

WORSHIP SURVEY RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Thank You!

We have gotten an amazing response to the worship time survey – 493 online responses plus all the Connection Card responses and comments. Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts!

The Issues

There are several issues with our current worship schedule that we would like to address:

- The number of services is more than necessary for our total worship attendance.
- The small attendance at the Sunday 10:45 am and Wednesday 7:00 pm services results in a less-than-ideal worship environment in our large sanctuary.
- The desire of some for a return of the contemporary service.
- The desire to welcome our younger families back into worship post-COVID.
- The parking issue that often arose pre-COVID between 10:00 – 10:30 am on Sunday when people from the 9:15 am service, the Bridge, Kids Club and the Grace Room Bible Study were all on campus at the same time.

Observations

The survey results and comments provide us with these insights:

- **Saturday evening attendees** indicated they are generally content with the structure of the service and the time.
- **7:45 attendees** – The majority of responses (68%) would prefer a little later start time.
- **9:15 attendees** – Up to 44% of the individuals indicated they would likely switch to the earlier service if the first service were moved a little later.
- **10:45 attendees** – About 20% indicated that they would likely worship in-person less frequently if the 10:45 am service did not continue.
- **The Bridge attendees** – There were many comments, especially from our volunteers, asking that The Bridge not be moved any later because of the length of time take-down requires.
- **Wednesday evening attendees** – Most who attend this service would like it to remain on Wednesday evenings. Others who do not normally attend suggested moving it to Monday evenings or Thursday evenings.
- **Parents** – The two most popular suggestions to make our services more family-friendly were to provide a blended worship experience and include children's messages in the services.
- **All attendees** – Nearly half the respondents (47%) recommend that we reduce the number of our services; 37% were neutral, and 16% felt that we should not reduce the number of services.

Worship Time Open Forums in Grace Room

Sat July 31 after 5:00 pm service

Wed Aug 4 after 7:00 pm service

Sun Aug 8 at 9:00 am after 7:45 am service

Sun Aug 8 at 10:30 am after 9:15 am service

Sun Aug 8 at noon after The Bridge and 10:45 am service

Online Open Forum

Tue Aug 3 at 7:00 pm

Register by emailing

ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org

WORSHIP SURVEY RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Ministerial Team's Recommendations that would begin September 19

- Saturday Traditional at 5:00 pm
- Sunday Traditional at 7:45 am
- Sunday Traditional at 9:15 am with the addition of an acoustic group twice per month (guitar, piano, violin, vocals, but no drum set) leading some songs.
 - Kids Club 9:15 to 10:15 am
 - Grace Room Bible Study 9:15 to 10:15 am
- The Bridge at 10:30 am
- Wednesday Traditional at 6:30 pm moving to the Grace Chapel in January

Rationale

1. **The 7:45 and 9:15 service start times** remain the same: The majority of early service attendees would like a little later start time; however, the best solution for the entire morning schedule appears to be the earlier time. This allows for time between services for traffic flow both within the church and in the parking lot.
2. **Traditional at 9:15 with an acoustic group twice per month:** This suggestion reflects the variety of worship preferences expressed by those attending the 9:15 am service, our young families, and our former 10:45 am contemporary service attendees. The term “blended” used in previous communications appeared to be confusing. We hope the phrase “Traditional with an acoustic group” better reflects what we are envisioning. The traditional order of service with liturgical responses spoken or sung will be identical in the 7:45 and 9:15 am services. One week, the service will be led by organ and a trumpet or similar instrument. Another week, a small ensemble of instrumentals such as guitar, piano, vocalists and percussion (not drum set) will lead two of the songs. Another week the piano with a flute might lead the service. Another week the ensemble may lead all the songs. This service will enable us to make use of the variety that the new synod hymnal resources will provide.
3. **Eliminate the 10:45 traditional service:** The attendance average for this service is 68. We are able to absorb that number of people into the other traditional services.
4. **The Bridge moved back to 10:30 am:** This allows for movement of some cars in and out of the parking lot between the end of the 9:15 am service and the beginning of The Bridge enabling both of these services to grow in attendance. The staff responsible for The Bridge will work diligently to increase the number of volunteers involved in take-down so that take-down is completed before noon.
5. **Wednesday Service at 6:30 pm:** We previously had the Wednesday service at 6:30 pm during Advent and Lent. We would move back to that earlier starting time which has been frequently suggested. As soon as possible we will move this worship service into Grace Chapel (new name for the Grace Room) to provide a better worship environment for the smaller assembly (typically between 25 and 30). We will decorate this space to make it a more worshipful setting. At times when the sanctuary is highly decorated (such as a festival service), the Wednesday service could be moved into the sanctuary.

