



S66 W14325 JANESVILLE RD • MUSKEGO WI 53150 • WELS • 414.422.0320 • WWW.STPAULMUSKEGO.ORG

LIKE US IN EVERY WAY

OUR GUILT

March 11 and 12, 2017

Guilt might be the heaviest burden you have to carry. Jesus understands. He became like us in every way. He carried a heavy burden of guilt too. Your guilt and mine.

BELLS AND WELCOME

HYMN 339, vv. 1-3

Today Your Mercy Calls Us

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

CONFESSION OF SINS

M Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven,
C **Whose sins are covered.**

M Blessed is the man whose sin the LORD does not count against him
C **And in whose spirit is no deceit.**

M When I kept silent my bones wasted away
C **Through my groaning all day long.**

M For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
C **My strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.**

M Then I acknowledged my sin to you
C **And did not cover up my iniquity.**

M I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD" –
C **And you forgave the guilt of my sin.**

M Lord God, because it was for our sin that Jesus endured the mind-numbing anguish of the passion, we confess with shame our slowness to learn of him, our failure to follow him, our reluctance to bear the cross.



M Forgive the poverty of our worship, our neglect of fellowship and your Word and Sacrament, our hesitating witness for Christ, our evasion of responsibility in your service, our imperfect stewardship of your gifts.



M Forgive us that so little of your love has reached others through us, that we have been thoughtless in our judgments, hasty in our condemnation, grudging in forgiveness, slow to seek reconciliation, unwilling to help our neighbors as we ought.



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.



M The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

SONG OF PRAISE HYMN 339, v. 4

Today Your Mercy Calls Us

**O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-open Door,
What should we do without you When heart and eye run o'er?
When all things seem against us, To drive us to despair,
We know one gate is open, One ear will hear our prayer.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray.

God of heaven be with us in your love and keep us mindful of your forgiveness.

C Help us to drink deeply today from you living water that our thirst for you and your forgiving love may be thoroughly quenched.

M We pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now, and forever.



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17, Bible page 1129

Jesus' redemptive work reconnects us with God. Before Christ, we were at war with God; now we are at peace.

PASSION HISTORY VIDEO

Matthew 26:31-46; *Gethsemane*

HYMN 106

Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

SERMON

John 4:5-26, Bible page 1065

Pastor Peter Panitzke

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.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (*Saturday*)

(Sunday 7:45 am)

(Sunday 9:15 am)

Above All, Lindsay Schneider

Be Thou My Vision, Megan Ludke

What Grace Is This?, Lutheran Elementary School Grades 2 and 5

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.

THE SACRAMENT

M The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so 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 right to give him thanks and praise.

M Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He made his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory forever and ever.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



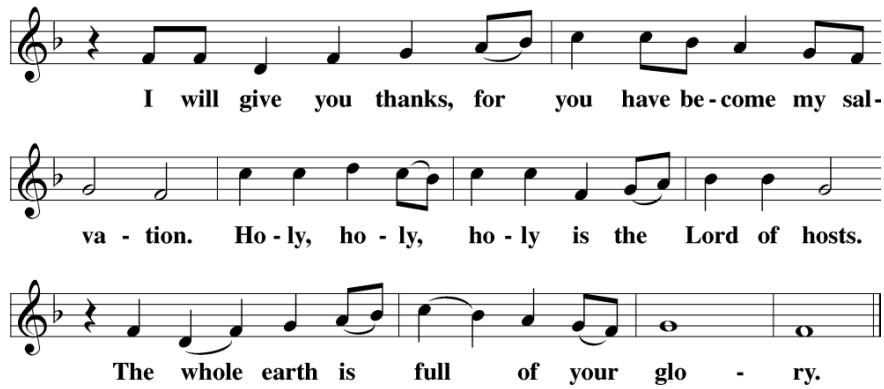
C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be-come my sal-
va-tion. Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly is the Lord of hosts.
The whole earth is full of your glo-ry.

