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THE FAMILY CHURCH 2.0

LET HOPE RING OUT FROM THE SAFE PLACE

September 14, 15, and 18, 2019

When our families are a safe place for faith to grow, a powerful hope for eternity is also forged. That hope is like a bell that rings loudest when it is struck hardest. When trouble strikes our family, hope can ring out from our safe place for others to hear.

BELLS AND WELCOME

OPENING HYMN 255, vv. 1-3

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

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

C Amen.

M Brothers and sisters in Christ, we have been called to “declare the praises of him who called us out of darkness into his wonderful light” (1 Peter 2:9). Each of us has the call to praise God to our family members.

C **Why, then, do we so often fail to give God the honor he deserves?**

M Because of the weakness of our sinful flesh. Because of our love of comfort and ease. Because we choose to put our faith and hope in the created thing rather than in the Creator himself. Yet God loved us despite our weakness and sin. He sent his Son to destroy sin’s power in our lives. Confident of God’s forgiving love in Christ, let us approach our heavenly Father with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

All **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior, Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

LORD HAVE MERCY

Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy
on us. Lord, have mer-cy on us. A - men.

The image shows two lines of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first line contains the melody for "Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy". The second line contains the melody for "on us. Lord, have mercy on us. Amen." The lyrics are written below the notes.

M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

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

RESPONSE HYMN 255, vv. 4-5

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

**Thou my faith increase and quicken;
Let me keep thy gift divine,
Howsoe'er temptations thicken;
May thy Word still o'er me shine
As my guiding star through life,
As my comfort in all strife.**

**Speak, O God, and I will hear thee;
Let thy will be done indeed.
May I undisturbed draw near thee
While thou dost thy people feed.
Here of life the fountain flows;
Here is balm for all our woes.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray.

Father, your design for the family is beautiful: Parents passing the faith on to their children and nurturing them with your Word.

C **Teach us, empower us, and enable us to be the best students of your Word and the best “pastors of our family churches” that we can be.**

M We pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now

C **and forever. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 6:9-22, Bible page 6

We don't know many of the details of Noah's life. But in a corrupt world, full of violence, Noah's family was a safe place for his sons to be nurtured in the faith.

PSALM OF THE DAY 148

Hymnal page 121

All of creation knows its Father and praises him.

GOSPEL

Luke 8:22-25, Bible page 1036

Jesus and his disciples were a family church in which Jesus used every opportunity to nurture and grow his disciples' faith.

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



HYMN OF THE DAY 502

Lord of the Home

SERMON

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10, Bible page 1186

Pastor Peter Panitzke

APOSTLES' CREED

**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 (*Saturday*)

Love Remains, Rose Bonack

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 Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of your created order.

C **Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.**

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 may follow.

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 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 Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, you have planted us like trees beside the streams of the refreshing waters of your love and grace.

C Help us to always delight in your Word and to yield abundant fruit in our lives.

M We pray, Jesus, in your name. You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

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.

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

ORGANIST *Carol Nelson*

OPEN FORUMS – THE OPPORTUNITY OF A SECOND SITE

The Ministry Board asks for the congregation's guidance as they consider an opportunity to start a second worship site or daughter congregation. A facility has been offered to St. Paul's free of charge for worship. Sufficient additional funds have been committed by individuals to begin this ministry at no additional cost to our congregation or our synod. It seems God has opened a door to a new ministry that can bring more people into a life-giving relationship with their Savior. However, there are other factors that lead the Ministry Board to ask for your input at this critical stage in their discussions. Come, learn, ask questions and discuss. At the close of the open forum, each participant will be asked to indicate her/his level of support or concern which will be reported to the Ministry Board.

Please attend one of the five open forums. All will be one hour long with one exception noted below.

- Sunday, September 22 at 9:15 am in the Faith Room
- Sunday, September 22 at 10:45 in the Grace Room
- Sunday, September 29 at 9:15 am in the Trinity Café (30-minute session)
- Sunday, September 29 at noon in the Grace Room
- Saturday, October 5 at 6 pm in the Faith Room



St. Paul's

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 September 16, 2019

MON	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	7:00 pm	Woodwinds Rehearsal
TUE	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study (Faith Room)
	9:30 am	Ministerial Growth Team Meeting
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	10:30 am	Ministerial Team Meeting
	6:00 pm	<i>DivorceCare</i> (School Classroom 8)
	6:30 pm	Alzheimer's Support Group (Church Library)
	6:30 pm	Handbells Rehearsal (Church Balcony)
	7:00 pm	<i>Following the Promise</i> Bible Study (Faith Room)
	7:00 pm	Dorcas Society (Grace Room)
WED	9:30 am	Mommy and Me (Faith Room)
	4:30 pm	Public School Confirmation Classes
	6:30 pm	Financial Peace University (Grace Room)
	7:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service
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	Open Forum (Faith Room)
	9:15 am	Grace Room Bible Study
	9:15 am	Kids Club
	9:45 am	The Bridge Communion
	10:15 am	The Bridge
	10:45 am	Contemporary Worship Service
10:45 am	Open Forum (Grace Room)	

