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PRAYER IS POWERFUL

ANSWERED PRAYER LEADS TO PRAISE

August 5, 6, and 9, 2017

*After God blessed Hannah with the child she asked for,
Hannah responded with a beautiful prayer giving thanks and praise to God.*

PRESERVICE

OPENING HYMN 411

What a Friend We Have In Jesus

**What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry Ev'rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit, Oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry Ev'rything to God in prayer!**

**Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged—Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness—Take it to the Lord in prayer.**

**Are we weak and heavy laden, Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you; You will find a solace there.**

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 We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

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.

SONG OF PRAISE (10:30 am)

10,000 Reasons

Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship our holy name

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship our holy name

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship our holy name

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship our holy name
Worship Your holy name
Lord I'll worship Your holy name

FIRST LESSON

Jude 24, 25

A song of praise to the God who keeps our faith from stumbling.

24 To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy— 25 to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.

PSALM OF PRAISE

Psalm 30

M I will exalt you, O LORD, for you lifted me out of the depths

C **and did not let my enemies gloat over me.**

M O LORD my God, I called to you for help

C **and you healed me.**

M Sing to the LORD, you saints of his, praise his holy name.

C **For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime;**

M weeping may remain for a night

C **but rejoicing comes in the morning.**

GOSPEL

Luke 17:11-19

The Samaritan returns to give thanks to Jesus.

Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. 12 As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance 13 and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" 14 When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed. 15 One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. 16 He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan. 17 Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? 18 Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?" 19 Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

HYMN OF THE DAY

Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God

**Holy Spirit, living Breath of God,
Breathe new life into my willing soul.
Let the presence of the risen Lord,
Come renew my heart and make me whole.
Cause Your Word to come alive in me;
Give me faith for what I cannot see,
Give me passion for Your purity;
Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.**

Holy Spirit, come abide within,
May Your joy be seen in all I do.
Love enough to cover every sin,
In each thought and deed and attitude.
Kindness to the greatest and the least,
Gentleness that sows the path of peace.
Turn my striving into works of grace;
Breath of God, show Christ in all I do.

Holy Spirit, from creation's birth,
Giving life to all that God has made,
Show Your power once again on earth,
Cause Your church to hunger for Your ways.
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise;
Lead us on the road of sacrifice,
That in unity the face of Christ
Will be clear for all the world to see.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Doxology of The Lord's Prayer

All For the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, is yours, now and forever. Amen.

M What does this mean?

C We can be sure that these petitions are acceptable to our Father in heaven and are heard by him, for he himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Therefore we say, "Amen," "Yes, it shall be so."

THE MESSAGE

1 Samuel 2:1-10
Pastor Peter Panitzke

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (10:30 am)

Ancient Words, Saved By One

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

In Christ alone my hope is found. He is my light, my strength, my song;
 This cornerstone, this solid ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
 What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
 My Comforter, my all in all, Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone—who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe.
 This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones he came to save.
 Till on that cross, as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied;
 For ev'ry sin on him was laid. Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;
 Then bursting forth in glorious day Up from the grave he rose again!
 And as he stands in victory, Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
 For I am his and he is mine—Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the pow'r of Christ in me;
 From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
 No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from his hand;
 Till he returns or calls me home, Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

CLOSING PRAYER

M Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

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.

C Amen.

POSTLUDE

ORGANIST (*Sanctuary*) *Kathy Bremer*

MUSIC LEADERS (10:30 am) *Saved By One ~ Kathi Boziel, Cheryl Christianson, and Maria Schultz*

WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of August 7, 2017

MON	10:00 am 5:45 pm	Walking Club (Trinity Gym) Grief Share (Church Library)
TUE	10:00 am 7:00 pm	Walking Club (Trinity Gym) <i>Following the Promise (Faith Room)</i>
WED	7:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service
THURS	6:30 am 10:00 am 7:00 pm	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room) Walking Club (Trinity Gym) The Bridge and Contemporary Band Practice
SAT	8:00 am 5:00 pm	Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room) Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
SUN	7:45 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 9:45 am 10:15 am 10:45 am	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion Grace Room Bible Study The Bridge Communion The Bridge Contemporary Worship Service with Holy Communion

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE!

Our thanks to Bill Renschak, our volunteer webmaster for rebuilding our website. Check it out at www.stpaulmuskego.org.

