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## OH, FOR AN UNSHAKEABLE FAITH

FAITH IS REFINED IN THE FIRES OF AFFLICTION

June 30 and July 1, 2018

*A young person, far from home for the first time, experiencing a different culture, challenged by sexual temptations – that is Joseph's story. Someone at college or in the military today may have an experience similar to Joseph's. Lord, grant them an unshakeable faith!*

PRESERVICE HYMN SING

BELLS AND WELCOME

HYMN 618, vv. 1-3

**Before the Lord We Bow**

BAPTISM (*Sunday 9:15 am*)

Hymnal page 12

*Aveline Elisabeth Bambrick*

*Daughter of Matthew and Kathleen Bambrick, born November 9, 2017*

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

C **Amen! The Lord is our God; we will serve and worship him!**

### CONFESSION OF SINS

M Brothers and sisters in Christ, the Lord our God has established us in a good land, a land with brooks, streams, and deep springs gushing out into the valleys and hills;

C **a land with wheat and barley, vines and fruit trees, olive oil and honey;**

M a land where bread is not scarce and we lack nothing.

C **We have eaten and are satisfied. We praise the Lord our God for the good land he has given us!** (*Based on Deuteronomy 8:7-10*)

M Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin disgraces a people (*Proverbs 14:34*). We, therefore, open our hearts to God and confess our sins to him.

C **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C Amen.

M Our gracious Father has forgiven our sin. In his mercy he calls us again to live as his children – to be his blessing to the favored land we call our home.

C **Let us exalt our nation with righteousness! Let us live as servants of God, showing respect to everyone, looking not only to our own interests but also to the interests of others** (*Philippians 2:4*).

### PRAYER AND PRAISE

M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

### SONG OF PRAISE

Now hear your Maker's voice;  
Your great Redeemer own!  
Believe, obey, rejoice,  
And worship him alone!  
Cast down your pride, Your sin deplore  
And bow before The Crucified!

Then when in pow'r he comes,  
So may our native land  
From all its rending tombs  
Send forth a glorious band,  
A countless throng, With joy to sing  
To heav'n's high king Salvation's song.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray.  
Heavenly Father, you guide the events of our lives with the loving goal of refining us and strengthening our faith in you.

C **Help us see your loving hand in all our struggles. Grant us strength to trust in you through them all.**

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.



FIRST LESSON

Hebrews 11:24-26, Bible page 1213

*Short-term pleasure or long-term gain? That was Moses' choice.*

VERSE OF THE DAY

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

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL

Luke 9:18-24, Bible page 1038

*Short-term pleasure or long-term gain. That was also Jesus' choice. He calls us to follow him.*

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY 419, vv. 1-5

If God Himself Be for Me

SERMON

Genesis 39:6-12,16-23, Bible page 41

*Pastor Peter Panitzke*

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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.

#### OFFERING

OFFERTORY (*Sunday*)

*America, the Beautiful, Bruce and Betty Margraff*

*arr. by Valerie Floeter*

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M Almighty God, we acknowledge with thanks that all we have and enjoy is a gift from your gracious hand. We come before you today in heartfelt appreciation for our nation and its people.

C **We thank you for enabling us to worship you in freedom and to serve you without fear.**

M You have enriched us with the bounties of farm and factory, the beauty of forest and mountain, and the marvels of medicine and science.

C **For all these blessings, we praise and glorify you.**

M Look with favor upon our nation, and preserve our cherished liberties. Enable our leaders to govern with wisdom, honesty, courage, and justice. Protect those who serve in the armed forces and those who maintain peace and safety in our communities.

C **Give us willingness to obey our nation's laws and to work for the common good.**

M Keep our financial institutions secure and our economy strong. Bless our fields that they may produce abundant harvests. Guard us from calamities of nature and accident, and spare our land from the ravages of disease and epidemic.

C **Teach us not to worry but to cast all our cares on you.**

M Strengthen the homes of our nation. By your Spirit lead husbands and wives to love each other, parents to nurture their children, young adults to assume responsibility, and children to show respect.

*Special prayers and intercessions.*

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

*Silent prayer.*

M To you, O Lord, we bring our thanks and our requests.

C **Hear our prayers for Jesus' 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.**

HYMN 402, vv. 1-3

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

## CLOSING PRAYER

M O Lord, our God, our heavenly Father, govern the nations on earth and direct the affairs of this world so that your Church may continue to worship you in peace and joy.

C **As we go out into the world, make us strong to share your love in Christ.**

M We pray in Jesus' name. He 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.



