

# ST. PAUL'S VISIONING WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 9:00 – 11:00 AM

Buildings and grounds are tools that St. Paul's uses to fulfill our mission: "By every possible means we bring every person within our area of influence closer to Christ." In many ways our building spaces enhance our ministry. In some ways our facilities hinder our ministry.

The Ministry Board has contracted with Groth Design Group, the architects who designed the Trinity Gym/Café addition, to help us evaluate our current facility and develop plans for the future.

## **Visioning Workshop – Saturday, February 5 – The First Step**

The purpose of the workshop is to discuss as a congregation how our building spaces enhance or hinder our programming and ministries. Paul Barribeau of Growth Design Group will be leading the workshop. Paul is Senior Project Manager for Religious Design. He was the architect for the Trinity Gym/Café addition and has worked with many other WELS congregations in our area.

## **Schedule – 9:00 to 11:00 am**

The first part of the workshop will have information on why it is important to have building spaces that reflect the ministry needs of the congregation. Paul will also share what other churches are doing with their buildings to better proclaim the gospel and serve the surrounding community.

The second part of the Visioning Workshop will be an opportunity for church members to share their insights on how needs of the congregation are helped or hindered by our existing facilities and what visions people have for our campus that can help our ministries thrive.

The workshop will be no longer than two hours in length.

## **Who is Invited?**

We welcome and encourage **participation by all members of the St. Paul's family**. Our ministries are so varied: traditional worship, The Bridge, our school, childcare, counseling, sports ministry, youth and adult education and fellowship, community outreach and service. For our Facilities and Site Planning Team and architect to plan for the needs of the congregation, we need to hear first what our needs are for all our ministries and how our facilities can better assist our witness. Your input is the first step in the process.

## **Where?**

The workshop will be held in the Grace Room, beginning at 9:00 am. The sanctuary has also been reserved if the attendance requires a larger space.

## **Online Option**

We encourage in-person participation. However, if it is not possible for you to attend in-person, the workshop will also be livestreamed with the chat monitored so that you can ask questions and give comments.

Paul's initial presentation will also be available for later replay with a written summary of the comments that people shared at the workshop. You will have approximately a week to provide additional comments.

## **Your Facilities and Site Planning Team**

Feel free to share your thoughts with the team appointed by the St. Paul's Ministry Board. The team consists of Chairman Dave Fritsch, Alex Campen, Kim Christopherson, Jay Oswald, Julie Shevey, Bob Zastrow, Pastor Panitzke, and Congregation President Kevin Krueger, *ex officio*.

### **Dedication Set for Sunday, February 6**

We will dedicate the Community Counseling and Care Center on Sunday, February 6 in all three Sunday morning Sanctuary services. We invite everyone to walk through the facilities and enjoy light refreshments after each service that weekend. Pastor Bonack will be available to answer questions. We have also invited Christian Family Solutions CEO Mark Klug and Dr. Ashley Schoof of CFS, who provides supervision for the center, to join us during the Sunday morning services.

### **Celebrating our Partnership**

St. Paul's is partnering with Christian Family Solutions to open the "Community Counseling and Care Center at St. Paul's" which will provide support and services to the community through professional counseling, support groups, and wellness training. Clinical mental health services will be provided within the center through a licensed mental health clinic operated by [Christian Family Solutions](#) (CFS). Many of the center's groups and programs will be offered at no cost to the public as part of the St. Paul's ministry, while clinical services through CFS will be offered on an outpatient basis, accepting most medical insurance plans and self-paying clients. St. Paul's can also provide assistance through our "Friends in Need" Fund. Please do not let finances keep you from getting the mental health services you need.

### **Pray for Workers**

Currently Pastor Bonack is the only counselor at our site, counseling about 60% of his time and doing pastoral work the remaining portion of his time. It is our prayer that CFS can bring in two more counselors. Sadly, there is a shortage of Christian counselors. Please join us in praying for more workers in the counseling field. If you, or someone you know, might be interested in joining our counseling team, please speak to Pastor Bonack.

### **Support Groups**

Our center provides four support groups: DivorceCare, Cancer Support, Alzheimer's Support, and GriefShare. You can learn more about these groups at [StPaulMuskego.org/Experience/Counseling-and-Care-Center/](http://StPaulMuskego.org/Experience/Counseling-and-Care-Center/) or mark your interest on the back of the Connection Card. Pastor Bonack is also interested in starting more groups for people dealing with alcohol and drug abuse and other issues. Please speak to Pastor Bonack if you have interest in helping with other support groups.

### **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 St. Paul's 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. 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.