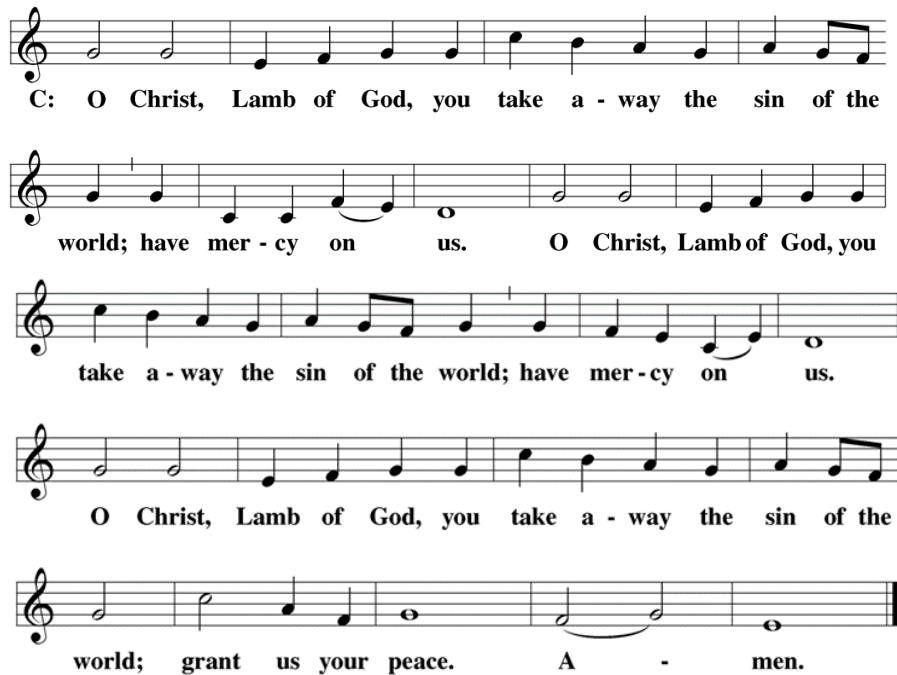
WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C: A - men.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



C: 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.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

Please see Communion note on page 7.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS 337
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**Delay Not! Delay Not
I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say**

M Merciful Father, we give you thanks and praise that you have fed us with the precious body and blood of your dear Son for the forgiveness of our sin. By your grace fill us with the desire and the power to walk worthy of our holy calling and to reflect your glory in our daily lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

M Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

ORGANIST *Nicole Greanya*

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

April 13	Maundy Thursday with Holy Communion	3:30 and 7:00 pm
April 14	Good Friday	1:00, 3:30, and 7:00 pm
April 15	Easter Vigil *	5:00 pm
April 16	Easter Sunrise *	6:00 am
	Easter Festival	7:45, 9:15 and 10:45 am
	Easter at The Bridge	10:15 am

* The Easter Vigil and Easter Sunrise services will be identical.

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. Following the Promise is currently being held on Tuesday evenings in the Faith Room. Contact Pastor Peter Panitzke at ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org to register.

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. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please inform an usher as you approach the rail. The first pews in the right center section are reserved for those who have difficulty approaching the Communion rail, and we kindly ask those who desire to be communed privately to use these pews.

Your Ministerial Staff

Office (414) 422-0320

Pastor Jeffrey Bonack	Ext. 119	jbonack@stpaulmuskego.org	(414) 422-0501
Mr. Seth Fitzsimmons	Ext. 118	sfitzsimmons@stpaulmuskego.org	(414) 422-0320
Pastor David Kuehl	Ext. 121	dkuehl@stpaulmuskego.org	(262) 679-1393
Mr. Dan Lippert, BA	Ext. 120	dlippert@stpaulmuskego.org	(414) 232-4458
Mr. Phil Loescher	Ext. 123	ploescher@stpaulmuskego.org	(262) 305-8769
Dr. Joel Nelson	Ext. 145	jnelson@stpaulmusekgo.org	(414) 422-0320
Pastor Peter Panitzke	Ext. 122	ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org	(414) 350-1436
Mrs. Sally Wallner	Ext. 294	swallner@stpaulmuskego.org	(414) 422-0320



