

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

CALLED HOME TO HEAVEN

The Lord, in his infinite wisdom, called home to heaven the soul of Carole Dellevar, born March 4, 1934, on January 5, 2026. Her funeral is scheduled for Wednesday, January 14, at 11:00 am, with the visitation beginning at 10:00 am. May God comfort Carole's family and her loved ones with the promise of the resurrection.

KNOWN TO BE HOSPITALIZED

Dan Dockter (Ascension Franklin).

BAPTISM

Blake Ryan Minikowski, daughter of Michael and Jennifer (nee Lawton) Minikowski, was born May 16, 2025, and was baptized in a private ceremony on Saturday, January 10, 2026. May God bless Blake in her baptismal faith.

ATTENDANCE

The following attended last week's services: 103 on New Year's Eve, 106 on Saturday, 106 on Sunday 8:00 am, 234 on Sunday 9:30 am, 266 at The Bridge, and 72 at The Bridge MKE.

A PLACE TO START: FOLLOWING THE PROMISE BIBLE CLASS

Pastor Nate Strobel is leading a new session of our new member Bible study—*Following the Promise*— on Tuesdays, 7:00 – 8:15 pm both in person and online, for 12 weeks. To join, mark the back of your Connection Card or contact Pastor Nate at 414-426-8236.

SPECIAL GRACE CHAPEL BIBLE CLASS – JANUARY 11

Brad Price, President of Lutheran Military Support Group, will be giving a special presentation on Sunday, January 11, at 9:35 am. He will share how they provide Christ-centered support to WELS military service members, veterans, and their families.

GRACE CHAPEL BIBLE CLASS – “REGRETS, REALITY, RESTORATION”

Life is full of regrets. What do we do when the condemning memory of past offences won't be silenced? Through this study, you will find that there is a way out of your past by hearing life stories of those who have found resolution and victory over past heartaches. This class will be led by Pastor Frank Italiano every Sunday, in the Grace Chapel, at 9:35 am, on January 18, 25, and February 8.

ORGANIZATION OF WELS LUTHERAN SENIORS

The St. Paul's OWLS will not meet in January or February. For questions, contact Charlene Pingel at 262-490-2597.

WELS YOUTH NIGHT

High school students are invited to Wisconsin Lutheran College on Sunday, January 11, 6:00 – 8:00 pm, for an evening of music, games, food, and encouragement from God's Word. The theme for the night is "My Value in Christ." This free event is a great opportunity for students to connect with other WELS youth and grow in faith. For more information, contact Youth Minister Katie Klement at kklement@stpmuskego.org.

21ST ANNUAL JIM HAAG MEMORIAL FUNDRAISER

Mark your calendars for the 21st Annual Jim Haag Memorial Fundraiser on Saturday, January 31. The fundraiser will be held at Riviera Lanes and includes 3 games of bowling, pizza, raffles, and a silent auction. You can register by visiting lighthouseyouthcenter.com or by contacting Terry Buske at 920-342-0585.

PILGRIMAGE TO ISRAEL

Pastor Panitzke will be leading a pilgrimage to Israel January 5 – 14, 2027, with an extension to Jordan. Brochures are available at the Welcome Center. For more information, contact Pastor Panitzke at ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org or 414-350-1436.

SCHOOL NEWS

SPECIAL VOTERS' MEETING – WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

We will continue to call for the School Pastor position on Wednesday, January 14, at 7:00 pm. The Voters' Meeting will be held in the Sanctuary. Please keep this process in your prayers. Because of the many pastoral vacancies in our synod, it is common for a congregation to call 10 or more times before a pastor accepts a call.

ENROLLMENT FOR 2026-2027 IS NOW OPEN

Our Lutheran Elementary School can help you lead your children into a closer relationship with Jesus. Schedule a tour with Principal Seth Fitzsimmons at sfitzsimmons@stpmuskego.org. Tell your friends and family about our School Open House on Sunday, February 8.

PRINCIPAL FITZSIMMONS DECLINES CALL

Principal Seth Fitzsimmons has declined his call to serve at Bethlehem Lutheran. We thank the Lord for guiding him to this decision and pray that he lead Bethlehem Lutheran as they seek to fill the position.

MR. WITKOWIAK RECEIVES CALL

Our 7th grade teacher and Athletic Director, Jared Witkowiak, received a call from St. John's Lutheran in Burlington to teach 5th grade. Please keep Jared in your prayers as he deliberates where he would like to serve the Lord. If you would like to share your thoughts and prayers, you can email him at ad@stpmuskego.org.

1ST GRADE – ONE-YEAR CALL

Katie Green has been called to teach 1st grade for one year. After graduating from Martin Luther College, Katie was assigned to be a Child Care Center Director in North Carolina. Four years ago, she was called to serve at Risen Savior in Milwaukee where she teaches 2nd grade.

