

ORDINARY PEOPLE – EXTRAORDINARY GOD

WARRIOR OR WORRIER?

GIDEON

May 27, 28, and 31, 2017

*Gideon smashes the family altar. We all have our personal altars.
What is blocking your worship of the Lord?*

BELLS AND WELCOME

HYMN 455

Rise! To Arms! With Prayer Employ You

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



CONFESSION OF SINS

M Dear God, our Father, we come before you with cluttered hearts, heavy with sin. Just as Jesus cleared the temple so it might be restored as a place of worship, we ask you to purify our hearts that they may be sanctuaries of true worship for you. Today we come to you confessing all of our sins in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C **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 is a just and holy God, full of grace and mercy. With an everlasting love he gave his only Son as a 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 In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

SONG OF PRAISE

Holy Spirit, Light Divine

Lord of all I come to you
Praising you the God that's true.
Praise the Father, Praise the Son,
Praise the Spirit, three in one.

Holy Spirit, Pow'r divine,
Dwell within this heart of mine;
Cast down ev'ry idol throne;
Reign supreme and reign alone.

See, to you I give my heart;
Cleanse my life in every part;
Your own temple I would be
Now and for eternity.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M Dear Lord, help us build our family altar by focusing our eyes on Jesus as we daily study your Word. Tear down the idols of distraction so we may single-mindedly live Christian lives according to your holy will. Carve in our hearts a lasting faith that will love you with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our strength. We pray this through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit now and forever.



C: A - men.

FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 6:4-7, 17, Bible page 182

The LORD commands parents to teach their children to love the LORD with all their heart, strength, soul, and mind.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Alleluia. (*John 14:18*)



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL

John 2:13-22, Bible page 1064

Jesus displays his zeal for his Father's house and for worship that flows from a believing heart.

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



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 463, vv. 1, 3, 4, 5

Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult

Jesus calls us o'er the tumult
Of our life's wild, restless sea;
Day by day his voice invites us,
Saying, "Christian, follow me!"

Jesus calls us from the worship
Of the vain world's golden store,
From each idol that would keep us,
Saying, "Christian, love me more."

In our joys and in our sorrows,
Days of toil and hours of ease,
Still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these."

Jesus calls us! In your mercy,
Savior, help us hear your call;
Give our hearts to your obedience,
Serve and love you best of all!

SERMON

Judges 6:25-32, Bible page 244

Pastor Jeffrey Bonack

RESPONSE

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (*Sunday*)

*Adagio Cantabile, String Ensemble
by Beethoven*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M O Lord, we have heard of Gideon's gambit - his strategy for gaining an advantaged position over his enemies, the Midianites. He removed the false gods from their land and followed you, the one and only true God, ever trusting in your almighty power.

C **Lord, with you on his side the victory was his.**

M Lord, we face our own enemies. Help us knock down our personal false gods of self-reliance, greed, selfishness, and pride. Through your Word send your Spirit to build up our faith and trust in you.

C **Lord, with you on our side the victory is ours.**

M Bless your holy Christian church that it may have clear vision and direction, not giving into the idols of this world. Do not let us abandon your holy Word but boldly proclaim the ultimate victory over sin and death through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C **Lord, with Jesus on our side the victory is ours.**

M Thank you, Lord, for all the victories you have given us in the past. On this Memorial Day weekend we especially thank you for the men and women who gave their lives that we may live in a nation of peace with the freedom to worship you without persecution.

C **Lord, with you on our side the victory was ours.**

M Continue to bless the men and women of the military forces who daily sacrifice the comforts of home and family, putting themselves in harm's way on our behalf. Do not let us take them for granted. Help us appreciate the blessings of our homeland, a place where we are safe to live our lives for you, Lord, and safe to proclaim your gracious name to all we meet.

C **Lord, with you on our side the victory is ours. Guard and bless our native land.**

♪ Give peace, Lord, in our time.
Oh, let no foe draw nigh
Nor lawlessness and crime
Insult your majesty!
O Lord, stretch forth your mighty hand
And guard and bless our native land.