Next Steps

The Ministry Board is meeting on Monday, August 9, after the Special Voters' meeting, to discuss this proposal and the feedback we receive from our six open forums. If they approve this recommendation or an adaptation, it would be implemented on a trial basis beginning the week of September 19.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of August 2, 2021

MON	10:00 am 6:00 pm	Walking Group (Grace Room) DivorceCare Support Group (School Room #8)
TUE	10:00 am 1:30 pm 7:00 pm	Walking Group (Grace Room) Community Blood Drive (Grace Room) <i>Following the Promise</i> Class (In-person and Online)
WED	6:30 am 7:00 pm	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room) Traditional Worship Service
THUR	8:30 am	Global Leadership Summit (Grace Room)
FRI	8:30 am	Global Leadership Summit (Grace Room)
SAT	8:00 am 10:00 am 1:00 pm 5:00 pm	Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room) Brittany Michaels Visitation Brittany Michaels Funeral Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
SUN	7:45 am 9:15 am 9:45 am 10:15 am 10:45 am	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion The Bridge Communion The Bridge Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion

Voters' Meeting to Call for a Family Pastor

Pastor Joshua Schultz has declined our call to serve as our Family Pastor. His letter to the congregation is below. A special voters' meeting to extend another call will be on Monday, August 9 at 7:00 pm in the Grace Room.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for considering me to serve as your Family Pastor through the call extended by your congregation. I appreciate having had the opportunity to speak with several people from St. Paul's over the phone. Thank you to those that took the time to reach out to me.

Over the course of our conversations, it became apparent that the congregation is looking to better serve the young families of St. Paul's. This is a testament to your passion for connecting everyone in your sphere of influence to Christ. Your congregation's mission and vision are encouraging and motivating for me.

After looking at my strengths, where I would fit into the ministry at St. Paul's, how my current congregation could best be served, and after much prayer and deliberation trusting that the Lord will bless my decision, I have decided to decline this call extended to me and remain at Mountain View in Great Falls, MT. I trust that the Lord will continue to bless your congregation as you seek to fill this position. You remain in my prayers as we both look to the same Savior Jesus, our Lord of the Church, who promises to rule all things for our eternal good.

In Christ's service,

Pastor Joshua Schultz

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

Funeral

Brittany Michaels, born October 27, 1990, entered eternal peace with her Savior on July 4, 2021. Her funeral is scheduled for August 7 at 1:00 pm, with the visitation starting at 10:00 am. May our God of all peace and comfort be with Brittany's loved ones.

Baptism

Danielle Jean Melso, daughter of Tyler and Kim Melso, was born June 18, 2021, and was baptized in a private ceremony on Saturday, July 31, 2021. May God bless Danielle in her baptismal faith.

Known to Be Hospitalized

Ted Nommensen (Autumn Leaves in Franklin), Lois Bestel (Village at Manor Park), Baby Jackson van Bortel (Children's), and Beverly Effinger (Aria in Brookfield). Linda Hartwig has been discharged from the hospital.

Attendance

The following attended last weekend's services: 96 on Saturday, 79 on Sunday 7:45 am, 169 on Sunday 9:15 am, 206 at The Bridge, 63 on Sunday 10:45 am, and 37 on Wednesday.

