



For the week of December 23, 2019

<b>MON</b>		No School – Christmas Break (through January 5)
<b>TUE</b>		<b>Christmas Eve</b>
	12:00 pm	Christmas Eve at The Bridge
	2:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service
	4:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service
	6:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service
	10:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service
<b>WED</b>		<b>Christmas Day</b>
	10:00 am	Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion
<b>THURS</b>	6:30 am	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room)
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	7:00 pm	The Bridge and Contemporary Band Practice
<b>SAT</b>	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room)
	5:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
<b>SUN</b>	7:45 am	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:15 am	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:45 am	The Bridge Communion
	10:15 am	The Bridge
	10:45 am	Contemporary Worship Service with Holy Communion
<b>MON</b>	10:00 am	Walking Group
<b>TUE</b>		<b>New Year's Eve</b>
	5:00 pm	New Year's Eve Worship Service with Holy Communion

#### **BAPTISMS**

Haley Ann Johnston, born August 4, 2016 and Claire Elizabeth Johnston, born July 12, 2018, were baptized in a private ceremony on Saturday, December 21. Haley and Claire are the daughters of Adam and Krystle Johnston. We rejoice with the Johnstons for the blessings of baptism given to Haley and Claire. May God bless and strengthen their faith.

#### **FLOWERS**

The flowers beautifying the altar today were given in loving memory of Ruth Dorn by her family.

#### **PRAYERS REQUESTED**

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

#### **HOSPITALIZED**

Gary Ives is at Froedtert, Richard Krebs at West Allis, and James Moll at Waukesha. Jan Kuske is rehabbing at Linden Grove New Berlin. Roger Musack, Nancy Rindfleisch, and Steve Stack have been discharged from the hospital.

# ST. PAUL'S NEWS

## **10 FOR 10 PLANS FOR GIVING**

We are coming to the end of our ten-week effort to give 10% (a tithe), or if that is not possible, to grow in giving. Early in January, your 10 for 10 Plans for Giving will be mailed back to you. May God bless us as we seek to give first-fruit, proportionate, sacrificial gifts.

## **A COOL MILLION PASSES \$800,000!**

Thank you for your gifts to A Cool Million! We recently passed \$800,000 in gifts. We are also thankful for some good weather that has enabled the roofers to make progress on the church roof, the second largest of our Cool Million projects. We are about \$60,000 away from fully funding that project. Our final projects next summer will focus on the Trinity Gym and The Bridge equipment.

## **MORTGAGE FUND**

With our focus on *A Cool Million* over the past 18 months, our gifts to the Mortgage Fund have decreased slightly, recently causing us to dip into reserves. Thanks for keeping the Mortgage Fund in your giving plans as well!

## **CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS THANKS**

On December 14, 107 children enjoyed a morning of activities centered on the birth of Jesus. We are thankful that this ministry served not only our own children but also 13 children from the community! Thank you to the 53 volunteers: 21 adults, 23 St. Paul's teens, and 9 Wisconsin Lutheran High School students!

## **FOCUS YOUR CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EXPERIENCE WITH HELPS FROM THE CHURCH LIBRARY**

If you have children, you'll love the selection of over 90 Christmas picture books, as well as several Christmas DVDs, available in the church library. The library is located in the west wing of church.

## **FOLLOWING THE PROMISE BIBLE STUDY**

Are you ready to explore the Christmas promise of a Savior? A Savior planned for you before time began? *Following the Promise* class happens Tuesdays, 7:00 – 8:15 pm, **January 7** – March 24. For longtime Christians or people just curious to know more, this class is for you! Express interest on the back of the Connection Card.

## **MINISTERING TO MILLENIALS: THE NEW GRACE ROOM SERIES**

Join our St. Paul's pastors, 9:15-10:15 am the Sundays of January, as they lead discussion based on a video series produced by our church body to explore what we can do to retain and gain members of this generation. The discussion will also help you in your personal witness ministry.