# GOD'S GENEROUS PEOPLE

The "Wish List" includes ministry enhancements that are outside of our budget. To donate, clearly mark your gift "Wish List" and the item. You can donate online at [StPaulMuskego.org/Give](http://StPaulMuskego.org/Give). Find the fund "Wish List" and in the memo note the item for which you are giving.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Est. Cost</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Needed</u>
Excelerate	\$220,000.00	\$128,984.50	\$91,015.50
Community Counseling & Care Center Artwork	\$1,700.00	\$1,050.00	\$650.00
Mexico Mission Trip	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	Fully Funded
Ukuleles	\$2,500.00	\$2,615.00	Fully Funded
Sanctuary Candles	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00	Fully Funded

## **EXCELERATE**

This fund will enable us to enhance our sanctuary worship environment by replacing our failing projection and lighting systems. We have already replaced the projectors and some of the lighting. Lighting replacement will continue over the next few months. A tithe of this fund is also being sent to build a new dormitory at Martin Luther College in New Ulm to help train future church workers.

## **GENEROUS GIFTS – FULLY FUNDED!**

Your gifts will enable four of our members to travel to Costa Maya Ministries on the Yucatan Peninsula. They will put finishing touches on the new building and represent St. Paul's at the building dedication on January 30. Thank you also for generous gifts that will enhance our school music ministry by allowing our students to have ukulele lessons and enhance our worship with new Advent/Christmas and pew candles.

## **A GIFT IN REMEMBRANCE**

You will notice changes in the church lobby over the next few weeks: new furniture, new artwork that will reflect St. Paul's core values, and new paint. This remodel was made possible by a gift given in memory of Leonard and Mary Watts. They found a home at St. Paul's. Their family wanted to help others feel at home when they come into our lobby.

## **MORTGAGE FUND**

Please remember to include the Mortgage Fund in your giving plans. Our fiscal-year-to-date gifts have fallen behind and we have had to dip into our Mortgage Fund reserve. It is our prayer that we could make additional principal payments on the mortgage and have it paid off by the end of 2025.

## **WAYS TO GIVE**

- Online giving at [StPaulMuskego.org/Give](http://StPaulMuskego.org/Give). Make a one-time or recurring gift. Giving directly from a checking or savings account is the most cost-effective method, but you can also use a credit card.
- Give stock: You may save on taxes by making a stock gift directly to St. Paul's. For assistance, contact our Church Administrator Randy Fink at [rfink@stpmuskego.org](mailto:rfink@stpmuskego.org) or 414-422-0320, ext.120.
- If you are 70½ or older, save on taxes by giving directly from an IRA. Contact Randy Fink.
- Text-to-Give Number: Text [stpmuskego](http://stpmuskego.org) to 833-845-3927. You will receive prompts to set up your account. Once set up, it is very easy to give a one-time or recurring gift to any of our dedicated funds.

# MISSIONS AND MISSION TRIPS

## ANTIGUA

Grace Schneider, a member of St. Paul's and a student at Wisconsin Lutheran High School, will be traveling with WLHS Campus Pastor Phil Huebner and a number of other students on a mission trip to Antigua. They will leave on Saturday, January 22, and return the next Saturday. Grace wrote: "We are bringing school supplies like crayons and paper because it is really expensive for St. John's Lutheran School of Antigua to buy those items there. We are donating computers, projectors, and cricut machines [digital die cutting machines used to make craft projects]. We're going to bring all this to the school, help them organize it, and spend some time with the students. We may have a few workdays at their school as well. Last year we did a basketball camp with their students." May God bless their travels and fill our students with a passion for missions and encourage our brothers and sisters in Antigua.

## COSTA MAYA MINISTRIES

This week Dan and Cindy Thiel and Dave and Michele George will be traveling to the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico to help our Mexican Mission partner in Mahahual. The congregation will be dedicating its new building on Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. The Thiels and Georges will help with finishing touches like putting a stucco coating on the interior walls of the new building. They will also represent St. Paul's at the dedication. Part of our "A Cool Million" tithe was used to begin the building fund



for this new facility. They will also bring a gift from St. Paul's to celebrate the dedication and help the congregation pay off the debt on the building by Easter. They still need about \$45,000. If you would like to donate toward their ministry, clearly mark your gift "Mexican Mission Partner" or give online at [StPaulMuskego.org/Give](https://StPaulMuskego.org/Give). Find the "Mission Partners" Fund in in the memo write "Mexican Mission Partner."

Other Maya Costa News: A Mexican pastor in our Mexican sister synod is available to serve in Mahahual! The Board of Directors is considering him for outreach and to assist Pastor Valleskey. The Board is also considering using the ministry of Academia Cristo – an online "Bible Institute" created by our Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Costa Maya would target the entire Yucatan with advertising for Bible instruction and training to gather people in "home groups" to share what they have learned through online study. This is the way God has worked to form a new Latin American synod *Iglesia Christa WELS Internacional*.

