



Monthly Minutes

A publication of the boards and committees of St. Paul's.

March 2020

When we work so closely together on so many projects at St. Paul's, it is too easy to forget all the blessings God has let us accomplish – and in such a short time.

In 2017 (ballpark) the Lord let us finish the Audio-Visual campaign. We ran a few miles of wires through the church attic/crawl space. We installed new speakers on the church ceiling for audio clarity. We enhanced the baby grand piano so that it could be heard through the speakers. Projection was tastefully added and now utilized frequently in church for announcements and assisting people for worship. Choir microphones and stands aid recordings so that our cable and online viewers get an excellent reproduction. A new sound board and camera equipment was purchased and inserted into a newly renovated A/V room. Lastly, we added a hearing loop system with a T-coil switch which drastically helps people worship and hear. We continue to hear from people after worship services, or after they watch our services on cable or online that they are so thankful for these changes. God did and does so many miracles through these updates.

In 2018 we entered the Wisconsin School Choice program. That program has served to help a number of students and continues to grow yearly. We also were blessed to add Rev. Bode (and family) to our congregation and enhance ministry. That same year we separated the 4K from the Kindergarten and added Mrs. Ann Marohn to teach full time. In 2018 we began the Windows to Ministry Campaign. Over the next year by your Christian generosity we were able to build a brand new church website, carpet and tile the school, renovate the 4K and Kindergarten classrooms, get equipment to start a school hot lunch program, purchase a gym/tile floor scrubber, and procure and install two ceiling mounted hoops in our gym to create two full side courts. If that wasn't enough, the Lord blessed us with moms eager to start a moms' group which has blessed our congregation in so many ways that can't be listed here! And before I forget, we also sold the Parsonage/teachorage to the Marohn family and re-zoned the property.

In 2020 we have enrolled our school in the Special Needs Program. This will open up doors for us to serve students and families better – and serve more students. We finished a two-year project to have our school accredited – and we received exemplary accreditation! We are investigating asking Mr. Curia to consider becoming a full-time staff minister at St. Paul's. And we have both a long-range planning committee looking at expansion options as well as a capital campaign committee working on funding.

To have all this take place (and keep in mind not everything is listed here), it takes something mighty and miraculous. It takes the Word of God. And by grace we have it! The Word of God has nourished our souls and led our lives forward in ministry. Where the Word of God is our focus and priority, our life and our mission, God brings blessing after blessing. The staff God has given to St. Paul's as well as the congregational lay leaders are exceptional, dedicated, and servant minded people. To accomplish all this in 3 plus years, they must be.

As for going forward, may we continue as his thankful people devoted to his Word. And may the Lord continue to bless us with a Joshua attitude and focus: **As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.**

Pastor Mueller



Congregational President

Todd Marten: president@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
Cell: 920.980.9068

Recording Secretary

Kevin Reinemann:
recording.secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org

Treasurer

Jim Van Alstine
treasurer@stpaulshowardsgrove.org

Financial Secretary

Brett Horne: foxrider273@gmail.com

These four positions comprise the executive committee (or board of officers) of St. Paul's. Each position is accountable to the Council and the voters/congregation.

The president oversees activity of the budget, facilitates meetings, sees to the timely completion of business, and helps coordinate the congregation's work.

The recording secretary signs all deeds, contracts, official documents, and call documents, keeps the voting membership roster, and records and maintains minutes of Council and congregational meetings.

The treasurer pays all bills in a timely manner, provides monthly reports of financial activity to Council and to respective committees, quarterly reports to the voters, assists with the development of the budget, and oversees tax documentation for St. Paul's and workers.

The financial secretary oversees the counting, the counters, and the deposits of all financial contributions to the congregation. This person is responsible for submitting a report to the treasurer, and reporting these weekly to the congregation.

Elders Chairman

Corey Schroeder:
headelder@stpaulshowardsgrove.org

The board of Elders exists to administer to the spiritual life of the congregation under the leadership of the pastors. The elders work for spreading the gospel both within and without the congregation. This includes seeking the straying, maintaining visits to the shut-in, disciplinary measures where necessary, tending to the pastors'/teachers' spiritual and physical health, encouraging Bible studies, and overseeing worship services/ushers.