Though vain and foolish, still
We are your people, Lord.
Oh, bend us to your will;
We'll serve no other God!
O Lord, stretch forth your mighty hand
And guard and bless our native land.

Special prayers and intercessions.

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.

PREFACE

M The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up un - 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 good and 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 promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY HOLY HOLY

Sanctus



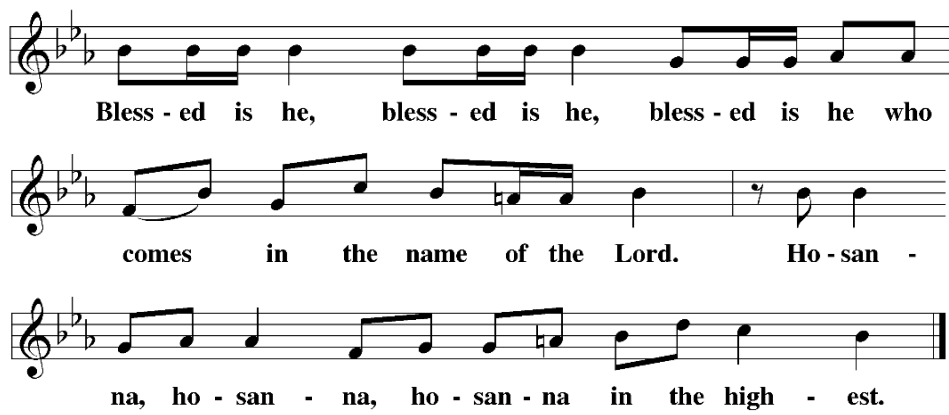
C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

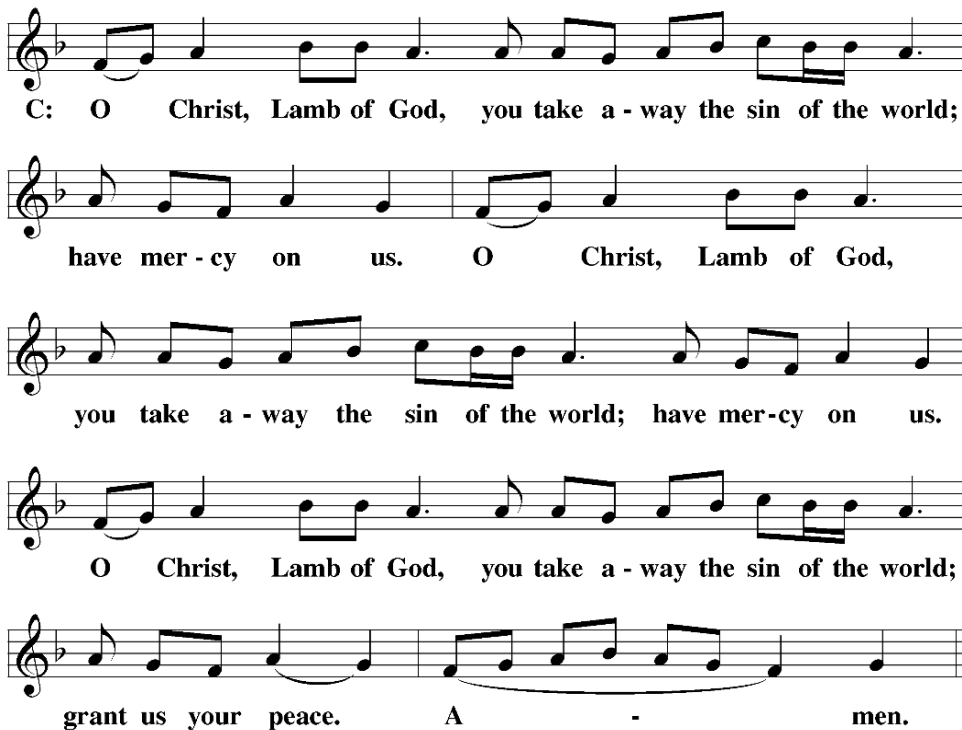
M The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C: A - men.

