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WELCOME HOME
WHERE ALL ARE WELCOME
October 26, 27, and 30, 2019

*This week we begin a "Welcome Home" message series that will continue through November.
The question for today is this: Is our congregation a home that is welcoming to all?*

BELLS AND WELCOME

OPENING HYMN 365

Love Divine, All Love Excelling

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

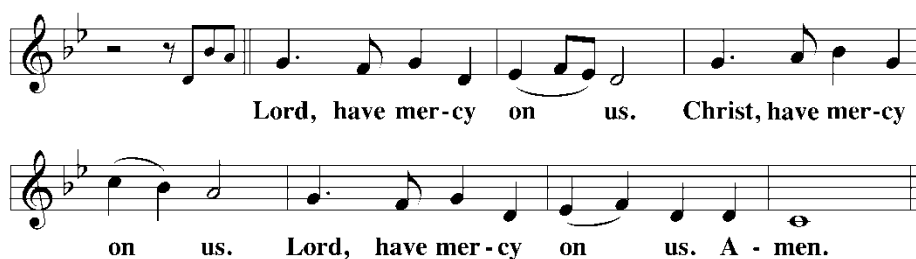
Confession of Sins

M God has called us to live as family. Yet our love for God and for each other is not what it should be. Our priorities and choices are often flawed. But the power of God's love enables us to live a new life. Let us confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.
C **Almighty God, merciful Father, I confess to you that I have not loved you with all my heart. In what I have done and left undone, I have pursued my ways instead of your ways. I have not loved my brothers and sisters as myself. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. I am truly sorry for my sins.**

Silence for meditation

M Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ, who suffered and died for us.
C **Cleanse me from my sins. Release me from my guilt. Help me to live faithfully as part of your family.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

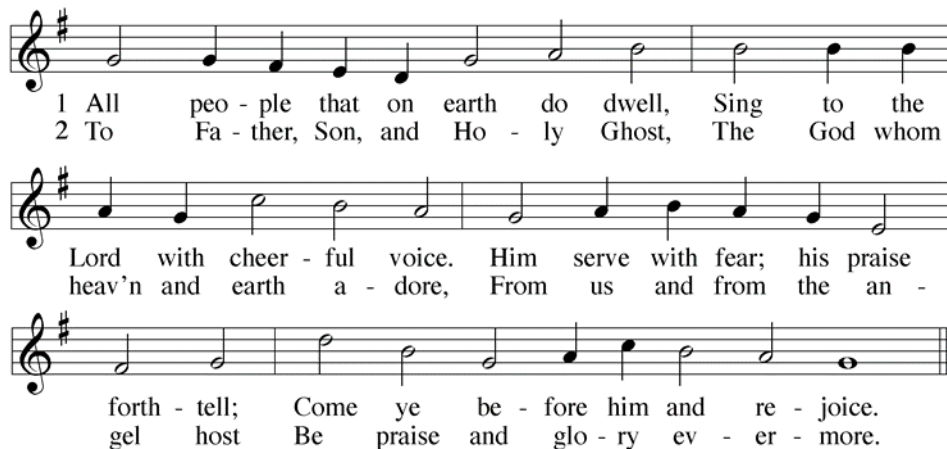


M God has been merciful to us and has sent his Son to die for all. For his sake, God forgives our sins and empowers us to be his people. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

M Our Lord Jesus Christ has forgiven us and reconciled us to God and has promised us the power to forgive and love each other. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

After a brief introduction, all sing:



1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, Sing to the
2 To Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, The God whom
Lord with cheer - ful voice. Him serve with fear; his praise
heav'n and earth a - dore, From us and from the an -
forth - tell; Come ye be - fore him and re - jice.
gel host Be praise and glo - ry ev - er - more.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray.
O Lord Jesus Christ,
preserve the family of believers with your never-failing mercy.
Bind us together with the bond of your love.
Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful,
and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation;
for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Ecclesiastes 4:7-12, Bible page 665

Scripture says that people are not wired to be rugged individuals. God created us to need one another.