Remember Outdoor Worship Opportunities

We will have one more outdoor worship service this summer at 10:30 am. This service will replace the Sunday 10:15 am Bridge and 10:45 am traditional services. Mark your calendars for September 12. The Better Together Coffee Truck will be available before, during, and after the service.

Register for Fall Confirmation Class

If you have a child entering 6 – 8 grade this fall who will be enrolled in a school other than St. Paul's Lutheran, and hasn't taken part in the St. Paul's Confirmation Instruction Program yet, please contact Dr. Joel Nelson at 414-422-0320, ext. 145, or jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org. Orientation will be held in the church on August 19, 6:30 – 7:30 pm. These Tuesday evening classes will begin August 24 at 4:30 pm.

LES Reading Buddies

Our Reading Buddies program begins Wednesday, September 8, 9:45 – 10:45 am, in the Trinity Cafe. Volunteer to read with Grade 1 – 3 students in 15-minute increments. Help instill the love of reading and enjoy the camaraderie with our younger learners. To volunteer, contact Principal Seth Fitzsimmons at 414-422-0320, ext. 118, or sfitzsimmons@stpmuskego.org.

Child Care Center Hiring

The St. Paul's Child Care Center is looking for 3 – 4 teachers' aides. Work hours will be from 12:30 – 6:00 pm. There will be several shift options available depending on your availability. If you or anyone you know is interested, please contact Tammy Dockter at 414-422-0320, ext. 200, or dockterta@stpmuskego.org.

Muskego Community Blood Drive

The Muskego Woman's Club alongside Versiti is hosting a Community Blood Drive on Tuesday, August 3, 1:30 – 6:30 pm in the Grace Room. All attempting donors will receive a coupon for a free pint of custard courtesy of Culver's of Muskego. A collection will also be taking place for art supplies to be donated to Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. If you are willing to help, your kindness will be greatly appreciated. To schedule an appointment, visit bit.ly/muskegoaugust2021 or call Luann at 414-916-9650.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

August Message Series – Heroes in the Fire

“G. O. A. T.” Perhaps you saw those Olympic spots with Simone Biles and a goat. In women’s gymnastics, she is said to be the GOAT, “**G**reatest of **A**ll **T**ime.” Over and over, she has withstood incredible pressure and performed at the highest levels of her sport. This past week, she just couldn’t. Simone Biles is not alone. Pressures in our lives mount and we may be overwhelmed. These are the times that will test our resilience in Christ.



Resilience is the ability to overcome obstacles, solve problems, and bounce back from difficult situations. Christians are redeemed by grace, and we have access 24/7 to the strength and power of the risen Christ. We therefore look to the Lord for the strength to be resilient in the face of life’s challenges and difficulties.

The August message series “Heroes in the Fire” will look at individuals who were tested in the fires of adversity. We will see the Savior God carried them through. Their stories can encourage us that “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me” (Philippians 4:13).

- August 8 – Joseph in the Fires of Injustice
- August 15 – Jeremiah in the Fires of Loss
- August 22 – Three Friends in the Fires of Affliction
- August 29 – John in the Fires of Weariness
- September 5 – A Blind Man in the Fires of Disadvantage

September Message Series – I Want to Be a Better Friend

A good friend loves. A good friend listens. A good friend shares advice when asked. Who doesn’t want to become a better friend?

On September 12 we will kick off a message series designed to help us become better friends. Our ultimate goal is that through our friendships, more people will be led into a closer relationship with Jesus. As part of this effort, we also want to form new small groups. The new groups will meet for just five weeks using a video-based curriculum produced by our synod. Our synod has produced a series of videos that we will use this fall to kick off our fall small group effort. It will be the choice of the groups and individuals if they continue beyond the first five weeks.

What we need now are people to serve as hosts for these new small groups, either at your home or on campus. If you might be interested in serving this way, please check the Connection Card. We will contact you for more information and training. Questions? Contact Pastor Pete at ppanitzke@stpmuskego.org or Kristen Miller at kmiller@stpmuskego.org.



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.
