

WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of December 11, 2017

MON	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	7:00 pm	<i>Through the Bible In a Year</i> Bible Study (Grace Room)
	7:00 pm	Woodwind Rehearsal (Church Balcony)
TUE	9:15 am	Ministerial Team Meeting
	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study (Grace Room)
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	11:30 am	OWLS Christmas Party (Muskego Regency)
	6:00 pm	Dorcas Society Christmas Party (Grace Room)
	6:30 pm	Handbell Rehearsal (Church Balcony)
	7:00 pm	Volleyball League (Trinity Gym)
	7:00 pm	<i>Following the Promise</i> Bible Study (Faith Room)
WED	1:00 pm	<i>Through the Bible In a Year</i> Bible Study (Faith Room)
	3:30 pm	Advent Worship Service
	4:30 pm	Soup Supper to benefit St. Paul's School technology (Grace Room)
	4:30 pm	Public School Confirmation Classes
	7:00 pm	Advent Worship Service
	8:00 pm	Brass Ensemble Rehearsal
THURS	6:30 am	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room)
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	7:00 pm	The Bridge and Contemporary Band Practice
	7:00 pm	Pickleball League (Trinity Gym)
SAT	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room)
	5:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service
SUN	7:45 am	Traditional Worship Service
	9:15 am	Traditional Worship Service
	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	Contemporary Worship Service

Note: There will be no Youth Ministry or Adult Bible Study on the Sundays of December 24 and 31.



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.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

FLOWERS

The flowers beautifying the sanctuary today are given in celebration of Richard and LoEtta Cuccio's 60th wedding anniversary on December 7. May God bless them in their marriage together in Christ.

HOSPITALIZED

Milton Baas is rehabbing at Hales Corners Care Center and Dorothy Hahn at Dycorn Transitional Living. Delbert Holtz is at Waukesha Memorial. Sue Gullekson and Richard Smith have been discharged from the hospital.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Please pray for the following individuals in their time of need: Dawn Brown, David Burkowitz, Jodie Crosby, Namine Eiche, Brittany Gillespie, Janelle Gray, John Hansen, Daniel Holtz, Dawn Jahns, Sandra Merfeld, Sonia Neuberger, Jeanne Steinbrecher, and Dick and Jane Sternberg.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

971 attended worship services last weekend. 341 were in attendance at midweek Advent services.

THE PLACE TO BEGIN: FOLLOWING THE PROMISE BIBLE STUDY

Begins Tuesday, January 9, at 7:00 pm

Pastor Panitzke and Pastor Strobel will be teaching this fifteen-week study that follows the promises God made to you throughout the Bible. This course is both a Bible introduction study and prepares an individual for membership in the congregation. One attendee stated, "If you have questions about your faith, whether new or old, you will find this class so beneficial. I had many "aha" moments on things I had forgotten since catechism class way back when." Register by indicating your interest on the back of the Connection Card.

EVANGELISM FOR EVERYONE: MARTIN LUTHER ON VOCATION

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 through December 17 in the Grace Room at 9:15 am.

HOUSE OR HOME: GOD'S BLUEPRINT FOR BIBLICAL PARENTING

Join School Administrator Seth Fitzsimmons as he leads this Parents Club study Sundays at 9:15 am in school classroom 9.

GIFT TREE FOR MUSKEGO RESIDENTS IN NEED

Many thanks for the many gifts we have seen pouring in for our community through this program. Gift Tree tag numbers 100 – 165 are due back December 17.

SCHOOL OF EARLY LEARNING INFANT AVAILABILITY

St. Paul's School of Early Learning (SOEL) childcare center will have an opening in the infant room beginning in September of 2018. Spread the word! Contact SOEL Director Kim Neubauer for more information at kneubauer@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 422-0320, ext. 200.

AWAKE AND ALIVE

Awake and Alive is holding its first ever two-day conference for college-age and young professionals (18-25 year olds) on January 5 and 6 at Wisconsin Lutheran College. The hope is to provide overnight arrangements for 30 attendees from out of town. Contact Lynda at Lynda@awakealive.com. She will assist in structuring your hosting availability in a way that's comfortable for you.

MISSION PARTNER NEWS

COULD YOU GIVE A YEAR OF YOUR LIFE TO MISSIONS?