CLOSING HYMN 619

God Bless Our Native Land

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WELS CONNECTION *Endowment Fund Giving*

*Our Synod and St. Paul's offer opportunities to include the Lord's work in your estate plans. A St. Paul's Legacy and Gift Trust Funds brochure will be given to you as you leave today. The WELS Deferred Giving Counselor for our area is Mr. Rick Kneser. Call him at (262) 305-7688.*

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

**ORGANIST** (Saturday) Darik Mischke (Sunday) Carol Nelson

# WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of July 2, 2018

|              |  |  |
|--------------|--|--|
| <b>MON</b>   | 10:00 am   | Walking Club (Trinity Gym)   |
| <b>TUE</b>   | 10:00 am<br>6:00 pm  | Walking Club (Trinity Gym)<br><i>DivorceCare</i> (School Classroom #9)   |
| <b>WED</b>   |  | <b>Independence Day</b><br>(No worship service)  |
| <b>THURS</b> | 6:30 am<br>10:00 am<br>7:00 pm                                   | Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room)<br>Walking Club (Trinity Gym)<br>The Bridge and Contemporary Band Practice  |
| <b>SAT</b>   | 8:00 am<br>5:00 pm   | Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room)<br>Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion  |
| <b>SUN</b>   | 7:45 am<br>9:15 am<br>9:15 am<br>9:45 am<br>10:15 am<br>10:45 am | Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion<br>Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion<br>Grace Room Bible Study<br>The Bridge Communion<br>The Bridge<br>Contemporary Worship Service with Holy Communion |

## SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

The church and school office is open Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm, continuing through the summer until the start of school. The office is closed July 4.

## UNDER THE CANOPY HOSTS

Available dates for this summer's Under the Canopy are July 15, July 22, and August 19. Please contact David Weise at (262) 271-3093 or [dweise@aol.com](mailto:dweise@aol.com) for more information or to reserve your date.

## ANNUAL ST. PAUL'S CHURCH PICNIC – SUNDAY, AUGUST 5

2018 Church Picnic Highlights

- More Food
- Bigger Bounce House
- More Food
- Children's Activity Area (in addition to the games)
- More Food
- Ginormous Volleyball Game
- More Food
- ...and all the usual refreshments, entertainment, fellowship and fun!

Look for sign-up sheets in the lobby for volunteering!

(and by the way, we're increasing the food)

# ST. PAUL'S LEGACY AND GIFT TRUST FUNDS

A generous God creates generous people with a generous vision. Our generous vision isn't limited to our own generation. The WELS Connection for July about estate planning reminds us our generosity can extend far into the future.

## The Impact of Planned Giving at St. Paul's

About 20 years ago, the congregation developed the St. Paul's Gift Trust Fund. That fund was started with a large estate gift and has received countless other gifts over the years. Nearly \$1 million has been distributed benefiting our ministry in a number of ways:



- **Mission outreach**

Start-up money for Living Word Lutheran in Waukesha, funds to help Victory of the Lamb in Franklin purchase property, grants to UW Madison and UW Milwaukee to reach out on college campuses.

- **Ministerial Education**

A grant toward the chapel at Martin Luther College and tuition assistance to our members preparing for full-time ministry.

- **Ministry Expansion**

We have been able to experiment with a number of new ministry positions in both the church and school and gradually phase them into our normal Missions and Ministry budget.

- **Facilities Improvements**

There have been many facility improvements and equipment purchases that would have been impossible through our normal budgeting process.

## Legacy Fund

The Legacy Fund is our endowment fund. Each year 5% of the balance in the fund can be distributed. There are four sub-funds.

1. **Undesignated** to be distributed at the congregation's discretion.
2. **Outreach** for outreach through St. Paul's or other organizations within our synod.
3. **Christian Education** for St. Paul's school system and for tuition assistance.
4. **Capital Projects** for improvements or building expansion.

## The Gift Trust Fund

A fifth option is the Gift Trust Fund. Annual distributions equal 30% of the balance in the fund, meaning that a gift will gradually be used for ministry over the course of several years.

## Would You Like Help?

Contact our Church Administrator Randy Fink (414-422-0320, ext. 120, or [rfink@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:rfink@stpaulmuskego.org)) for more information about these funds. For help with planning gifts through estate planning, contact WELS Deferred Giving Counselor Rick Kneser, a member of St. John's in Oak Creek, at 262-237-2660.

# ST. PAUL'S NEWS

## FLOWERS

The flowers beautifying the sanctuary today were given by Bob and Joan Fox in thanks and praise to God on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary.

## HOSPITALIZED

Terri Raduege is rehabbing at Dycora. Margaret Kujath has moved to Brookdale in Sussex, and Dolores Witte has returned home.

