



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

PRAYER IS POWERFUL
HAVE MERCY ON ME, A SINNER
July 15, 16, and 19, 2017

After King David blew it bigtime, he learned that the only way to find peace again was to come completely clean before God. When he did, David discovered that God would not cast him away, but rather God longed to restore him through full and free forgiveness received by faith.

BELLS AND WELCOME

OPENING HYMN 339

Today Your Mercy Calls Us
(Sunday) Chapel Choir sings vv. 1 and 3

BAPTISM (Saturday)

Westley Magnum Schultz
Son of Kyle and Amanda (nee Stoiber) Schultz, born April 5, 2017

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



CONFESSION OF SINS

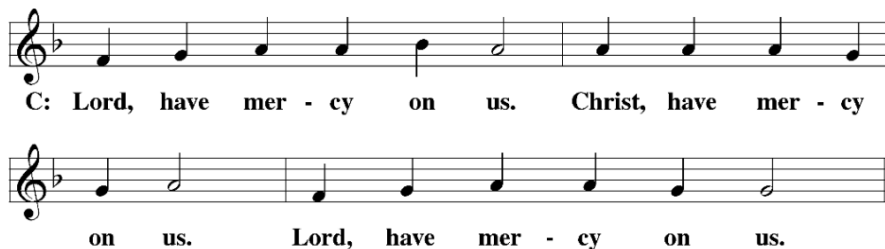
M O God, our just and merciful God, you demand perfect obedience of your Law, not tolerating one sin from any of us. We have nothing to offer to you that would redeem ourselves from our sinful state.

C **Before your holy presence, O Lord, who can stand?**

M Since none of us can stand on our own merits, we humbly bow before you and open our hearts to you. In true repentance, we ask for your forgiveness in the name of our perfect Passover Lamb.

C **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am like a sheep who has gone astray. I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I do what is evil and fail to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY



M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us. God himself provided the Lamb when he sent his only Son. Jesus' bloody sacrifice on the cross satisfied God's just wrath against the sins of the world. 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 Lamb, whose blood covers all our sins.

RESPONSE HYMN 376, vv. 1, 6

Jesus, Your Blood and Righteousness

Jesus, your blood and righteousness
My beauty are, my glorious dress;
Mid flaming worlds, in these arrayed,
With joy shall I lift up my head.

Jesus, be worshiped endlessly!
Your boundless mercy has for me,
For me and all your hands have made,
An everlasting ransom paid.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.



M Let us pray.

O Jesus, Lamb of God, you set aside your majesty in order to be a servant obedient to all of God's laws, even obedient to death on the cross.

C **You placed yourself into the hands of the Lord and came to live among us and to die in our place. You lived a perfect life and shared your message of salvation to all those around you.**

M As our Messiah your words were like a sharpened sword cutting away unbelief and exposing sin. At the same time, you applied the healing words of God's grace for all sinners, salving hearts with forgiveness, comfort, and hope.

C **Open our ears today to hear how you did all that we could not do for ourselves. May your words of truth touch our hearts with believing faith.**



FIRST LESSON

Ephesians 4:29-32, Bible page 1176

In response to God's gracious love and forgiveness we are called to show compassion and forgiveness to all people.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 51a, Hymnal page 85
Lord, restore to me the joy of your salvation.

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35, Bible page 985
The parable of the unmerciful servant.

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



HYMN 306

Before You, God the Judge of All

SERMON

Psalm 51, Bible page 566
Pastor Jeffrey Bonack

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Fifth Petition of the Lord's Prayer with Meaning

All Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

M What does this mean?

C We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look upon our sins or because of them deny our prayers; for we are worthy of none of the things for which we ask, neither have we deserved them, but we ask that he would give them all to us by grace; for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will forgive from the heart and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (*Sunday*)

Jesus, My Redeemer, Chapel Choir

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.

C **We praise you for every grace and blessing.**

M Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your comforting message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.

C **Use our ministries and offerings to extend your healing and your hope.**

M We bring you our requests for the various structures of our society. Bless our national, state, and local governments.