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 March 13, 2017

MON	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	5:30 pm	Wisconsin Lutheran High School 6 th Grade <i>Make a Splash</i> (Country Springs)
	7:00 pm	<i>The Story Bible Study</i> (Grace Room)
TUE	9:15 am	Ministerial Team Meeting
	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study (Grace Room)
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	12:00 pm	Organization of Wisconsin Lutheran Seniors (OWLS) (Grace Room)
	6:30 pm	Handbell Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Confirmation Parents' Meeting (Grace Room)
	7:00 pm	<i>Following the Promise Bible Study</i> (Faith Room)
	7:00 pm	Volleyball League
WED	3:30 pm	Midweek Lenten Worship Service
	4:30 pm	Soup Supper hosted by the Quilting Fellowship
	4:30 pm	Public School Confirmation Instruction Classes
	7:00 pm	Midweek Lenten Worship Service
	8:00 pm	Brass Ensemble Rehearsal
THURS	6:30 am	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room)
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	6:45 pm	Stoney Creek Bible Study (Stoney Creek Adult Community)
	7:00 pm	<i>Financial Peace University</i> (Faith Room)
	7:00 pm	Ministry Board Meeting
	7:00 pm	The Bridge and Contemporary Band Practice
FRI	8:15 am	Lutheran Elementary School Chapel (Main Church)
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	Kids Club and Boost Youth Ministries
	9:45 am	The Bridge Communion
	10:15 am	The Bridge
	10:45 am	Contemporary Worship Service

Multimedia Ministry



- **TV:** *Time of Grace*, Sundays at 5:30 am on UPtv, 7:00 am on WBME, and 10:30 am on WDJT. Thursdays at 3:30 pm on TBN. For a complete broadcast schedule, visit timeofgrace.org/waystowatch or call the *Time of Grace* office at (800) 661-3311.
 - **Radio:** Lutheran Radio Church Service, Sundays at 7:00 am on JOY1340 AM
 - **Online:** Podcast and video sermons at www.stpaulmuskego.org and www.thebridgemuskego.org
 - **Live Streaming:** The Bridge, Sundays at 10:15 am at www.thebridgemuskego.org
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ST. PAUL'S NEWS

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 every Sunday 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 to any need your child has. Ask a worship host for directions.

HOSPITALIZED

Dorothy Bucholtz is in hospice care at St. Ann's Nursing Home. Richard Kamnetz is rehabbing at Tudor Oaks and Norman Miller at Mukwonago Linden Court. Marilyn Miller has transferred to Elder Care Cottages in Tichigan.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Please pray for the following individuals in their time of need: Dawn Brown, David Burkowitz, Jodie Crosby, Sharon Dreyer, Rick Drobka, Shelly Eggert, Namine Eiche, Monica Gawlik, Daniel Holtz, Dan Italiano, Dawn Jahns, Merle Johnson, Sandra Merfeld, Sonia Neuberger, and Jeanne Steinbrecher.

WEDDINGS

Sara Jo Whalen and Jason Minor were married on Friday, March 3, 2017. Heidi Henkel and Dan Nepscha were married on Saturday, March 4, 2017. May God bless these couples in their married lives joined together in Christ.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

937 attended last weekend's worship services. 566 attended Ash Wednesday worship services, and 401 on March 8.

LUTHERAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – TIME TO ENROLL

If you or someone you know would like to visit our Lutheran school, please contact Mr. Fitzsimmons at (414) 422-0320, ext. 118. He would love to give you a tour. You may also enroll directly at www.stpmuskego.org by clicking on TADS in the left menu column.

