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm in the Trinity Café and Gym. Register online at www.stpaulmuskego.org, complete the back of the Connection Card, sign the Welcome Center sheet, or contact Dr. Nelson at jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org. *Christmas for Kids* is for children ages 3-12. Parents are welcome to stay and enjoy the morning. Children are asked to bring a non-perishable food item as their "ticket" for the morning. Contact Dr. Nelson at (414)-422-0320, ext. 145 with questions.

PUERTO RICO MISSION PROJECT



Miguel's house is on the left. The car farthest to right cannot make it to Miguel's house because the bridge was destroyed by the hurricane. Also noteworthy are the trees which are missing their leaves – also stripped by Maria.

personally assess the current situation in Barrancas Sector Matadero and identify physical and spiritual ways in which St. Paul's might best be able to help. Our intent is to supply these St. Paul's representatives with Walmart and Costco gift cards, in amounts up to \$1,000, that they and Miguel together could use during their visit to meet immediate needs.

The trip would also allow our visitors to take a look at neighboring neighborhoods to evaluate what is happening there.

Additional mission trips may be scheduled periodically in the months ahead to minister to the physical and spiritual needs of the Puerto Rican people in Barrancas and the broader Barranquitas community as God wills. Keep these people and our team in your prayers as we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving.

We Invite Your Help

If you would like to be a part of this Christian relief effort, we invite gifts designated "Puerto Rico." You can also use text-to-give: text the letters PR and a gift amount (example: PR \$25) to 414-316-6733. All undesignated offerings received on Thanksgiving Eve and Day will also go to support our efforts to help.

On September 20, 2017, Hurricane Maria slammed into Puerto Rico, dumping two feet of rain and bringing winds of 150 miles per hour and incredible devastation. St. Paul's member Diane Ludwig (nee Colon-Rodriguez) is related to many people in Barranquitas (population 31,000) in the center of the island.

Immediate Help

Last week, we reported that Diane Ludwig's brother-in-law, Miguel, received all 28 of the packages Diane and her sister, Iris, had sent in October. Since then, nine additional packages of food and medical supplies have been shipped to our new friends in Barrancas Sector Matadero funded by gifts already received from St. Paul's members. Those packages were slated to be delivered on November 16. The intermediate plan to send one additional package each day between now and the end of November is being implemented.

Future Help

Plans are also being formulated to send two Spanish-speaking St. Paul's representatives to Barranquitas in late November/early December.

This initial trip would be to



Joan Oswald gathers supplies for Puerto Rico. Included with each package is a note (in Spanish):

We are thinking of you each day and are praying that the Lord of us all will bless you and the steps that you are taking each day to recover from the impact of Hurricane Maria.

Your Friends in Jesus Christ at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Muskego, Wisconsin

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

A NEW MISSION PARTNER CONNECTION

We are excited to announce that Dan Thiel, former teacher and staff minister at St. Paul's, has accepted the Community Service Liaison position for Costa Maya Ministries on the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico—one of St. Paul's new mission partners. He will be on the ground in late November or early December. Dan will work with Pastor Martin Valleskey in many aspects of ministry, including service projects, community improvement, volunteer project management, communication with partner churches, and more. For more information go to www.costamayaministries.org. If you would like to help support this mission partner, mark your gift "Mexican Mission."

JOY-FILLED CHILDREN OF THE WORLD MISSION OPPORTUNITY

JCW is an exciting and blooming ministry to Asian children and is looking for American volunteers to teach conversational English *from their own homes* to small groups of children. Volunteers teach small classes (2-4 students, ages 9-16) via the internet for one hour per week. All classes are hosted by a "local assistant teacher." You don't have to be a certified teacher or a master of English... just friendly, patient and mentoring. The children have had at least 3 years of academic English. This program further develops their English-speaking skills by engaging in conversation through Bible stories.

St. Paul's member, Carol Nelson, had this to say about her first impressions: "Last Saturday, I began serving as a teacher for JCW. It was very rewarding, well organized, and easy to do." Carol also expressed that the hand-out at the Welcome Center here at church is very helpful. Pick one up today. They still need 12 more teachers!

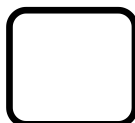
Contact Beth Radloff-Gove at bethgove@gmail.com or (512) 762-3762 with further questions.

HOST A WISCONSIN LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL STUDENT FOR THE SPRING SEMESTER

Impact the lives of international students living away from home by becoming a WLHS homestay family for the spring 2018 semester. Homestay families make an international student a welcome member of their family, provide a room with a study space, provide breakfast and dinner meals, arrange for school transportation, and mentor and discipline the international student. A monthly stipend is offered to allow you to provide a great experience for the student. Visit www.wlhs.org/homestay to download the application. Applications must be received by Friday, December 1. Contact Director of the International Program Eric Duwe at eric.duwe@wlhs.org with questions.

BOYS CHURCH BASKETBALL

Teen boys, not on their high school's team, who are interested in playing in the high school church league should contact Dr. Nelson by December 1 at jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org.



NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

Take notes during the sermon to help you remember the main points

A Generous God Creates Generous People with a Generous Vision

A Generous God Creates GRU

Luke 16:1-15, page 1048

1. Which GRU are you?

- a. The dishonest manager Gru
 - i. The goal of life is “d_____ m_____”
 - ii. There will be an accounting of this w_____ Gru life
- b. The shrewd GRU (G_____ R_____ U)
 - i. The Shrewd GRU with one goal – the p_____ (Luke 15:10)
 - ii. The Shrewd GRU is the r_____ you (Romans 7:14-8:1, page 1132)



2. Live the GRU

- a. The GRU's life is _____'s life (2 Corinthians 5:14-15, Luke 19:10)
- b. The GRU works for _____ (Ephesians 6:7; Ecclesiastes 5:18-20)
- c. The GRU invests for _____
 - i. In yourself (1 Timothy 6:17)
 - ii. In your family (1 Timothy 5:8)
 - iii. In others, especially your church family (Galatians 6:10)
 - iv. In a grand vision (Acts 1:8; Revelation 7:9-12, page 1243)

My Personal Next Steps To “Live the GRU”

- Celebrate that the Generous Real U looks like your Generous God. Compare Psalm 111 (describing our Generous God) and Psalm 112 (describing the Generous Real U). A comparison sheet is available at the Welcome Center.
- Find Financial Peace with friends. On the Connection Card, indicate interest in the *Financial Peace* study that will be offered in January.
- Prepare to share Financial Peace with the next generation. On the Connection Card, indicate interest in *The Legacy Journey* study that will be offered in January.