C **Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.**

M Grant prosperity to our businesses and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.

C **Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.**

M Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.

C **Lead us to love one another as you have loved us.**

Special prayers and intercessions.

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

Silent prayer.

M Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear us and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare.

C **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 PRAYER

M Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Perfect Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

M The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESIDING MINISTER *(Sunday) Pastor David Kuehl*

ORGANIST *Carol Nelson*

Your Ministerial Staff

Office (414) 422-0320

Pastor Jeffrey Bonack	Ext. 119	jbosack@stpaulmuskego.org	(414) 422-0501
Pastor David Kuehl	Ext. 121	dkuehl@stpaulmuskego.org	(262) 679-1393
Pastor Peter Panitzke	Ext. 122	ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org	(414) 350-1436
Mr. Dan Lippert, BA	Ext. 120	dlippert@stpaulmuskego.org	(414) 232-4458
Dr. Joel Nelson	Ext. 145	jnelson@stpaulmusekgo.org	(414) 422-0320
Mr. Seth Fitzsimmons	Ext. 118	sfitzsimmons@stpaulmuskego.org	(414) 422-0320
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 July 17, 2017

MON	10:00 am	Walking Club (Centennial Gym)
	5:45 pm	Grief Share (Church Library)
TUE	9:00 am	Walking Club (Centennial Gym)
	9:15 am	Ministerial Team Meeting
	6:30 pm	Alzheimer's Support Group (Church Library)
	7:00 pm	<i>Following the Promise</i>
WED	7:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service
THURS	6:30 am	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room)
	9:00 am	Walking Club (Centennial Gym)
	6:45 pm	Stoney Creek Bible Study (Stoney Creek Adult Community)
	7:00 pm	The Bridge and Contemporary Band Practice
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
	9:45 am	The Bridge Communion
	10:15 am	The Bridge
	10:45 am	Contemporary Worship Service

CHURCH PICNIC – OUTDOOR SERVICE – AUGUST 6

Our annual picnic with outdoor service is coming up on August 6 at 10:30 am (replacing the traditional 9:15 am, The Bridge, and the contemporary services that Sunday). Stay for the picnic afterwards with food, beverages, ice cream, games, and musical entertainment! This year will feature a “surprise” guest appearance by a nationally-known barbershop quartet, the return of the “bags tournament,” plus new games for the kids AND adults. (Hint: watch out for flying eggs!) Sign-up sheets are posted in the church lobby. Also see the My St. Paul's needs list or just email Bob Zastrow at bzastrow@gsgsr.com if you'd like to help.

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

KNOWN HOSPITALIZED

Dorothy Bucholtz is in hospice care at St. Ann's Nursing Home. Dorrette Probst is at Hales Corners Care Center. Sandra Holtz has 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, Namine Eiche, Brittany Gillespie, Janelle Gray, Daniel Holtz, Dawn Jahns, Sandra Merfeld, Sonia Neuberger, Marvin Pellmann, Jeanne Steinbrecher, and Jake Strande.

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.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

980 attended worship services last week.

DIVINE CALLS

Pastor Steve Kuehl of Powell, Ohio, continues to deliberate the call to serve as our Resident Missionary.

St. Paul's member and Teacher's Aide Sarah Tonn also continues to deliberate her call to serve as a part-time 3K teacher at St. John's Lutheran Church on Forest Home Avenue.

We ask for the Holy Spirit's guiding hand over Sarah and Pastor Steve as they deliberate where their gifts may be best utilized in God's saving plan.

PRAYER IS POWERFUL – EASTER EVERY SUNDAY

Wouldn't it be great to see St. Paul's filled with 2071 people every Sunday? That was our Easter attendance. That is the potential number of people we could share the love of Jesus with. Would you join your Ministerial Team in praying for that miracle? Each Monday morning your Ministerial Team is also joining in prayer for the individual needs of God's people here at St. Paul's. We are growing in our own appreciation that "prayer is powerful!"

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.

