

ST. PAUL'S – A CHURCH PLANTING CHURCH

Did you know St. Paul's helped plant...

- Living Water in Wind Lake in 1997
- Living Word in Waukesha in 2003
- Victory of the Lamb in Franklin in 2006
- Saviour of the Nations in Vancouver, British Columbia, in 2011
- The Bridge on our own campus in 2013

Church planting is in St. Paul's DNA. For the last four years, we have been actively seeking to plant a new church, specifically, a second worship site for The Bridge, our contemporary worship language. The Bridge service complements our traditional services and reaches a segment of people who prefer a different worship language. We want to bring that same blessing to WELS outreach efforts in other areas.

A New Opportunity

Just four weeks ago, on October 28, the Chairman of Divine Peace reached out to St. Paul's and Lighthouse Youth Centers and asked if we would be interested in purchasing Divine Peace Lutheran Church on 76th Street just south of Oklahoma. A non-denominational church was interested in purchasing the site, but the chairman asked if St. Paul's could purchase the site and continue to use it for WELS ministry.



Over the last three weeks, Pastor Panitzke, Pastor James Buske of Lighthouse Youth Centers, and Mr. Kevin Krueger, president of both St. Paul's and the Lighthouse Youth Center Board, met to discuss the possibility. Several of our staff have toured the facility. The Ministerial Team has discussed this potential as a second site. The Ministerial Team and Ministry Board have developed a staffing plan that would allow us to open this property as a second site for The Bridge by September 2022. Several private conversations still need to be made before this staffing plan can be made public.

A Need to Act Quickly

Divine Peace held its last worship service on November 7. The church's property has been deeded to the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod with the proceeds to be divided 80% to the synod and 20% to Wisconsin Lutheran High School. The synod is eager to sell this property as quickly as possible. The non-denominational church has already made an offer to purchase. The synod has agreed not to accept their offer until St. Paul's has had a chance to decide if we want to purchase the property for a second worship site. That decision must be made by December 12.

Open Forums and Special Voters Meeting

There will be open forums to share more information about this property and ministry plans:

- Thursday, December 2, at 7:00 pm – online open forum
- Sunday, December 5, at 9:15 am in School Room #8 (Mr. Steffen's Classroom)
- Sunday, December 5, at 10:30 am in the Grace Room

Only the voters' assembly has authority to purchase property. **Find the resolution to purchase the property and pictures at the Welcome Center.** A short special voters' meeting to act on the resolution to purchase the Divine Peace property will be **Sunday, December 12, at noon in the Grace Room.**

COMMUNITY COUNSELING AND CARE CENTER

Licensure for Pastor Bonack

We are happy to announce that Pastor Bonack is now a Licensed Professional Counselor-IT. (IT stands for “In training.” During the first couple of thousand hours of counseling, he will report to a supervising counselor.) He is devoting 60% of his time to professional counseling as a member of the Christian Family Solutions staff. The remainder of his time he serves St. Paul’s directly by organizing support groups and mental health awareness efforts and continues to provide worship planning for the congregation.

Licensure for Community Counseling and Care Center

We are also happy to report that the state of Wisconsin has toured our facility this past week. We expect licensure as a satellite site of Christian Family Solutions

very soon. Please join us in praying that Christian Family Solutions can quickly recruit enough Christian counselors to staff this new site with one or two counselors in addition to Pastor Bonack.



Community Counseling
& Care Center

AT ST. PAUL'S

Why “Community Counseling and Care Center”?

This name announces that this center is open to anyone. We pray that this ministry will both serve members of our congregation and be an outreach to our community. While professional counseling in conjunction with Christian Family Solutions is an integral part of this center, the ministry will also include mental health care like the support groups that already are meeting and other mental health training and awareness.

Pastoral or Professional Counseling?

“Pastoral counseling is the pastoral care of individuals as they face their problems, troubles, griefs, burdens, fears and illnesses, which involves not simply giving advice, but assisting them to find help and healing from the word of God” (*The Counseling Shepherd* page xii).

All of your pastors stand ready to provide the spiritual care of pastoral counseling. They consider it a privilege when God’s people share their burdens and cares in a private, confidential setting. Our pastors are trained to listen and then to comfort and guide on the basis of God’s Word.

Because of his additional training, Pastor Bonack will focus on professional counseling, helping to overcome mental illness or addiction or relationship dysfunctions that can keep people from hearing and applying the comfort of God’s Word to themselves.

