

WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of December 10, 2018

MON	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
TUE	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study (Faith Room)
	9:30 am	Ministerial Growth Team Meeting
	10:00 am	Walking Group (Trinity Gym)
	10:30 am	Ministerial Team Meeting
	5:30 pm	Dorcas Society Christmas Party (Grace Room)
	6:00 pm	Divorce Care (School Classroom 8)
	6:30 pm	Handbell Rehearsal (Church Balcony)
	7:00 pm	<i>Following the Promise</i> (Faith Room)
WED	9:30 am	Mommy & Me (Faith Room)
	9:45 am	Reading Buddies (Trinity Café)
	11:00 am	OWLS Christmas Party (Muskego Regency Center)
	3:30 pm	Advent Worship Service with Holy Communion
	4:30 pm	Public School 6-8 Grade Confirmation Instruction 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)
	5:30 pm	St. Paul's Childcare Christmas Program (Main Church)
	7:00 pm	The Bridge and Contemporary Band Practice
SAT	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room)
	5:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service
SUN	7:45 am	Traditional Worship Service
	8:30 am	<i>Following the Promise</i> (School Classroom #8)
	9:15 am	Traditional Worship Service
	9:15 am	Grace Room Bible Study
	9:45 am	The Bridge Communion
	10:15 am	The Bridge
	10:45 am	Contemporary Worship Service
	6:30 pm	TUG – Teens Under God

Watch Live Online: Attend church remotely on Sundays at The Bridge at 10:15 am. Live streaming is available at www.thebridgemuskego.org, Facebook at *The Bridge at St. Paul's*, and You Tube at *The Bridge Church Muskego*. All past live replays are also available on each platform.

Sermon Videos and MP3s: Sunday sermons are available at www.stpaulmuskego.org and www.thebridgemuskego.org. They are usually available Sunday evening for that same Sunday's message.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

FLOWERS

The flowers at the altar were given in loving memory of Ruth Dorn and Pastor and Margaret Albrecht by the Dorn family.

HOSPITALIZED

Audrey Wefel has been discharged from the hospital.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Please pray for the following individuals in their time of need: David Burkowitz, Mary Schauwitzer, Jeanne Steinbrecher, and Dick and Jane Sternberg.

ATTENDANCE

1039 were in attendance for weekend services. 431 attended midweek Advent services.

SUNDAY MORNING NURSERY

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 an usher for directions if needed.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL TEACHER DIVINE CALLS

On Tuesday, December 11, the School Ministry Action Team will meet to review two synod-provided call lists. The following day the Ministry Board will extend calls for a full-time 1st grade teacher and a half-time Extended Learning Coordinator (ELC). Both calls are currently being served as one-year calls given the sudden retirement of Miss Martens back in August.

DECEMBER BIBLE STUDY SERIES

Join Pastor Dr. Ken Fischer, President of Wisconsin Lutheran High School, for this compelling, four-week series: *From Christ to Constantine-The Testimony and Trial of the Early Church* on December 9, 16, and 23, 9:15-10:15 am in the Grace Room. There will be no Bible class on December 30.

AWAKE AND ALIVE 2-DAY CONFERENCE

Awake and Alive, a ministry to serve young adults 18 to 25 years old, is holding a two-day conference Friday and Saturday, January 4 and 5 at the Best Western Conference Center near the Milwaukee airport.

A great group of faculty and devotion leaders have been invited to serve college students and young professionals with the hope of Christ! There is also a leadership and community track for leaders of young adults. Cost is \$60 until December 15; \$75 thereafter. Further details can be found at www.awakealive.com.



PICKLEBALL – WINTER SEASON 2019 – REGISTER NOW

St. Paul's outreach team plans various events that are easy to invite your unchurched friends to as a way to build relationships. Pick up a registration form and more information about our pickleball league at the Welcome Center in the lobby.

ST. PAUL'S TEEN BASKETBALL LEAGUE TO START

As part of our ministry to teens, St. Paul's would like to enter a team in the 2018-19 WELS High School Boys' Basketball League. The league season begins in late December/early January and goes to the beginning of March. Pick up a flyer with more information at the Welcome Center!

PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS

THANK YOU FOR THIS INDESCRIBABLE GIFT!

Thank you to the 120 volunteers who helped make St. Paul's 2018 Living Nativity a success. A total of 1,495 individuals attended the three-night run. Since St. Paul's first Living Nativity in 2000, over 30,000 people have experienced this celebration of the gift of Jesus Christ to the world.

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 are taking a closer look at beloved carols for the newborn King. Each service will begin with a Christmas carol hymn-sing 15 minutes prior.

