

2024 CONFIRMATION SERVICES

Afternoon Confirmation Services, May 5, 1:30 and 3:30 pm

You are invited to special services to celebrate the confirmation of 34 young people next Sunday. The message, the hymns, and the liturgy will be different than our Sunday morning services.

CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2024

Sunday 1:30 pm

Brooke Dougherty
Cole Morris
Mason Navarrete
Norah Ochsner
Andrew Potter
Justis Rehbein
Beckett Scheuerman
Nathan Schlevensky
Avery Schoeneck
Evelyn Sorum
Owen Sughroue
Katelyn Triplett
Tzion Unz
Payson Vahovick
Tyson Walz
Sadie Watry
Wheeler Wirkus
Hudson Zahn

Sunday 3:30 pm

Nora Abramowski
Madyson Belanger
Evelyn Bennett
Liam Darling
Jacob DiGiorgio
Andrew Grimes
Ian Guhr
Rose Heffelfinger
Emerson Hendrix
Connor Hering
Raygen Just
Gabriel Krill
Jonah Lamp
Trinity Magner
Morgan Martinez
Logan Paschke



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OPEN FORUMS AND ANNUAL VOTERS' MEETING

Be Informed – Suggest Improvements – Learn from Others

Next weekend we begin holding a series of open forums to prepare for our annual voters' meeting on May 22.

WHY ATTEND AN OPEN FORUM?

- 1) **Be Informed:** Ours is a multifaceted ministry, touching the lives of hundreds of children and adults every week with new facilities being planned and new staff coming on board. Come, learn, and ask questions about our ministry.
- 2) **Suggest improvements:** St. Paul's is a family of women, men, and children—all gifted to serve Christ in their unique ways. Open forums give our Ministry Board members and other congregational leaders an opportunity to listen to a great variety of voices within our congregation as they make recommendations to the Voters' Assembly.
- 3) **Learn from Others:** St. Paul's respects the Wisconsin Synod's practice that men exercise spiritual headship by serving as voting members of the congregation. That should not mean that men as voters are the only ones involved in the decision-making process. An individual's vote should not represent their personal opinion, but what they prayerfully consider is best for the congregation as a whole. To do that, we have to listen and learn from others. Open forums provide voters with an opportunity to listen, especially to women in the congregation, so that everyone's perspectives are included in our decision-making process.

Annual Voters' Meeting

Wed, May 22, 7:00 pm

Open Forums

Sat, Apr 27, 6:00 pm
(Grace Room)

Sun, Apr 28, 9:30 and 10:45 am
(Grace Room)

Sun, Apr 28, 11:45 am
(school classroom)

Tue, Apr 30 10:00 am
(Stoney Creek)

Thur, May 2, 7:30 pm
(Grace Room)

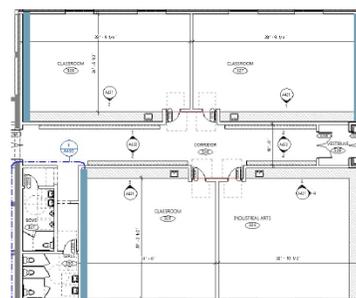
Sun, May 5, at 11:45 am
(The Bridge MKE)

If you are a voting member of the congregation and plan to attend the Annual Voters' Meeting, please **make every effort to attend at least one open forum** to be informed, have your questions answered, and listen to the concerns of others.

OPEN FORUM TOPICS

We thank our congregational leaders who will present at most of the open forums:

- Congregation President Creed Darling, who will moderate the open forums.
- Building Team representatives Dave Fritsch, Alex Campen, and Jessica Vanderhyde, who will share the latest information on our building plans.
- "Honoring our Past" Coordinator Chuck Thompson, who will speak about the Decommissioning Service planned for Sunday, July 21, and our next steps.
- Congregational Treasurer Nick Bauman, who will explain our financial statements and ministry financial plan for 2024-2025.



PASTOR CALL NEWS

REV. KEITH SCHLEIS CALLED TO BE PASTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP



On Wednesday evening, the St. Paul's Voters' Assembly called Pastor Keith Schleis to serve as our Pastor of Discipleship. This call is part of our process of succession planning as both Pastors Kuehl and Panitzke approach their retirement in the years ahead. Because of the number of pastoral vacancies in the synod we may need to call a dozen or more times for this position to be filled. If Pastor Schleis accepts the call, we will enjoy more than a year of overlap between the time of his arrival and Pastor Kuehl's retirement in October 2025.

Pastor Schleis is 39 years old, a 2011 graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. He is married to Dawn. They have three children (12, 9, 6). He began his ministry at St. Paul's in Menomonie, Wisconsin. In 2015 he was called to Abiding Faith in Smyrna, Tennessee. Abiding Savior is a congregation of 192 members with an average worship attendance of 125. This school year he is also the supervising pastor for Vicar Nathan Wranovsky, a son of St. Paul's members, Steve and Amy Wranovsky.

If you would like to let Pastor Schleis know you are praying for him, you can contact him at keith.a.schleis@gmail.com.