FOLLOWING THE PROMISE

This is the perfect place to start if you have never done a bible study. 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, you will follow that promise through the Bible and see how it impacts your life. This also serves as a preparation-for-membership Bible study. Register on the Connection Card.

BIBLICAL AUTHORITY IS UNDER ATTACK

"Always Be Prepared To Give An Answer" (1 Peter 3:15). In our current culture, there are so many questions related to scientific and social issues like evolution, the age of the earth, dinosaurs, fossils, climate change, sexuality, abortion, among countless others. How often are we going back to what the Bible says to help guide us in our stance on topics such as these? This fall, through a 4-week sermon series, our small group and Grace Room Bible studies, and guest speakers, we will be taking time to focus on Biblical authority and what our current culture is doing to compromise what God has revealed to us in his word. Stay tuned for more details.

GROWING CLOSER TO CHRIST

WHAT IS LWMS?

Women and girls of St. Paul's, this is *your* organization. Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) is made up of mission-minded women of our church body, Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). Every St. Paul's woman is a member of LWMS by default since St Paul's is a WELS congregation. All monies raised for LWMS are for home and world mission projects not covered in the synod budget.

Active LWMS members meet to hear mission speakers, worship together, and sponsor mission projects of their choosing at local circuit rallies held biannually in April and October. In addition, LWMS hosts an annual convention at a central location in the States which brings together members from across the country and around the world.

At St. Paul's, the Dorcas Society and St. Paul's Ladies Afternoon Fellowship members actively support LWMS, and home and world missionaries with their prayers, cards, and offerings. Dorcas meets every third Tuesday of the month (Sept-May) at 7:00 pm in the Grace Room and Ladies Afternoon Fellowship meets the first Wednesday of the month (Sept-May) at noon in the Faith Room.

These two ladies' groups encourage the women of St. Paul's to learn about, pray for, and support LWMS and WELS mission efforts in North America and around the world. Again, the offerings received from congregations like ours for LWMS go towards projects and items not in the synod budget.

Please consider giving an offering and/or becoming a member of one of St. Paul's ladies' groups. The Dorcas Society and LAF will be sponsoring Under the Canopy on July 22 and 23. Stop for a snack and ask questions. The ladies will be looking forward to talking with you!

MAKING YOUR BIBLE YOUR BEST FRIEND FOREVER

"The Word of God is living and active" (Hebrews 4:12). We believe that. But how many of us have started to read the Bible and got bogged down in endless lists of names and laws? Do you want help making sense of it all? Could your Bible be your BFF? In the study *Through the Bible in a Year*, you will use your own Bible as your "textbook," so you can highlight and take notes that will help you for a lifetime. Each week you will receive an outline of what is coming next and selected Bible portions to read. The study will be offered on Monday evenings and early Wednesday afternoons. Check the Connection Card for more information.

GRIEFSHARE

Many grieving people find they are only beginning the work of healing when friends or family have returned to their daily life routines. Too often people, including Christians, tend to stuff their grief instead of allowing it to do the God-given work for which it is intended. Don't allow fear of what others may think to keep you from what could help you. Confidentiality is very much a part of this program.

Your bereavement experience may be recent or not so recent. You will find encouragement, comfort, and help in grieving the death of a spouse, child, parent, sibling, other family member, or friend. No matter what the cause of your loved one's death, this is an opportunity to be around people who understand what you are feeling. You will learn how to recognize the symptoms of being stuck in grief and that you do not need to live in bondage to certain emotions. You will learn valuable information about facing your new normal in life and renewing your hope for the future. The next GriefShare will be held on July 17, at 5:45 pm in the Church Library. Please contact Sharon Klopf at sklopf@stpaulmuskego.org to register.

GIVE TUG A TRY!

The next Teens Under God (TUG) session is Sunday, July 23, from 6:30 until 8:00 pm in the Trinity Cafe. In a fun and upbeat way, the goal of these summer sessions is to lay out the new plan for how TUG will be in 2017-18. But we want to have the teens decide A LOT of how this will all be. The worst thing we can do is have all the adults dictating what TUG is and does. We want our teens to own TUG and make it right and relevant for themselves. If you are a teen, please give TUG a try and help us shape it in the best possible way. If you are a parent, please encourage your teen to give TUG a look. Partnering together - teens, parents, and church - we will be able to accomplish something truly exciting. If you have questions, please contact Dr. Nelson.