Two are better than one. Even better is having Christ as the third strand within a relationship.

He provides the love and grace that keeps that bond strong.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Psalms 22:22

M Alleluia! I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters; in the assembly I will sing your praises. Alleluia!

Jesus welcomes all people into his family—even those who, for whatever reason, are unwelcomed by the rest of the world.

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY 532

God Is Here! As We His People

SERMON

Luke 7:36-50, Bible page 1035

Pastor Peter Panitzke

OFFERING

During the offering, new St. Paul's member Kella Kunz will share her own experience as she has sought to grow in the grace of giving. You may place your 10 for 10 Plan for Giving in the offering. If you did not receive a 10 for 10 packet or misplaced yours, there are extra copies at the Welcome Center.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE 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.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

M The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

M Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C **It is good and right so to do.**

M It is truly right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who in blessing his saints of the past has given us glorious assurance and hope that, following their example of faith, we may run with perseverance the race marked out for us, and receive the crown of glory that will never fade away. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,
God of might: heav'n and earth are full of your glo -
ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless -
ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na in the high - est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

O Christ, Lamb of
God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of
God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of
God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

Please see Communion note on page 7.

DISTRIBUTION ANTHEM (*Sunday*)

All Creatures of Our God and King, Brass Ensemble

DISTRIBUTION SONG

O Church, Arise

**O church, arise and put your armor on;
Hear the call of Christ our captain;
For now the weak can say that they are strong
In the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth
We'll stand against the devil's lies;
An army bold whose battle cry is "Love!"
Reaching out to those in darkness.**

Our call to war, to love the captive soul,
But to rage against the captor;
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole
We will fight with faith and valor.
When faced with trials on ev'ry side,
We know the outcome is secure,
And Christ will have the prize for which He died—
An inheritance of nations.

Come, see the cross where love and mercy meet,
As the Son of God is stricken;
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet,
For the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away,
And Christ emerges from the grave,
This vict'ry march continues till the day
Ev'ry eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come, put strength in ev'ry stride,
Give grace for ev'ry hurdle,
That we may run with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
Retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls and hunger for the day
When, with Christ, we stand in glory.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN 533

I Love Your Kingdom, Lord

PRESENTATION OF 10 FOR 10 GIVING PLAN CARDS

CLOSING PRAYER

- M Lord Jesus, you came to us today and poured out the riches of your love and grace in Word and Sacrament.
- C **In you we truly have all that we need and more.**
- M In response to your love we present our 10 for 10 Plans for Giving and place them upon your altar.
- C **Work powerfully in us, your forgiven children, that we might fulfill these plans to your glory and the growth of your kingdom.**
- M And as we go out into the world, enable us who have received your love and forgiveness
- C **to bring your healing love and compassion to those around us. 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.**

POSTLUDE (*Sunday*) **What a Friend We Have in Jesus**, *Brass Ensemble*
arr. by Al Schumacher

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

ORGANIST *Nicole Greanya*

OUR COMMUNION PRACTICE

The Lord's Supper is a fellowship meal. In this meal Jesus expresses his fellowship with us by giving us his body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. In this meal we also express our fellowship with each other, that is, that we are united in a common confession of faith.

We at St. Paul's want everyone to enjoy this fellowship meal. However, we cannot ask someone to express agreement with us until we give that person an opportunity to discover what we teach. That is why we schedule frequent membership classes to provide an overview of our teachings. Please ask one of our pastors for the date when the next class begins.

If you are a member of St. Paul's or a member of a WELS or ELS congregation, we invite you to express our common confession by communing with us. You may wish to use the "Personal Preparation for Holy Communion" on page 156 of Christian Worship to examine yourself. Please register your intent to commune as a member or guest by filling out the Connection Card and placing it in the offering plate.

The light-colored cups in the center of the individual cup tray contain non-alcoholic wine. Gluten-free wafers are located in the trays on the Communion rail. The first pews in the left center section are reserved for those who have difficulty approaching the Communion rail.