A group of students from Wisconsin Lutheran College visited during their Christmas break and created a video of their trip that helps you better understand the setting in which our brothers and sisters in Christ live and serve. You can view it on YouTube. Search "Mahahual Mexico Mission 2021."



# WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of January 17, 2022

<b>MON</b>	8:30 am 10:00 am	Western Lakes Pastoral Conference (Grace, Waukesha) Walking Group (Trinity Gym)
<b>TUE</b>	9:30 am 10:00 am 4:30 pm 6:15 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Tuesday Ladies Bible Study (Grace Room) Walking Group (Trinity Gym) Gr 6 – 8 Public School Confirmation Class Handbell Practice (Main Church) Alzheimer's Support Group (Hope Room) <i>Following the Promise</i> (Grace Room)
<b>WED</b>	6:30 am 7:00 pm	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room) Traditional Worship Service
<b>THUR</b>	10:00 am 6:00 pm 6:30 pm 6:30 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Walking Group (Trinity Gym) DivorceCare (Hope Room) Cornerstone Resiliency Seminar (Grace Room) Pickleball (Trinity Gym) Voters' Meeting (Main Church) Ministry Board Meeting (Faith Room)
<b>SAT</b>	8:00 am 5:00 pm	God's Guys Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room) Traditional Worship Service
<b>SUN</b>	7:45 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 9:45 am 10:15 am 10:45 am 12:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service Grace Room Bible Class Kids Club (3K – Gr 6) Traditional Worship Service The Bridge Communion The Bridge Traditional Worship Service Marriage Mini-Class (Centennial Gym)

## ***Following the Promise Class***

Pastor Nate's *Following the Promise* class starts this Tuesday, January 18, at 7:00 pm. This class will be a 10-week course with membership to follow if desired. It is offered both online and in-person in our Grace Room. To sign up, mark the back of your Connection Card or contact Pastor Nate at [nstrobels@stpmuskego.org](mailto:nstrobels@stpmuskego.org) or 414-426-8236.

## **Sunday Grace Room Studies at 9:15 am**

Retired Wisconsin Lutheran College Professor, Rev. Dr. Mark Braun, is teaching a 4-week course on the book of Colossians and a 1-week course on Philemon. This series focuses on Jesus Christ — Lord over all who brings full forgiveness to all.

# ST. PAUL'S NEWS

## Death

The Lord, in his infinite wisdom, called home to heaven the soul of Richard "Pete" William Plutschack, born May 28, 1935, on Saturday, January 8, 2022. His funeral was held on Friday, January 14. May God comfort Richard's family and his loved ones with the promise of the resurrection.

## Known to Be Hospitalized

Herb Lichtenberg (Froedtert), Ruth Pavlet (Elder Care Hospice), Mark Iczkowski (Elmbrook Rehab), Carol Gosseck (Ruth Hospice), Mark Thoss (Aria Rehab), Shirley Benz (Ramsey Woods), and Bev Scharf (Heritage at Deer Creek). Tom O'Laughlin has returned home.

## Baptism

Forest Bentley Crosby, son of Benjamin and Shelby (nee Sorensen) Crosby, was born November 26, 2021, and was baptized in a private ceremony on Saturday, January 15, 2021. May God bless Forest in his baptismal faith.

## Attendance

The following attended last weekend's services: 78 on Saturday, 86 on Sunday 7:45 am, 128 on Sunday 9:15 am, 210 at The Bridge, 76 on Sunday 10:45 am, and 31 on Wednesday.

## Special Call Meeting – Thursday, January 20, at 6:30 pm

There will be a short voters' meeting to extend another call for the position of Family Pastor. Because of the number of pastoral vacancies within the synod, pastors are receiving many calls. It is not unusual for a congregation to call a dozen times before a position is filled. Let us be patient and ask the Holy Spirit to guide us to the man he wants to serve among us.

## Teacher Calls

We are happy to report that Grade 4 teacher Nicole Glodowski has declined her call to Florida and will continue her ministry among us. Please keep Grade 6 homeroom teacher Julie Shevey in your prayers as she deliberates a call to teach kindergarten at St. John's in Lannon.

## Second Site Call

Part of our plan for our second site on 76 Street is to bring Mr. David Panitzke on to our staff as our Church Planter. He is seeking CRM status (Candidate for Reverend Ministry) so that we could call him to do all the duties of a pastor. If you know David and would like to write a letter of recommendation to the South Atlantic District Praesidium who will decide this issue, you can email President Chuck Westra at [sadp@wels.net](mailto:sadp@wels.net).