GOD'S GENEROUS PEOPLE

WISH LIST ITEMS

The Ministerial Team approves Wish List items that are not essentials to our ministry and so are not part of our Ministry Financial Plan but are important as we carry out our mission: *By every possible means we bring every person within our area of influence closer to Christ.* The generous people of God here at St. Paul's are often looking for special projects to support. Below are our current wish list items:

- **Sports:** Replace the Centennial Gym side wall backboard to improve the practice experience for our youth. Cost \$4,500.
- **Child Care Center:** Purchase new outside toys for our children. Toys range from \$75 to \$150. Total gift requested: \$1,500.
- **Mission Trips:** Help cover the cost of mission trips taken by our members at Wisconsin Lutheran High School. The total cost of the trips is \$6,400. We have received \$875.
- **Tuition Grants:** Martin Luther College offers a matching grant for tuition up to \$1,450 for each of our students studying for public ministry at the college. To make full use of this matching grant and provide nearly \$3,000 in tuition assistance to our future called workers, we need \$10,050. So far we have received \$1,600.
- **The Bridge MKE:** Part of our funding plan for our satellite site was the giving of special gifts. In the last two years since we purchased the site, we have received \$48,408 in special gifts and offerings.
- **The Bridge MKE Lighthouse Youth Center:** For those wishing to support Lighthouse, scan the QR code to find a Wish List of items to improve its campus.



If you would like to contribute to any of these wish list items, mark your offering "Wish List" and the item you want to support. You can also give online at StPaulMuskego.org/give. Find the Wish List Fund and note in the memo line the name of the wish list item.

WAS YOUR TAX BILL HIGHER THAN YOU EXPECTED?

As followers of Christ, we recognize our government is a good gift from God that deserves our support through our taxes. But good stewardship also suggests that we seek to minimize our taxes and maximize our charitable giving. Tax laws can provide you with several ways to do this. Consult your tax adviser and ask our Church Administrator Randy Fink (414-422-0320, ext. 120) for help with any of the following:

- Gifting appreciated stock or other assets directly to the church.
- Farmers can gift a portion of their harvest.
- If you are over 70 ½, a gift from your IRA can provide tax benefits even if you don't itemize.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

CALLED HOME TO HEAVEN

The Lord, in his infinite wisdom, called home to heaven the soul of Carol Wallner, born September 11, 1938, on April 17, 2024. A memorial service is scheduled for Monday, April 29, at 11:00 am, with the visitation beginning at 10:00 am, at Krause Funeral Home (21600 W Capitol Drive). May God comfort Carol's family and her loved ones with the promise of the resurrection.

Sharon Rockrohr, born January 17, 1967, entered eternal peace with her Savior on April 2, 2024. Her funeral is scheduled for Saturday, May 4, at 2:00 pm, with the visitation beginning at 1:00 pm. May our God of all peace and comfort be with Sharon's loved ones.

KNOWN TO BE HOSPITALIZED

Ralph Morbeck (LindenGrove New Berlin), Sherwin Beyer (Menomonee Falls Froedtert), John Strobel (VA), Carol Constantineau (Waukesha), Craig Schwartz (St. Luke's), Karen Grenie (Hales Corners Care Center), and Dora Jahnke (Heritage Square). Dan Ludwig and Allan Rickert have been discharged from the hospital.

ATTENDANCE

The following attended last week's services: 36 on Thursday, 122 on Saturday, 170 on Sunday 8:00 am, 167 on Sunday 9:30 am, 344 at The Bridge, and 61 at The Bridge MKE.

SCHOOL TOURS FOR 3K AND 4K

Are you looking for options for your 3- or 4-year-old for this next school year? Do you know a family who might be interested in Christian education? Invite them to check out St. Paul's. Personal recommendations and invitations are always best. Our ministry strives to help build strong, Christian families. To tour our school, email our principal Seth Fitzsimmons at sfitzsimmons@stpmuskego.org.

ST. PAUL'S NURSERY – HELP WANTED!

St. Paul's nursery works to care for children during worship. They are looking for help at The Bridge on Sundays, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm, but may need assistance at the main church from 7:45 to 11:00 am. This is a paid position. If interested, email Jennifer Simons at jsimons@stpmuskego.org.

DIVORCECARE SUPPORT GROUP FACILITATOR

The St. Paul's DivorceCare Support Group is looking for another person to lead this group in discussion and Bible study. This is a Christ-centered, 13-week program that takes place on Mondays, at 6:00 pm, in the Faith Room. If you are interested in learning more about being a facilitator, contact Pastor Bonack at 414-422-0320, ext. 119.

OUR PART IN 26 BAPTISMS!

St. Paul's supports the mission of Wisconsin Lutheran High School, so we were all part of a special day at WLHS on April 18. 26 students were baptized during a memorable chapel service. What an amazing reminder of who we are as God's children! Every flaw, every failure, every sin is washed away in Christ, and we are claimed as God's redeemed children in baptism. Days like this are also a wonderful reminder of how blessed we are to teach God's Word to our students each day as we follow our mission to make disciples of all nations through nurture and outreach. Thank you for your generous support that makes these kinds of mission miracles possible!