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 October 28, 2019

| | | |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| MON | 10:00 am | Walking Club (Trinity Gym) |
| | 7:00 pm | Woodwinds Rehearsal |
| TUE | 9:00 am | Ladies Bible Study (Faith Room) |
| | 9:30 am | Ministry Growth Team Meeting |
| | 10:00 am | Walking Club (Trinity Gym) |
| | 10:30 am | Ministerial Team Meeting |
| | 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) |
| | 7:30 pm | Festival Choir Rehearsal |
| WED | 9:30 am | Mommy and Me (Faith Room) |
| | 4:30 pm | Public School 6-8 Grade Confirmation Instruction Classes |
| | 6:30 pm | Financial Peace University (Faith Room) |
| | 6:30 pm | Mass Rehearsal for Reformation Festival Service (Church Balcony) |
| | 7:00 pm | Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion (Grace Room) |
| THURS | | No Lutheran School – Parent/Teacher Conferences |
| | 6:30 am | Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room) |
| | 10:00 am | Walking Club (Trinity Gym) |
| | 6:30 pm | Pickleball |
| | 7:00 pm | The Bridge and Contemporary Band Practice |
| FRI | | No Lutheran School –Teacher In-Service |
| | 4:00 pm | Honeck/Harmeyer Wedding Rehearsal |
| | 7:00 pm | Card Players Group – Sheepshead (Faith Room) |
| SAT | 8:00 am | Men’s Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room) |
| | 9:00 am | Mass Rehearsal for Reformation Festival Service |
| | 1:30 pm | Noel Honeck and Dan Harmeyer Wedding Ceremony |
| | 5:00 pm | Reformation Festival Worship Service |
| SUN | 2:00 am | Daylight Saving Time Ends – Turn Clocks Back One Hour |
| | 7:45 am | Reformation Festival Worship Service |
| | 8:00 am | <i>Following the Promise</i> (School Classroom #8) |
| | 9:15 am | Reformation Festival Worship Service |
| | 9:15 am | Grace Room Bible Study |
| | 9:45 am | The Bridge Communion |
| | 10:15 am | The Bridge |
| 10:45 am | Reformation Festival Worship Service | |

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

BAPTISM

Charlotte Bobbi Baas, born October 17, 2019, was baptized in a private ceremony on Tuesday, October 22, 2019. May God bless Charlotte in her saving faith.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Please pray for the following individuals in their time of need: Carol Beyer, David Burkowitz, Steve Drobka, Carol Gosseck, Lois Guhr, Connie Hikade, Barbara Luedtke, Josh Nagel, Carol Smith, Jeanne Steinbrecher, and Dick and Jane Sternberg.

HOSPITALIZED

Marilyn Miller is in hospice care at Elder Care Cottages in Tichigan, Roger Rasmussen and Robert Siekert are at St. Luke's, and Terry Risch has been transferred to Brookfield Rehab. Amber Baas and baby Charlotte and Gerhardt Lambrecht have been discharged from the hospital.

ATTENDANCE

1086 attended worship services last week.

SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH MINISTRY



Kids Club, for 3K to grade 6, begins at 9:15 on Sunday mornings in the school. Enter the school through the Trinity Cafe. Clearly marked signage will direct you to your child's check-in and room location. Kids Club features a large group opening followed by small group discussion to help your child apply God's word to their lives. For more information visit our website at www.stpaulmuskego.org/grow.

LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO START IN BIBLE STUDY?

Following the Promise is a great study to find answers to your questions. Wide-open discussion will challenge you to rethink deeply the promises of our God. If you are not a member, use this as a path to become a ministry partner with us at St. Paul's. Or just use this course as a chance to connect with the God of the Bible. Tuesday classes meet in the Faith Room at 7:00 pm at church, Sunday classes in meet at 8:00 am in school classroom 8.