Board of Education Chairman

Dan Radue: bndan@bitter-neumann.net

The board of Ed oversees the teaching staff, curriculum, needs, and education of our Lutheran Elementary School.

Stewardship Chairman

Jeremy Neseemann: jnes27@gmail.com

This group welcomes and interviews new members to our congregation, maintains time & talents information, encourages congregational involvement, and plans various congregational events & outings.

Trustees Chairman

John Marten: grgr143@wi.rr.com

The trustees manage the entire property, buildings, and grounds of St. Paul's. They coordinate routine maintenance, inspections, and recommend projects to the Council/voters.

Evangelism Committee

Nick Schmidt: nschmidt0613@gmail.com

The evangelism committee seeks to share the word with our community. It oversees the Car Show and Great Exchange events, and helps with publicity for the Living Nativity. Often the group develops materials for brochures, flyers, or postcards. It distributes these to our community. In the Silver Dollar Days Parade, the group assists with walking and advertising our church. There is also an online role with the St. Paul's website as well as advertising or promoting through Facebook or other social media.

Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry: Pastor Bode
Cell: 920.224.2961

Youth Group

Mike Leahy: mleahy@live.com
Cell: 920.422.0771

Sunday School Superintendent

Craig Schuenemann: craig.schuenemann@yahoo.com
Youth Ministry oversees the Sunday School and Sunday School teachers, Cradle Roll, Mindful Moms, Boy and Girl Pioneers, and Youth Group.



A Happy Birthday and God's Blessings to...

Andy Sprenger	Apr 1	Brody Panosh	Apr 11	Ashleigh Olson	Apr 17
Matthew Prem	Apr 1	Matt Boenisch	Apr 11	Deklyn Wolfert	Apr 21
Jo Ellen Vollmer	Apr 2	Erin Kuether	Apr 11	Susan Vant Hul	Apr 22
Jan Radue	Apr 2	Regina Bulitz	Apr 12	Carisa Kleinhans	Apr 22
Samuel Maass	Apr 3	Morgan Rasmussen	Apr 13	Kimberly Rieth	Apr 22
Mason Hahn	Apr 3	Alyssa Binsfeld	Apr 13	Brenton Rabe	Apr 22
Julie Kracht	Apr 3	Riley Rasmussen	Apr 13	Amanda Lohmier	Apr 23
Larry Hansen	Apr 3	Arlo Cameron	Apr 13	Sara Lohmier	Apr 25
Nevaeh Langdon	Apr 4	Konni Harbach	Apr 13	Philip Meyer	Apr 25
Paschal Curia	Apr 5	Stacey Knoener	Apr 14	Ryan Wolfert	Apr 25
Asa Bode	Apr 5	Drew Damrow	Apr 14	Ashlee Haas	Apr 26
Kendall Holzward	Apr 5	Axl Eick	Apr 14	Cooper Eick	Apr 26
Murray Cameron	Apr 6	Sandra Strauss	Apr 14	Nolan Hahn	Apr 26
Emily Grunwald	Apr 7	Tom Damrow	Apr 15	Abigail Haas	Apr 26
Martin Grunewald	Apr 7	Taylor Hayner	Apr 15	Kelly Stauss	Apr 27
Kevin Menzer	Apr 8	Braelyn Wehrmann	Apr 15	Elaina Rabe	Apr 27
Lexi Knoener	Apr 10	Mariah Austreng	Apr 15	Ashleigh Brooks	Apr 28
		Dawn Marten	Apr 16	Linda Verfuert	Apr 28

Happy Anniversary to...

Myron & Laone	Loose	Apr 11
Christopher & Sue	Neuman	Apr 4
Randy & Lori	Wehrmann	Apr 6
Chad & Jackie	Hayner	Apr 11
Clark & Sara	Kleinhans	Apr 19

If you have a birthday or anniversary and it is not listed or listed incorrectly, we apologize. Please let us know so we can update your information.