NEWS CONTINUED

FOLLOWING THE PROMISE MEMBERSHIP BIBLE CLASS

Pastor Nate Strobel is leading a new session of *Following the Promise* on Tuesdays, 7:00 – 8:15 pm. Track the promises of the Savior from the Garden of Eden to your own heart and life. Childcare is available upon request. You may attend in person or online. To join, mark the back of your Connection Card or contact Pastor Nate at 414-426-8236.

SUNDAY GRACE ROOM BIBLE STUDY – 9:30 – 10:15 AM

Mr. Mark Ricke will lead the last study of: “I Am, You Are: A Look at the I Am Statements of our Lord and Their Impact on My Life,” on May 5. No pre-registration is necessary. All are welcome.



ONLINE BIBLE STUDY

Join our Campus Planter Dave Panitzke for an online Bible study on the life and ministry of Moses. You can join the video chats on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm. You can also watch the videos on your own time and participate in the online community. To register, use the QR code or email dave@thebridgemke.org.

CHURCH LIBRARY

This month, the church library display in the narthex features a sampling of series published by Northwestern Publishing House. These include People’s Bible, People’s Bible Teachings, and Bible Discovery series. Other titles in this series can be found on the shelves in the Grace Room. Also displayed are children’s books and DVDs.

MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

Join a webinar, “(mis)Understanding Mental Health | A Christian Look at Today’s Epidemic,” on May 2, 7:00 – 8:00 pm. This live webinar will shine a light on mental health so that the body of Christ continues to minister to the needs of each other in all areas of life. You will hear from licensed professional counselors from Christian Family Solutions on what is going on regarding mental health in America, what we can do, and when and where to get help. You can register by scanning the QR code. For more information about St. Paul’s Counseling and Care Center, a Christian Family Solutions satellite site, contact Pastor Bonack at 414-422-0320, ext. 119.



THREADS OF HOPE – DONATION DRIVE FOR HOMELESS MEN

Threads of Hope is a project born out of the Serve2Lead Impact Challenge at Wisconsin Lutheran College that is committed to making an impact on Milwaukee's homeless community. You are invited to join this mission by donating gently worn men’s jeans, new men’s underwear, or gift cards to help support the Milwaukee Rescue Mission to provide families with food. A donation box will be in the main church lobby and Trinity Café through April. Please contact Sally Wallner at 414-218-5197 or swallner@stpaulmuskego.org with any questions.

GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 175-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Everyone is invited to the 175-year anniversary celebration of Grace Lutheran Church (1209 North Broadway) in Milwaukee. On Sunday, May 19, anniversary worship services will be held at the church at 7:45, 9:00, and 10:30 am. A catered meal and program will follow the 10:30 am service at the Marcus Performing Arts Center. RSVP by Wednesday, May 1, by scanning the QR code.



WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of April 29, 2024

MON	9:40 am	Walking Group (Trinity Gym)
	10:00 am	Carol Wallner Visitation (Krause Funeral Home)
	11:00 am	Carol Wallner Memorial Service (Krause Funeral Home)
	6:00 pm	DivorceCare Support Group (Faith Room)
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal (Main Church)
TUE	9:40 am	Walking Group (Trinity Gym)
	4:30 pm	Public School Confirmation Class
	6:00 pm	Adult Handbell Practice (Main Church)
	7:00 pm	Following the Promise Bible Study (Grace Room)
	7:30 pm	Woodwind Ensemble Rehearsal (Main Church Basement)
WED	9:45 am	Reading Buddies (Trinity Café)
	12:00 pm	Ladies Afternoon Fellowship (Grace Room)
THUR	9:00 am	Full Armor of God Bible Study (Off Campus)
	9:00 am	Quilting Fellowship (Grace Room)
	9:30 am	Thursday Ladies Bible Study (Hope Room)
	9:40 am	Walking Group (Trinity Gym)
	6:30 pm	Confirmation Examination Review (Main Church)
	6:30 pm	Traditional Worship Service (Grace Room)
FRI	6:30 pm	Card Players Group (Trinity Café)
SAT	8:00 am	School Graduation Photos and Practice (Grace Room and Main Church)
	1:00 pm	Sharon Rockrohr Visitation (Main Church)
	2:00 pm	Sharon Rockrohr Funeral (Main Church)
	2:45 pm	Sharon Rockrohr Funeral Meal (Grace Room)
	5:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service
SUN	8:00 am	Traditional Worship Service
	9:30 am	Kid's Club
	9:30 am	Grace Room Bible Study
	9:30 am	Traditional Worship Service
	10:00 am	The Bridge and The Bridge MKE Communion
	10:30 am	The Bridge and The Bridge MKE
	1:30 pm	Confirmation Service (Main Church)
	3:30 pm	Confirmation Service (Main Church)



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