NOVEMBER GRACE ROOM SERIES

A defining moment in American Lutheranism occurred when the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod split apart in 1961. So what went wrong between these two church bodies? "A Tale of Two Synods" led by Rev. Dr. Mark Braun from Wisconsin Lutheran College and author of the book by the same title, will present a clearer picture of what happened and where things are today in the Grace Room, November Sundays, 9:15-10:15 am.

REFORMATION RESOURCES IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY

Did you know St. Paul's has a well-stocked library with current hand-picked resources to help you grow in your knowledge of God, Christianity, and your faith? We currently have a display of books and videos pertaining to the Reformation. Learn about this monumental time in history and how it has shaped the Christian church. In fact, when US News and World Report ranked the most important events of the last 1000 years, the Lutheran Reformation placed second, right behind Gutenberg's moveable type printing press.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

HIM + HER WORSHIP CONCERT

Him + Her Worship is a worship duo from Minnesota who will be teaming up with St. Paul's for a **worship concert** on **Wednesday, November 6, at 7:00 pm.** (This will be in place of our Wednesday worship service.)



Check out their story and their music:

Instagram: @himandherworship

Website: www.himandherworship.com

YouTube: Him + Her Worship

Facebook: www.facebook.com/himandherworship

COOL MILLION UPDATE

We have received \$753,614 in Cool Million gifts with approximately \$25,000 more committed! The work on the church roof (a \$211,000 item) is the last major project until next summer. Clearly mark your gift "Cool Million" or give online at StPaulMuskego.org/give. Thank you!

OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

Express your appreciation for our pastors during October; it's pastor appreciation month. Acknowledge their compassion, hard work, leadership, and faithful service given all year through. A simple thank-you in person or via email, voice message, card, or other personal acknowledgment will mean so much to our pastors and their families.

ST. PAUL'S CHILD CARE CENTER—JOB OPENINGS

We have part-time job opening in the infant room of our Child Care Center, Mondays, 7:00 – 11:00 am and in the 2-year-old classroom, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 11 am – 6:00 pm. Please contact Child Care Center Director Kim Neubauer at (414) 422-0320, ext. 200 to apply.

OPENINGS ON THE USHER TEAM

Our Saturday Usher Team currently has two openings. If you would like to be a welcoming face and hand to our 5:00 pm, Saturday worship guests please contact Worship Volunteer Coordinator Heidi Schuh at (414) 530-4284.

WISCONSIN LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER – NOVEMBER 1

Enjoy a fun evening of food and music while supporting Wisconsin Lutheran High School's fine arts department on Friday, November 1, 4:30-7:00 pm. A continuous serving of all-you-can-eat spaghetti, chicken alfredo, salad, garlic bread, beverages, and dessert will be served in the WLHS cafeteria while Wisco Kids and Inspiration perform. Stay after and enjoy the school drama production, A Curious Savage. Tickets for the dinner are sold at the door: \$10 for adults, \$7 for children.

THANKSGIVING FOOD BOXES

St. Paul's Food Pantry is planning to provide food boxes for Thanksgiving this year. If you know of someone who could use help at Thanksgiving, please submit the name(s) with contact information to Pastor Kuehl at (414) 422-0320, ext. 121, or dkuehl@stpaulmuskego.org.

PHOTOS TO BE TAKEN AT WORSHIP SERVICES

During the weekends of November 10 and 17, photos will be discretely taken before, after, and during our worship services for use on our website and displays in the lobby of church. If you would prefer not to be included in these photos, please contact Outreach Coordinator Sally Wallner at swallner@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 422-0320, ext. 294.

WELCOME HOME!

“THERE’S NO PLACE LIKE HOME!”

Dorothy repeated this phrase over and over 80 years ago when the *Wizard of Oz* debuted in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin.

“There’s no place like home!” Have you ever wished you could click your own ruby red slippers and go back to that place?

- Where you are loved just as you are.
- Where you are always safe.

That’s the church home that, with God’s help, we are striving to create at St. Paul’s.



HOME – A PLACE WHERE ALL ARE WELCOME

Is everyone welcome here at St. Paul’s? Does everyone see our congregation as a safe home where they are always loved?