Thank You!

Coronavirus Info

At the encouragement of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, our school leaders are discussing possible/pertinent steps to take for our school if the Howards Grove School District closes down for a time due to the virus. We are also looking at preventative steps and general cleanliness.

In church we are happy to greet you with a shake of the hand or a nod of the head. Please note: prior to the Lord's Supper (during the offering) the pastors do wash their hands in the sacristy.

May the Lord bless us with clarity and confidence as we go forward in faith and serve him.



**St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2019**

Attendees: Pastor Bode, Pastor Mueller, Todd Marten, Chad Marohn, Jim Van Alstine, Bill Reichardt, John Marten, Dan Radue, Ed Strauss, Corey Schroeder, Mark Kolosovsky, Jeremy Neseemann and Kevin Reine-
mann.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Todd Marten. Pastor Mueller opened the meeting with prayer. The Secretary's minutes from the February Council meeting were reviewed. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the minutes as presented.

Membership Action:

Transfer In: Nathan & Heather Kieffer (Dean, Aria & Lyra) from Calvary Lutheran, Sheboygan

Transfer Out: Tom Gierach to Good Shepherd, Plymouth
Chris & Nicole Matte (Lillian) to Good Shepherd, Plymouth
Doug Bramstedt to Grace Lutheran, Vero Beach, FL

Profession of Faith: Lisa Wichmann has completed the information class with Rev. Bode

Release: Lynn (Berg) DooLittle, moved to Minnesota
Jason Pahl, attending other church

Death: Lenora Gierach, Feb 4, 2020 death, (Feb 17, 2020 funeral)

Current membership: Communicants: 698
Children/Other: 162

Total 860

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the membership action.

Pastor Report – Pastor Bode reported the Mindful Moms “Jesus Loves Me” event went very well on February 8th with a good range of regular attendees, other St. Paul’s members, some exploring school enrollment and church membership, and some completely new to St. Paul’s. The Sunday School children will be singing Palm Sunday. The Pioneers’ groups and Youth Group continue to have regular events. College contacts are ongoing. 10 kids are scheduled to be confirmed this spring. Examination will take place on Saturday, May 2nd at 3:00 p.m. Confirmation will take place on May 3rd. After discussions with Pastor Voigt from Calvary, Pastor Bode, Principal Marohn, and Mr. Curia, we plan to have some of our grade school children sing at Calvary in Sheboygan once next school year. The purpose of this is to acknowledge Calvary member involvement in our school, celebrate the shared fellowship between our two congregations, and promote awareness of the blessing of our school’s ministry. The Evangelical Heritage Version (EHV) has been in use for a month. Please offer any opinions or impressions with the Pastors.

Pastor Mueller recently met with Don Last of the Elders committee to advance delinquency visits and organize the Elders for this task. He is also meeting regularly with the Capital Campaign committee. A good deal of time has been dedicated to administrative work to upgrade the phone system, fix the HVAC system, and reorganize the duties of the Pastors and Staff Minister roles. The Pastors will be preaching at Good Shepherd in Plymouth while Pastor Heup is hospitalized with a collapsed lung.

Elders Report – The Elders are finalizing the delinquency list and coordinating work for the coming year. The Elders have also reviewed the reorganization of duties for the Pastors and Staff Minister. The duties have been approved by the Elders.

The Capital Campaign committee met twice in February. The detailed report will become a regular part of



Council meetings.

Christmas At St. Paul's is being planned for December 13th and having two services is being considered. The times are still to be determined. Since this is the 2nd Sunday of the month when communion would normally be offered, it was decided to remove communion from that weekend and offer it on December 6th, 20th, and 27th. Communion will be offered on New Year's Eve as well.

The Elders continue to discuss ways to communicate with the congregation to utilize the middle seating of pews to allow more room for worshippers. We have had services in which people were seated in the narthex while there could have been room in the sanctuary if the pews were better utilized.

The Pastors will be preaching at Good Shepherd in Plymouth on March 15th and March 22nd.