Our Lutheran elementary school will also be participating in School Choice for the 2017-2018 school year. Income guidelines are available at the Welcome Center. If you are married, add \$7000 to the amounts shown (for example, in Wisconsin, a family of four is eligible if they earn \$51,955 or less). If you are a single parent, only one parent's income needs to be less than income limit for your child to qualify. Generous tuition assistance packages are also available apart from School Choice. We don't want the cost of tuition to keep your children from the wonderful Christian education at our school.

COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL UPDATE

Approximately 120 individuals or families chose to sponsor a child through Compassion International last year as a result of the Compassion Experience. It has been six months since that time. Do you have an interesting story to share about your Compassion child? Please email Pastor Pete at ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org with your story. He hopes to share a report with the rest of the congregation in the next month.

GROWING CLOSER TO CHRIST

FOLLOWING THE PROMISE BIBLE STUDY

Following the Promise is a Bible introduction study of the truths of Christianity and prepares an individual for membership at St. Paul's and is a great place to have your questions answered! Pastor Pete Panitzke leads the class on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm in the Faith Room. Register by contacting him at (414) 350-1436 or ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org or by marking the back of your Connection Card.

GRACE ROOM BIBLE STUDY

Join St. Paul's member and former pastor, Dan Kolosovsky, to see how God the Holy Spirit has equipped us with many spiritual gifts so that each of us can successfully preach the gospel in a seemingly endless variety of God-pleasing ways. Join the study Sundays through May 7 at 9:15 am.

THE HURRIED FAMILY: HELP FOR THE HURRIED HOME

This Parents Club, DVD-based study gives practical, biblical, stress-saving tips to take you on the off-ramp to sanity, peace, and family harmony. Join us in the school Computer Lab on Sundays at 9:15 am through March 26.

THE OWLS MEET TUESDAY

The Organization of Wisconsin Lutheran Seniors meets in the Grace Room on Tuesday, March 14, at noon. Bring a bag lunch, enjoy the dessert provided, and listen to our speaker present on "Living Up North."

CHAPEL CHOIR

St. Paul's is looking to restart a choir that would sing for worship on a more regular basis, known as the *Chapel Choir*. The *Chapel Choir* will meet for rehearsals on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm for about an hour in the Faith Room. The choir will be scheduled to sing for services roughly once a month. If this is something that may interest you, please join us. The *Chapel Choir* will meet for its first rehearsal on April 26. Any questions may be directed to Pastor Jeffrey Bonack at jbonack@stpaulmuskego.org or Darik Mischke at (920) 344-2330.

EASTER ORCHESTRA

If you play an instrument, we'd love to have you join our Easter Sunday orchestra. Commitment consists of two evening practices and playing on Easter Sunday morning. Contact Pastor Bonack at jbonack@stpaulmuskego.org for more information.

EASTER FLOWERS

Sign-up sheets are available at the Welcome Center if you would like to purchase one of the flowers that will beautify the altar on Easter Sunday. The flowers will be placed at the altar for all Easter services and may be picked up after the 10:45 am Easter worship service. Payment should be placed in the provided envelopes marked "Easter Flowers" and then placed in the envelope slot in the Welcome Center.

EASTER FOR KIDS IS COMING!

- Saturday, April 8, from 9:15 to 11:45 am in the Trinity Gym and Café
- 3-12 years old (3K- 6th Grade)
- Easter basket craft, Easter cookie decorating, Bible study, games, snacks, and fun!
- Register on the church's homepage at www.stpaulmuskego.org, complete the back of your Connection Card, or contact Dr. Nelson at jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org.



LENTEN MESSAGE SERIES

MIDWEEK SERMON SERIES - HIDDEN GLORY (Deutschlander)

Our message series for our Wednesday Lenten services is *Hidden Glory*. Jesus' glory is often a hidden glory – hidden in his lowly life, hidden in his severe suffering, hidden in his dark death. We will be led to marvel at how Jesus revealed his glory as he carried our sin to the cross for our full and forever salvation. The portions of Scripture on which each message will be based are listed below. Perhaps you may want to incorporate these into your daily Bible reading during Lent.



