

North Shore Church News

g r o w i n g G o d ' s c h u r c h



OUR PURPOSE IS TO GROW AND DEEPEN
CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP
IN A FAITH COMMUNITY GUIDED BY THE
HOLY SPIRIT.

August 2016

“A Few Thoughts On.....”

OUR PURPOSE IS TO GROW AND DEEPEN
CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP
IN A FAITH COMMUNITY GUIDED BY THE
HOLY SPIRIT.



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Sunday Morning

8:30 Worship—Chapel
10:00 Worship—Sanctuary
10:15 Sunday School
11:00 Coffee & Fellowship

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Fox Point, WI

Vol. 34 Issue 8



Being Carried

Dear Friends,

In these most recent weeks, as I have found myself in many conversations regarding both personal and national tragedies, I have also found myself drawn to the long-beloved poem, “Footprints in the Sand.” The poem (or story, depending on which version you are reading) starts off with a man dreaming of a walk next to God on a sandy beach. As his life is flashed before him in the sky, he looks over his past and sees two sets of footprints in the sand, the marks of his walk next to God throughout the journeys of his life. He notices, however, that in those darkest, most difficult, times of his life, only one set of footprints can be seen. He questions God, ‘Why did you leave me?’

“‘My precious child,’ God answered, ‘when your life had pain, I knew; the single set of footprints, were the times I carried you.’”

As I have reflected on this poem in light of all we have experienced in our country in the past few weeks, I have been struck by a small detail in this notion of being carried. If there is one thing I remember about being carried as a child, it is that being carried was a two person effort. Like any young boy, I remember those days that I wanted to feel and appear bigger, older and stronger than I actually was. In pursuit of this goal of displayed independency, I would often start walking around and lifting bigger kids—showing to everyone what I saw to be my tremendous strength. At the same time, however, I needed to show how big I was—so, I didn’t want ANYONE to be able to lift me, and I did whatever I could to avoid it. I certainly don’t know the physics of it, but I truly felt as though, somehow, I could make myself heavier. Somehow, I was able to lower my center of gravity and make it that much harder to get me off the ground. I would stiffen my body, clench my arms, and do whatever I could to avoid the dreaded outcome of someone else actually being able to lift and carry me (can you say control freak?)! Amazingly enough, more often than not, I was successful. I was literally able to make it harder on those who were trying to carry me.

Being Carried cont...

I learned very early, as a child, that being carried is a two person effort (if you are parent of younger children, compare the experience of carrying a tired three year-old who climbs up and holds on at the end of a long day, to that of trying to wrangle a three year-old throwing a tantrum and refusing to remain still). While there is no doubt that the work lies heavily on the carrier, and very lightly on the person being carried, the commitment to the process rests on both parties. If we are to be carried we can stiffen our bodies, lower our weight, squirm, fight, and do all in our power to make it as difficult as possible on the carrier. Or, we can let ourselves go, cooperate with the person trying to help us, and make the whole thing that much easier and more effective.

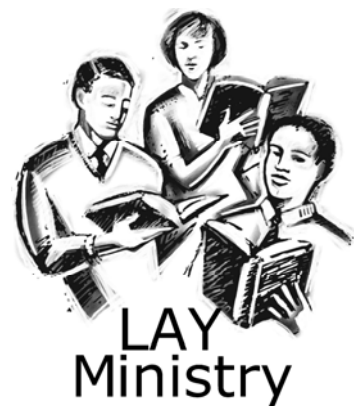
Now, here's the 'point.' We have no control over the fact that we will, now and then, need God to carry us a little, or perhaps a lot. If there is anything of which I have been reminded in our national experience this summer, it is that. No matter what we do, life will arrange that necessity for us. What we can control, however, is whether we will welcome the help, offer ourselves up and cooperate, or stiffen, squirm and fight it, and make it that much harder for everyone involved (especially ourselves). The simple truth is that the time will come in which you'll need God to carry you—the question you'll face, however, is how difficult you're going to make it!