Principal's Report – The faculty recently attended a workshop on the synod's new Ministerial Development Plan (MDP) requirements. The workshop covered connecting plans to WELS Teaching Standards as well as setting goal statements and outlining a three-year MDP. St. Paul's will be hosting an Early Field Experience (EFE) student from MLC the week of March 9th - 13th. Mr. Evan Vant Hul will be spending the week in the 7th/8th grade classroom.

The last day of the third quarter grading period is March 12th. Students recently completed vision screening. Thanks to the local Lions Club for administering vision screens. St. Paul's is hosting a Forensic Event on Tuesday, March 24th. Students in grades 5-8 will be presenting forensics pieces from various categories. Parents will be invited to attend the event with awards and refreshments to follow.

St. Paul's received its third quarterly payment from the choice program in the amount of \$21,120. The total for the year thus far is \$63,362. One more payment is due in May. The WPCP application window is currently open. The administration has reached out to families to complete renewal requirements.

St. Paul's has completed all paperwork to apply for the Special Needs Scholarship Program (SNSP) for 2020-2021. Thirteen seats have been opened under this program. Mr. Johnson and Mr. Marohn attended an SNSP workshop in Madison last week. It was very beneficial and all details learned were very positive. We have begun reaching out to families regarding assessments and the potential development of IEP/ISP's which are required for this program.

The students will be participating in the MLHS Music Festival and Academic Fair on March 27-28. The basketball season is complete and the winter sports banquet will be held Sunday, March 22nd. Mr. Lis and Mr. Marohn are working to coordinate a March Madness fellowship event.

Board of Education — The BCE is currently working on creating the application form and reviewing the process for distribution of tuition assistance funds. They will bring a formal presentation to Council in April.

Mr. Curia joined our meeting to discuss thoughts for the 2020 Christmas program. The group will continue to look into having 2 services.

The Board positions for 2020 were decided:

Dan Radue - Chairman and Long Range Planning Committee Representative

Travis Krell - Secretary

Thomas Cameron - PTF Liaison

Zach Theobald - PTF Liaison

The BCE reviewed the Mission Vision Objective statement and no updates were made.

School tuition was discussed. An increase of \$25 per student for the 2020-2021 school year was approved.

Treasurer's Report – During the month of February, weekly offerings dropped to \$44,426 which is the lowest contribution month of the year. This amount is \$9,767 below budget for February. School tuition, subsidy, fees, Scrip and other gifts added \$22,709 for a total income of \$67,135. In addition, a School Choice check of \$21,121 was received. There were no school supply expenses in February. The electric expense is over-budget by \$2,165 but natural gas is down \$1,436. In addition, snow removal costs for February were only \$200. The

month of February resulted in a net loss of \$9,314 (which includes a \$5,000 payment for a member loan).

The net results of operating funds is a loss of \$61,849 compared to a budgeted loss of \$142,177. When non-budgeted gifts are included, we have a net gain of \$40,189 for the fiscal year through 8 months.

The process of putting the 2020-2021 budget together has begun with the input of approximately 90% of the preliminary figures. The rest of the figures should be added within a week. The budget will be reviewed by Council at the April meeting and presented for adoption at the April 26th Voter's meeting.

The member loan which is to be repaid is being paid in 5 installments of \$5,000, plus interest during the months of February through June. The \$7,173 balance in the debt Reduction fund will be used first and the balance will come from operating funds.

Trustee's Report – The Trustees would like to thank Tom Damrow and Jeremy Pieper for their work in shortening the pews to create a handicap area. Tom and Jeremy volunteered their time and talents to help with this work.

The following projects are in process;

- Bids for electrical work have been submitted and will be reviewed. A recommendation will be brought to Council in April.
- The final revised bid for the rekeying of exterior doors has been received. A list of potential key holders will be presented to Council to review in April.
- The Trustees continue to work with Dean's Electric on the light control system to adjust the parking lot lights.
- The reason the gym fans continued to run on February 23rd was due to a programming error. This issue has been corrected.

Evangelism Report – The committee discussed their approach to New Mover Mailers in winter and set up a game plan for ramping up canvassing in the spring when the weather improves. The committee will reach out directly to members and use bulletin announcements to help recruit volunteers to help with canvassing efforts.