When I was a child, our Sunday School was deciding whether to support a home or foreign mission for the next year. I thought we were deciding where we would all go to do mission work. I was only five years old. I didn't think I was ready to leave home. My vote was "Home Mission."

My dreams have changed since then. How exciting it would be to devote a year of my life to a mission, whether it be a home mission or a foreign mission! Most of us can't get away for a year. But perhaps we could give a year of our lives in another way.

Many of us have enjoyed an incredible investment year. The Dow Jones Industrial Average is up 22.36% in 2017. If I would love to give a year of my life to missions, would I also love to give a year of my life's investment to do the Lord's work?

This is a question that I am still struggling with in prayer. Has God's hand of blessing been upon our retirement accounts only to hasten the day of our retirement, or to give us a dream of doing more for God's kingdom? I am writing this to invite you to join with me in this kind of prayer struggle.

Could I give a year of my life for missions? A challenging question for a five-year-old and for any of us.

If you would like to talk about some of the spiritual investment opportunities God is giving St. Paul's here or among our mission partners, contact me (Pastor Panitzke) at (414) 350-1436 or ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org.

COSTA MAYA MISSION PARTNER

We are excited that our former teacher Dan Thiel will have the privilege of serving on a long-term mission trip to Costa Maya Ministries on the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico. (See their new three-minute introductory video at www.costamayaministries.org.) This mission has received a \$100,000 challenge grant. Every dollar will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$100,000. The goal is to see this gift fully matched, resulting in \$200,000 given to the mission so that they can purchase and remodel their ministry center. Ask Pastor Pete for more information.

HURRICANE MARIA RELIEF IN PUERTO RICO

We have sent over a half ton of goods to Barranquitas, Puerto Rico, to help the Barrancas neighborhood recover from the devastation caused by Hurricane Maria. Over \$8,200 and four quilts from the St. Paul's Quilting Group have already been donated. Now the focus of our relief efforts shifts from boxes to other delivery methods.

St. Paul's member Diane Ludwig, whose extended family lives in Barrancas, will travel to Puerto Rico on December 13. We will arm her with gift cards purchased with a portion of your donations. While there she will shop for and distribute goods she and her brother Miguel determine will best meet the needs of their neighbors. Before returning on December 18, she plans to identify other physical and spiritual needs which we could help with in the days to come.

When Diane returns, the Puerto Rico focus group at St. Paul's will meet to determine next steps. Joan and Jay Oswald are scheduled to leave for Puerto Rico on January 4 on a previously scheduled vacation. We are hopeful that their visit will fit in well with those next steps.

If you would like to contribute to this ongoing relief effort, mark your gift clearly "Puerto Rico" or go to www.stpaulmuskego.org/give or text PR and a dollar amount to 414-316-6733.

CHRISTMAS AT ST. PAUL'S

WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS NOW

“What the world needs now, is love, sweet love.”

Ever since Hal David and Burt Bacharach wrote this song in 1965, countless singers have reminded us love is “the only thing that there’s just too little of.”

God knew that too. That’s why God gave the gift of Love at Christmas.

But God’s love is not a sentimental wish. It is God facing the reality of our need. It is God revealing to us how loveless we are. It is God stepping in to provide hope for the hopeless. It is God giving himself for us. Join us this Christmas season as the Prophet Isaiah reveals to us that God gave us “What the World Needs Now.”



Dec 17	What the World Needs Now Is Hope	Isaiah 61:1-11
Dec 24	What the World Needs Now Is God Himself	Isaiah 9:2-7
Dec 25	What the World Needs Now Is Peace	Isaiah 52:7-10

WEDNESDAY ADVENT SERVICES – CAROLS FOR THE NEWBORN KING

3:30 and 7:00 pm

The great hymns of Christmas take us to the center of our faith in Christ. In our midweek Advent devotions we will take a closer look at three beloved carols for the newborn King. Each service will begin with a Christmas carol hymn-sing 15 minutes prior.



December 13	Savior of the Nations, Come	Hymn 2
December 20	What Child Is This	Hymn 67

HOT DOG SUPPER – WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

Join us for a hot dog supper between Advent services Wednesday, December 6, from 4:30 to 6:30 pm in the Grace Room. The meal is provided by St. Paul’s Church and School office staff. A free will offering will be gathered at the supper to benefit technology at our school.