## PRAYERS REQUESTED

Please pray for the following individuals in their time of need: Dawn Brown, David Burkowitz, Sharon Dreyer, Namine Eiche, Brittany Gillespie, Tom Goodman, Janelle Gray, Daniel Holtz, Dawn Jahns, Judith Lauber, Sandra Merfeld, Sonia Neuberger, Mary Schauwitzer, Cheri Sorensen, Jeanne Steinbrecher, and Dick and Jane Sternberg.

## 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. The nursery closes 10 minutes after the service, so please pick your child up promptly.

## WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

871 attended worship services last week.

## DIVINE CALL RETURNED

Pastor Wayne Shevey, campus pastor at Wisconsin Lutheran College and husband of our 6th grade teacher, Julie Shevey, has returned his call to Grace Lutheran Church in Oshkosh. He thanks you for keeping him and his family in your prayers.

## JULY FAMILY IN NEED

Medical bills have overwhelmed a young St. Paul's family. All three family members have experienced significant health issues in the last year that required hospital stays and/or long unpaid leaves for recovery. Although the family has insurance, the combination of high deductibles, gaps in coverage, and lost wages have left this family with thousands of dollars of unpaid medical bills. They have applied for and received reduced bills through their health care providers. Any gift to help this family would be greatly appreciated. Mark your gift "July Family in Need." What a blessing to be part of a Christian family here at St. Paul's that lives out our faith! "As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers" (Galatians 6:10).

## ST. PAUL'S CHILD CARE CENTER JOB OPENING

Our Child Care Center is hiring a teacher's aide. Tuesday, Thursday, Friday; 11:30 am - 6:00 pm; with the 2 - 2 ½ year-old children. Please contact Kim Neubauer at [kneubauer@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:kneubauer@stpaulmuskego.org) or (414) 422-0320, ext. 200, to apply.

## JOB OPENINGS ON ST. PAUL'S EVENT STAFF

St. Paul's is hiring part-time positions to supervise our facilities when rented out for use by our community. Please contact Sally Wallner at [swallner@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:swallner@stpaulmuskego.org) or (414) 422-0320, ext. 294, to apply or for more information.



# ST. PAUL'S NEWS

## **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 Nate by marking the back of your Connection Card.

## **THE SECOND STEP: FOLLOWING THE PROMISE**

Never done a Bible study? This is the perfect place to start. God was planning for you before the creation of the world. Register with Pastor Nate on the back of the Connection Card or at [nstrobels@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:nstrobels@stpaulmuskego.org) and he will contact you with more information on class options and answer any questions you may have.

## **SUMMER GRACE ROOM BIBLE STUDY SERIES—VERY IMPORTANT CHAPTERS OF THE BIBLE**

In a survey of Grace Room Bible class participants, 13 unique chapters of the Bible were requested to discuss over the summer months. Come and find out why the chapters selected are so important, Sundays in the Grace Room, 9:15-10:15 am.

## **PARENTS: REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR FALL CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTION CLASSES**

If you have a child entering 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade this fall who will be enrolled in a school other than St. Paul's Lutheran School, and you want him/her to take part in St. Paul's Confirmation Instruction Program, please contact Dr. Nelson as soon as possible (414-422-0320, ext. 145, or [jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org)). This will ensure that you receive all the necessary information about the program and the August 20 orientation night. These Wednesday afternoon classes begin August 29 at 4:30 pm.

## **COOL MILLION GOLF OUTING**

Invite your friends and enjoy the day with us Saturday, August 11, at the St. Paul's Golf Outing benefiting our school's Cool Million projects. Registration forms and more information are at the Welcome Center in the lobby. Dinner hosted by Wegner's St. Martin's Inn at 6:30 pm in the Trinity Café will follow.

## **TAX WISE GIVING**

There are a number of ways to maximize your gift by making good use of the tax laws. If you own stock, consider donating stock that has appreciated in value to St. Paul's. You will not have to pay tax on that appreciated value. If you are 70½, you can give directly to St. Paul's from an IRA and not pay tax on that withdrawal. For help with these options, speak to your financial advisor or call Church Administrator Randy Fink at 414-422-0320, ext. 120.

## **JOIN THE KIDS CLUB TEAM**

St. Paul's Sunday morning youth ministry for 3K-Grade 6 is in need of additional teaching and support staff. If you'd be willing to learn more about how God could use you to serve St. Paul's children, contact Dr. Nelson at [jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org). Meeting with him would not mean a commitment, unless you say so.

## **TUG IN JULY**

The next Teens Under God (TUG) night is Sunday, July 15, 6:30-8:00 pm, in the Trinity Gym. It will be an open gym together with teens from Victory of the Lamb Lutheran Church in Franklin. Then on Sunday, July 29, 6:30-8:00 pm, teens will discuss connecting with others under the title, "Getting Real with Relationships." TUG is a great place for teens to grow in faith and develop Christian relationships.

