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THE FAMILY CHURCH 2.0

INVITING OTHERS INTO THE SAFE PLACE

September 28, 29, and October 2, 2019

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?

BELLS AND WELCOME

OPENING HYMN 391, vv. 1-5

God Loved the World So that He Gave

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

C **Amen.**

M Dear friends, how great is the love the Father has lavished on us that we should be called children of God.

C **And that is what we are! (1 John 3:1)**

M The apostle John calls us to love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love (1 John 4:7b-8). As we come before our God today, let us, therefore, confess our lack of love for others and the many sins that flow from our love of self.

All **Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.**

For faithless worrying and selfish pride,

For sins of habit and sins of choice,

For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,

You should cast me away from your presence forever.

O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

M Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To you, O blessed Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you**

M Let us pray.

Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted in a wonderful order the ministries of angels and mortals.

C **Mercifully grant that, as your holy angels serve and worship you in heaven, so by your direction they may help and defend us here on earth.**

M We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 18:1-8, Bible page 15

When three strangers arrive, Abraham outdoes himself in his display of hospitality. Little does he know that these are no ordinary visitors.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M Alleluia. Praise the Lord, you his angels, who obey his word. Alleluia (*Psalms 103:20*).

GOSPEL

Luke 10:17-20, Bible page 1040

Although we have been given authority to trample on snakes and scorpions, our greatest joy is that our names are written in heaven.

HYMN OF THE DAY 492

Son of God, Eternal Savior

SERMON

Hebrews 13:1-3, Bible page 1214

Pastor Jeffrey Bonack

RAWKS FUND SEED PACKET DISTRIBUTION

At the conclusion of the sermon you will be invited to come forward to receive a RAWKs Fund Seed Packet. RAWKs stands for "Random Acts of Worship Kindness." In the packets you will find \$10, \$20, or even \$50 as seed money to start your own RAWKs Fund. If there are multiple members of your family present, please take one for your family. When you do, please sign your name that you received a Seed Packet.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

M The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

M Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M Let us give thanks to the Lord.

C **It is good and right so to do.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

Please see Communion note on page 5.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS 494
491
310

Blest by the Ties that Binds
O Master of the Loving Heart
I Come, O Savior, to Your Table

CLOSING PRAYER

M We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you 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

PIANIST Sue Gedemer

OUR COMMUNION PRACTICE

The Lord's Supper is a fellowship meal. In this meal Jesus expresses his fellowship with us by giving us his body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. In this meal we also express our fellowship with each other, that is, that we are united in a common confession of faith.

We at St. Paul's want everyone to enjoy this fellowship meal. However, we cannot ask someone to express agreement with us until we give that person an opportunity to discover what we teach. That is why we schedule frequent membership classes, entitled Following the Promise, to provide an overview of our teachings. Contact Pastor Nate Strobel for more information or to register for the class.

If you are a member of St. Paul's or a member of a WELS or ELS congregation, we invite you to express our common confession by communing with us. You may wish to use the "Personal Preparation for Holy Communion" on page 156 of Christian Worship to examine yourself. Please register your intent to commune as a member or guest by filling out the Connection Card and placing it in the offering plate.

The light-colored cups in the center of the individual cup tray contain non-alcoholic wine. Gluten-free wafers are located in the trays on the Communion rail. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please inform an usher as you approach the rail. The first pew in the left center section is reserved for those who have difficulty approaching the Communion rail, and we kindly ask those who desire to be communed privately to use these pews.



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 30, 2019

MON	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
TUE	9:00 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	Handbells Rehearsal (Church Balcony)
	7:00 pm	<i>Following the Promise</i> Bible Study (Faith Room)
WED	9:30 am	Mommy and Me (Faith Room)
	12:00 pm	Ladies Afternoon Fellowship (Grace Room)
	4:30 pm	Public School Confirmation Classes
	6:30 pm	Financial Peace University (Grace Room)
	7:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
THURS	6:30 am	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room)
	9:00 am	Quilting Fellowship Bus Trip
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	1:00 pm	Circuit Pastors' Meeting (Faith Room)
	7:00 pm	The Bridge and Contemporary Band Practice
FRI	8:15 am	Lutheran School Chapel Service (Main Church)
	9:00 am	Circuit Pastors' and District Council Meetings (Grace and Faith Room)
	7:00 pm	Card Players' Group – Sheepshead (Faith Room)
SAT	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room)
	5:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service
	6:00 pm	Open Forum (Faith Room)
SUN	7:45 am	Traditional Worship Service
	8:00 am	<i>Following the Promise</i> (School Classroom 8)
	9:15 am	Traditional Worship Service
	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
	5:30 pm	Wisconsin Lutheran High School Open House