March 15	Hidden in the Savior's Rejection by His Own	Matthew 26:57-68
March 22	Hidden In the Savior's Rejection by the World	John 18:33-19:1
March 29	Hidden in the Savior's Stumbling	Mark 15:17-21
April 5	Hidden in the Savior's Powerful Words	Luke 23:32-43
Maundy Thursday	Hidden in the Savior's Supper	Matthew 26:26-30
Good Friday	Hidden in the Savior's Promise	John 19:31-37
Easter Sunday	Hidden Even in the Savior's Triumph	John 20:1-18

WEEKEND SERMON SERIES - LIKE US IN EVERY WAY

Sin brings so many severe and awful consequences into our lives. In order to free us from them all, Jesus became just like us, suffering the smart of every one of those consequences. Through this series we'll gain a renewed appreciation for what it is we've been rescued from and all that Jesus went through to make this rescue possible.



March 19	Our Weakness	John 9:1-7; 13-17,34-39
March 26	Our Suffering	Matthew 20:17-28
April 2	Our Sorrow	John 11:17-27, 38-45
April 9	Our Disgrace (Palm Sunday)	Philippians 2:5-11

SERVING OUR YOUTH

CLASS OF 2017 DATA NEEDED



St. Paul's will be celebrating our teens who are graduating from junior and senior high school in the Class of 2017. If this applies to your son or daughter, please let Dr. Nelson know the following ASAP:

- What school is he/she graduating from?
- What are his/her plans for fall 2017? For 8th grade grads, what high school? For 12th grade grads, what college, branch of the military, or work area?

Please forward this information as soon as possible to jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 422-0320, ext. 145.

TUG – TEENS UNDER GOD

Do you like playing games? Do you like winning when you play those games? Do you like receiving a prize when you win those games you play? On March 12, from 6:15 to 9:15 pm, come brush up on your game playing skills to prepare for TUG's *Tourney of Games* on March 26. Play some games or simply scout other gamers to figure out who you will choose as your teammates for the tourney! A new mix of snacks and drinks will be provided alongside the fun. See you there!

WISCONSIN LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL DINNER AUCTION

Everyone is invited to Wisconsin Lutheran High School for their annual dinner auction *Great Expectations* on Saturday, April 8, at 5:00 pm. The school gym will be transformed into an unbelievable dinner venue and the evening will include silent and verbal auctions, raffles, and more. Reserve a table of 10 or single tickets at www.wlhs.org/auction until Friday, March 24.

Volunteers are needed for decor planning, silent auction, valet parking, volunteer coordination, and many other tasks. Please consider gathering a group of friends and helping them out! To volunteer or for auction information, sponsorship opportunities, or to donate an auction item contact Heidi Witz at (414) 453-4567, ext 2004, or planner@wlhs.org.

WISCONSIN LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL INVITATION FOR 6TH GRADERS

Get ready to make a splash! All sixth grade students are invited on Monday, March 13 from 5:30 to 7:30 to a fun evening of waterslides and swimming at Country Springs Waterpark Hotel in Pewaukee. There is no cost. However, at least one parent must attend with their child. The children will swim and the parents will learn more about WLHS. RSVP by going to www.wlhs.org/news.

CAREGIVER NEEDED

- Need: A caregiver to assist a child off the bus and watch/care for her for approximately 1.5 hours.
Child: Child is 15, mildly mentally disabled and mostly independent, but cannot be alone by herself.
Time: Every other week during the school year, from 2:45 pm to 4:00 pm.
Location: Near St. Paul's on Tess Corners Drive, or the child's bus route could be changed to drop her off at the caregiver's home, if somewhat nearby.
Pay: Negotiable
Contact: Bob and Rhonda Gelhaus at (414) 979-5420 or rgelhaus@yahoo.com.