## **YOUTH RALLY GROUP SAYS THANK YOU!**

Six teens (Ingrid Buschkopf, Melissa Schneider, Marisa Shevey, Matthew Draeger, Aaron Miller, and Elijah Shevey) and two adult leaders (Samantha Pertle and Sam Unnasch) thank the members of St. Paul's for underwriting some of the costs associated with attending the WELS International Youth Rally at Bowling Green State University in Ohio, June 26-29. The rally theme was "Never Alone," and the group certainly felt the love and support of many members of this awesome congregation.

# ST. PAUL'S NEWS

## MUSKEGO SENIOR TAXI SERVICE THANKS YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Through the offerings given at St. Paul's, we were recently able to financially support the purchase of a new car for the Muskego Senior Taxi Service. This vital community service has provided support to senior residents of Muskego since 2008, providing low-cost personalized transportation services. St. Paul's Outreach Coordinator Sally Wallner regularly volunteers with the organization. She is pictured at right with the new taxi.



## GARDEN HOMES STUDENTS RESPOND TO TUITION ASSISTANCE

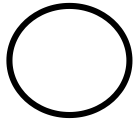
Four members of our mission partner, Garden Homes Lutheran Church, received assistance with their tuition at Martin Luther College (MLC), as they prepare to become full-time workers in the church. St. Paul's gifted Carrington Cunningham, Kenton Fabian, Noah Marquardt, and Eddie Powe with \$350 each, which was then matched by MLC for a total of \$700 in tuition assistance. All families expressed their sincere thanks. Below is a special thanks from student, Noah Marquardt:

Dear St. Paul's Church Family,

I would like to thank you for the amazing amount of kindness and generosity you have shown to me with the financial gift which you gave me. The money has been matched by MLC and has been directly applied towards the overall cost of tuition at Martin Luther College for the 2018-2019 school year. My plans at Martin Luther College include the pre-seminary program, a precursor to Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. The goal of my education is to become a WELS certified pastor, and so this monetary contribution is helping with the future spread of the gospel in this increasingly evil world. May God meet all of your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19).

Your brother in Christ,

Noah Marquardt



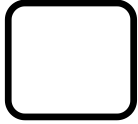
## GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

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

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1. What was an “ahha!” or a question that you had as you listened to the message this week?
  
2. Read Genesis 39. Do you feel this sexual temptation was the greatest test of faith that Joseph experienced? Why or why not?
  
3. What makes sexual temptations so critical to a person’s faith life? See I Corinthians 6:18-20.
  
4. Often we fail tests of faith. What might a person learn as he/she looks back at a time of failure?
  
5. The message mentioned the two extremes of “fear of God” – terror and respect.
  - a. Read Exodus 20:18-20. How does this kind of fear keep us from sin?
  
  - b. Read Psalm 130:1-4 (in the New American Standard Bible translation). How does this kind of fear keep us from sin?
  
6. Read Psalm 84:1-4: What do you enjoy about the time you spend “in the courts of the LORD” either in public worship or private devotion time.
  
7. Break up into groups of 2 or 3. Read Psalm 84:5-8. What are the Valleys of Baka (valleys of weeping) you are going through. Pray to the LORD God Almighty for each other.
  
8. Close by reading together Psalm 84:9-12 as an encouragement and blessing upon each other.



# NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

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

## Oh, for an Unshakeable Faith A Faith Prepared for the Test

Genesis 39, page 41

### 1. Pop quiz!

At what age did Joseph face the greatest challenge to his faith? **(Circle correct answers)**

17

25

30

39

56

110

### 2. What is on the test?

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ God (terror)
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ God (reverence)

### 3. Copy the answers of others.

- a. Get close to \_\_\_\_\_ to see his answer (Luke 9:21-24).
- b. Get closer to \_\_\_\_\_ to see only his answer (Colossians 2:9-10).

### My Next Steps toward an Unshakable Faith

- **Keep your eyes on the goal:** Memorize Psalm 73:25-26 as an example of the unshakable faith you are seeking: “Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.”
- **Make a commitment to get closer to Jesus:** Commit to daily Bible reading to allow Jesus to become larger in your eyes. Free Bibles and Bible reading plans are at the Welcome Center.
- **Pray for an unshakable faith:** Read Psalm 84 each day this week, pausing after verses 4 and 8 where the Hebrew word “selah” or “interlude” indicates that the author wanted you to pause there. After verse 4, pause to praise God for the privilege of coming into his presence. After verse 8, pause to pray for help through whatever the Valley of Baka (Valley of Weeping) that you are going through.