Major events were set for 2020:

- Silver Dollar Days Parade, July 18, 2020
- Car Show, August 8, 2020
- Canvassing in advance of Living Nativity will take place around Thanksgiving

The group discussed the evangelism video that was played in church a few weeks ago. They will be using many of the ideas presented in the video to help ensure that our efforts are effective and focused on the reason that we have been placed in our community, to spread God's word to others.

Stewardship Report – The Stewardship Committee continues to work on new member integration. A Sheepshead and Cribbage day was held on February 22nd and bowling is scheduled for March 14th. In addition, the group is looking into setting up a trap-shooting event.

Officer's Report – The Officers discussed whether the Thrivent account balance should continue to be kept as a separate line item or if it should be removed from the accounts and used to reduce the operating deficit in 2019-2020. After discussion, it was decided the funds would remain listed under Thrivent and kept until a different time.

As the congregation moves forward with the financial stewardship campaign, the Officers agree that detailed financial reports will be provided at quarterly meetings and will be recapped in the published minutes. The officers agree that full and complete disclosure of the financial position of the congregation is critical to the campaign, and any future ministry we may be looking to add.

A brief discussion about how to handle church security during services ensued. The group has tabled this



discussion until a future meeting.

The Certified Survey Map (CSM) was signed and returned to us on February 28th by Associated Bank. The CSM will be registered with the Sheboygan County Planning Commission in the next week or two.

WELS – The first ever WELS Conference on Lutheran Leadership was held January 21-23. The event was the product of WELS Congregational Services. Approximately 800 people from 350 congregation participated which included Pastors, teachers, and lay people. Those in attendance expressed overwhelming positive feedback on the conference. A second Leadership conference is likely to be held in 2022. The 5 main presentations plus breakout sessions will be available for viewing online in the near future. St. Paul's will view one of these presentations during a Bible study class.

WELS has developed an outreach program formatted after the C18 & C19 effort to reach out and invite the unchurched and under-churched in our communities to the Christmas services. This outreach effort is being called E20 with Easter Sunday service attendance as the focus. Studies have shown that those who are invited have better odds of attending these services.

WELS Special Ministries has focused on eight areas for people with special circumstances:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Visually Impaired | Care For Called Workers |
| Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities | Deaf and Hard Of Hearing |
| Mental Health | Health and Wellness |
| Prison Ministries | Military Services |

These special ministry programs are primarily supported by special offerings from individuals and groups.

The WELS Youth Rally will be held June 23-26th at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. The registration cost is \$395 and registration runs from March 2nd through May 29th.

Members are encouraged to visit the WELS website regularly to learn more about these and other topics.

MLHS - Pastor Mueller reported the following items are being addressed at MLHS:

1. They continue to work through Constitution changes and adoption procedures.
2. They are working to line up new board members to replace the outgoing members.
3. The next meeting is scheduled for March 10th. The board will be visiting classes and having an afternoon meeting.
4. The two calls recently placed for English and for the DMA position were returned. New calls will be made soon.
5. The Capital Campaign is around 2.1 million in funds pledged. Some funds already donated have been used to pay off debt.
6. Dave Uhlhorn and his wife Rachel received a call to St. Stephen in Beaver Dam. Rachel was called to teach first grade and Dave was called to be Principal and upper grades teacher.

Capital Campaign— The committee consists of Pastor Mueller, Corey Schroeder, Jim VanAlstine, Thomas Cameron, Eric Eickhoff, and Kathleen Eickhoff. The committee met recently and provided the following initial update:

Campaign Theme

- The campaign theme will be “Growing Forward” based on John 4:34-38 which emphasizes finishing the work when the fields are ripe for harvest. A logo is being developed by Lisa Olson.

Building Project Planning Status

- The cost of the building project is not yet defined as the plan is still being developed.

Campaign Timing

- Based on project planning status, the campaign should start after summer.
- Goal is still to start 3K program in Fall of 2021.