OH CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei



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 9.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS 466
618

**Though Thoughtless Thousands Choose
Before the Lord We Bow**

CLOSING PRAYER

M O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

M Thanks and praise for our days,
Neath the sun, neath the stars, neath the sky
As we go, this we know,
God is nigh.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESIDING MINISTER *(Sunday) Pastor David Kuehl*

ORGANIST *Kathy Bremer*



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.

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. Register on the back of your Connection Card.

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 left 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

WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of May 29, 2017

MON		Memorial Day
TUE	9:15 am 10:00 am 6:30 pm	Ministerial Team Meeting Walking Club (Trinity Gym) Handbell Rehearsal
WED	6:30 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Chapel Choir Rehearsal (Faith Room) Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion Church Picnic Team Meeting Brass Ensemble Rehearsal
THURS	6:30 am 9:00 am 10:00 am 6:45 pm 7:00 pm	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room) Quilting Fellowship (Faith Room) Walking Club (Trinity Gym) Stoney Creek Bible Study (Stoney Creek Adult Community) The Bridge and Contemporary Band Practice
SAT	8:00 am 5:00 pm	Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room) Traditional Worship Service
SUN	7:45 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 9:45 am 10:15 am 10:45 am 12:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service Traditional Worship Service Grace Room Bible Study The Bridge Communion The Bridge Contemporary Worship Service Resident Missionary Special Call Meeting (Grace Room)

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



ST. PAUL'S NEWS

2017-2018 MINISTRY PLAN APPROVED

The \$3.5 million ministry plan was approved at St. Paul's annual voters' meeting on May 18. This plan includes the transition from a business administrator to a new role of church administrator and the following new positions: resident missionary, part-time volunteer coordinator, second kindergarten teacher, and 1/3 time Spanish teacher to be shared with Christ the Lord Lutheran in Brookfield and Trinity Lutheran in Waukesha. This ministry proposal challenges us to grow in giving by 4.5% over this year.

Also approved were the proposed bylaws changes and the Gift Trust Fund/Legacy Fund grant resolutions. For a complete listing of these resolutions, see the *April Messenger*, available at the Welcome Center.

Elected to the Ministry Board were: Secretary Steve Wranovsky, Treasurer Kevin Krueger, Joshua Fink and Brian Tonn. They will be installed into office on June 18.

SPECIAL CALL MEETING

There will be a special voters' meeting on Sunday, June 4, at noon in the Grace Room to call a fourth pastor position of resident missionary. Position descriptions are available at the Welcome Center.

ONE-YEAR CALL ISSUED

The Ministry Board has issued a one-year call to Samantha Loescher to serve as another third grade teacher next year. She is a graduate of Martin Luther College and taught at Nebraska Lutheran High School before marrying Phil, our Youth Ministry Assistant. She currently serves on our School of Early Learning staff.

CELEBRATING THE END OF ONE YEAR ... LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT YEAR

Twenty two eighth grade students graduated from St. Paul's Lutheran Elementary School on Friday, May 26. As part of the service, significant ministry anniversaries were also celebrated:

- Ms. Linda Martens - 40 years in ministry
- Mr. Justin Walz – 16 years in ministry
- Mrs. Anne Meyer - 15 years in ministry and 15 years at St. Paul's
- Mrs. Susan Kuehl - 15 years at St. Paul's

We also bid a fond farewell to Mrs. Samantha Lindner. The Lord blessed Samantha and her husband Rand with a little girl, Aria. Mrs. Lindner is resigning her call so she can stay home with Aria.

Our teaching staff is nearly set for the next school year.