4TH GRADE – ONE-YEAR CALL

Josh Lepke has been called to teach 4th grade for one year. He has worked at Sky High Marketing in Waukesha for the last 2.5 years but has previously served at St. Paul's as our 7th grade homeroom teacher, 6-8th grade science teacher, and athletic director.

6TH GRADE HOMEROOM AND 6-8TH GRADE ELA

Anna Hemmelman has been called to be our 6th grade homeroom teacher and 6-8th grade English Language Arts teacher. She graduated from Martin Luther College in 2020 and is currently teaching at Gethsemane Lutheran in Omaha, Nebraska.

LUTHERAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRE-K AND K-8 TUITION ASSISTANCE

Thank you to those who have contributed to the Christian Education Tuition Assistance fund. Applications for tuition assistance for the 2026-27 school year need to be submitted by February 28, 2026. Families must reapply each year. The application for tuition assistance should be completed online through the TADS website (a link for TADS can be found on the school website at stpmuskego.org).

SECONDARY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TUITION ASSISTANCE

Thank you to those who have contributed to the Christian Education Tuition Assistance fund. St. Paul's members attending Wisconsin Lutheran High School or Luther Preparatory School for the 2026-27 school year are encouraged to apply for grants from this fund. Grants are awarded primarily according to financial need. Applications are available in the school office or via email. Application deadline is March 15, 2026. Families must reapply each year via email to Jodi Rynders at jrynders@stpmuskego.org.

LUTHERAN GIRLS PIONEERS

Our school is considering starting up a 1st – 4th grade Lutheran Girls Pioneer program next school year. If you or someone you know may be interested in assisting with that, contact Principal Seth Fitzsimmons at sfitzsimmons@stpmuskego.org.

BUILDING UPDATE



WHEN WILL WE HAVE OCCUPANCY?

That's the question everyone is asking. When? Perhaps in the next week we will have a conditional use permit. Most of the furnishings are scheduled to arrive the last week of January.

January 24/25 – We are hoping the congregation will be allowed to enter through the Gathering Space the weekend of January 24/25. We won't make full use of the space for a couple of weeks as we continue to install furnishings.

January 31/February 1 – This weekend will be the first time the auditorium will be used. Worship times remain unchanged.

February 7/8 – This weekend Sunday service times remain 8:00 and 9:30 am traditional and 10:30 am Bridge. Our K-8 school children will sing this weekend at the start of Lutheran Schools week at the Saturday 5:00 pm and Sunday 9:30 am traditional services.

DEDICATION WEEKEND: FEBRUARY 14/15

- Thursday and Saturday unchanged
- **Sunday Traditional and The Bridge Dedication Services at 9:00 and 10:30 am**
We will have two Bridge services to accommodate an anticipated larger attendance on Dedication Sunday.
- Livestream of Traditional at 9:00 am and The Bridge at 10:30 am
- No Grace Chapel Bible study or Kids Club on February 15
The services will begin with a dedication ceremony streamed from the Gathering Space into both the sanctuary and the auditorium.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE BEGINNING FEBRUARY 22

- Thursday and Saturday unchanged. However, there are no Thursday services during Lent.
- Sunday Traditional at 9:00 and 10:30 am (9:00 am livestreamed)
- The Bridge at 10:30 am
- Kids Club at 9:00 am in the school (A new Kids Club schedule will begin Fall 2026)
- Grace Chapel Bible Study at 8:00 and 9:00 am beginning with a study of "The Fifth Gospel," a study of the land of Israel, its climate and physical features that have impacted the history of God's people.

THE BRIDGE MOVE IS COMING!



LAST TIME A WEEK FROM TODAY!

Nearly every week since October 6, 2013... 640 times... we set up and took down The Bridge in the Trinity Gym.

CELEBRATION ON JANUARY 18 AT 10:30 AM

A week from today we will have a special service in The Bridge, praising our God for what has done in the years we have met in the Trinity Gym and to give thanks to our many volunteers who have worked so hard to allow us to speak this worship language so well.

WORKDAY ON JANUARY 18 AFTER THE SERVICE

After the service we will take down and pack away The Bridge for the last time. Much of the equipment will then be moved to the new auditorium. If you can stay after the service to help, that would be much appreciated! Our thanks to those who will be spending most of the afternoon using lifts to take down speakers and lights that will be used in the auditorium.

JANUARY 25 BRIDGE SERVICE AT 11:00 AM IN THE SANCTUARY

We expect to be able to use the new church entrance this weekend! The contractors will need a week to install sound and light equipment after the move, so on January 25, The Bridge will start 30 minutes later and be held in the sanctuary. There will be no Bridge communion on January 25. Sunday Traditional service times remain 8:00 and 9:30 am on January 25.

FEBRUARY 1 AND 8 – FIRST BRIDGE SERVICES IN THE NEW AUDITORIUM AT 10:30 AM

Sunday Traditional service times will remain 8:00 and 9:30 am on these two Sundays. The Bridge auditorium doors will not open until 10:20 am to allow our band and tech crews to practice up to that time. Bridge communion will move to a few minutes after the worship service.