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

PICNIC OFFERING ENVELOPE

Thank you for every gift to support St. Paul's gospel ministry! If you have given a special gift today and placed it into the Picnic Offering Envelope, it will be used for debt reduction.

KNOWN HOSPITALIZED

Mary Ann Boldt is at Seasons Hospice, and Dorothy Bucholtz is in hospice care at St. Ann's Nursing Home. Edwin Gunther is at St. Luke's, and Dorette Probst is at Hales Corners Care Center. Annette Dahlke and Keith Jahns have been discharged from the hospital.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Please pray for the following individuals in their time of need: Dawn Brown, David Burkowitz, Jodie Crosby, Sharon Dreyer, Namine Eiche, Brittany Gillespie, Janelle Gray, Daniel Holtz, Dawn Jahns, Sandra Merfeld, Sonia Neuberger, and Marvin Pellmann.

RESIDENT MISSIONARY CALL

There will be a special Voters Meeting on Sunday, August 20, at noon, in the Grace Room to call a pastor to serve in a new position called Resident Missionary. If you would like a copy of the position description or would like to suggest a name for the call list, please email Pastor Pete at ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org.

NEXT GRACE ROOM STUDY LOOKS AT MARY

Only one woman had the unique privilege to call Jesus her son. Mary was blessed to be the mother of the Savior who was sent by God to rescue the world from sin and death. See how Mary experienced and pondered the miracle of Jesus' coming and humbly grew in her understanding that her son was also her Savior. The main message for all is that Jesus is their Savior, too. Join Mr. Jim Haag as he leads the Grace Room Bible study through "My Son, My Savior" August 13, 20, 27, and September 3 at 9:15 am in the Grace Room.

SHARE JESUS WITH KIDS

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 mark your interest on the Connection Card. Dr. Nelson looks forward to sharing the joys and rewards of youth ministry with you.

PICNIC HELPERS

Below is a listing of those who have already worked or will be working to make today's picnic festivities possible. **Thank You One and All!** If you would like to volunteer today, see one of the Picnic Committee Members. We would love your help!

Saturday Muscle Work

Peter Panitzke, Jim Komar, Carol Komar,
The Beckers, The Webers, B. Eggert,
David Kwasinski, Kristine Gardner,
Lance Longhenry

Parking Lot Attendants

Robert Mass, Dan Mass, Dave Miller

Worship Service Greeters

Samatha Pertle, Lorrie Schneck, Jim & Carol
Komar

Trinity Café Dessert Area

Carol Ratkowski, Judy Schmidt, Sheri Hansen

Beverage Shed Area (1st shift)

Kathi Boziel, Kassidie Partle, Lorrie Schneck,
Pat Staedler, Dave Lehmann, Mary Lee Lehmann

Beverage Shed Area (2nd shift)

Heidi Suhu, Dave Suhu, Tom Franske,
Vicki Franske, Nick Navarrete, Dan L Navarrete

Food Tent – Support

Ginny Simerly, May Neubauer

Food Tent – Cashiers (1st shift)

Maddie Pertle, Ginny Simerly, Kurt Steffen,
Carol Nelson

Food Tent – Runners (1st shift)

Diane Bryant, Lori Fink

Food Tent – Cashiers (2nd shift)

Steve Wranovsky

Food Tent – Runners (2nd shift)

NOBODY -- HELP!!

Kids Games – Ticket Sellers (1st shift)

Carrie Fitzsimmons, Molly Fitzsimmons

Kids Games – Game Attendant (1st shift)

Annmarie Hintze, Emilie Schneck, Allie Schneck,
Wolf Krill,

Kids Games – Ticket Sellers (2nd shift)

NOBODY -- HELP!!

Kids Games – Game Attendant (2nd Shift)

Melissa Schneider, Grace Schneider,
Sydney Mueller, Megan Mueller

Corn Area

Bruce Boziel, and friends

Bags Tournament Director

Neal Wallner

Polka Band

Kathy Albrecht, and friends

Dessert Providers

Evelyn Wachter, Renee Schultz, Savannah
Schultz, Sharon Guerten, Lynda Guhr, Elizabeth
Vierthaler, Carol Komar, Amy Wranovsky,
Debra L. Witte, Carole Schacht, Mary
Schauwitzer, Nancy Rindfleisch, Kristen Miller,
Theresa Kirchoff, Carmen Radkowski, Lori Fink,
Lisa Van Landeghem, Linda Guhr, Sharon Guhr,
Louise Austad, Marilyn Ludwig, Carolyn Bourdo,
Judy Schmidt, Shelly Eggert, Phyllis Passow,
Carole Dellevar, Laurie Dellevar, Jodi Sievert,
Laura Schoeneck, Nancy Knoebel, Lois Ludwig

Afternoon Take Down – 3:00 pm

Peter Panitzke, John Mielke, Karen Zastrow

CHURCH PICNIC SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**Thank you for coming to our worship service! We're so glad you're here!
After the outdoor service enjoy the picnic festivities!**

If you need assistance, please ask an usher - they are here to help you!