- School Administrator — Seth Fitzsimmons
- 6th – 8th Grade Departmentalized — Kurt Steffen, Justin Walz, Julie Shevey
- 5th Grade — Jeff Wetzels and Nicole Glodowski
- 4th Grade — Jessica Vanderhyde
- 3rd Grade — Theresa Kirchoff and Samantha Loescher (if she accepts call)
- 2nd Grade — Candy Stack
- 1st Grade — Linda Martens and Sara Goelz
- Kindergarten — Susan Kuehl and Taryn Volbrecht
- PreK Director — Michele Drska
- 4K — Michele Drska, Kathy Bremer, Annie Hintze
- 3K — Anne Meyer, Sharon Klopff

One position yet to be filled is a full-time Spanish teacher whom we would share with Christ the Lord, Brookfield and Trinity, Waukesha. We hope to extend that call at the June 15 Ministry Board meeting.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

CHURCH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS

The church administration office, located in the school building, will be open from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm, Monday through Friday until school resumes on August 22.

SUNDAY MORNING NURSERY

If you have small children (4 years old and younger), 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. The nursery closes 10 minutes after the service, so please pick your child up promptly.

HOSPITALIZED

Dorothy Bucholtz is in hospice care at St. Ann's Nursing Home. Marlene Sobczak at Linden Grove Mukwonago. Stephanie Brandt and Richard Krebs have been discharged from the hospital.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Please pray for the following individuals in their time of need: James Beyer, Mary Ann Boldt, Dawn Brown, David Burkowitz, Jodie Crosby, Sharon Dreyer, Shelly Eggert, Namine Eiche, Brittany Gillespie, Daniel Holtz, Dawn Jahns, Connie Johnson, Sandra Merfeld, Sonia Neuberger, Marvin Pellmann, Jeanne Steinbrecher, and Jake Strande.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

894 attended worship services last week.

GOSPEL MINISTRY CONTINUES ALL SUMMER LONG!

Many of us travel or go north on summer weekends. Make sure that your generous support of gospel ministry here at St. Paul's remains constant while you are away. Sign up today for online giving at www.stpaulmuskego.org or scan the QR code to go directly to the mobile friendly site.



UNDER THE CANOPY HOSTS

Available dates for this summer's Under the Canopy are June 18, July 2, July 16, July 23, and August 20. This is a great chance to share information about your organization with the congregation while meeting new people. Please contact David Weise at (262) 271-3093 or dweise@aol.com to reserve your date.

JOIN THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE CHOIR – from Director Jon Pasbrig

Join in singing in the Festival Choir that is being formed for the opening worship service of the Pastoral District Conference at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in Mequon. The schedule for the Festival Choir is as follows:

Monday, June 5:	6:30-8:00 pm Rehearsal in the auditorium at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary
Tuesday, June 6:	8:00-8:40 am Warm-up in the auditorium
	9:00-10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion

Contact Director Jon Pasbrig at (602) 748-7180 or jon.pasbrig@kmlhs.org to indicate interest along with primary voice part, or any other voice part you wouldn't mind singing, if needed.

GROWING CLOSER TO CHRIST

THE FIRST STEP: CLOTHED IN CHRIST IN BAPTISM

Our first step toward a stronger faith is a one-hour personal visit and study on baptism. Schedule this First Step visit with Pastor Pete by marking the Connection Card.

THE SECOND STEP: FOLLOWING THE PROMISE BEGINS TUESDAY, MAY 23

God was planning for you before the creation of the world. God's first promise to you is found in the first chapters of the Bible. In this 13-week study, we follow that promise through the Bible and see how it impacts our lives. This also serves as a preparation-for-membership Bible study. Register with Pastor Pete or on the Connection Card.

THE THIRD STEP: WALK THROUGH THE BIBLE NEXT FALL

Jesus said, "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). We Christians want to know "every word that comes from the mouth of God," but the Bible is an imposing book with so many characters and covering so much time. The third step in our core curriculum is a 30-lesson course taught every year to help you become more familiar with the Bible and prepare you for a life-time of Bible reading and spiritual growth. Minimum class size is 50 people; maximum is 70 people. The time of the study is yet to be determined. Express your interest on the Connection Card.