Which Do I Need? Pastoral or Professional Counseling

If you are unsure if you need pastoral counseling or professional counseling, you are encouraged to call Pastor Bonack at 414-422-0320 ext. 119. He can help you determine what level of care you need. You can also call him directly if you would like to schedule a counseling appointment, or call Christian Family Solutions at 800-438-1722, or schedule an appointment online at ChristianFamilySolutions.org.

Can I Afford Professional Counseling?

Your health insurance may cover the cost of some professional mental health counseling. Christian Family Solutions also offers a sliding fee scale. St. Paul’s stands ready to assist through our Friends in Need Fund. Please do not let finances keep you from getting the assistance you need.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

ADVENT SERVICES

- We will not have special midweek Advent services this year. The normal Wednesday 7:00 pm communion worship from the previous weekend will be conducted on December 1 and 15.
- **His Name is Jesus Concert** will be held on Wednesday, December 8, at 10:30 am and 7:00 pm.



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

- Wednesday, December 22 – Lutheran Elementary School Christmas Services at 5:00 and 7:00 pm
- Thursday, December 23 – Christmas Eve Service at 6:30 pm in our sanctuary
- Friday, December 24 – Christmas Eve Services at 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, 4:00 pm, and 6:00 pm in our sanctuary
- Friday, December 24 – Christmas Eve at The Bridge at noon
- Saturday, December 25 – Christmas Day Communion Service at 10:00 am

We will have our regular schedule of traditional services on Sunday, December 26, but we will not offer The Bridge, a 5:00 pm Saturday service, or a service on Wednesday, December 29. New Year's Eve Communion will be at 5:00 pm.

Gift Tree in the Lobby

Choose an ornament from our giving tree or grab a flyer and follow the instructions. **Be sure to register your tag!** If you don't have time to shop, volunteer shoppers are happy to do the purchasing and wrapping. Simply put a gift in an envelope marked, "Giving Tree," and place it in the offering box. All items must be returned by December 12. Contact Sally Wallner at 414-218-5197 for more information. We are also taking donations of wrapping supplies. Thank you so much for your generosity this holiday season.

Four Ways to Give – Select your gift based on your budget

\$15 – 25.00 ~ Grab a flyer in the lobby for children's gifts. Purchase and wrap items from the list for "Friends of Jesus". Attach the tag. These will go to inner city drop off points and all recipients will know the gift is given in Jesus' name. These must be brought back to church by December 12.

\$10.00 – 50.00 and up ~ Select a gift tag for a community family in need. These are families that St. Paul's Outreach has been working with. Many of the tags have approximate prices on them for more expensive items. No wrapping required but attach the tag.

\$100.00 – 125.00 ~ Purchase everything on the list for Muskego Health Care Center Residents who are elderly, in physical therapy, and disabled. Please wrap them and attach the tag. Fabric bags are super appreciated to hold all the items.

\$ Various – Missions ~ Some of our tags will have gift card requests for WELS missionaries. If this is where your heart is, please consider giving to that. Take an addressed/pre-stamped envelope, write a note on the card, purchase the gift card, and mail it in the envelope provided. For any questions, please contact Nadine Steger at 262-679-1997.

Help Decorate your Church Home for Christmas

Join us Friday, December 3, at 6:00 pm and/or Saturday, December 4, at 8:00 am, to help get our sanctuary, narthex, Grace Room, and Trinity Cafe ready for the Christmas season. We will especially need men/teen boys on Friday night to carry heavy trees, climb ladders, and assist in setting up 12-, 9- and 6-foot Christmas trees. There are many details to complete, so make this your first Christmas party of the year! Food and beverages will be provided. If you can help, please contact Heidi Schuh at hschuh@stpmuskego.org or 414-530-4284.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of November 29, 2021

MON	10:00 am	Walking Group (Trinity Gym)
TUE	9:30 am	Tuesday Ladies Bible Study (Grace Room)
	10:00 am	Walking Group (Trinity Gym)
	6:15 pm	Adult Handbell Practice (Main Church)
	7:00 pm	<i>Following the Promise</i> (Grace Room)
	7:00 pm	Volleyball (Trinity Gym)
WED	6:30 am	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room)
	10:00 am	Small Group Communion (Main Church)
	12:00 pm	Ladies Afternoon Fellowship (Grace Room)
	6:30 pm	Pickleball (Trinity Gym)
	7:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
THUR	8:15 am	LES Chapel
	9:00 am	Quilting Group Meeting (Grace Room)
	10:00 am	Walking Group (Trinity Gym)
	6:00 pm	DivorceCare (School Room #8)
	6:00 pm	GriefShare (Hope Room)
FRI	6:00 pm	Christmas Decorating (Main Church)
	6:30 pm	Card Players Group (Trinity Café)
SAT	8:00 am	God's Guys Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room)
	8:00 am	Christmas Decorating (Main Church)
	5:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service
SUN	7:45 am	Traditional Worship Service
	9:15 am	Grace Room Bible Class
	9:15 am	Open Forum (School Room #8)
	9:15 am	Kids Club (3K – Gr 6)
	9:15 am	Traditional Worship Service
	9:45 am	The Bridge Communion
	10:15 am	The Bridge
	10:30 am	Open Forum (Grace Room)
	10:45 am	Traditional Worship Service