## St. Paul's Lutheran School Open House

Are you or someone in your area of influence considering a Christian education for your child? Join us for our Open House on Sunday, February 6, 1:00 – 3:00 pm. You will be able to see our classrooms, meet our teachers, and learn more about everything our school has to offer. Sign up for the Open House by visiting [stpmuskego.org](http://stpmuskego.org). Contact Principal Seth Fitzsimmons at [sfitzsimmons@stpmuskego.org](mailto:sfitzsimmons@stpmuskego.org) with any questions or to set up a tour during the school day.

## Rejoice in God's Blessings on our School

We have a record 4k enrollment of 60 students. We anticipate a kindergarten enrollment next year of 45 to 50 students. May God continue to bless our school with parents committed to Christian education, students who want to learn about their Savior, and teachers dedicated to sharing the love of Jesus with the next generation.

# ST. PAUL'S NEWS

## God's People Gather – January Message Series

“Let us not forsake the assembling of ourselves together...” (Hebrews 10:25). Why does God command us to worship? He knows us better than we know ourselves. He knows we need...

- A Family-Maker – January 23 – The disciples are united in faith in Jesus.
- A Joy-Giver – January 30 – God's people are given purpose in Jesus.

## Child Care Center Hiring Two Positions

The St. Paul's Child Care Center is looking to hire two teachers' aides for our Baby Room. The hours will be Monday, Wednesday, Friday, or Monday – Friday, 12:30 – 6:00 pm. The position hours could also be split 12:30 – 3:00 pm or 3:00 – 6:00 pm. If you or someone you know would like to join a great team of Christian ladies caring for our littlest ones, please contact Tammy Dockter at 414-422-0320, ext. 200, or [dockterta@stpmuskego.org](mailto:dockterta@stpmuskego.org).

## Marriage Mini-Class

Wondering how you can better model Christ's love in your marriage? St. Paul's is hosting a Marriage Mini-Class on Sunday, January 23rd to help guide couples in their walk with Christ and each other. A light lunch will be provided, and childcare will be available if needed. To sign up, please mark the back of your Connection Card or email Meta Rosenberg at [mtkolander@gmail.com](mailto:mtkolander@gmail.com).

## Volunteer Meal Train Opportunity

Former St. Paul's teacher, Jessica Vanderhyde, is helping St. Paul's connect with young families through organizing a meal train when a new baby is born or adopted. Getting homemade meals after having a baby is so helpful for parents. The goal is to have volunteers make 2-3 meals a year for different families in the congregation. You will have the opportunity to sign up as it fits your schedule. If interested in this opportunity, please mark the back of your Connection Card, or contact Jessica at [jessinchina10@gmail.com](mailto:jessinchina10@gmail.com) or 920-602-0999.

## New Church Library Resources

Displayed on the two-sided rack in the narthex are 17 new additions to St. Paul's Church Library. *Cold Case Christianity*, *Reading the Bible with Understanding*, and *Evangelism for the Rest of Us* are three of the new books and DVDs for adults and children. On the other side are 13 books from Northwestern Publishing House's, "Bible Discovery Series," including *Unexpected Treasures* and *Hard Sayings of Jesus*. All displayed resources relate to current sermon series, Bible class sessions, or weekly Bible-reading emails. Checkout instructions are on the display. You can also find more Church Library resources and a computer searchable database in the Grace Room.

## Walking Group Open to All

The Walking Group meets at 10:00 am on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays in the Trinity Café and Gym. The group walks together, holds conversations before and after walks, and enjoys coffee and occasional treats. Most of the regulars are seniors, but all ages are welcome. Spread the word and join as winter sets in!

## St. Paul's Chicken Dinner

After much prayer and consideration, St. Paul's has decided not to hold its annual Chicken Dinner this year. Factors in making this decision include: the nation-wide meat shortage, low interest in attendance, and the rise of COVID-19 cases. The coordinators hope that they are able to host this meal once again in 2023.

## Annual Bowling Tournament for Lighthouse Youth Center

Join Jim and Kathy Haag's small group members as they sponsor the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual 9 Pin Tap Bowling Tournament and Silent Auction to support the Lighthouse Youth Centers in Milwaukee. The tournament will be Saturday, January 29, 11:00 am, at Riviera Lanes, 8600 W. Greenfield Ave. Early bird registration costs \$40/person and ends January 22. The fee includes three games, food, prizes, and a \$20 donation to Lighthouse. Register online at [lyc.ejoinme.org/bowling2022](http://lyc.ejoinme.org/bowling2022). For questions, contact Rebekah Tomlin at 414-731-7674 or [rebecca.tomlin@lighthouseyouthcenter.com](mailto:rebecca.tomlin@lighthouseyouthcenter.com). Event flyers are in the narthex and The Bridge Welcome Centers.