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ME? FRIEND TO ALL UNCONDITIONAL TRUST March 2 and 3, 2019

Loving others as Jesus loves them requires incredible patience and trust. So often we're looking for immediate life-change. God is working on transforming the heart, and that kind of change doesn't happen overnight. We need to see ourselves as seed planters and trust the tools God has given us to do their work.

PRESERVICE HYMN-SING

PRESERVICE (Sunday)

BELLS AND WELCOME

HYMN 97, vv. 1-4

Down from the Mount of Glory

Praise and Alleluyas, Handbells

by Mary McCleary

- M The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C And also with you.
- M Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, when Jesus displayed his majestic glory as the Son of God on the Mount of Transfiguration, the apostles were filled with fear and hid their faces from his holiness.
- C When we see God's holiness in his Word, we too have reason to tremble in fear of judgment.
- M Thanks be to God! His Word also reveals God's mercy so that we do not need to hide from God. Let us, therefore, acknowledge the truth, confess our sin, and ask God to forgive us.
- All Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior, Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.
- 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.
- C Amen.
- M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Then hail the double glory Of Jesus Christ, our Lord, And let the wondrous story Full peace and joy afford! The holy mount acclaims him The majesty divine; Mount Calvary proclaims him Redeemer -- yours and mine.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray.

Lord God, before the suffering and death of your one and only Son, you revealed his glory on the holy mountain.

- C Grant that we who bear his cross on earth may behold by faith the light of his heavenly glory, and so be changed into his likeness.
- M We pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now

C and forever.



FIRST LESSONIsaiah 55:8-11, Bible page 738God promises that his Word will never return to him empty.PSALM OF THE DAYPSALM OF THE DA

1 Timothy 1:12-17, Bible page 1192 *The truth of God's grace changed the heart of an enemy of Christ.*

VERSE OF THE DAY

M Alleluia! "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" Alleluia! (Mark 9:7)

Gospel

Luke 9:28-36, Bible page 1039 *Jesus' glory is revealed on the Mount of Transfiguration.*





HYMN OF THE DAY 467

May the Mind of Christ My Savior

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit;

the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERTORY (Sunday)

To God Be the Glory, Handbells arr. by Cynthia Dobrinski

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M We praise you, O Father, for the precious gift of your Son and for his glorious transfiguration on the holy mountain. Give us the firm resolve to listen to your Son, the eager readiness to believe his promises, and the joyful willingness to heed his commandments.
- C By the sign of Moses and Elijah, show us that blessed are the dead who die in faith, for they shall know the power of Christ's resurrection, and shall be "changed from glory into glory."
- M O God and Father, let your Holy Spirit find a dwelling in our poor bodies, and transform our weak, sinful lives into the radiance of goodness, purity, and righteousness.
- C Transform our minds, our understanding, our judgments, yes, our whole person, to reflect the mind of Christ.
- M Take our sickness and pain, our disappointments and despair, our sorrows and mourning, our pride and anger, our selfishness and envy, our hate and fear: take all these, O Father, and transform them by the healing touch of Jesus into noble impulses, pure motives, kind thoughts, constructive deeds, high courage, and true faith.

Special prayers and intercessions.

M Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

- M Look on your Church, O Lord, here and in every place, and grant that we and all who bear the name of Christ may daily offer up to you the acceptable sacrifices of repentance, thanksgiving, and loving obedience.
- C Hear our prayer, and by your mercy grant our petitions for Christ's sake. Amen.

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.

CLOSING HYMN 95

How Good, Lord, to Be Here

CLOSING PRAYER

M O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on 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.