When you talk with someone who called St. Paul’s home once, but does so no more, they will share reasons, good reasons, why they don’t want to come back “home.”

- “I felt judged.”
- “No one really cared about me.”
- “People made promises that they never kept.”

The place to start making St. Paul’s a welcoming home is to see ourselves as an unwelcome guest. What was it like to be the unwelcome guest of Luke 7:36-50? Why did the host fail to welcome this unwelcome guest? How have I made guests in our church home feel unwelcome? How does that make me an unwelcome guest?

Tough questions that can help us search our own hearts and prepare our congregation for anyone who might “come home” during our November Welcome Home series.

HOME – A PLACE WHERE GOD HOLDS US CLOSE

The weekend of November 3 is a great time to invite someone to come home:

- It is time change weekend! We get an extra hour of sleep.
- It is a week of special music in our 7:45 and 9:15 services and Wednesday evening service.
- Most importantly, it is Reformation Sunday, when we claim again the truths that Luther rediscovered—that we have a God who loves us unconditionally and doesn’t ask us to clean up our act before we come back.

Who will you invite to “come home” to experience the God who loves to hold us close to him?

Welcome Home Continues

- November 10 – Welcome Home to the Place Where God Can Keep Us Safe Eternally
- November 17 – Welcome Home to the Place Where We are Family Forever
- November 24 – Welcome Home to the Place Where Everything is All Right
- November 28 – Welcome Home to the Place of Thanksgiving

SECOND SITE UPDATE

At recent open forums, we discussed the opportunity to begin a second worship site or daughter congregation at the Gobbler Theater in Johnson Creek. (More information is in the latest *Messenger* available at the Welcome Center.) About 150 people attended the open forums and 115 surveys were returned. We asked two questions on the survey.

- a. Shall we continue to pursue this mission opportunity? 70% agreed or strongly agreed, 15% disagreed or strongly disagreed, and 15% were neutral or did not answer.
- b. Shall we give up this mission opportunity rather than disagree with our district leadership? 16% agreed or strongly agreed, 60% disagreed or strongly disagreed, and 24% were neutral or did not answer.

In addition to this feedback, *The Messenger* article has made the Johnson Creek opportunity known to a wider audience. Many Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) pastors and lay members, including some from the Johnson Creek area, have encouraged us to continue to develop this mission opportunity.

Ministry Board Discussion

Our St. Paul's elected Ministry Board met on October 17 to discuss feedback. The Ministry Board agreed to invite our Southeastern Wisconsin District President David Kolander to attend a special meeting of the Ministry Board and Ministerial Team (our pastors, staff ministers, and school administrator). That meeting will take place on November 14. Synod President Mark Schroeder also plans to attend. Because Johnson Creek is in the Western Wisconsin District, President Michael Jensen of that district will be present. The goal will be to listen in humility to the concerns of our district and synodical leadership to help us determine our next steps. The Ministry Board will not make any recommendations whether to stop exploration of the mission potential or to move forward until after the November 14 meeting.

The District/Congregation Relationship

St. Paul's leadership desires to work together in brotherly love with our synod leadership. The WELS district constitution states that the district president's authority is limited to doctrine and Biblical practice. Otherwise, his role is advisory. We are not being disobedient or disrespectful when disagreeing with or questioning the advice of district leadership.

Our Bridge Experience

Some individuals asked for more information about The Bridge. We began The Bridge six years ago as a third worship language on our campus. The messages are the same across all three languages. The format is casual, but the proclamation of law and gospel remain the same. The Lord's Supper is celebrated weekly with frequent references to the blessing of the Sacrament. Baptisms are performed in the service.

While our congregation's overall average worship attendance has remained constant, the average Bridge attendance in September demonstrates the growth in that service: 196 in 2016, to 213 in 2017, to 242 in 2018 to 271 in 2019.

