

WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of September 11, 2017

MON	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	5:45 pm	Grief Share (Church Library)
TUE	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study (Faith Room)
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	12:00 pm	Organization or Wisconsin Lutheran Seniors (OWLS) (Grace Room)
	6:30 pm	Handbells Rehearsal (Church Balcony)
	7:00 pm	<i>Following the Promise</i> Bible Study (Faith Room)
WED	4:30 pm	Public School Confirmation Classes
	1:00 pm	<i>Through the Bible In a Year</i> Bible Study (Faith Room)
	7:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
THURS	6:30 am	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room)
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	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
	9:15 am	Kids Club, Boost, and Pulse Youth Ministries
	9:45 am	The Bridge Communion
	10:15 am	The Bridge
	10:45 am	Contemporary Worship Service
	12:00 pm	Called Worker Installation and Recognition Potluck (Centennial Gym)

SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH MINISTRIES

Help your children make spiritual growth a regular part of their lives by participating in the programs listed below. All grade levels meet in the school at 9:15 am. Enter through the Trinity Café and you will receive directions on your child's room location. For more information contact Dr. Joel Nelson at jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org.

Kids Club (Age 3 – Grade 6)



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 uses engaging, multi-media, but more of a traditional classroom format, Boost participants experience a thematic curriculum of Bible history, current events, and life/family issues all centered on God's Word.

GROWING CLOSER TO CHRIST

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES BEGIN THIS WEEK

Following the Promise – Tuesdays at 7:00 pm, beginning September 12

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. Mark the Connection Card to register.

Through the Bible In a Year – Mondays and Wednesdays, beginning September 13.

Currently there are 68 people who have expressed interest in this joint effort to know our God better than ever before! Through this course, you will read through the Bible story over the next school year. About a dozen chapters per week will be assigned for reading. Together we will see how the entire Bible story reveals our Savior God to us. By using your own Bible, you'll be able to highlight and take notes in the Bible that you will use for years to come. Our prayer is that the Holy Spirit use this experience to increase...

- our faith in Christ,
- our joy in every situation in life,
- our desire to know our God better, and
- our commitment to serve him with our entire lives.

The course will take place on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm, beginning September 13, and Mondays at 7:00 pm, beginning September 18. Mark the Connection Card or contact Pastor Panitzke at ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org to register.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDIES

Let's Get to Know God and Ourselves a Little Better – Begins Sunday, September 10. 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.

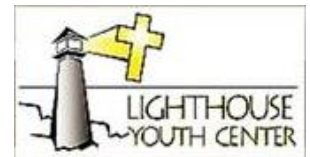
Parents' Club – Begins Sunday, September 17. Facilitated by St. Paul's Pre-K Teacher Anne Meyer and her husband Chris, the course *Parenting: The Early Years* will explore ten biblical traits your kids will remember you for. This excellent 6-week, DVD-assisted course will be held in school classroom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

CONFIRMATION CLASSES HAVE BEGUN

Public school confirmation class for 6th – 8th graders began last Wednesday, from 4:30-6:00 pm in the school. All prospective families should have received a letter with additional details in the mail and met with your child's instructor. If you did not receive the letter and have a public school student in grades 6-8, please contact the church office at (414) 422-0320.

PROVIDE A MEAL FOR LIGHTHOUSE KIDS

Garden Homes Lutheran Church in Milwaukee's inner city is a St. Paul's mission partner. The Garden Homes' Lighthouse Youth Center 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. Think easy-prep food for 30-40 youth that your group would deliver, serve, and then follow up with some social time with the kids. If you or your group is interested in talking more about this and potentially picking a date in 2017-18, please contact Dr. Nelson at (414) 750-2586 or jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org.



DOOR OF HOPE

“DOOR OF HOPE” OFFERING UPDATE!

In just two weeks... over \$75,000 committed or given!

Our generous God puts into the hearts of God’s people to be generous like him. We see that all the time here at St. Paul’s, but that has especially been the case in the last two weeks.

Two weeks ago, we informed you that anticipated receipts through offerings and tuition were reduced by \$100,000 in one month. (More information is available in the *Special Edition Messenger* available at the Welcome Center.) The Ministry Board is committed to living within the means that God provides and will make ministry cutbacks as necessary. But before we made that decision, we chose to make our “Valley of Achor (Trouble)” known to you, praying that God would “make the Valley of Achor a door of hope” (Hosea 2:15).

In the first week, four families stepped forward to offer matching gifts of \$50,000. In the second week, others have given over \$25,000 to match over half of that amount.