WELS CONNECTION WELS Mission Journeys

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESIDING MINISTER (Sunday) Pastor David Kuehl

ORGANIST Darik Mischke

WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of March 4, 2019

MON	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)		
	6:30 pm	Sermon Discussion (Church Library)		
	7:00 pm	Woodwind Rehearsal (Church Balcony)		
TUE	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study (Grace Room)		
	9:30 am	Ministerial Growth Team Meeting		
	10:00 am	Walking Group (Trinity Gym)		
	10:30 am	Ministerial Team Meeting		
	6:00 pm	DivorceCare Ministry (School Classroom 8)		
	6:30 pm	Handbell Rehearsal (Church Balcony)		
	7:00 pm	Following the Promise Bible Study (Faith Room)		
	7:00 pm	Volleyball League		
WED		Ash Wednesday		
	9:30 am	Mommy and Me (Faith Room)		
	10:00 am	Sermon Discussion (Church Library)		
	I 2:00 pm	Ladies Afternoon Fellowship (Grace Room)		
	3:30 pm	Ash Wednesday Service with Holy Communion		
	4:30 pm	Soup Supper hosted by St. Paul's Cancer Support Group (Grace Room)		
	4:30 pm	Public School Confirmation Instruction Classes		
	7:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Service with Holy Communion		
	8:00 pm	Brass Ensemble		
THURS	6:30 am	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room)		
	9:00 am	Quilting Fellowship (Faith Room)		
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)		
	6:30 pm	Financial Peace University (Grace Room)		
	7:00 pm	Pickleball League (Trinity Gym)		
	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 with Holy Communion		
SUN	2:00 am	Daylight Savings Time Begins (Set clocks ahead one hour)		
	7:45 am	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion		
	8:00 am	Easter Festival Choir Rehearsal (Faith Room)		
	8:30 am	Following the Promise Bible Study (School Classroom #8)		
	9:15 am	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion		
	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 with Holy Communion		

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Please pray for the following individuals in their time of need: David Burkowitz, Bruce Marggraf, Carol Smith, and Dick and Jane Sternberg.

HOSPITALIZED

Lois Guhr is at The View at Pine Ridge in Oconomowoc, Carol Gosseck at Southpointe, Theresa Raduege at Autumn Leaves in Franklin, and Mary Schauwitzer, Marlene Sobczak and Jeanne Steinbrecher at Waukesha Memorial. Larry Brickner, Bernie Elger, and Sanford Olson have returned home.

ATTENDANCE

1006 were in attendance at last week's worship services.

SUNDAY MORNING NURSERY

We have a staffed nursery of friendly caregivers during the 9:15 and 10:45 am services in the East Wing of the church. An usher will be happy to direct you to the nursery.

EASTER FOR KIDS – SATURDAY, APRIL 13

St. Paul's annual Easter For Kids will be Saturday, April 13, 9:00-11:45 am, at the school. This event is for children ages 3-12. The morning will feature



singing, games, crafts, a puppet show, the Easter story, and more. Register on the back of your Connection Card today or register online beginning March 10 at www.stpaulmuskego.org. If you'd like to assist with this fun and faith-strengthening event contact Dr. Nelson at jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org.

EASTER FESTIVAL CHOIR

The Easter festival choir rehearsals start Sunday, March 10. All who love to sing are welcome! Please join us at 8:00 am in the Faith Room and Tuesdays at 7:30 pm in the church. Contact Michele Eiche at meiche4@wi.rr.com with questions.

FOLLOWING THE PROMISE - BIBLE BASICS AND YOU

Pastor Nate Strobel is leading two sessions of our new member Bible study—*Following the Promise*—right now: Sundays at 8:30 am and Tuesdays at 7:00 pm. Pastor Nate would love for you to join him while he walks through the basics of what the Bible teaches and how it relates to God's promises for you. Register on the back of your Connection Card or contact Pastor Nate directly at <u>nstrobel@stpaulmuskego.org</u>.

LEARN ABOUT OUR SOUTHEAST ASIA MISSIONS

The Dorcas Society will be hosting Anne Press from Christians Forward, a Christ-centered humanitarian relief organization, to speak about our church body's mission efforts in Southeast Asia. Join the discussion on Tuesday, March 19, at 7:00 pm in the Grace Room

MARCH/APRIL GRACE ROOM SERIES

Will God's Word always be reliable and trustworthy? This is the theme for the next Grace Room Sunday morning Bible class, beginning March 3, at 9:30 am. Join former WELS Pastor Dan Kolosovsky in a study of 2 Peter that will answer this question.