GIFTS TO GOD

WISH LIST

Wish List items are above and beyond our budgeted expenses. If you would like to contribute, clearly mark your gift "Wish List." You may also give online at www.stpaulmuskego.org.

Item	Est. Cost	Received	Still Needed
School Exterior Window Replacements	\$55,000	\$879	\$54,121
Trinity Gym Floor to Ceiling Room Divider	\$13,000	\$1,670	\$11,330

TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

This fund provides our members with an opportunity to encourage continuing education through special gifts. 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. Our goal is to provide an additional \$500 per teacher or \$7000 per year. If you would like to contribute, mark your gift clearly, "Teacher Professional Development Fund."

TUITION ASSISTANCE

We continue to have families in need of financial assistance to provide their children with a Christian education at St. Paul's Elementary School or a WELS high school. Contributions can be made via the blue offering envelope provided in your envelope packet or our church's website at www.stpaulmuskego.org.

TEXT TO GIVE 414-316-6733

We are excited about this new way to give. Text a dollar amount (always put the dollar sign before it) to 414-316-6733. You will receive a text to register your credit or debit card. After registration, giving is as simple as texting a dollar amount to 414-316-6733. Weekly, monthly or quarterly recurring gifts can also be set up.

ONLINE GIVING

Online giving is another method to give. Over 20% of our offerings are received through online giving. Because Christians give regularly to support the Lord's work, online giving can help you carry out your plans for your weekly or monthly offerings on an automatic schedule. You can use the QR code or find the online giving tab at www.stpaulmuskego.org to learn more.



ST. PAUL'S NEWS

PARENTS OF PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS IN GRADES 6-8

On Monday, August 21, from 6:30 to 7:30 pm, the orientation meeting for the 2017-18 Confirmation Instruction Program will take place in the church sanctuary. This meeting is for St. Paul's parents of youth who will attend the 6th-8th grades of Muskego-Norway schools or schools other than St. Paul's Lutheran School this fall. The students are also encouraged to attend. The meeting will present an overview of the entire Confirmation Instruction Program, introduce instructors, and share other important information about St. Paul's 3-year instruction process. Students will also be able to purchase the books and materials specific to the level of instruction they will enter. Parental attendance is required if a child intends to participate in the 2017-18 Confirmation Instruction Program. If you have questions, contact Dr. Nelson (414) 422-0320, ext. 145, or jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org.

BACKPACKS FOR KIDS

Families of the Muskego Food Pantry as well as our own Lutheran Elementary School are in need of a little help providing good quality backpacks and school supplies for their children this school year. If you would like to help out, please take a tag with a class-specific supply list from the lobby wall. You can expect to spend between \$100 – \$150. Consider joining in with another family or make it a group effort among your small-group Bible study. All filled backpacks need to be brought to the church lobby by August 13. Contact Sally Wallner at swallner@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 422-0320, ext. 294, with questions.

HAVE A BLAST SHARING JESUS WITH KIDS

Join the Kids Club Team this fall. Contact Dr. Joel Nelson at jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 422-0320, ext. 145 or mark the back of your Connection Card.

FALL TRIP FOR DORCAS

The Dorcas Society is taking their annual fall trip on Wednesday, October 4 to The Palace Theater in Wisconsin Dells to see *Wedding Italiano*, followed by a stop to Beres Coffee in Watertown and Ehlenbach's Cheese Chalet in De Forest. Cost is \$60. Contact Kathy Lutzen at (262) 894-9308 with questions and to register. Deadline is September 1. The bus fills fast so call early.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT - THURSDAY, AUGUST 3

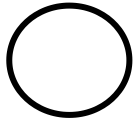


St. Paul's will be adding to the fun of this community event by hosting a dunk tank! All proceeds will go towards the Muskego Task Force on Public Safety Education. We are looking for set-up volunteers (1:00 – 2:00 pm), greeters (5:00 – 9:00 pm), dunk tank "dunkees" (30 minute shifts; 5:00 to 9:00 pm), and take-down volunteers (9:00-9:45 pm). Volunteer on *My St. Paul's* by selecting Entire Church under My Groups in the right-hand column of the home screen - then select Needs. You may also volunteer by calling Outreach Coordinator Sally Wallner at (414) 218-5197.