- Timeline
- Length of formal campaign will be 9 weeks starting before Labor Day and ending with Pledge Sunday on November 1, 2020.
- Plan will be presented to voters in November 2020
- Length of total campaign will be approximately 3 years.
- It will conclude in 2022 which is St. Paul's 160th Anniversary year

Stewardship Emphasis

- Officers are working with the bank for options to better manage current mortgage debt load.

Communication

- Committee is working on communication plans and schedules for updates. This plan will include congregational meetings, cottage meetings, videos, publications, website, etc.
- The communication plan will be coordinated with the Long Range Planning Committee

Old Business - The position descriptions for the Pastors and Staff Minister were presented and reviewed by Council. It was determined that a Call meeting will be scheduled for Sunday, May 15th during Bible Study. Calls will be considered for Luther Curia as Staff Minister, Greg Johnson as part-time Assistant Principal, and Ann Marohn as pre-school teacher. Subsequent calls will be placed pending the result of the aforementioned calls.

New Business - The following new business was brought to the Council:

1. Stephanie Lecker has requested use of a classroom to conduct birth classes. The Council considered the request but respectfully carried a motion to decline this request as we did not feel it is in the best interest to use the facility for business purposes.
2. The loan with Bank First National is up for renewal on April 15th. The current rate is 4.8%. Competitive rate quotes were obtained from 3 other banks. The rates ranged from 4.0 to 4.65% and bank fees ranged from \$350 to \$1750. Jim Van Alstine requested Bank First to amend their quote and they returned with a rate of 3.95% for 4 years with a cost to refinance of \$300. This will drop our monthly payment from \$6,150 to \$4,630 but we will continue to make the higher payment which will put us on track to pay it off in 10 years. Jim recommended we accept the loan proposed by Bank First National with the 4-year, 3.95% interest rate and 15 year amortization. A motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the proposal of Bank First National.
3. As noted in previous meetings, the phone system is in need of an upgrade. Mike Leahy has received quotes from two parties including O&W. The Council approved the recommendation to utilize O&W to upgrade the phone system.
4. The Board of Education has identified the need for an assistant PreK teacher for the 2020-2021 school year. Currently, 16 kids are already enrolled and the number is likely to increase with another open house. The recommended student/teacher ratio is 10:1. Therefore, the BCE recommends adding a part-time PreK teacher. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve that the Board of Education proceeds with the hiring process to add a part-time PreK teacher for the 2020-2021 school year.

Respectfully submitted by, Kevin Reinemann



**St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church
Board of Education Minutes
February 19, 2020**

Pastor Bode opened with prayer and Bible reading.

- **Principal's Report:** The Howards Grove School District speech pathologist is going to help train staff members on how to assess students for speech evaluation needs. The hot lunch program is looking for a new coordinator starting in the 20/21 school year.

In response to the accepted proposal at the annual voters meeting, the Board recommends the following calls to be issued:

- Mrs. Sarah Mueller will receive a permanent call for 3rd –4th grade teacher.
- Mr. Luther Curia will receive a permanent call for staff minister.
- Mr. Greg Johnson will receive a one year call for half-time administrator. (assistant principal)
- Mr. Fred Pahmeier would receive a one year call for a half-time 4k teacher.
- Mrs. Ann Marohn will receive a one year provisional call for 4k teacher.

Dan Radue will take the proposed calls to council for the next meeting.

Old Business:

- Reviewed the possibility of creating a tuition assistance program, and distribution of funds. It was recommended that the Board of Education be the oversight on applicants seeking financial assistance. A policy will be drafted and adopted before being presented to the Church Council.

New Business:

Mr. Curia attended the meeting and presented ideas for Christmas at St. Paul's 2020.

Over 700 people attended in December and the need to add a second service was identified.

Pre-k and K would sing in just one service. December 13th is the proposed date.