GRACE ROOM BIBLE STUDY

Join Mr. Jon Eiche as he leads the study *The Theology of the Cross* on Sundays through July 9 at 9:15 am in the Grace Room. This study is based on the excellent book of the same name written by retired WELS Professor Daniel Deutschlander.

AWAKE AND ALIVE — JUNE 11

Awake and Alive is our ministry to the 18-25 year-old-generation in southeast Wisconsin, encouraging a closer relationship with Jesus and each other. Sunday, June 11, is the first of three events being held this summer. More information on Awake and Alive events may be found at www.awakealive.com.

SECOND WORSHIP SITE

Several members of our synod who worship regularly at The Bridge met last Sunday to discuss the dream of a congregation in downtown Milwaukee offering contemporary worship. This dream might become a reality by St. Paul's using our experience, talent pool, and organization to begin a second worship site downtown. This second site is just a dream right now. But ten years ago, Victory of the Lamb in Franklin was just a dream some of us at St. Paul's had. That dream has resulted in 400 people hearing the Word each weekend in a new congregation. May the Holy Spirit guide our dreams and discussions.

TEENS UNDER GOD (TUG) BEGINS NEW SEASON

In response to survey feedback, Teens Under God (TUG) will launch a new format, location, and time. Sunday, June 25, is the first session and will run from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Trinity Café. A unique *STUDY, PRAY, REACH, CARE, EMPOWER* model will be activated one Sunday a month with a second Sunday of social, recreational, and service activities offered if teens desire and organize it. If you are a regular or have never attended, come and see what TUG 2017-18 is all about. Email or text Dr. Nelson with questions at jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 750-2586.

USHERS FOR SATURDAY WORSHIP

We are looking for additional ushers for the Saturday evening worship service. Even if you could only usher one Saturday a month, it would be very helpful. If interested, please contact Greg Lenser at (262) 332-7370.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

LUTHERAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OPEN ENROLLMENT

Our School Administrator Seth Fitzsimmons would be happy to give you or a friend or relative a tour of our school and answer any questions you might have. Our congregation provides generous tuition assistance. Don't let your choice about attending our Christian school simply be a financial decision. Schedule a time to speak to Mr. Fitzsimmons by emailing him at sfitzsimmons@stpaulmuskego.org.

THE BRIDGE MOVES FOR ONE SUNDAY – JUNE 4

The Trinity Gym floor will be refinished beginning immediately after school is out. We won't be able to use the Trinity Gym on June 4, so we'll move The Bridge to the Centennial Gym. Communion service will be at 9:45 am and worship at 10:15 am. All doors of the building will be open for your convenience that Sunday.

WELL DONE GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANTS

St. Paul's thanks the following members for their help with our Sunday morning youth ministries — Kids Club (3K-6th) and Boost (7th-8th) that ended the 2016-17 season last Sunday. Their service brought children the love of Jesus for 35 weeks.

Kids Club: 3K — Vicki Gabrus, Kim Redmond, Stacy Guhr, Sarah Scheblein
4K — Emilie Schneck, Savannah Christopherson, Olivia Guerten, Katie Becker,
Emma Bonack, Elizabeth Koch
5K — Sonja Olson, Elizabeth Moll, Melissa Betz, Kimmy Remschek, Alexis Shannon
Grade 1 — Lisa Van Landeghem, Kate Nitschke, Nathan Grimes
Grade 2 — Amy Grimes, Linnea Flynn, Aaron Miller
Grades 3-4 — Sue Kuehl, Laura Horn, Nicole Glodowski
Grades 5-6 — Kurt Steffen, Joel Weaver
Large Group Support — Brian Tonn, Phil Loescher
Logistics — Deaune Gray, Adam Scheblein, Elijah Shevey

Boost: Grades 7-8 — Bryan Guhr, Linda Martens, Phil Loescher

These Sunday youth ministries will begin again on September 10, 2017.