JAMMIN' ON JANESVILLE - FRIDAY, AUGUST 4



St. Paul's will be giving kids and adults in our community a fun time and a chance to learn more about St. Paul's at Jammin' on Janesville. We are looking for volunteers in four areas as follows: Set-up (1:00 pm – 3:00 pm), greeters (2 hour shifts; 5:00 – 9:00 pm), dunk tank "dunkees" (30 minute shifts; 5:00 – 9:00 pm), and take-down volunteers (9:00 – 9:30 pm). All proceeds from this event will be donated to Feeding America. Volunteer on *My St. Paul's* by selecting Entire Church under My Groups in the right-hand column of the home screen - then select Needs. You may also volunteer by calling Outreach Coordinator Sally Wallner at (414) 218-5197.

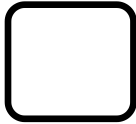


GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

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

1. Share your highs and lows from the week with your group. Was there some type of re-occurring theme in your life over the past seven days?
2. What kind of stereotypes do you observe surrounding the idea of confession in our world today?
3. In this weekend's message, Pastor Bonack challenges us to think of confession as *fun*. What would a person have to believe for confession to truly be fun?
4. Read Psalm 32:3-4. David's sin [of sleeping with another man's wife] caused him to be consumed with fear, embarrassment, and shame. Can you think of a time when you felt what David felt in these verses? What helped you overcome those feelings?
5. Read Genesis 3:8-13. Adam and Eve's sin lead to fear, embarrassment, and shame, also. If you, knowing what you know now about God, were in the garden with him during these six verses, what would you say to help Adam and Eve break free of these toxic feelings?
6. Jesus' perfect life, death, and resurrection frees us from the burden of fixing our sins. Confession gives us the strength to put the fix-it business in God's hands.
 - Can you think of a time when you tried to fix it instead of giving it to God?
 - Why is "fixing it yourself" never really effective in breaking the cycle of sin, fear, embarrassment, and shame?
 - Is there anything in your life right now that you want to confess and let go of but you need prayers of strength to work up the courage to confess? (Feel free to share only details you feel comfortable sharing.)
7. Can you think of anyone in your life that might need to hear this message of freedom through confession? What could you do this week that might encourage them towards their forgiving Heavenly Father?



NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

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

#Prayer Is Powerful: Confession—the End and the Beginning

The gloriously liberating freedom found in confession.

Psalm 51, page 566

1. The end of fear.

Our sin fills us with the overwhelming desire to h_____.

Yet, every lie, every deception only a _____ to the burden we carry.

We cannot h_____ from the God of truth.

Confession allows us to move beyond fear to f_____ and r_____.

2. The end of shame.

Shame says that my sin defines my i_____. This is a lie of Satan.

There *is* something innately wrong with each one of us—the sin n_____.

Yet, in Christ God has given us a n_____ identity: pure, holy, child of God.

Confession allows me to focus on God's g_____ instead of my sin.

3. The end of me.

Our old self believes that we are the ones who have to make our sin r_____.

Life becomes an impossible b_____ a _____ of right and wrong.

Confession empowers me to admit that only God can f_____ this.

Next Steps

- **The end of fear.** What are you hiding? Confess it to God and find freedom!
- **The end of shame.** Shame says that we are fatally flawed. Its focus is on what we were instead of what we are. Arm yourself against shame by memorizing 1 Peter 2:9: *But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.*
- **The end of me.** What are you trying to fix in your life? Pray for God to help you let go of the feeling that it's all up to you. Specifically tell him that you're giving whatever it is up to him.