DEDICATION SUNDAY: FEBRUARY 15

- Thursday and Saturday unchanged
- **Sunday Traditional and The Bridge Dedication Services at 9:00 and 10:30 am**
We will have two Bridge services to accommodate an anticipated larger attendance on Dedication Sunday. We will not have Bridge Communion on Dedication Sunday.
- Livestream of Traditional at 9:00 am and The Bridge at 10:30 am
- No Grace Chapel Bible study or Kids Club on February 15
The services will begin with a dedication ceremony streamed from the Gathering Space into both the sanctuary and the auditorium.

USING OUR NEW BUILDING



WELCOME TEAMS ARE PREPARING

On Saturday, January 10, our welcome teams toured our new building, brainstorming on how we can best welcome our worship guests. We will all be “first time guests” over the next few weeks.

WHERE DO WE ENTER?

Beginning January 24/25, we hope to be able to use our new entrances.

For security reasons, only two entrances will be open. The main entrance on the west and the east entrance for those parking in the new lot on the east side of our property. This east entrance is between the childcare wing and the new auditorium.

The Child Care Center doors (our current “East Entrance”) will no longer be unlocked so that the wing is secure for our children. Next school year, we will use the childcare wing for our Kids Club program.

HANDICAPPED PARKING

We encourage those who need handicapped parking to use the spaces on the west side of the building near the main entrance. Because the Child Care Center doors will no longer be open beginning the weekend of January 25, the handicapped parking near the Child Care Center entrance will not be very close to the entrance.

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBILITY

For those concerned about the distance to walk from the handicapped parking to the sanctuary or The Bridge, we are planning two ways to assist you.

- We will have a wheelchair at the main entrance of the Gathering Space that our Welcome Team can use to help people get to their worship location.
- We will also make key fobs available to those needing handicapped parking who would prefer to enter a closer door, that is, through the Counseling and Care Center doors on the west. These fobs can be programmed so that they open the doors only during worship time. More information will be coming about how to request a fob.

WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERVICES BEGIN FEBRUARY 18 WITH SOUP SUPPERS

- Worship at 3:30 pm (livestreamed)
- Soup Supper between services in the Gathering Space
- Worship at 6:30 pm
- The February 18 Ash Wednesday services will include the imposition of ashes for those who desire it and a celebration of the Lord’s Supper.
- If you would like to help coordinate or serve at these Lenten soup suppers (February 18 – March 25), please contact Pastor Panitzke at ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org or 414-350-1436.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of January 12, 2026

MON	9:40 am	Walking Group (Trinity Gym)
	6:00 pm	Dartball League (Bridge MKE)
	6:30 pm	String Ensemble Rehearsal (Church Basement)
TUE	8:30 am	Full Armor of God Bible Study (Faith Room)
	9:40 am	Walking Group (Trinity Gym)
	4:30 pm	Public School Catechism
	6:30 pm	Adult Handbell Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	7:00 pm	Following the Promise (Grace Chapel)
	7:00 pm	Anxiety and Depression Support Group (Hope Room)
	7:30 pm	Woodwind Ensemble Rehearsal (Church Basement)
WED	10:00 am	Carole Dellevar Visitation
	11:00 am	Carole Dellevar Funeral
	7:00 pm	Cancer Support Group (Hope Room)
	7:00 pm	Voters' Meeting (Sanctuary)
	7:30 pm	Domestic Abuse, the Bible, and You (Zoom)
THUR	8:15 am	Women's Bible Study (Trinity Café)
	9:30 am	Thursday Ladies Bible Study (Stoney Creek)
	9:40 am	Walking Group (Trinity Gym)
	6:30 pm	Traditional Worship Service
FRI	8:15 am	School Chapel
SAT	8:00 am	God's Guys Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Chapel)
	9:45 am	Brass Ensemble Rehearsal (Grace Chapel)
	5:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service
SUN	8:00 am	Traditional Worship Service
	9:00 am	Fix Your Eyes on Jesus Bible Study (School Rm. #9)
	9:30 am	Kids Club
	9:30 am	Traditional Worship Service
	9:35 am	Grace Chapel Bible Study
	10:00 am	The Bridge and The Bridge MKE Communion
	10:30 am	The Bridge and The Bridge MKE

PASTORAL CARE CONTACT

During the workday, Monday – Friday, 7:30 to 3:30 pm, you may call the church office at 414-422-0320, dial zero, and ask if one of the pastors is present.

During non-work hours, contact one of the pastors directly:

- Pastor Italiano at 708-732-8125
- Pastor Panitzke at 414-350-1436
- Pastor Strobel at 414-426-8236
- Pastor Bonack for mental health counseling at jbonack@stpaulmuskego.org.