- Travis Krell made a motion that Christmas at St. Paul's began researching having the event be two services. Thomas Cameron seconded and all were in favor. Elders and Council will be involved in the decision making process.
- It has been identified that a part-time teacher's aid would be needed in order to help the Pre-K room. 16 students are enrolled. Budget Committee and Church Council will need to be consulted prior to accepting applications.
- St. Paul's Mission Vision Statement was reviewed and no updates were made.
- Mr. Marohn outlined the proposed school budget that is going to be presented at the budget meeting. Mr. Marohn had a very organized and thorough plan.
- Tuition was discussed at length. School costs and price per student were considered. Pastor Bode is working on creating a document that the board can use annually to help decipher tuition costs. After a tuition freeze in the 19/20 school year, a \$25 increase was proposed and accepted. Mr. Marohn updated the Board on the latest information from the Long Range Planning Committee.

Pastor Bode closed with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Travis Krell



Member Highlights

History Committee Biographies of St. Paul's Members Blessed to Live 90 Years or more



Ardith Foelske
Born: January 23rd, 1930

Ardith was born in Milwaukee on January 23rd, 1930 to Erwin and Viola (Geske) Hintz. She had a younger brother, Orval, with whom she remained close until his death in 2004.

The family were members of St. Jacobi Lutheran Church. Ardith was not only baptized, confirmed and married at St. Jacobi, it's where she met her husband-to-be in kindergarten Sunday school. The family's deep faith is what sustained them through the Depression. Despite having to learn to live with very little, Ardith had a happy childhood because even then she knew that material possessions were not the most important things in life.

Although Ardith and Milton knew each other most of their lives, it wasn't until their junior year at Lutheran High School that they realized there was something much deeper to their friendship. They were married on April 11, 1953, and Ardith, who was an office supervisor at an insurance company, quit her job to focus on family.

Milton had a passion for medicine, but before he could enter medical school, he was drafted into the Korean War. With his pre-med background, he was assigned to a burn hospital in Texas. When the Army transferred Milton, he and Ardith moved to Colorado Springs, and their daughter, Pamela, was born there in 1955.

When Milton was discharged from the Army, they returned to Milwaukee. Although Ardith wanted Milton to go to medical school to fulfill his dream, he was determined to provide for his family, and he took a position at Sheboygan Falls High School teaching general sciences, specializing in biology. Their son, Wayne, was born there in 1957. It is also where they discovered St. Paul's.

After two years they returned to Milwaukee and eventually Milton landed a job with the U.S. Space Program, conducting workshops and tours at the Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland. One of the perks was the occasional airline flight with the astronauts, after which Milton would joke that his hands were off-limits because he had shaken hands with John Glenn.

One of the most challenging aspects of moving east was finding a place to worship, and Ardith made sure she was equipped with plenty of Christian reading material to keep her children growing in their faith. Living in both Maryland and New York, they traveled anywhere from 35 to 82 miles to find a WELS congregation - quite a change from the little girl who grew up within walking distance of her Milwaukee church.

Milton, again putting faith and family first, was determined to settle close to a WELS congregation, and they were guided to East Brunswick, NJ - home to Our Savior's Lutheran Church. One of the special things about this mission church was that its location made it a stopping point for pastors returning from overseas missions. Ardith became familiar with many of these pastors, and her love of evangelism really took root during this time. She was very active in the church as a Sunday school teacher, choir member, and in the Mary Martha Guild.



Member Highlights

Ardith Foelske (cont')

Ardith and Milton were the first ones of their families to break away from Wisconsin, and it was their plan to return after Milton retired, but he developed cancer, which made the return impossible. Although Milton temporarily went into remission, the cancer returned and Ardith was determined to care for him at home. Milton and Ardith were such inspirations that the hospice aides marveled at the peace inside the Foelske home, to which Ardith replied "that's because God is in this house." When Milton passed away in 2002, several aides even attended the funeral.

Ardith had such a love for her mission church, which had become like family to her, that she remained in East Brunswick until 2006. When she returned to Wisconsin, she settled in Sheboygan, which allowed her to be close but not too close to both children. Wayne is currently a teacher at Manitowoc Lutheran High School, and Pamela and her husband are with the Kingdom Workers, traveling all over with Builders in Christ. In all, Ardith has eight grandchildren - five of whom are Christian day school teachers, one who is a pastor, and another who is on the pastor track at MLC - as well as seventeen great-grandchildren.