SUNDAY MORNING KIDS CLUB

Help your child apply God's Word to their life—join Kids Club. All grade levels meet in the school. Enter through the Trinity Café and you will receive directions for your child's room location. For more information visit our website or contact Dr. Joel Nelson at jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org.



Kids Club (Grades 3K-6)

Large and Small Groups
Bible Lessons and Applications
Upbeat, Interactive, Fun!

THE FAMILY CHURCH 2.0

THE FAMILY CHURCH MESSAGE SERIES

The Family Church message series has two goals:

1. To help moms and dads, grandpas and grandmas, uncles and aunts be the spiritual leaders of their “Family Church.”
2. To help everyone become part of a “Family Church” where we care for others and are cared for.



September 22 Called to Create God’s Safe Place Acts 20:27-31

Am I my brother’s keeper? You bet! We need each other. Every one of us needs someone to hold us accountable. Every one of us needs to take seriously the responsibility God has given us to reach out and help people when they are weak, lost, or simply in need of guidance. We are called to create God’s safe place wherever God has placed us in life.

September 29 Inviting Others into the Safe Place Hebrews 13:1-3

In a dark and dangerous world, everyone is searching for a safe place. There is only one truly safe place and we, as God’s people, have the privilege and opportunity to invite people into that safe place. This is greatest display of hospitality. How will you open your heart and home so that you can be a conduit for others to enjoy the one truly safe place?

JOIN A SAFE PLACE – BE A PART OF A LIFE GROUP

New Life Groups will be formed at GroupLink on Tuesday, September 24, at 6:30 pm in the Grace Room. We’ll explain what a small group is like, provide snacks to enjoy, and starter questions so that you can get to know others present at GroupLink. By the end of the evening, you’ll have found a group of people with whom you feel comfortable. At the close of GroupLink, the new groups will have a short Life Group meeting to plan the next time that they will get together. Mark the back of your Connection Card to let us know you are coming.

CREATE A SAFE PLACE – BE A LIFE GROUP HOST

Hosting isn’t rocket science! It is as simple as 1, 2, 3, 4.

1. Pick a night for the group and stay consistent.
2. Prepare enough seats for the group (either consistently in your home or rotate among the group).
3. Have a firm start and end time.
4. Have snacks (a cold glass of water or more elaborate if you wish).

If you are willing to consider being a host, mark your interest on the Connection Card.

CELEBRATING THE SAFE PLACE

On Saturday, September 28, at 6:30 pm, you are invited to join Mike Westendorf as he releases his new album *Everything for Good*, featuring the Family Church theme song *You Made a Place for Me*. In keeping with the RAWKs fund theme that weekend, Mike will be bundling three copies of his new album together for the price of two: one to keep for yourself, one to invest in a friend, and one to give to a complete stranger! May the love of God flow out from us through such Random Acts of Worship Kindness!

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

FLOWERS

The flowers beautifying the altar today have been placed in loving memory of Lynn Johnson, beloved husband and father, by his family.

BAPTISMS

Zachary Dean Destrampe, son of David and Christina (nee Schwenn) Destrampe, was born August 16, 2019. Clarence Michael Theodore La Porte, son of Ron and Vanessa (nee Flejter) LaPorte, was born July 6, 2019. Zachary and Clarence will both be baptized at The Bridge on Sunday, September 15, 2019. May the Lord bless and keep Zachary and Clarence in their baptismal faith until their glorious reunion with our Savior.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Please pray for the following individuals in their time of need: Carol Beyer, David Burkowitz, Carol Gosseck, Connie Hikade, Barbara Luedtke, Josh Nagel, Mary Schauwitzer, Carol Smith, Jeanne Steinbrecher, Dick and Jane Sternberg, and Jessica Vanderhyde.

HOSPITALIZED .

Lois Guhr is in hospice care at The View at Pine Ridge in Oconomowoc. Gerald Luedke has been discharged from the hospital.

ATTENDANCE

1138 attended worship services last week.

GROUNDBREAKING AT A DAUGHTER CONGREGATION

Fifteen years ago, St. Paul's designated \$30,000 from our Gift Trust Fund to help begin a new daughter congregation in Waukesha that came to be called Living Word. The congregation purchased land directly across Saylesville Road from Waukesha West High School and are breaking ground this Sunday on their first permanent worship facility. We rejoice with our sisters and brothers in Christ!