If you are able to give a special gift, mark it “Door of Hope,” and place it into the offering. You may also direct your gift to “Door of Hope” at www.stpaulmuskego.org/give. Please respond by Monday, September 25 so that we are prepared for the Ministry Board meeting on Wednesday, September 27. If you are not able to give an over-and-above gift right now, please don’t feel left out. Your on-going weekly offerings are also vital if we are to fulfill our mission to bring as many people as possible closer to Christ.

HURRICANE HARVEY OFFERING

Our hearts go out to those affected by Hurricane Harvey. To make it easy for you to respond to this need, you can give via two ways:



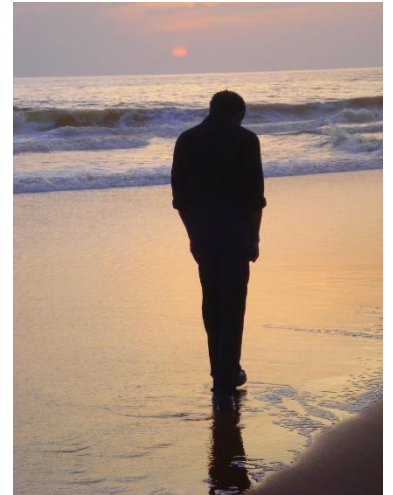
- Text 414-316-6733. In the message put a dollar sign, a space, and the word “Harvey.” For example: \$100 Harvey.
- Go to www.stpaulmuskego.org/give or use the QR code. You will find Harvey in the giving list.

TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

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. This fund provides our members with an opportunity to encourage continuing education through special gifts. 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.”

NEW SERMON SERIES – SOUL SEARCHING

Everyone has a worldview. Whether or not we realize it, we all have certain presuppositions and biases that affect the way we view all of life and reality. A worldview is like a set of lenses which taint our vision or alter the way we perceive the world around us. Our worldview is formed by our education, our upbringing, the culture we live in, the books we read, the media and movies we absorb, etc. For many people their worldview is simply something they have absorbed by osmosis from their surrounding cultural influences. They have never thought strategically about what they believe and wouldn't be able to give a rational defense of their beliefs to others. Christians, however, are commanded to be able to give a well-reasoned explanation for the hope we have in Christ.



There are four questions every worldview must answer. Apologist Ravi Zacharias says this about worldview: "I am totally convinced the Christian faith is the most coherent worldview around. Everyone: pantheist, atheist, skeptic, polytheist has to answer these questions: Where did I come from? What is life's meaning? How do I define right from wrong and what happens to me when I die? Those are the fulcrum points of our existence. I deal with cultural issues whether they be in the Middle East, Far East, the Orient or the West. You broach questions in the context of their culture and then present Christian answers." In this series we will tackle this topic of worldview building on the only true and reliable foundation: the infallible Word of God.

September 17 **Origin: Where Did We Come From?** **Genesis 2:4-7**

Am I just here by chance, a random lucky draw of the straw? Is there nothing special about me other than the fact that the genetic mutations of my ancestors produced the me I am today?

September 25 **Meaning: Why Are We Here?** **Genesis 2:17-18**

Am I here to have fun? Am I here to somehow make the world a better place? Is there no way for me to know why I'm really here?

October 1 **Morality: What Is Good?** **Genesis 3:1-15**

Who determines what's right and wrong? Shouldn't the individual have the right to determine that for himself or herself? That sounds good to me. But how is that actually going to work in the real world? Is morality subjective or objective?

October 8 **Destiny: Where Are We Going When We Die?** **Genesis 3:16-24**

Is there life after death? If there is, what will that life be like? From a completely human perspective it would appear as though this life is all there is. When you die, you're dead.

SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDIES FORMING

Now is a great time to test drive a small group and experience the profound impact it can have on your faith life. During the 4-week *Soul Searching* message series, small groups will meet to dig deeper into the concept of worldview, coinciding with our message series. Mark the back of the Connection Card if you would like more information on leading or joining a small group Bible study for this 4-week series.



ST. PAUL'S NEWS

BAPTISM

Grant Daniel Martinez, born September 1, 2017, was baptized on September 2, 2017 in a private ceremony. Grant is the son of Travis and Megan (nee Boese) Martinez. We praise God for the gift of saving faith Grant has received.