In addition to bringing her closer to family, the move to Sheboygan allowed Ardith to return to St. Paul's, where she has been a member since 2006. One of the things she loves about the church is how many opportunities there are to deepen her faith. Although Ardith has too many favorite hymns to choose just one, her favorite Bible passage is from Revelation 2:10: Be thou faithful until death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

Perhaps the most striking thing about Ardith is that both backward and forward - from her great-grandparents who were founding members of St. Jacobi, to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, each of whom knows their Lord and Savior - is the remarkable legacy of faith.

Looking back, Ardith marvels as she sees the hand of God throughout her life. Her advice to everyone: lean on the Lord.

Interview by History Committee (Feb. 2020)

St. Paul's Church Calendar—April 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 8:10 am Chapel 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Mindful Moms 4:15 pm Public School Cate-chism 5:00 pm Lenten Meal 6:30 pm Church Council 6:30 pm Lenten Worship	2	3	4 6:00 pm Lakeshore Lutheran Chorale Concert
5 8:00 am Worship Service 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service	6 6:00 pm Worship 7:00 pm Choir	7	8 8:10 am Chapel 10:00 am Mindful Moms 4:15 pm Public School Cate-chism 5:30 pm Stewardship 6:30 pm Evangelism	9 1:30 pm Ladies Aid 2:30 pm Newsletter 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Worship	10 1:00 pm Good Friday Worship Service 6:30 pm Good Friday Worship	11
12 7:00 am Easter Church Service 8:15 am Easter Breakfast 10:00 am Easter Church Service	13 No evening Worship	14	15 8:10 am Chapel 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Comfort Keepers 10:00 am Mindful Moms 4:15 pm Public School Cate-chism 6:30 pm Board of Ed	16	17	18
19 8:00 am Worship Service 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service	20 6:00 pm Worship 7:00 pm Choir	21	22 8:10 am Chapel 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Mindful Moms 4:15 pm Public School Cate-chism	23 6:30 pm Bible Study	24	25 1:00 pm LWMS Rally
26 8:00 am Worship Service 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Youth Group Meeting 10:30 am Worship Service	27 6:30 pm Trustee Meeting 6:00 pm Worship 7:00 pm Choir	28	29 8:10 am Chapel 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Mindful Moms 4:15 pm Public School Cate-chism 6:30 pm Elders	30 6:30 pm Bible Study		

St. Paul's School Calendar—April 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 8:10 am Chapel 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Mindful Moms 4:15 pm Public School Cate- chism 5:00 pm Lenten Meal 6:30 pm Church Council 6:30 pm Lenten Worship	2	3	4 6:00 pm Lakeshore Lutheran Chorale Concert
5 8:00 am Worship Service 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service	6 6:00 pm Worship 7:00 pm Choir	7	8 8:10 am Chapel 10:00 am Mindful Moms 4:15 pm Public School Cate- chism 5:30 pm Stewardship 6:30 pm Evangelism	9 1:30 pm Ladies Aid 2:30 pm Newsletter 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Worship	10 1:00 pm Good Friday Worship Service 6:30 pm Good Friday Worship	11
12 7:00 am Easter Church Ser- vice 8:15 am Easter Breakfast 10:00 am Easter Church Ser- vice	13 No evening Worship	14	15 8:10 am Chapel 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Comfort Keepers 10:00 am Mindful Moms 4:15 pm Public School Cate- chism 6:30 pm Board of Ed	16	17	18
19 8:00 am Worship Service 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service	20 6:00 pm Worship 7:00 pm Choir	21	22 8:10 am Chapel 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Mindful Moms 4:15 pm Public School Cate- chism	23	24	25 1:00 pm LVMMS Rally
26 8:00 am Worship Service 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Youth Group Meeting 10:30 am Worship Service	27 5:30 pm Trustee Meeting 6:00 pm Worship 7:00 pm Choir	28	29 8:10 am Chapel 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Mindful Moms 4:15 pm Public School Cate- chism 6:30 pm Elders	30		