FOLLOWING THE PROMISE

There are two opportunities to join in on this study this fall:

- Sundays, beginning September 15, 8:30-9:30 am, 15 weeks
- Tuesdays, beginning September 24, 7:00-8:15 pm, 12 weeks

Wide-open discussion will challenge you to rethink deeply the promises of our God. Non-members are welcome to use this class as a path to membership at the end, or just as a chance to connect with the God of the Bible. Tuesday classes meet in the Faith Room at church, Sunday classes in Room 8 in the school. Register on the back of your Connection Card. It will be a joy!

DIVORCECARE

Divorce is ugly, but you are beautiful. Divorce is not what God intended for marriage, but there is hope. If you are in need of help and healing due to divorce, please consider joining us as we learn of God's tremendous love for us on Tuesdays at 6:00 pm in school classroom 8. If you are not able to make it every Tuesday, that is alright. Just come when you can. Contact Eric Pearson at ericpear@yahoo.com or Kristen Miller at kmiller@stpaulmuskego.org for more information.

MOMMY AND ME

If you are a mom with a child, birth-age 5, consider joining St. Paul's social, spiritual, and service oriented group - Mommy & Me. The group meets Wednesday mornings, 9:30-11:00, in the Faith Room. Contact Samantha Lindner for additional details at sam.lindner2323@gmail.com or (989) 284-2854.

THE FAMILY CHURCH RESOURCES

The following are resources for you to consider for you, your friends, or your family to grow closer to Christ and each other.

Daily Devotions from the WELS

Google “WELS Daily Devotions” to be connected to a link to subscribe to daily email devotions produced by our church body, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

Time of Grace

Time of Grace offers a number of resources to help the family via their website at www.timeofgrace.org.

- Download the Time of Grace app to receive short daily devotional videos to share with your family and friends.
- Order devotional books like *God's Imitators*, *Dig In Family Devotions*, and *God's Word for Boys and God's Word for Girls* (a Bible with devotions for ages 8 – 12)
- Marriage helps like *Marriage is Hard* in CD or DVD format
- *Grace Moments* devotions on a variety of topics

The Complete Illustrated Children's Bible

A collection of 300 of the Bible's most-loved stories presented in two-page illustrations to capture even the youngest child's imagination. Available on Amazon.

The HCSB One Minute Bible for Students: 366 Devotions Connecting You with God Every Day

This resource offers 366 readings that allow young people to thoroughly survey the heart of the Bible in one year at the rate of just one minute per day. Each reading follows the general flow of biblical history, interspersed with several topical series for occasions such as Easter and Mother's Day. Available online and at Barnes and Nobles stores.

Chip Ingram's Living on the Edge

These very reasonably priced, excellent quality resources on marriage and parenting are meant for small groups, husbands and wives, or parents to use in the home. The 20-30 minute video teachings are accompanied by study guides and application questions to assist in great conversations about things that matter most during our Christian journey together. At approximately \$30, this is a great investment.

Chip Ingram's "Living on the Edge" Marriage and Parenting Resources:

<https://store.livingontheedge.org/topics/marriage/>

<https://store.livingontheedge.org/topics/parenting/>

God's Yellow Pages

This handy reference continues to be a favorite of Christians who seek God's voice for life's issues but don't know where to turn in the Bible. Go to <http://anyflip.com/osww/keck/basic> to bring you to an electronic version of God's Yellow Pages where the Bible passages are linked directly to BibleGateway.com

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

SHEEPSHEAD TOURNAMENT AT ST. PAUL'S

Celebrate Oktoberfest at St. Paul's with our annual sheepshead tournament Saturday, October 12, 6:00-9:00 pm, in the Trinity Cafe. There will be five-person co-ed tables with players moving to new table every 30 minutes of play. Prizes will be handed out at the end of the evening! Enjoy light snacks with beverages provided for a small fee. Pick up a flyer at the Welcome Center in the lobby for more information. Contact Cindy Proeber at cindy.proeber@accuratediedesign.com or Neal Wallner at (414) 419-2168 to let them know to play for you.



BRASS ENSEMBLE AT ST. PAUL'S

The Brass Ensemble is gearing up to begin a new season of rehearsals and performances for our worship services. If you play a brass instrument, consider joining the group! Rehearsals resume on Wednesday, October 2, at 8:00 pm, in the church balcony. Contact Director Jill Mitchell at jillmitchellwi@yahoo.com or (414) 530-4123 to indicate interest or for more information.