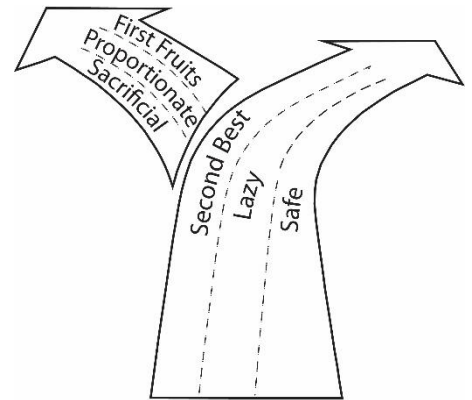
Approximately one-quarter of The Bridge attendees are non-members. Several St. Paul's families with whom we had been losing touch have found a new home at The Bridge. Here are two testimonies that illustrate our desire to use this worship language to reach more for Christ: "The Bridge brought me closer to Christ in a way that never seemed possible. My life has been changed because of it" (A recent adult confirmand). "I think it is admirable that congregations are willing to step outside the box and reach many generations... I believe that a worship style truly does make such a big difference whether that is to new church goers or to long time WELS members" (A frequent guest at The Bridge traveling from Jackson).

10 FOR 10

10 FOR 10 PLAN FOR GIVING

If you brought your 10 for 10 Plan for Giving today, you may place it into the offering. You can also return it in the offering over the next couple of weeks. If you did not receive a 10 for 10 packet, you can pick a copy in the Welcome Center.

Our prayer is that we each take time to consider our response to God's grace and care, lest we take the easy route with the least resistance. Are our gifts the first fruits of what God has given us? Are they proportionate? Are they a safe response, or sacrificial gifts?



“PROPORTIONATE GIVING” BY RANDY ALCORN

When there was an impending famine, “the disciples, each according to his ability, decided to provide help for the brothers living in Judea” (Acts 11:29). God says when it comes to giving, “each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income” (1 Corinthians 16:2).

The Old Testament tithe was proportionate, not fixed. If someone earned five hundred pieces of gold, he tithed fifty. But if he earned only twenty pieces, he was required to tithe only two. Tithing was proportionate to income.

But proportionate giving is not equal giving. It's a much greater sacrifice for someone who earns ten thousand dollars a year to give a thousand than it is for someone who earns eighty thousand to give eight thousand. Although it's true that the second person is giving away eight times as much as the other, he's also left with eight times more to live on.

It's easy for us to describe someone as a generous giver based solely on the amount given, but true generosity is determined by how much a person gives of what he or she has. A financial counselor wrote to me, saying, “I've worked with wealthy couples who are making a million dollars a year, with a net worth of \$10 million, but they're giving \$15,000 a year and feel very generous.” Some people would think that anyone who gave \$15,000 a year must be generous. But not necessarily. It all depends on what's left.

One person can give \$25 in an act of great sacrifice, whereas another can give a million dollars and not sacrifice at all. If someone makes \$10,000,000 a year, gives away \$9,000,000 and spends “only” the other million on himself we may be impressed, and it may be a relatively wise eternal investment, but is it really sacrificial in God's eyes?

One study showed that American households with incomes under \$10,000 gave 5.5% of their income to charities, whereas those earning more than \$100,000 gave 2.9%. This disparity shows that true sacrifice in giving typically decreases, not increases, as people make more money.

Believers...can increase the proportion of their giving as God blesses them financially or as they learn to trust him more. Hence, over the years, many believers give a higher and higher percentage to the Lord (Randy Alcorn, *Money, Possessions, and Eternity*, pp. 209-10).