COSTA MAYA MINISTRIES ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER OPENING

Our mission partner, Costa Maya Ministries, is currently hiring an

COSTA MAYA MINISTRIES

administrative manager. Live in provided housing and work in the beautiful southern Yucatan Peninsula. St. Paul's member and former teacher, Dan Thiel, filled this role previously. A full job description can be found on the bulletin board in the Grace Room, with more information also at costamayaministries.org. Contact Dan Thiel at danielthiel13@hotmail.com or (414) 721-6906.

LENT AT ST. PAUL'S

WEDNESDAY MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES-3:30 AND 7:00 PM

Join us as we walk with Jesus through the critical hours leading up to his suffering and death. As we do, we will hear statements full of irony, comments that surprise us because of who said them or that they have a meaning so different than what the speaker intended. We will see

- the power of God as he uses his enemies to accomplish his plan.
- the wisdom of God that appears so foolish to others.
- the mercy of our God who will allow nothing to hinder his saving plan.

We will benefit from hearing a number of guest preachers.

March 6	"This man went home justified."
March 13	"It is better that one man die for the people."
March 20	"Not during the Feast!"
March 27	"He had been wanting to see Jesus."
April 3	"We have no king but Caesar!"
April 10	"Don't you fear God?"

ENJOY A SOUP SUPPER BETWEEN SERVICES

Come enjoy a warm meal and camaraderie with your friends between our Wednesday Lenten services, 4:30 to 6:30 pm, in the Grace Room. A free will offering is gathered at the soup supper to help defray the cost of the food and to support the ministry of the hosting group. The St. Paul's Cancer Support Group will be hosting this Wednesday's soup supper.

Hosts are needed for two soup suppers; March 27 and April 3. These soup suppers are provided between our Wednesday Lenten services that begin on March 6 to prepare us for observing the death and resurrection of our Savior. For more information contact Church Administrative Assistant Tammy Miller at tmiller@stpaulmuskego.org or 414-422-0320, ext. 111.

SUNDAYS OF LENT – HIS PAIN OUR GAIN

"Christ for us." That is the summary of the Christian message and the focus of our Sunday Lenten series. Everything he did, everything he suffered, was for our benefit. During the Lenten season, our goal is to find rest for our souls in this simple truth: Christ for Us.

March 10	His Victory
March 17	His Compassion
March 24	His Submission
March 31	His Honesty
April 7	His Justice
April 14	His Joy



ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL NEWS

ENROLL NOW FOR PRE-K THROUGH 8[™] GRADE

Registration for the 2019-2020 school year is open for our 3K to 8th grade Lutheran school. School Administrator Seth Fitzsimmons would love to give you a tour of our school facilities and answer any questions you may have. He can be reached at sfitzsimmons@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 422-0320, ext. 118. You may also find more information and register online at www.stpmuskego.org/tads.

DIVINE CALL DECLINED FOR FOURTH GRADE TEACHER

Last week, Miss Kristy Stahmann from Emanuel Lutheran in New London, Wisconsin, let us know that she declined our fourth grade teacher call. Kristy wrote the following letter to the congregation:

February 27, 2019

Dear Members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School,

Praise be to God whose infinite wisdom provides comfort and guidance throughout our lives.

Over the past few weeks, I have had the privilege and opportunity to look at two divine calls- my current call to Emanuel and the present call to St. Paul's. Similar in the mission to nurture souls for Christ, both calls ask me to use my gifts and talents to serve and honor our Lord and the Church.

Thank you for the wealth of information that was sent to me. The mission of St. Paul's to bring every person within the area of influence closer to Christ by every possible means is clearly being accomplished. The different worship opportunities in the church, positions of Outreach Coordinator and Resident Missionary, and involvement in Wisconsin School Choice speak to the mission. It is evident that St. Paul's is and will continue to be a stable rock in Muskego. I am greatly impressed with the leadership and organized structure that exists in both the church and school. The teachers that I have spoken with are committed to their call and show support for each other. These factors make St. Paul's an ideal place for me to carry out my ministry to the Lord.