GIFTS TO GOD

WISH LIST

This list of items would greatly benefit the ministry at St. Paul's. These items are above and beyond the budgeted expenses. Below is an update on the generous giving that 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
School Exterior Window Replacements	\$10,000	\$5,183	\$4,817
Trinity Gym Floor to Ceiling Room Divider	\$13,000	\$125	\$12,875
Permanent Wall Addition to School	\$5,600	\$1,373	\$4,227
Chairs for Church Lobby	\$3,200	\$345	\$2,855
500 th Anniversary Reformation Service Funding	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
<i>The Power of the Praying Parent</i> Father's Day Gift	\$2,000	\$425	\$1,575
Church Grounds Landscape Design	\$750	\$0	\$750

LANDSCAPE DESIGN WORK

Many of the shrubs and perennials at the entrance to the church and around the church sign are overgrown or have died. A gift of \$750 will allow us to pay for a landscape design that a volunteer has offered to implement. Gifts for plants will be sought this spring.

500TH ANNIVERSARY REFORMATION SERVICE FUNDING

The southeast Wisconsin district of our church body would like to rent the Milwaukee Theatre, with a seating capacity of about 4000, to host a district-wide 500th Anniversary of the Reformation service in November of 2017. Congregations the size of St. Paul's have been asked to contribute \$1000 toward the cost of this event. Anything received beyond the cost of the service will go toward the offering gathered at that service. The offering designation has not yet been decided upon by the district leaders.

POWER OF THE PRAYING PARENT FATHER'S DAY GIFT

In connection with Father's Day, we are mailing postcards to the community with the offer: "All parents will receive a free gift: *The Power of a Praying Parent*." The cost of a book is \$5 each. This Wish List item will cover the cost of this gift that offers support to the parents in our congregation. If sufficient gifts are received, we could expand this gift to every school parent/Kids Club parent in the fall of 2017.

SCHOOL WINDOWS ON WISH LIST

The windows in the portion of our school built in 1957 need to be replaced. This summer we put energy efficient windows into the Centennial Kitchen. We would like to replace as many of the windows next summer as we have funding for. The windows in each classroom will cost approximately \$10,000. There are seven classrooms involved. The Centennial Gym windows will cost \$35,000.

TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Through the government's Title II funds and our congregational budgeting process, we provide for the professional development of our teachers, but there are more workshops and courses that our teachers would like to attend. This fund provides our members with an opportunity to encourage continuing education through special gifts. Our goal is to provide an additional \$500 per teacher or \$7000 per year. Gifts of \$850 have been given to date. If you would like to contribute, mark your gift clearly, "Teacher Professional Development Fund."

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

THRIVENT MEMBERS – CHOICE DOLLARS

"Generous, meaningful living" is one of St. Paul's core values. Thrivent members exhibited that value last fiscal year by directing over \$10,000 in Thrivent Choice funds to St. Paul's ministries. Thank you!

Now is the time to direct your Thrivent Choice dollars to the ministry you would like to support. Please visit www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice or pick up a Thrivent Choice Dollars information card at the Welcome Center for directions on the process for designating your Choice Dollars.

THE NOAH'S ARK AND LEARN THE CREATION STORY

This fall, as part of a special sermon series, small group, and Bible class emphasis on Genesis, Creation, Evolution, and World View, St. Paul's is partnering together with Stoney Creek Tours to offer a 4 day/3 night motor coach trip to the Noah's Ark Encounter and Creation Museum in northern Kentucky. To learn more and reserve your place for this inspiring and educational experience go to

www.GroupTrips.com/StoneyCreekTours.

Deadline to sign up is August 10. Cost is \$462/person, \$75 charged at sign-up, with final payment due August 10. Watch for more details, but don't delay.