Restrooms: Located in the air-conditioned Trinity Café (Door #10)

Food: Located under the "Big Tent"

Beverages / Ice Cream/Nachos: Available in the picnic pavilion

Sweet Corn: Available at the outdoor fireplace.

Pop's Kettle Corn: Located next to the food tent

Coffee and Desserts: Located in the air-conditioned Trinity Café. (Door #10)

Entertainment: Delight Quartet at 11:30 am and throughout the afternoon; Polka All-Stars at 2:00 pm

Kid's Games : Beginning at 12:00 pm

Bags Tournament: Beginning at 12:30 pm — 14 years and older (See Neal Wallner to sign up)

Dunk Tank: Beginning at 1:00 pm

Couples' Egg Toss - 2:00 pm (Listen for announcements to join)

YOUTH GROWING CLOSER TO CHRIST

LUTHERAN SCHOOL MINISTRY

School Begins August 22

Our Lutheran School (K-8) ministry begins on Tuesday, August 22. It is a tremendous blessing to serve our students and their families with daily spiritual growth in God's Word, connecting them closer to Jesus every day while also growing their minds and hearts for lives of Christian service. It is not too late to enroll! If you or someone you know might be interested in Christian education, please contact our School Administrator Seth Fitzsimmons for a school tour as soon as possible at (414) 422-0320, ext. 118. Tuition assistance is available.

Pre-K Begins after Labor Day

Our 3K and 4K ministry begins the week after Labor Day, and there are only a few open seats still available! We offer a variety of options – half day or all day, the number of days, and wrap-around care. If you would like to consider Christian education for your 3 or 4 year-old, or if you know someone who would still like to enroll their child, contact Pre-K Director Michele Drska at (414) 422-0320, ext. 144.

School of Early Learning

Our childcare ministry for children six weeks to three years-old is open year-round. If you are interested in enrolling your child or adding your child to the waiting list, contact our SOEL Director Kim Neubauer at 414-422-0320, ext. 200.

SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH MINISTRY RESUMES ON SEPTEMBER 10

Help your children make spiritual growth a regular part of their lives by participating in the programs listed below. For more information contact Dr. Joel Nelson at (414) 422-0320 ext. 145 or jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org.

Kids Club (Age 3 – Grade 6)

Our Sunday morning youth ministry for children 3 years-old through 6th grade, resumes on Sunday, September 10, at 9:15 am. Kids Club features a large group opening followed by small group discussion to help your child apply God's word to their lives.

Boost (Grades 7 & 8)

Boost (7th and 8th grade) also begins on Sunday, September 10, at 9:15 am. Using an engaging, multi-media, but more traditional classroom format, Boost participants experience a thematic curriculum of Bible history, current events, and life/family issues all centered on God's Word

PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION

Our preparation for youth confirmation includes three years of study. Children in our Christian Elementary School receive this instruction during the school day. Children attending public school receive this training on Wednesday afternoons. Parents and students participating in the Wednesday afternoon classes must attend the orientation/registration meeting in church on Monday, August 21, 6:30-7:30 pm. For more information contact Dr. Joel Nelson at 414-422-0320, ext. 145.

ADULTS GROWING CLOSER TO CHRIST

Several Bible studies are resuming in September and new ones are beginning. Register for all of these on the Connection Card.

SUNDAY MORNING STUDIES

Let's Get to Know God and Ourselves a Little Better – Begins Sunday, September 10, at 9:15 am This class will explore St. Augustine's assertion that all of theology is presented either explicitly or implicitly in the first three chapters of Genesis and will be taught by retired Martin Luther College Professor, Pastor Daniel Deutschlander.

Parents' Club – Begins Sunday, September 17. Facilitated by St. Paul's Pre-K Teacher Anne Meyer and her husband Chris, the course *Parenting: The Early Years* will explore ten biblical traits your kids will remember you for. This excellent 6-week, DVD-assisted course will be held in school classroom 8.