December 12 **Behold, a Branch is Growing** **Hymn 47**

December 19 **Where Shepherds Lately Knelt** **Hymn 54**

Soup Supper Update

Thank you to everyone who attended the soup supper on Wednesday and supported St. Paul's Cancer Support Group. This was our only soup supper for Advent this year. Watch for the soup suppers to return for midweek Lenten services.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST. PAUL'S

St. Paul's Childcare Christmas Program *Thursday, December 13, 5:30 pm*

Lutheran Elementary School Christmas Services *Friday, December 21, 5:00 and 7:00 pm*

Christmas Eve *Noon at The Bridge*
2:00, 4:00, 6:00, and 10:00 pm Traditional Services

Christmas Day with Holy Communion *8:00 and 10:00 am*

New Year's Eve *7:00 pm*

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 homebound 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.

A CHRISTMAS MEAL FOR THOSE IN NEED

Our Food Pantry Team will be distributing food to families in need within our congregation and community on December 20, 5:30 – 8:00 pm, in the Trinity Café. 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.

PONDERING OUR FAVORITE CHRISTMAS CAROLS

This is the theme of the Tuesday Ladies Bible Study sessions for the month of December. Join over 20 other women in discussing and singing Christmas Carols the Christian church has sung and loved for centuries, as well as more recent additions. Tuesday mornings at 9:30 in the Faith Room.

OWLS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Come celebrate Christmas at the Organization for Wisconsin Lutheran Seniors Christmas luncheon at the Muskego Regency Center on Wednesday, December 12 at 11:00 am. Contact Charlene Pingel at (262) 490-2579 for more information.

YEAR END GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Many of us enjoy giving a special “thank you gift” to Jesus at this time of year. Here are some of our current opportunities to bless our community and our world.

- **Mission and Ministry Fund** – This is our general fund that covers the day-to-day expenses of our ministry as well as supporting our synod’s mission efforts and our Wisconsin Lutheran High School. Your generous gifts will encourage us to be courageous in our ministry plans for the next year so that “by every possible means we bring every person in our area of influence closer to Christ.”
- **Mortgage Fund** – The mortgage on our \$3.3 million 2010 expansion has been reduced to \$1.73 million. Special gifts to the “Mortgage Fund” enable us to make our \$19,000 monthly mortgage payment without taking Mission and Ministry Fund money to pay for the building. Every time we can make an additional \$11,000 in principal, we shorten the length of our mortgage, currently scheduled to be paid off in 2027.
- **Tuition Assistance** – Our goal is that finances never be the issue that keeps a parent from considering our Christian Elementary School. In addition to the generous support our congregation gives to our school system through our Mission and Ministry Fund (55 cents out of every offering dollar in 2017-2018), the Tuition Assistance Fund provides additional generous support to families who need it.
- **A Cool Million** – Our goal is that by the middle of February 2019, Chicken Dinner Sunday, we will have received \$500,000 in gifts so that we can proceed with our plans to remodel the Centennial Gym this summer. In addition, we will complete the installation of a new heating/air system throughout the school. We have already received \$391,000 in Cool Million Gifts. Let’s look forward to celebrating at the chicken dinner!
- **Mozambique Mission Work Expansion**
The December 2018 Malawi Mission Partner newsletter is at the Welcome Center. Pastor Holtz asks us to pray that the Lord of the nations would move the Mozambique government to approve our application to do mission work in their country. Thank you to all who give toward the Malawi Mission Partner effort. St. Paul’s provides about 1/4 to 1/3 of the support for Pastor Holtz’ ministry! You can give a special Christmas gift using your offering envelop or give online at www.stpaulmuskego.org/give.
- **Teacher Professional Development Fund**
Give a gift to our teachers by providing additional funds for workshops and courses. Gifts of any size are most welcome! Mark your gift “Teacher Professional Development.”

Giving Reminders...

- The safest and most cost-effective way for St. Paul’s to receive your weekly or monthly gift is through a recurring online donation. Nearly 30% of our gifts are received in this way. Set up your online giving at www.stpaulmuskego.org/give.
- If you are 70 ½ or older, giving a gift from your IRA could reduce your tax payment.
- Giving a gift of appreciated stock can also provide tax advantages.
- Our Gift Trust Fund and Legacy Funds have been established to receive estate gifts.
- If you use the United Way campaign at your place of employment, you may be able to designate St. Paul’s or another ministry for your giving dollars to support.

For help with any of the above, contact our Church Administrator Randy Fink at rfink@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 422-0320, ext. 120.