STONEY CREEK DAY TRIP

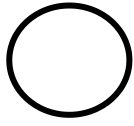
Stoney Creek will be heading to New Glarus and Monrone, Wisconsin, for a day trip. The tour includes a visit to quaint villages in the area, as well as a stop at the Historic Cheesemaking Museum and the Imoberseg Farmstead Cheese Factory. Lunch will follow at the New Glarus Hotel. You will have a chance to do some shopping. Cost is \$80. Please contact Cindy or Charlene at (414) 422-4686 to register.

MUSICAL PROPS JUST SITTING AROUND?

We're looking for a few items for our elementary school spring musical, *The Little Mermaid*, coming up in April. Do you have any of the following items stored away somewhere that you would be willing to let us borrow for the musical?

- a small two-person wooden rowboat
- oars
- 3-4 light-weight crates
- large-throw fishing nets
- old mops
- a wooden steering wheel for a boat
- an old-fashioned sailing telescope
- a fancy pipe (smoking)
- yards of blue shimmery fabric
- a very large black cauldron like pot
- a large rubber fish
- a conductor's baton.

Contact Pastor Bonack at jbbonack@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 422-0501 to set up a transfer of the items. Thanks!



GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

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

Like Us In Every Way – GUILTY!

1. African-American jazz and pop music singer, dancer, actress, and civil rights activist, Lena Horne, once said, “It’s not the load that breaks you down, it’s the way you carry it.”
 - Do you agree with that statement? Explain.
 - What load are you carrying now that’s giving you some trouble?
 - How might members of your group provide a better way to carry it?

2. Read John 4:5-26. This account of Jesus and the Samaritan woman is a wonderful example of love breaking down barriers and opening doors. Of it, D. Shurenga writes:

Jesus appears on the scene with a new approach. He introduces a brand-new idea. He connects with sinners before they repent, before they change, so that they will change. He goes to those who need him even before they know they need him! He seeks out the least, the last, the lost so that, hearing his voice, they can experience new life. Rather than keeping them at arm’s length, he embraces them (*Shurenga, D., Today: The Family Altar, in Elmer, D., Cross Cultural Servanthood, 2006, pg. 39.*)

In this account, Jesus does several things that were forbidden by Jewish law at the time: Remained seated at the well even though a woman was coming. Initiated the conversation with a woman. Asked for a drink knowing he’d have to use her cup. Talked to her even though her coming to get water as an adult woman in mid-day meant she was in disrepute. Bantered back and forth on spiritual matters in order to test and teach her.

- Why was Jesus willing to do all of this with/for the Samaritan woman?
 - Why would the words of verse 26 be so wonderful to her?
 - How did the Samaritan woman respond (see verses 28-29)?
 - Why would she feel comfortable inviting other sinful, guilty people to meet Jesus?
 - How could this Bible story be used to express to someone hurting that Jesus a) feels their pain, and b) removes their guilt?
3. How does the season of Lent give you a better way to carry any load that’s trying to break you down? Explain.
 4. Read Hebrews 4:14-16. How do these verses make you feel? How can you put these feelings into action?

PRAY: Heavenly Father, bless me now; At the cross of Christ I bow;
Take my guilt and grief away; Hear and heal me now, I pray.
Now, O Lord, this very hour, Send Thy grace and show Thy power;
While I rest upon Thy Word; Come, and bless me now, O Lord. (*author unknown*)



NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

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

Like Us in Every Way: Our Guilt

John 4:4-26, page 1065

1. Valleys of guilt divide us.

- a. Divide us from each other
- b. Divide us from the Guilt-bearer

2. Grace builds a bridge.

- a. To nowhere
- b. To everywhere

My Next Steps

- **Memorize Isaiah 59:2 – The Cause of our Separation:** But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.
- **Memorize Isaiah 53:6 – The Solution to our Separation:** We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity [guilt] of us all.
- **Build a Bridge:** Who in your area of influence feels separated... from others and/or God... because the guilt of past or present sin? How can you build a bridge to them?