HOST THE DECEMBER 20 SOUP SUPPER

The Wednesday, December 20 soup supper is still available for hosting. To volunteer please contact Tammy Miller at (414) 422-0320, ext. 111, or tmiller@stpaulmuskego.org. If there are no volunteers by Tuesday, December 12, we will cancel this soup supper.

STEWARDSHIP AT ST. PAUL'S

FIND FINANCIAL PEACE

One of the biggest causes of relationship strife is financial stress. Do you want help finding “financial peace”? We invite you to attend the next *Financial Peace University* classes offered here at St. Paul's, beginning in January. Join 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.

LEAVING A LEGACY

Perhaps God has granted you financial peace. Perhaps the words, “From the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked” (Luke 12:48), challenge you to wonder, “What more could I do? How can I leave a legacy with what God has given me?” Join us in another course developed by Dave Ramsey to help us prepare to leave a legacy and learn about St. Paul's Legacy and Gift Trust Funds that have been designed to leave a legacy. Indicate interest on the Connection Card.

ANNIVERSARY FUND

If you are looking for a year-end-gift opportunity, consider the “Anniversary Fund.” We will celebrate our school's 50th anniversary and the 60th anniversary of the Centennial Gym in 2018. We are just beginning the information gathering stage, but we know that improvements like the paving of the school playground, renovations to the Centennial Gym, replacement of heating systems with the addition of possible air conditioning will cost us hundreds of thousands of dollars. For more information, ask Pastor Pete.

WISH LIST

This list of items would greatly benefit the ministry at St. Paul's. These items are above and beyond budgeted expenses. Below is an update on the generous giving that has occurred over the last few weeks. Thank you for every gift you give to our General Fund, Mortgage Fund, and these Wish List items. If you would like to give toward a Wish List item, clearly mark your envelope, “Wish List,” with the item title, or give online at www.stpaulmuskego.org.

Item	Est. Cost	Received	Still Needed
Centennial Gym Windows	\$30,000	\$2,435	\$27,565
Landscaping for Church Entrance	\$6,700	\$3,167	\$3,533
Narthex Carpet	\$4,000	\$0	\$4,000
Martin Luther College Tuition Assistance Grant	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000

MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE TUITION ASSISTANCE

Martin Luther College is our church body's college to prepare the next generation of pastors, Christian school teachers, and staff ministers. The college will match up to \$1000 in tuition assistance provided by the congregation for every freshman, sophomore, or junior from our congregation. We are hoping to receive enough in Wish List gifts not only to provide \$1000 in tuition assistance to those who will receive matching funds, but to all of our members attending any of our worker training schools and for the 3 students from Garden Homes Lutheran Church who are attending Martin Luther College. Mark your gift “MLC Tuition Assistance”.

TUITION ASSISTANCE AT ST. PAUL'S

We don't want cost to prohibit any family from receiving a Christian education for their child(ren). Tuition Assistance Funds (PreK, Elementary School, High School) enable us to generously help families who cannot afford tuition. Contributions may be made via the blue offering envelope provided in your envelope packet or online. Scan the QR code to go directly to the giving location on our website—www.stpaulmuskego.org.



CHRISTMAS AT ST. PAUL'S

CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2017

SOEL Christmas Program: Thursday, December 14, 5:30 pm

Lutheran Elementary School Christmas Services:

Friday, December 22, 5:00 and 7:00 pm

Saturday, December 23 (4th Sunday in Advent):

Traditional Worship Service at 5:00 pm

Sunday, December 24 (4th Sunday in Advent):

Traditional Worship Service at 8:00 am

Contemporary Worship Service at 10:00 am

Christmas Eve Festival Services: 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, and 10:00 pm

Christmas Day Festival Services with Holy Communion: 8:00 and 10:00 am

New Year's Eve and Day Worship Services: Regular weekend worship schedule with Holy Communion.

*** There will be no Wednesday worship service on December 27.*

There will be no Bridge service Christmas weekend.

REMEMBERING ST. PAUL'S HOMEBOUND

A list of our homebound members is at the Welcome Center if you would like to remember them with a card or phone call at this time of year.

PROVIDE A CHRISTMAS MEAL

Our Food Pantry Team will be distributing food to needy families within our congregation and community the week before Christmas. If you know of a family in need or if your family would benefit from a Christmas 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.