RELATIONSHIPS IN THE SHADOW OF THE CROSS

This four-week study explores skills to effectively communicate across the sexes, based on the principles God lays down for us in the scriptures. Course presenters are Rev. James Becker and his wife, Denise, who taught a widely appreciated senior elective for 20 years at Wisconsin Lutheran High School —*From Friendship to Marriage*—that explored healthy, happy, and faith-filled relationships. The Beckers also lead workshops and Bible studies throughout our church body on relationship issues.



LADIES BIBLE STUDY

All ladies are invited to join the Tuesday Ladies Bible Study at 9:00 am in the Faith Room. The current study is taking a look at the book of Joshua on the topic of worry. For more information contact Group Leader Michele Eiche at meiche4@wi.rr.com.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AT ST. PAUL'S CHILD CARE CENTER

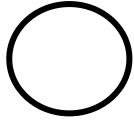
St. Paul's Child Care Center is hiring a Teacher's Aide/Closer in the Infant Room, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 11:00 am – 6:00 pm. Contact Child Care Center Director Kim Neubauer at kneubauer@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 422-0320, ext. 200, for a job description and to apply.

HELP AVAILABLE FOR YOUR FALL CLEANUP

Can't get to all that yard work, raking, hedge trimming, window washing, and fall cleaning done that lingers over your head this time of year? Help is near! Consider hiring hard-working members of the Wisconsin Lutheran High School student council for a day or even just a few hours. All free will donations will support the Haiti 2019-20 mission project. Work days are most Saturdays and Sundays in September and October, beginning September 21. To request a team and check on available dates, please contact Reagan Derouin at (414) 722-5031 or reaganderouin20@wlhs.org.

WISCONSIN LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL NEW DORM DEDICATION SERVICE

Wisconsin Lutheran High School will dedicate their new dormitory, Honey Creek Hall, on Sunday, September 29, at 2:00 pm, with tours available before and after the service. Google "Honey Creek Hall" to learn more and to register for a tour.



GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

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

1. Share a story of someone you admire whose hope in Christ didn't fail during difficult times. It may be a story of God's faithfulness from your own family or from someone in the distant past.
2. On Paul's second missionary journey, the Holy Spirit called him to cross over from Asia (modern Turkey) to Europe (Macedonia). Read Acts 16:6-10. Since Paul received a direct revelation from God to go to Macedonia, he may have expected a welcoming mission field. Read the following passages. What was the recurring pattern in every Macedonian city?

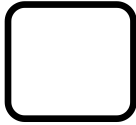
Acts 16:16-24 in Philippi

Acts 17:1-9 in Thessalonica

Acts 17:10-17 in Berea

How does Paul's experience frighten you or encourage you in your role as a missionary to the people around you?

3. Read 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10. Since the Thessalonian congregation was birthed in the midst of persecution, focus on these phrases:
 - a. "endurance inspired by hope" (v.3) How does hope enable someone to endure suffering? Describe your Christian hope.
 - b. "the midst of severe suffering... joy given by the Holy Spirit" (v. 6) A recovering alcoholic recently shared that, even though he is dealing with many consequences of his past drinking, he has a joy that he has never experienced before. Have you known someone who has exhibited that Christian joy in the midst of suffering that just has to be a miracle of the Holy Spirit? Share their story with the group.
4. Paul often mentions his prayers and thanksgiving for Christians he served as he does in 1 Thessalonians 1:2,3. Why is it helpful for your family members to hear about your prayers and thanksgiving for them? Do you talk about your prayers with family members? Why or why not?
5. Close with a prayer of thanksgiving for the faith, love, and hope (1 Thessalonians 1:3) that you see in a member of your relational or functional family.



NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

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

The Family Church 2.0

Let Hope Ring Out from the Safe Place

I Thessalonians 1:1-10, Bible page 1186

1. Hope is Forged in the Safe Place
 - a. I _____ is the mold (1:5).
 - b. The r _____ is the raw material (1:10).

2. Hope is polished in the Safe Place
 - a. Polish with words: L _____, C _____ (1:4)
 - b. Polish with prayer: W _____, L _____, E _____ (1:3)

3. Hope rings out loudest in the midst of great suffering.
 - a. Hope rang out in Paul's suffering (Acts 17:1-9).
 - b. Hope rang out from the Macedonian's suffering (1:6-8)
 - c. Hope rings out over the generations.

My Next Steps to Let Hope Ring Out

- **Read I Thessalonians** (just five short chapters) and note their focus on the hope that is to come.
- **Memorize this prayer** of hope and pray it for your family members: "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Romans 15:13).
- **Share a story** of God's faithfulness with your children from your past or from your parents. Let hope ring out over the generations.