FAMILY CHURCH 2.0 — CELEBRATING RAWKS

RAWKs stands for Random Acts of Worship Kindness. After the message today we will distribute 250 RAWKs Fund Seed Packets, each with \$10, \$20, or \$50 as seed money for your own RAWKs Fund. If there is more than one family member present, please take one for your family. Week by week, add to it and look for ways to show Random Acts of Worship Kindness to someone in your area of influence.

Here are some of the many stories we heard last year of seeing the RAWKs seed grow.

- “I loved this series and am a little sad it is ending. For us, the favorite was definitely the RAWKS. At our house, we created a RAWKS jar and have been contributing regularly. It makes my heart so happy to see my children putting in their “earnings” without prompting, just because they know it’s right. We haven’t decided what we are going to do with it yet but that will come. It made me realize that I can pastor my family, not just Dad. It also made me really think about who I am pastoring to....not just my immediate family but my work family, friend family, and so on.”

- Josie, a child in our school, let her Christian light shine by hosting a lemonade stand this summer to benefit the local police department. Josie RAWKs!

- “I received \$50 in my RAWKs Fund Seed Packet. For the past 5-plus years the department where I work has been buying Christmas presents for children, who normally don’t receive gifts, at Word of Life and Garden Homes schools. This year our department collected money and we were able to buy every student from Word of Life and Garden Homes schools a coupon book to McDonald’s (which was a total of 360 students). The Pick’n Save in Franklin partnered with us and donated 360 cookies resulting in each child receiving a coupon booklet and a cookie. We also were able to donate 5 certificates for a free turkey/ham, a \$15 Gift Card to Pick & Save, and \$250 cash. The original \$50 was turned into \$610 plus the donation of cookies and gift certificates Thank you, St. Paul’s, for the initial \$50 seed money!”



THE GOSPEL COMES WITH A HOUSE KEY

Ten of the RAWKs Fund Seed Packets handed out today will include a card to receive a free copy of the book *The Gospel Begins with a House Key* by Rosaria Butterfield. Rosaria, a woman once hostile to the Christian faith, was won over to Christ by the many acts of kindness and hospitality a Christian family showed her. Her approach to hospitality will challenge you to examine your own life. “Where will I make some margin in my busy life? What will I change so that I have the time and the financial resources to show hospitality to those around me?” If you do not receive a free copy of this book, we encourage you to purchase one online.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

THE MESSENGER

St. Paul's quarterly newsletter was distributed last week. If you missed picking up a copy, The Messenger is available at the Welcome Center in the lobby. Read about the opportunity of a second site for The Bridge and updates from other areas of ministry at St. Paul's.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Please pray for the following individuals in their time of need: Carol Beyer, David Burkowitz, Steve Drobka, 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. Brenda Krosnicki, Marvin Pellmann, and Nancy Rindfleisch have been discharged from the hospital.

ATTENDANCE

1058 attended worship services last week.

SUNDAY MORNING KIDS CLUB



Help your child apply God's Word to their life through upbeat, interactive and fun lessons at 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.

FOLLOWING THE PROMISE

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

- Sundays, 8:00-9:00 am, 13 weeks remaining
- Tuesdays, 7:00-8:15 pm, 11 weeks remaining

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

Discover hope and healing out of the darkness of divorce through God's Word, 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.