Creation Science Part I – Begins Sunday, October 15. Dig deeper into what every Christian should know about origins. This two-week class will be taught by St. Paul's member and creation science enthusiast, Joel Weaver.

Martin Luther: Return to Grace – Begins Sunday, October 29. As part of our remembrance of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we will take a look at the WELS-produced DVD assisted study based on the PBS documentary *Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World*. St. Paul's member Mel Rindfleisch will teach the class. Mel has a love for history and has taught about Martin Luther at St. Paul's previously. Watch for more details coming on the celebration of this vital event for all of us.

WEEK DAY STUDIES BEGINNING MID-SEPTEMBER

***Following the Promise* – Begins Tuesday, September 12, at 7 pm**

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 15-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. Check the Connection Card to register.

***Through the Bible In a Year* – Begins Wednesday, September 13 and Monday, September 18, at 7 pm**

On the way out of church last Sunday, a participant in *The Story* last year said, "I'm so glad I attended *The Story*. Because I was in the study, I understood the Bible history you were talking about in the sermon." *Through the Bible In a Year* is replacing *The Story* study so that we can use our own Bibles as the textbook, highlighting and taking notes that will be helpful for years to come. The course will be offered on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm beginning September 13, and Mondays at 7:00 pm beginning September 18. Check the Connection Card for more information.

TEEN MINISTRY AT ST. PAUL'S

TUG – TEENS UNDER GOD



TUG is a unique ministry for teens – members of St. Paul's and their friends. TUG provides teens with worship, education, fellowship, recreation, and service opportunities as well as time to develop Christian relationships with each other and adult mentors within a safe, caring, supportive, and fun environment.

Why the name TUG?

- St. Paul's wants its teens under God (TUG), having a great relationship with Christ and being guided by him.
- Teens today have a lot tugging at them, and they need spiritual support and encouragement.
- Like a kite string tugging on the person holding it, the Holy Spirit through faith, connects a teen to God (the kite), and though you may not always see God (the kite), you know he's there and can feel his tug and guidance on your life.

The plan for August is the following:

- August 13 – No TUG -Trinity Café in use for Awake & Alive
- August 27 – Discussion: Teen Suicide
- September 10 – Laser Tag (watch for details)
- September 24 – Discussion: Teen Suicide

TUG meets the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month in the Trinity Café and Gym, from 6:30 until 8:00 pm, unless otherwise noted.

OUTREACH AT ST. PAUL'S

COMMUNITY OUTREACH UPDATE

MUSKEGO NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AND JAMMIN' ON JANESVILLE

Our participation in Muskego National Night Out and Jammin' on Janesville went very well! We were able to interact with hundreds of children and adults while making the most of the weather God gave us. The love of Jesus was shown through the hearts of our volunteers as they spoke about our church and school. Thank you to all who participated!

BACKPACKS FOR KIDS

There is still time to provide families of the Muskego Food Pantry as well as our own Lutheran Elementary School 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. Only 6 backpacks are needed yet to fulfill all requests at about \$100 each. 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.

NEW OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

CANDY DRIVE

The Muskego Community Festival Parade is happening on Sunday, August 27. Help out with this summer event by bringing a bag or two of candy to church the weekend of August 13 or August 20. Donation of money are also appreciated. Please bring only *Smartees*, *Tootsie Rolls*, or lollipops. There will be a collection bin in the church lobby. What we don't receive in donations, we will need to purchase.

MEALS FOR OUR MISSION PARTNER

Garden Homes Lutheran Church, in Milwaukee's inner city, is a St. Paul's mission partner. The Lighthouse Youth Center, which is part of Garden Homes' ministry, has contacted St. Paul's to see if any groups would be willing to provide a simple dinner for the Lighthouse kids in 2017-18. The normal "menu" is easy stuff to provide and would need to serve about 30-40 youth. The idea would be that the St. Paul's group providing the food could also deliver it, help serve it, and then hang out with the kids a little. If your group would be interested in talking more about this and potentially picking a date in 2017-18, please contact Dr. Nelson 414-750-2586 or jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

WISCONSIN LUTHERAN COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

Wisconsin Lutheran College is offering a \$2000 scholarship to any member of St. Paul's interested in attending WLC who hasn't already enrolled. The scholarship is valid for students starting classes the fall of 2017 or 2018. Contact Dr. Joel Nelson at jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org with interest.