## **AWAKE AND ALIVE 2020**

Awake and Alive is a national Christian event ministry for the 18-25 generation and leaders of this generation led by founder Mike Westendorf, St. Paul's Artist in Residence and Director of Video Production. Make plans to attend the 2020 Winter Conference on January 10 and 11 at the Best Western on Howell Avenue in Milwaukee. Visit [awakealive.com](http://awakealive.com) or pick up a postcard at the Welcome Center to learn more.

## **CARD PLAYERS' GROUP**

The first Friday of every month Sheepshead is played. The third Thursday of the month is card players' choice. Both evenings begin at 7:00 pm in the Faith Room. Enjoy an evening of fun and fellowship, bring a snack to share, and your own beverage. RSVP by calling the church office at (414) 422-0320, ext.128, or joining the Card Players Group on My St. Paul's.

# ST. PAUL'S NEWS

## DECEMBER—A MONTH OF OUTREACH!

Your St. Paul's outreach team had a fun and very busy December!

Because of the generosity of your St. Paul's family, 150 gifts for the Friends of Jesus organization and 65 gifts for the Muskego Health Care Center were given to those in need. That's over 200 people blessed by an act of kindness together with the message of a Savior. The monetary donations given for us to do the purchasing for you were a blessing starting already in the store! Through conversation started in the check-out line, the cashier and those around heard that our church was buying gifts for others because of our love for Jesus. An inquiry was even made about our Child Care Center. It was a beautiful moment.

December 7 saw Outreach Coordinator Sally Wallner joining together with the Muskego Chamber of Commerce in greeting children and families at the Muskego Public Library for Jingle on Janesville. And that afternoon she was at the Muskego Police Department representing the Muskego Woman's Club dropping off gift cards that they collected to show sincere appreciation for Muskego law enforcement officers.

Our beautifully designed Christmas postcard invitations were mailed to all Muskego residents mid-December, welcoming the community to worship with us. Facebook and our website were utilized as well to spread the word about who we are and why we are here. When you share these online links it multiplies our outreach efforts. Please invite people to church with you. Friendships are the best way to bring people closer to Jesus in his church.

And one of the best things our church family can do is be friendly! This means when you are at church, please talk to people you don't know. It can be as simple as saying, "Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_," when someone sits down in a pew around you. People long to feel connected in their church. A simple hello and smile will bring that connection together, whether they are trying church for the first time, or are a longtime member.

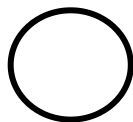


## ST. PAUL'S TEEN BASKETBALL LEAGUE TO START

St. Paul's is forming a team to play in the WELS High School Boys Basketball League. If you are a member of St. Paul's and not playing on your high school's basketball team, contact Dr. Nelson at [jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org) to receive information as it becomes available.

## ST. PAUL'S CLEAN TEAM STAFF OPENING

A position on our clean team is open. This is a paid position with 4-8 hours on weeknights and some occasional fill-in hours on weekends. Responsibilities include cleaning of school, church, and fill-in at the child care facilities to create an optimal environment for student learning and worship. Contact Church Administrator Randy Fink at [rfink@stpmuskego.org](mailto:rfink@stpmuskego.org) or (414) 422-0320, ext. 120, to apply.



# ChristmasWork

*Life application materials for use in Life Groups, home devotions, and other small groups.*

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**I. Read the Christmas Gospel:** Circle phrases that you would like to make a comment about – perhaps it comforts you or you have a question.

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. <sup>2</sup> (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) <sup>3</sup> And everyone went to their own town to register.

<sup>4</sup> So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. <sup>5</sup> He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, <sup>7</sup> and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

<sup>8</sup> And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup> An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup> Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

<sup>13</sup> Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

<sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

<sup>16</sup> So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

**2. Celebrate the Christmas Gospel:** Sing together some of your favorite Christmas carols.

Silent night, holy night,  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and Child.  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all you nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies;  
With th’ angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”  
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

**3. Close with prayer and the Lord’s Prayer**