SCHOOL NEWS

DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND TECHNOLOGY (DCIT)

Last week, the Ministry Board extended a call to our current 5th Grade Teacher Mr. Jeff Wetzel, to become our school's first Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology (DCIT), beginning in July 2020. The primary duties of the DCIT's call are to (1) lead K-8 curriculum review, development, and documentation, (2) observe K-8 classroom instruction and assess teacher instructional goals regularly, (3) review standardized test data to analyze curriculum effectiveness, (4) teach 6th-8th grade tech classes, and (5) resolve basic technology issues. The DCIT call is part of our vision of constantly asking, "How can we continue to serve the Lord faithfully by being a leading Lutheran school in our area?" We strive to be excellent and leading in order to bring as many students as possible closer to Christ through our school ministry. We are thankful to be able to extend this call to Mr. Wetzel because of a combination of continued generous congregational offerings, a healthier and more sustainable school tuition philosophy, and funds generated through our participation in the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CALL

Dear members of St. Paul's,

On Thursday evening, October 17th, the Ministry Board of St. Paul's extended a call to me to serve as the school's first Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology. What an honor it is to receive this call, as this is a new position here at St. Paul's, as we continue to look for ways to support our teachers and students to the best of our abilities!

In the upcoming weeks, I look forward to speaking with many of you. I encourage you, as a congregation, to reach out to me and express your concerns and encouragements, as I go through the deliberation process. As I deliberate, I will be asking the Lord to help me understand where He can best use my time and talents here at St. Paul's.

Please continue to keep the ministry here at St. Paul's in your prayers as I deliberate the call to fill this new position!

In HIS service!

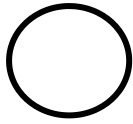
Mr. Jeff Wetzel

TEACHER EXCELLENCE

Our part-time K-5th grade Music teacher, Mrs. Karen Lippert, presented "Tips, Tricks and Toys for the Young Band" at the October 24th Wisconsin Music Educators Conference at the Monona Terrace in Madison. We are blessed to have Mrs. Lippert serving our students since fall 2018.

ST. PAUL'S ALL AGLOW!

Thank you to the 320 runners and walkers who attended our second annual 5K/1-mile "Glow Run" on October 18th. The number of volunteers and UNITY parents who made this event happen are part of what makes St. Paul's a great school for our kids and their families.



GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

Life application materials for us in Connector Groups, home devotions, and other small groups.

1. Was there a time in your life when you didn't feel like church was a welcoming home? Who or what drew you back "home"?

2. Read Luke 7:36-50.
 - a. What do you think were some of the obstacles that made it difficult for this sinful woman to go to the home of a Pharisee? Think of the obstacles in her own heart and in the situation into which she was walking.

 - b. What are some of the obstacles that make it difficult for a person today to come (back) to church?

 - c. It is not uncommon to feel ashamed of a friend or family who greets you in a public place because their clothing or their manners don't match the associates around you at the time. What is different about the relationship between this sinful woman and Jesus that Jesus wasn't ashamed of her friendship?

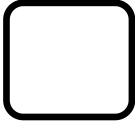
 - d. How does it make you feel to know that Jesus is never ashamed of you?

 - e. What do you do to always remember your "500 denarii debt" that has been cancelled?

 - f. Whose home would you feel more welcome in, the home of the Pharisee or the home of the sinful woman? Why?

3. What can you do to make St. Paul's a "Welcome Home" to the people around you?

4. Name one person on your heart that you can reach out to and just ask, "How are you doing?" Close with the reading of Psalm 130 as a personal confession of the times you have played the Pharisee, and then pray together for the individuals you have named.



NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

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

Welcome Home: But Is Everyone Welcome? Luke 7:36-50

1. Recognize the Courage
 - b. The _____ obstacles to coming home
 - c. The _____ obstacles to coming home
 - d. Be a _____ builder

2. Celebrate the Compassion
 - a. The beauty of the church is the _____
 - b. The beauty grows the greater the _____
 - c. Be a _____ dispenser

3. Confess the Failure
 - a. Courage to admit your _____ failure.
 - b. Experience Compassion anew as a _____ failure.
 - c. A home filled with c_____ s_____ / s_____ is a welcoming home.

My Next Steps to Make a Welcome Home

- Use the “Personal Preparation for Holy Communion” on *Christian Worship*, page 156 to see myself in the role of the “sinful woman.”
- Read Jeremiah 31:31-34 to celebrate the compassion of the Savior that you receive in the Lord’s Supper.
- Name just one person that you could serve as a “Courage Builder” and text them this week, asking how they are doing.