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.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

Known to Be Hospitalized

Jon Pier (Froedtert – Menomonee Falls), Beverly Effinger (Angels Grace), Sanford Olson (Muskego Health Care Center), and Bev Scharf (Greendale Heritage Square). Susan Bartelt and Dan Dockter have returned home.

Baptism

Honalei Grace Eschenbach, daughter of Robert and Cassandra (nee Stack) Eschenbach, was born October 26, 2021, and will be baptized in a private ceremony on Sunday, November 28, 2021. May God bless Honalei in her baptismal faith.

Attendance

The following attended last weekend's services: 109 on Saturday, 320 on Sunday 7:45 am, 116 on Sunday 9:15 am, 159 at The Bridge, and 300 on Sunday 10:45 am.

Following the Promise Class

Join Pastor Nate's *Following the Promise* class every Tuesday at 7:00 pm. This class is offered online and in-person. For more information, you can reach him at nstrob@stpmuskego.org or 414-426-8236.

Sunday Grace Room Studies at 9:15 am

Retired Asia Lutheran Seminary President Dr. John Lawrenz is teaching a course on Daniel until December 5. Daniel, a young Judean prince, was taken captive to Babylon where he served Nebuchadnezzar, the destroyer of Jerusalem. This book is a beacon of hope for believers who awaited the Messiah.

Mr. Jeff Wetzel Receives Call

Our Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology, Jeff Wetzel, has received a call from Christ Alone Lutheran in Thiensville, to be a 5 – 6 grade teacher in 2022-2023, and then to serve as full-time principal starting in 2023. Now he must decide where the Lord can best use his gifts. If you would like to share your thoughts and prayers, you can email him at jwetzel@stpmuskego.org.

Mr. Josh Lepke Receives Call

Our Grade 7 teacher and Athletic Director, Josh Lepke, has received a call from New Hope Lutheran to teach Grades 7 – 8 at their new school, New Hope Lutheran Academy, in West Melbourne, Florida. Now he must decide where the Lord can best use his gifts. If you would like to share your thoughts and prayers, you can email him at jlepke@stpmuskego.org.

Pastor Zac Pudlo called as Family Pastor

St. Paul's has called Pastor Zac Pudlo of Crown of Life Lutheran, Eagan, Minnesota, to be our Family Pastor. Pastor Pudlo is 35 years old. He and his wife Heidi have a 7-month-old daughter Josie. Please keep them in your prayers as they determine where they can best be of service to our Savior.

Dear brothers and sisters of St. Paul's Lutheran,

I give thanks to the Lord for you all. Even though I know so little about St. Paul's, it's clear the Lord has blessed your ministry and has used your ministry to be a blessing to His kingdom! I am humbled to be called to serve alongside you all. I look forward to hearing from you about your ongoing plans to serve the Lord in Muskego and beyond, and how I might fit into those plans. I will be praying for you all as I prayerfully consider how God might use us to further his kingdom.

In His service,

Pastor Zachary Pudlo



ST. PAUL'S NEWS

Year-End Giving

God's people often want to give a special gift of thanksgiving as the year comes to an end. Some suggestions would be:

- **The Mortgage Fund** to help us erase the mortgage as quickly as possible as we begin thinking of our next facility needs.
- **Excelerate Wish List:** We have spent much of this past year researching solutions for our sanctuary lighting. We hope to have the lighting installed by Easter. We need an additional \$50,000 to fully fund this special project.
- **Mission Partners:** Help support son of our congregation John Holtz's ministry in Malawi, Africa or help give a special gift to Costa Maya Ministries on the Yucatan Peninsula at the dedication of their first worship facility in January. Mark your gift "Malawi Mission Partner" or "Mexican Mission Partner."
- **Garden Homes:** Help our sister congregation serve the north side of Milwaukee by giving a gift to help them upgrade their church's heating system. Mark your gift "Garden Homes Heating."

Give a Gift to Your Children – Prepare Your Estate Plan

You may or may not have any financial gift to leave your children or heirs, but if you die without an estate plan, you could be leaving them a nightmare. That's why your St. Paul's Legacy Committee is committed to helping as many people as possible have their estate plans prepared.