WISCONSIN LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION FALL OUTING

The Wisconsin Lutheran High School Foundation is hosting an all-day trip to see Church Basement Ladies on Wednesday, September 6. The cost is \$84 per person and includes transportation to Fireside Theater in Fort Atkinson, lunch, all gratuities, and ticket to the show. Contact Heidi Witz at (414) 453-4567, ext. 2004, or planner@wlhs.org to reserve your tickets.

FALL TRIP FOR DORCAS

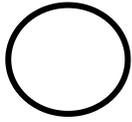
The Dorcas Society is taking their annual fall trip on Wednesday, October 4, to The Palace Theater in Wisconsin Dells to see *Wedding Italiano*, followed by a stop to Beres Coffee in Watertown and Ehlenbach's Cheese Chalet in De Forest. Cost is \$60. Contact Kathy Lutzen at (262) 894-9308 with questions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

STONEY CREEK ADULT COMMUNITY DAY TRIP

Stoney Creek will be going to Horicon Marsh on Wednesday, September 20. The marsh's water, woods, and prairie areas are currently home to one of the widest array of plants and wildlife in the Midwest. This tour includes a boat tour with a one-of-a-kind guided and narrated program. Also included is lunch and a bus sightseeing adventure. The cost is \$75. Reserve your spot today through Stoney Creek Activity Director Charlene Schacht at (414) 422-4686.

STAR OF BETHLEHEM INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE WITH THEM

Star of Bethlehem Lutheran in New Berlin will be celebrating their school's 40th anniversary with a carnival on August 19 from 2:00 until 5:00 pm, and their church's 50th anniversary with special worship services on August 20 at 8:00 and 10 am and a luncheon at 11:30 am. The carnival is free and the luncheon is \$5 for ages 11 and up; \$2 for ages 3-10. RSVP at <http://starofbethlehem.org/anniversarysvp> or at (262) 786-2901 by August 1.

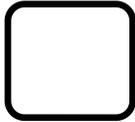


GroupWork

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 and pray for each other. .
2. American evangelist, pastor, educator, and writer R. A. Torrey once said *“Those persons who know the deep peace of God, the unfathomable peace that passeth all understanding are always men and women of much prayer.”*
 - Tell your group about someone in your life that resembles this remark.
 - What else would you say is a tell-tale sign of *a man or woman of much prayer?*
3. Read I Samuel 1:9-18. Here we see that Hannah was in so much anguish that Eli mistook her grief for drunkenness. Being misunderstood by peers is [unfortunately] a common roadblock in a Christian’s life. How might this human misunderstanding lead to a richer prayer life?
4. Romans 8:24b-25 says, *“Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.”* What do you need prayers of hope and patience for this week?
5. Read Romans 8:26-27. Often Christians are intimidated by the idea of prayer. Why would these verses be great encouragement for anyone who thinks they’re “not good at praying.”
6. Hannah’s prayer of praise (I Samuel 2:1-10), David’s dance of worship (2 Samuel 6:12-15), and Mary’s song of gratitude (Luke 1:46-55) give three awesome examples of ways to honor God with our personal praise. Why is it so easy for many of us Christians to forget to pray these kinds of prayer?
7. Is there something on your heart that you’d like to thank and praise God for? Take a moment to praise God in prayer as a group right now – give each person a chance to chime in!



NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

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

Prayer is Powerful!

God Hears!

I Samuel 1:9-17; 2:1-10

1. Father, enable me to say, “Amen.”

- a. The “Amen” blockers
 - The silence of God
 - The ridicule of people
 - The failure of your family
 - The failure of your church
- b. The “Amen” makers
 - The cross of God
 - The testimony of God’s faithfulness
 - The long view

2. Father, make my life a doxology.

- a. Fill my mouth with words of praise.
 - Consider Hannah’s song.
- b. Fill my heart with a willing spirit.
 - Consider Hannah’s gift.

My Next Step: Praying Through the Psalms

Psalms is the Old Testament prayer book that can guide us in our prayers and keep our eyes focused on the cross, remind us of God’s faithfulness, and give us a view towards eternity. Over the next few weeks, select a psalm to pray through each day.

- Psalms of confession: 6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, 143
- Psalms about Jesus: 2, 8, 16, 22, 23, 110, 118
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