SINGERS AND INSTRUMENTALISTS – JOIN THE REFORMATION AND ADVENT FESTIVAL CHOIR / ORCHESTRA

St. Paul's will be celebrating the anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation with a festival service on Sunday, November 3, and Advent with a festival service on Sunday, December 15. We would love to have you sing in the choir or play in the orchestra if interested. Please contact Michele Eiche at (414) 202-7522 to indicate interest in the festival choir. Rehearsals will be Sundays at 8:00 am and Tuesdays at 7:30 pm, beginning October 6. Please contact Heidi Schuh at (414) 530-4284 to indicate interest in playing in the orchestra. Mass rehearsals will be Wednesday, October 30, at 6:30 pm, and Saturday, November 2, at 9:00 am, in the church balcony.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

THE OPPORTUNITY OF A SECOND SITE – ATTEND AN OPEN FORUM

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 three open forums. All will be one hour long with one exception noted below.

- 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 6:00 pm in the Faith Room

MISSIONS TO AFRICA – SUNDAY UNDER THE CANOPY

Enjoy refreshments under the canopy and learn more about two mission trips to Africa that happened this summer. All donations given will be split between the Vulnerable Children's Foundation and WELS Kingdom Workers.

Vulnerable Children's Foundation (VCF)

Ten St. Paul's members traveled to Lusaka, Zambia to visit the two schools started by VCF in response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic that has left so many orphan children. These two schools provide Christian education to more than 500 children in some of the most poverty-stricken areas of Lusaka. VCF was started by family members and friends of Edgar and Meta Hoenecke. Seventy years ago Pastor Hoenecke explored southern Africa looking for a place for our synod to begin a foreign mission. As a result of that visit, the Lutheran Church of Central Africa has grown to 200 congregations and 40,000 members spread across Zambia and Malawi. The two schools supported by VCF are connected to two of those churches. A gift of \$25 underwrites a child's Christian education for a month. Learn more at VulnerableChildren.net.

WELS Kingdom Workers

St. Paul's member Kara Darling spent three weeks in Malawi to learn more about the culture, encourage the Kingdom Workers there, and assist with their Disabilities Ministry through teaching more about how to help children with speech and language impairments. They currently have 1 speech language pathologist in the entire country of Malawi! To learn more about other volunteer opportunities, go to KingdomWorkers.com.

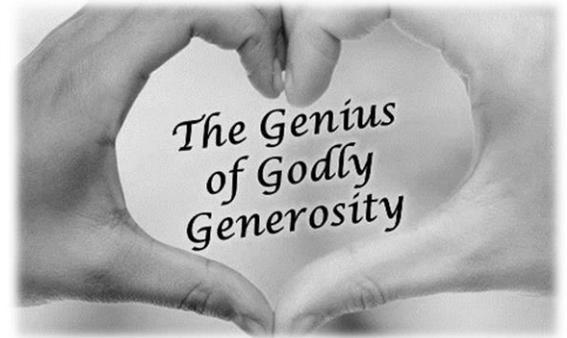
ST. PAUL'S NEWS

CIRCUIT PASTORS AND DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING AT ST. PAUL'S

Thursday afternoon and Friday morning of this week St. Paul's has the privilege of hosting the annual meeting of the 21 circuit pastors of the Southeastern Wisconsin District of the WELS. On Friday afternoon the District Council meets. In the spring, the circuit pastors meet with the president and officers of the district to be updated on the work of the synod. In the fall, they are further trained and encouraged to be "pastor to the pastors" through Bible study and discussion. (Pastor Kuehl serves as circuit pastor for the Southern Circuit, which includes St. Paul's in Muskego, Star of Bethlehem in New Berlin, Christ in Big Bend, St. Paul's in East Troy, Reformation in Dousman, St. John's in Mukwonago, Living Water in Wind Lake, and Victory of the Lamb and St. Paul's in Franklin.) Thank you, members of St. Paul's, for allowing these gatherings to be held on our campus, and please include the participants in your prayers.

NEW GRACE ROOM SERIES FOR OCTOBER

Relationships in the Shadow of the Cross finishes up Sunday, September 29. On Sunday, October 6, *What is the Genius of Godly Generosity?* will begin. This series focuses on Scripture's teaching about Christ-centered generosity. It will also explore the transformation this generosity can bring to our lives and to St. Paul's ministry as we seek to bring as many people as possible with us to heaven. St. Paul's School Administrator Seth Fitzsimmons will present this study the Sundays of October, 9:15-10:15 am, in the Grace Room.



ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL SHEEPSHEAD TOURNAMENT – OCTOBER 12

St. Paul's annual Sheepshead Tournament is Saturday, October 12, 6:00 - 9:00 pm, in the Trinity Café. Entry fee is \$5 per person to offset the cost of food and prizes. Pick up a flyer at the Welcome Center with more information and don't forget to contact Neal Wallner at (414) 419-2168 to let him know to plan for you.

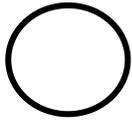
STONEY CREEK ADULT COMMUNITY ART GALLERY NIGHT

Stoney Creek invites you to an art gallery night featuring two of their resident artists on Tuesday, October 8, 4:00 - 6:00 pm. Enjoy light snacks at this free event while viewing beautiful art. More information can be found at www.stoneycreekmuskego.org.

ST. PAUL'S GLOW FUN RUN / WALK

St. Paul's Church and School will host its 2nd annual 5k/1 mile Glow Fun Run/Walk on October 18, 5:30-8:30 pm, on our campus. Get your glow on as you take on the night dressed in neon. Get a team together to run/walk the neon guided course and enter to win the "Best Glowed Out" award and other fun "glow getter" awards. A "glow after party" will follow with music, concessions, a Tess Corners firetruck, and more. Pick up registration information at the Welcome Center. October 7 registration is the deadline to receive a 2019 Glow Run shirt.

GET YOUR **GLOW** ON!



GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

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

1. Share the highs and lows from last week and begin your time together in prayer.

2. What are some of the things you do to display hospitality to your guests?

3. Hospitality has always been an important virtue for God's people. Read Genesis 18.
 - How does Abraham go out of his way to display hospitality?

 - Why might showing hospitality have been especially important when and where Abraham lived?

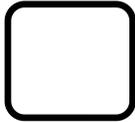
 - How does this "hospitable encounter" open a door for Abraham to be used by God in a powerful way?

4. Check out Leviticus 19:33–34. What is the Christian's motivation for showing hospitality?

5. Read Hebrews 13:1-3. The writer to the Hebrews exhorts us "not to forget to show hospitality to strangers." Why might we forget this?

6. In 1 Peter 4:9 we are encouraged to "offer hospitality to one another without grumbling." What could possibly make us want to grumble?

7. In our message this week, we talked about building margins in our lives in both our calendars and our budgets so that we can be more open to opportunities to show hospitality. What do you think about that concept? If you were to do one thing this week to move toward building margins, what would it be?



NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

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

Inviting Others into the Safe Place

Hebrews 13:1-3, Bible page 1214

Introduction: What is true, biblical hospitality?

Hospitality flows as a natural and instinctual outpouring of Christian love.

We've all made ourselves s_____ to God.

Hospitality is the g_____ God displays when he welcomes and shows kindness to us.

Showing kindness is who God is and we are being renewed in his i_____.

Hospitality comes with a price tag.

Hospitality requires two of our most fiercely guarded resources: t_____ and m_____.

The temptation is strong to rationalize fears and to let o_____ pass by.

We need to intentionally build m_____ into our lives.

Hospitality ultimately seeks to bring people closer to Christ.

Displaying hospitality makes us available to be u_____ by God.

Hospitality is especially called for when there are people in our lives who are f_____ from Christ.

There is ALWAYS a story of pain, heartache, or injustice. L_____ to the story opens a door.

My Next Steps

- This week challenge yourself to show love to a stranger. Pray that God opens your eyes to someone around you who is in need, someone that you can be a friend to, listen to, support in whatever way he or she needs your kindness.
- Hospitality requires both time and money. Work on a plan that will allow you to intentionally create margins in your life, both on your calendar and in your budget. (This is a part of our call to healthy stewardship).
- Speaking of stewardship, to prepare for next week's message read Haggai 1:1-15 and consider how the passage speaks to you.