We have 15 estate coaching slots available in 2021. Register now and complete the process in the New Year. Go online and choose a time to meet with our SFC Estate Coach Tom Slye (StPaulMuskego.org/Estate-planning/), or simply mark the Connection Card and we will help you schedule a time or contact Tom directly at tslye@sfcstatecoaching.com or 414-581-1417.

DivorceCare Support Group

Divorce is not what God intended when he instituted marriage, but in this sinful world, it happens, and it hurts. If you have gone through a divorce, you may be experiencing loss and confusion. St. Paul's offers a Christ-centered 13-week program which includes group discussion and personal Bible study to discover hope and experience healing. This group meets Thursdays, 6:00 – 7:30 pm, in School Room #8. To join, mark your Connection Card or contact Kristen Miller at 414-422-0320, ext. 130, or kmiller@stpmuskego.org.

Christmas for Kids 2021

Christmas for Kids will take place on Saturday, December 11, 9:00 – 11:45 am. Through crafts, singing, snacks, and a magic show, kids ages 3 – 12 (3K – Gr 6) will learn the reason for the season: Jesus Christ coming down to earth to save us. To register your child(ren), visit stpaulmuskego.org/christmasforkids. If you'd like to help with this event, mark your Connection Card, or contact Dr. Joel Nelson at jnelson@stpmuskego.org or 414-422-0320, ext. 145.

12 Days of Christmas – Who brought you the most JOY this year?

Jesus brought joy into the world in many ways. Every time he healed a person or forgave a sin, joy was the immediate result. It makes us think...who in our personal lives brought us the most joy this year? Beginning the first weekend of December, you will be able to nominate that person to go into a random drawing to win 1 of 12 amazing Christmas gifts just in time for the holidays. Keep a lookout in the main church narthex for this special opportunity to give back to someone who brought a little extra light into your life this year.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

Anniversary Flowers

The flowers displayed on the altar are in honor of Dave and Lynne Lemke's 40th wedding anniversary on November 28, 2021.

Remembering St. Paul's Homebound

A list of our homebound members has been placed at the Welcome Center for you to remember the homebound of our congregation during the holiday season.

Ladies Afternoon Fellowship Meeting

The next LAF (Ladies Afternoon Fellowship) meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 1, at 12:00 pm, in the Grace Room. They will be hosting their annual Christmas potluck. There will not be a meeting in January.

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society – November Spotlight

The Mission Journeys team traveled from Shepherd of the Hills in Lansing, Michigan, to Abiding Savior in Westlago, Texas. Abiding Savior is a small congregation with only 45 members. Average summer worship is 14, but in winter the tropical climate brings many Texans to the area, when worship attendance surpasses 200. Abiding Savior also offers outreach programs like VBS. At their VBS in 2019, 20% of attendees had special education needs, including autism, Down syndrome, ADHD, and hearing impairment. To learn more, visit abidingsaviorwels.com or lwms.org.

The Point of Grace Gathering Event

Join The Point of Grace at their second all campuses Gathering Event on Tuesday, November 30, at 7:00 pm. Dr. Mark Braun will lead an interactive conversation about religions, where they are different, and why it matters. This event will take place on the Marquette University campus in Cudahy Hall – Room 143. For more information, visit tpog.net/the-gathering-series.

St. Paul's Ministerial Staff

Office (414) 422-0320

Pastor Jeffrey Bonack	Ext. 119	jbonack@stpaulmuskego.org	Worship and Counseling
Mr. Randy Fink	Ext. 120	rfink@stpaulmuskego.org	Church Administrator
Mr. Seth Fitzsimmons	Ext. 118	sfitzsimmons@stpmuskego.org	School Administrator/Principal
Pastor David Kuehl	Ext. 121	dkuehl@stpaulmuskego.org	Member Care
Dr. Joel Nelson	Ext. 145	jnelson@stpaulmusekego.org	Youth and Adult Discipleship
Pastor Peter Panitzke	Ext. 122	ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org	Ministerial Team Leader
Mrs. Heidi Schuh	Ext. 115	hschuh@stpmuskego.org	Asst. Director of Worship Operations
Pastor Nate Strobel	Ext. 293	nstrobel@stpaulmuskego.org	Resident Missionary
Mrs. Sally Wallner	Ext. 294	swallner@stpaulmuskego.org	Community Outreach Coordinator
Mr. Mike Westendorf	Ext. 295	mwestendorf@stpmuskego.org	Director of Worship Operations