

# FAMILY CHURCH

## GET READY TO RAWKS! – WEEKEND OF OCTOBER 14

RAWKs stands for “Random Acts of Worship Kindness.” One of the values of our St. Paul’s/Bridge family is generous, meaningful living. We believe that we have a generous God who creates us to be generous people who have a generous vision, eager to show love to those around us.

How do we pass on that value to our children? How can we model that value in our small group life? One solution is to start a RAWKs fund.



- To start you might set aside a portion of your weekly offering in a RAWKs Fund. For example, if you are giving a tithe (10% of your income) to the Lord, you could tithe your tithe, setting aside 10% of your offering for a RAWKs fund (that would be 1% of your income).
- Another possibility... If your children receive an allowance, offer a “matching gift.” They give 10% or more of their allowance to the RAWKs fund and mom or dad match that gift.
- Once per month, or on a schedule you decide, gather as a family, divide up the RAWKs fund money to each family member, and talk about possible needs that you are aware of. Each family member, from young children on up, is involved in the discussion and decision.

## RAWKS FUND STARTER GIFTS – GIVING MONEY AWAY!

In the October 14 weekend services, we will be giving money away – 200 RAWKs Fund Starter Gifts. The pastors of our family churches (dads and moms) and life group leaders will be invited to come forward to receive an envelope with \$10 to \$50 to be used as “seed money” for your family or small group’s RAWKs fund. All we ask is that you sign that you are taking an envelope and be willing to share what your family or small group did to show a “random act of worship kindness” to someone or to an organization.

## RAWKS FUND IDEAS

How might you use your RAWKs Fund as a family or small group? Here are some ideas...

- Buy groceries for a family in your neighborhood that needs help.
- Give a gift to a family who is facing huge medical bills.
- Support a cause like Ronald McDonald House or Make a Wish or WELS Lutherans for Life.
- Give gift cards to first responders in our community.
- Give a gift for homeless people either directly or through an organization.
- Provide a Friday evening meal for Light House Ministry next to Garden Homes Lutheran Church (contact Dr. Nelson at [jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org) for more info).

Just as we want the love of Christ to flow from St. Paul’s and The Bridge to our community, so we are praying that your neighbors and others will see the love of Christ flow out from you through these Random Acts of Worship Kindness.

# FAMILY CHURCH

## DESIGN A FAMILY CHURCH CREST

At right is St. Paul's family crest reflecting our core values:



Mission outreach.



Diversity of worship languages.



The power of community and importance of family.



Authentic care and generous, meaningful living.



A Family Church crest is a shield displaying pictures of the spiritual activities of your family. Everything your family does out of love for Jesus is a spiritual activity. We invite you to design your own Family Church crest for display on the walls of the church and at The Bridge the weekend of October 21 for our Family Church dedication services.

Instructions with templates attached are available at the Welcome Center in the lobby and have been sent home with our Christian Elementary School children and Kids Club/Boost children. The cross at the center of the crest reminds us that Jesus is at the center of our Family Church. The four spaces created by the cross are for pictures of four spiritual activities your family enjoys doing. Suggestions are included in the instructions.

Be sure to print your family name within the banner such as "The Smith Family" and attach a picture at the bottom. Return your family crest to Kids Club next Sunday, October 14, to school on Monday, October 15, or to church the weekend of October 14. We will leave the crests up for the weekends of October 21 and 28 as we bring the Family Church series to a close.

## FAMILY CHURCH DEDICATION SERVICES – WEEKEND OF OCTOBER 21

Invite your extended family to join you for worship the weekend of October 21. On that Sunday we will invite all parents with children in the home to rededicate themselves to the promise they made at their children's baptisms:

Do you sincerely intend to bring up \_\_\_\_\_ in the way of the Lord and to instruct him/her in the truths of God's saving Word so that he/she may grow in faith, serve God with a Christian life, and remain in his/her baptismal grace unto the end? If so, answer: Yes, and we ask God to help us.

The service will close with a time of prayer as members of the St. Paul's family gather around these parents as pastors of their Family Church and pray for them.

## FAMILY CHURCH REMEMBRANCE SERVICES – WEEKEND OF OCTOBER 28

On the final weekend of the Family Church series, we will pause to remember our children and parents who have finished their lives in faith and now rest safely in heaven. It will be a day of sadness as we mourn their loss but also a day of joy as we celebrate their victory in Christ. This is the ultimate goal of the Family Church, that all of us can look forward to an eternal reunion before the throne of God.