This call challenged me. I've come to realize that what I think is my ideal situation is not God's plan for me at this time. Emanuel, the congregation I presently serve, is currently calling for two positions- a principal and fifth grade teacher. The one thing needed in the school right now is consistency. Through prayerful consideration, God's direction and guidance has lead me to decline the call to serve as your fourth grade teacher. I am confident that at this time I can best serve God at Emanuel. God's continued blessings to your congregation as you continue the calling process.

In His Service,

Miss Stahmann

DIVINE CALL EXTENDED TO MRS. CHRISTEL STRUTZ

The St. Paul's Ministry Board has extended a call to Mrs. Christel Strutz to teach third grade in our elementary school. Mrs. Strutz currently serves as a third and fourth grade teacher at St. Paul's in Cudahy. Her husband, Randall, is a teacher and head coach of the varsity girls' basketball team at Wisconsin Lutheran High School. Please keep Mrs. Strutz in your prayers as she deliberates this call.

DIVINE CALL DELIBERATION CONTINUES

Fifth Grade Teacher Mr. Jeff Wetzel continues to deliberate his call to serve as principal at Trinity Lutheran in Caledonia, Wisconsin. Please keep Mr. Wetzel in your prayers.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

DIVINE CALL EXTENDED TO MIKE WESTENDORF

St. Paul's Ministry Board, at its February 28 meeting, extended a divine call to Mike Westendorf to serve in a position called "Resident Musical Artist and Director of Video Production."

Last spring, the congregation approved granting time for Pastor Bonack to pursue a masters in mental health counseling with the goal of establishing a counseling center on our campus at the completion of his studies. Part of that decision recognized that we would need to add staff to replace the time that Pastor Bonack would be devoting to his studies and internships.

The calling of Mr. Westendorf is a continuation of that plan. Currently Mike serves us parttime, leading and coordinating our contemporary and Bridge services. His role will be expanded to full-time with the addition of more contemporary worship involvement, oversight of our AV needs at church and school, leading our high school and college age ministries, and overseeing production of videos for worship and Bible study both for inreach and outreach purposes. Mike would begin this position during the summer or early fall of 2019.

Mike has been a life-long member of Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod congregations. He and his wife Melissa and children have been members of St. Paul's for seven years. In accordance with synodical procedure when calling a lay person to serve as a staff minister, Mike will complete the synod's Congregational Assistant Program of studies over the next several years.

Please keep Mike and his family in your prayers as he deliberates this call to serve the Savior.

CONGREGATIONAL STAFFING

With the calling of Mike Westendorf, it is a good time to appreciate the dedication of our entire staff. Over the last 20 years, our ministry has grown increasingly complex with three different worship languages, involvement in the community, the addition of our child care ministry, a greatly expanded PreK, the addition of before/after school care and summer care, and our school's entrance into the Parental Choice programs. We want to thank all who serve our congregation: pastors, teachers, staff ministers, administrative staff, teachers' aids, child care workers, facilities maintenance workers.

While ministry complexity has increased dramatically, the number of staff members directly serving the congregation (pastors and staff ministers) has increased by only ³/₄ of a position over the last 20 years! What a blessing that we have such talented Christians in our church and school ministries who partner with so many volunteers to expand our gospel outreach and help us fulfill our mission: By every possible means we bring every person within our area of influence closer to Christ.

St-Paul's

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

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GIVE A SPECIAL GIFT?

Your regular, generous offerings to our Mission and Ministry Fund provide for the on-going ministry needs of our congregation. But often there is a desire to give a special gift. Here are some suggestions:

- Martin Luther College Tuition Assistance Grant This is a wish list item that will provide tuition assistance for our members and members of Garden Homes Lutheran Church who are attending Martin Luther College to prepare for full-time ministry. These gifts will be matched by the college, up to \$1000 per student. The deadline is June I, 2019. Our goal would be \$4,000 or more. Mark your gift "Wish List MLC Tuition Assistance."
- **St. Paul's Tuition Assistance Funds** There are families with financial need who do not qualify for the Parental Choice programs. For these families we strive to provide generous tuition assistance. We do not want to have finances hinder any family from benefiting from our school. However, this year our Tuition Assistance Grants have left our LESTA Fund (Lutheran Elementary School Tuition Assistance) with a negative balance. Please consider a special gift to LESTA, either online or mark your gift clearly and place it in the offering plate.
- **Mortgage Fund** The mortgage on our 2010 addition is paid by special gifts to the Mortgage Fund so that our on-going ministry is not held back. Ideally, we would receive over \$20,000 per month so that we could make additional principal payments.
- **Cool Million** We have reached the half-way point in our effort to improve our facilities with new HVAC, roofs, etc. Special gifts to this fund will help us reach the next goal which is \$825,000 by the end of the summer.
- Malawi Mission Partner Pastor John Holtz, a son of our congregation, has sent us his February newsletter. Copies are at the Welcome Center. For over a decade, gifts from individuals at St. Paul's have provided a large proportion of Pastor Holtz' support.

PARKING PEOPLE PLEASE!

"Don't worship here!" Did you see that sign posted in our parking lot today? Quite often our members and guests see that sign. When they drive through the lot and can't find a spot, they are getting the message loud and clear "Don't worship here!"

You can make a difference! Could you volunteer about 30 minutes every other week or once a month on a Sunday to help people find a place to park? Even if the lot is full, we will show you where we can squeeze in a few more. We always want to say, "There is still room!"



Join the Parking Team Ministry: Be the first person to make that positive impression. To volunteer or to find out more, mark the back of your Connection Card or contact Community Outreach Coordinator Sally Wallner at swallner@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 218-5197.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE AT LADIES AFTERNOON FELLOWSHIP

Lutherans for Life Executive Director Peter Georgson will speak at the March 6 Ladies Afternoon Fellowship (LAF) at noon in the Grace Room. All are invited. Come and hear about the life-saving work being done and how you can make a difference too.

GroupWork

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

The following questions are based on the book *Gay and Gad: Loving Everyone God Made and Everything God Wrote* by Pastor Mike Novotny, the new speaker for Time of Grace Ministries; pages 50-62. Pick up a copy of the book in the lobby or at www.TimeofGrace.org/store.

- I. What is the most significant thing you have learned in this message series?
- 2. What have you found most troubling or what like to discuss, especially from the message this week?
- 3. The author contends that most Christians are "or" people. What is the point of his "and"?
- 4. Read John 8:1-11. How does this account illustrate Jesus was an "and" person?
- 5. What is the I4-word summary of the entire book?
- 6. How can you be an "and" person? What can St. Paul's do to become more of an "and" church? What can you personally do to help bring about that change?
- 7. Review the outline the author used:

L_____G_____B_____T_____

8. Break into groups of two or three. If you feel comfortable, share an LGBT individual for whom you are praying. Take turns praying for the individual(s) that another person in your group has mentioned.



Me? Friend of All Requires Unconditional Trust

Luke 13:1-9

"It is good for us to be here."

I. Trust God's Justice

a. God's justice upon myself creates h_____.

b. God's justice upon others creates u_____

2. Trust God's Mercy

- a. God's mercy produces p_____.
- b. God's mercy produces p_____.

3. Trust God's Word

- a. Get your hands dirty.
- b. Apply the fertilizer.
- c. Pray for fruit.

"Lord, I believe! Help me overcome my unbelief!"

My Next Steps to be a Friend to All

- Watch the news: Recognize that every disaster or death is a reminder that time is short. Let the news produce in you an urgency. Now is the time to be friend to all.
- **Get your hands dirty:** Pray for God to open your eyes to see the mission field around you and to see ways that you can show unconditional love to those who are producing no fruit of faith now.
- **Apply the fertilizer:** The gospel is what produces fruit. If you want to change and become more loving, then use the Lenten season to apply the gospel to your own heart. Make a commitment not to miss a weekend or Wednesday Lenten service where we celebrate God's mercy to us in Jesus.
- **Review what you have learned:** If this message series has impacted your life, go back and review the messages again. They can be found at <u>www.StPaulMuskego.org/worship/sermons</u>.