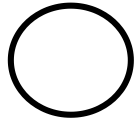
YOU CAN SHAPE THE NEXT GENERATION FOR JESUS

The number of helpers above is very impressive, but each year some decide to discontinue their participation and move on to other ways of serving Jesus. Also, more youth participating (our fall goal) will require additional helpers. If being a part of shaping the next generation for the Lord is something you'd enjoy considering, contact Dr. Nelson at jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 422-0320, ext. 145. Conversation does not mean commitment, but you may just like what you hear and decide to sign on for 2017-18. Kids Club and Boost enrollment for 2016-17 was 172.

SCHOOL OF EARLY LEARNING JOB OPENING

St. Paul's School of Early Learning (SOEL) is our childcare and early educational ministry at St. Paul's. We are currently in need of an outgoing, energetic person who loves to make a difference in the lives of young children. We are in need of a few substitute teachers/aides to cover vacations/sick days etc. Especially during the school year (September-May). Experience in childcare or a related field is preferred. We offer a competitive hourly wage and a pleasant working environment.

If you are interested, please contact SOEL Director Kim Neubauer at (414) 422-0320, ext. 200, or (262) 470-0465, or kneubauer@stpaulmuskego.org for more information. You may also stop by the SOEL office for an application. We're located off the east entrance of the church.



GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

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

ORDINARY PEOPLE – EXTRAORDINARY GOD

1. How's your week been? Any warrior or worrier moments you want to share with the group?

2. After hearing this week's message, do you think Gideon is more *warrior* or *worrier*?

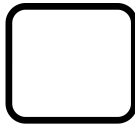
3. Luther says *whatever we put our hope or trust in, whoever or whatever we look to for life and happiness is our god*. Can you think of any life blessings that you or other Christians might be tempted to look to for happiness, hope, trustworthiness or life instead of God?

4. Read Mark 10:17-27.
 - The rich young man merely *having wealth* wasn't the problem - what was the problem?
 - How did Jesus suggest he "smash the idol" in this particular account?
 - What in our current culture suggests that we might be putting our trust in the same idol this rich young man had?

5. We teach our children that jealousy is a sin. Why is it okay for God to be jealous for all our love and all our worship?

6. Have you ever worked at quitting a bad habit or idol and felt the resistance that battle produces? What helped you press on through that resistance?

7. Which of the three steps in conquering idols - Discern, Smash, or Prepare for Resistance - do you think is the most challenging, and why?



NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

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

Judges 6:25-32 (page 244)

Gideon Smashes the Family Altar

1. Discern the Idol Altar.

Building an altar to the Lord is not enough. It must be a p_____ altar.

The heart of our troubles is the trouble in our h_____.

In whom or what do we place our h_____ and t_____ IN ADDITION to the Lord?

When we struggle to discern our idols, our a_____ and l_____ testify to the truth.

2. Smash the Idol Altar.

Idol altars require a_____.

Come to grips with why God is a j_____ God.

God is the s_____ and giver of all.

God claims e_____ rights over our love.

God is protecting us from the horrendous c_____ of idolatry.

Then take i_____ action. Decide right now how you will smash that altar.

3. Be Prepared for Idol Resistance.

Others are going to d_____ their idols.

Y_____ will be tempted to make excuses for your idols.

God uses this opposition to r_____ and red_____ you.

Next Steps

- **Discern the idol altar.** Our actions and lives testify to the truth. Make a list of the things in your life that tend to keep you from worshipping on a weekly basis. Pray over the list seeking to discern any idol altars that may be present in your life.
- **Smash the idol altar.** God is a jealous God—jealous because he wants to love and bless you. Choose one of the idol altars on your list and ask God for the wisdom and strength to do whatever it takes to smash that idol.
- **Be prepared for idol resistance.** Pray for **Easter Every Sunday**. Pray that more and more of God's people commit to placing weekly worship higher on their priority list. If you don't attend regularly, commit to attending every Sunday this summer.