KNOWN HOSPITALIZED

Dorothy Bucholtz is in hospice care at St. Ann's Nursing Home and June Fickau at Seasons Hospice. Margaret Holtz is at Hales Corners Care Center. Carol Constantineau, Keith Jahns, Lucille Krebs, Peter Lentz, Megan Martinez and baby Grant, and Jeanne Nelson 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.

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

928 attended worship services last week.

MALAWI MISSION PARTNER COMMUNIQUE

The latest communication from Missionary John Holtz is available in the welcome center. Thank you to so many who give generously to support these outreach efforts to our brothers and sisters in Africa.

TEACHER INSTALLATION AND RECOGNITION WITH POTLUCK – SEPTEMBER 17

The following called workers will be installed on Sunday, September 17, at the 10:45 am worship service:

- Mr. Randy Fink – Church Administrator
- Mrs. Samantha Loescher - 3rd Grade
- Mrs. Kristen Miller - Spanish Teacher
- Miss. Candy Stack - 2nd Grade
- Mrs. Taryn Volbrecht - Kindergarten

Miss. Linda Martens will also be recognized for her 40 years in the teaching ministry. Miss. Martens currently serves as our morning first grade teacher and Extended Learning Coordinator. And we will say thank you and farewell to former Business Administrator Mr. Dan Lippert, who retired on June 30 after serving at St. Paul's for 6 years.

A luncheon will follow at noon in the Centennial Gym. A *Needs List* is available through *My St. Paul's* for those who would like to help by serving or bringing a dish to pass. A card box will be available for any notes of appreciation or gifts at the luncheon. Please contact Wendy Hendrix at (414) 688-1472 or wendylauber@yahoo.com with any questions.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

OWLS MEET TUESDAY

The Organization of Wisconsin Lutheran Seniors meets Tuesday, September 12, in the Grace Room at noon. Come listen to Dr. Paul Ralston, a member of St. Paul's, speak about nutrition and exercise while enjoying Christian fellowship. A potluck meal will be served. Please contact OWLS President Bob Dahlke at (414) 422-9438 for more information.

MARTIN LUTHER: THE IDEA THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

Begin your celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation by watching the new Luther movie on Tuesday, September 12, at 7:00 pm on your local PBS station.

ST. PAUL'S CELEBRATION OF THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFORMATION

Our 500th anniversary of the Reformation special festival service will be Sunday, November 5. Our worship will include a festival choir and orchestra. If you are interested in joining either of these groups, please contact Pastor Bonack at jbonack@stpaulmuskego.org.

WELS SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN JOINT REFORMATION 500 CELEBRATION

A special joint congregational festival service observing the 500th anniversary of the Reformation will take place on Sunday, November 5, at 3:30 pm at the Miller High Life Theatre. An adult and children's choir will sing for the service, supported by organ, piano, and dozens of instruments. If you or your child is interested in participating in either of these choirs, please contact Pastor Bonack.

JOIN THE HANDBELLS, BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 12

Handbell rehearsals for the upcoming season begin Tuesday, September 12, at 6:30 pm in the church balcony. We have a need for 2 more players. If you are in 8th grade or older and are interested in helping us make a joyful noise to the Lord, please contact Dave Lemke at (262) 679-9537 or dlemke718@gmail.com. No experience is necessary. Training will be provided free of charge.

STORAGE NEEDED FOR LIVING NATIVITY STABLE

The barn where the Living Nativity set/stable is currently stored has been sold and will no longer accommodate our Living Nativity set. We need to have the set moved out by the end of September. The stable walls, floor, and ceiling do break down into pieces and only need to be accessed once every 2 years. If you are able to provide a home for these items or can provide a referral of a location, please contact Outreach Coordinator Sally Wallner at (414) 422-0320, ext. 294, or swallner@stpaulmuskego.org.

TEACHER'S AIDE OPENING AT SOEL

St. Paul's School of Early Learning (SOEL) is a childcare and early education ministry. We are currently seeking applicants for an immediate opening as a year-round teacher's aide Monday through Friday from 7:00 am until 1:00 pm. Experience in childcare or a related field is preferred. We offer a competitive hourly wage and a pleasant working environment. Please contact SOEL Director Kim Neubauer at (414) 422-0320, ext.200, (262) 470-0465 (cell), or kneubauer@stpaulmuskego.org for more information.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH LIBRARY AND LOST AND FOUND

Do you have a book you may have forgotten to return to the church library? Please return any overdue books at your earliest convenience.

Also, if you are missing an item, we have a lost and found located in the church library. Quite a few items have accumulated over the summer. Take a look. Perhaps your lost item is waiting for you.