Your Pastor and Friend, **Marty**

The Wisconsin Congregational Association offers a Lay Ministry series led by Ministers of our churches with a focus on leadership in the church, the Bible, theology, and the Congregational Way.

You may take a portion of the classes of interest or participate in the full 3-year series through which you may be commissioned and recognized for lay-ministry.

Please pick up a brochure on the shelf below the bulletin board or contact Rev. Julie with any questions! Please apply by August 15th, seminars begin in **September**.

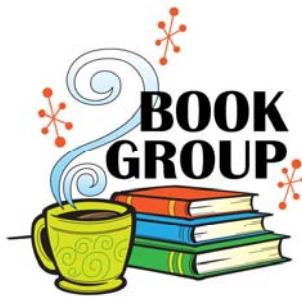


EDUCATION AND FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

A few of our “Inreach and Outreach” opportunities! Watch For More!

Tuesday Morning Book Group

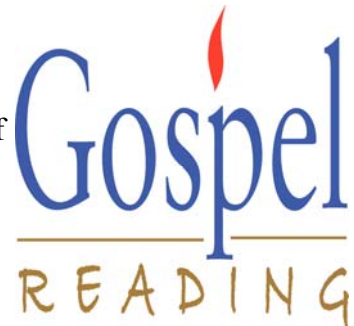
Starting August 9th through September 6th please come on Tuesday mornings, 10am - 11am and share in some “on the spot” readings and TED Talks toward topical discussion around Sabbath, Forgiveness, Compassion, Faith-Belief and Doubt.



Knit together by God! Please note, the group will meet August 19 at 1:00 pm in Friendship Lounge. Bring your summer project along.

Thursday Morning Bible Study

In August we return to our regular weekly schedule; meeting in Friendship Lounge from 9:30 – 11:00 on Thursday mornings. We have had a wonderful time discussing the Gospel of Matthew and will look forward to our next focus of study beginning in September. If you have an interest or would like to simply come and see if this is for you, please feel free to join us in Friendship Lounge. If you have any questions or thoughts about this please contact Julie Smith at 414-588-8693 or juliesmith@northshorecongl.org.



FELLOWSHIP AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES



Repairers of the Breach Lunch Making

We are in need of your help on August 7th in the church kitchen at 11:00 (after the 10am worship service) making 75 bag lunches for Repairers of the Breach daytime homeless shelter. Please contact Tom Smith at jtsmith5@sbcglobal.net if you can shop or donate items ahead of time.

Tend the Garden

We are so glad some families have come to weed and water the garden that was planted during our Summer Bible Camp, "Gardening for God" As Jesus says in John's Gospel, "Come and See!" It looks as if the harvest will be great! Please contact Rev. Julie or Maribeth if you can come over during August and tend the garden.



HOSANNA MISSION TRIP

Hosanna Mission Team 2016

On Saturday, June 18, eight youth and six adults from North Shore Congregational Church headed out on the road to Rochester, Pennsylvania, for a one-week mission trip.

Joining forces with Hosanna Industries Inc., the group painted a mobile home, demolished and rebuilt a dilapidated porch, hung drywall, mudded a two-story home, and completed other miscellaneous tasks. The team provided more than \$67,000 of market-value home repairs to four homes during the week.

The amazing mission workers included: Brian Hanrahan, Barb Holzhauer, Haley Krueger, Olivia Krueger, Laura Lennie, Nicole Lennie, Mitchell Niemeyer, John Papineau, Megan Re, Paul Scharnweber, Sheri Scharnweber, David Schimpf, Lindsey Schimpf and Timmy Snider.

Thank you for your prayers during experience and continuing to support this wonderful mission “To help build God’s Kingdom.”

Please join us in church on August 28th to hear about the experiences from this year’s Hosanna Mission Team!



Some of our members taking a break ...

HOSANNA MISSION TRIP

Hosanna Industries, Inc.

A Reflection from past Hosanna Missions

I've been reading the blurbs about the mission trip which have been appearing in the newsletter and the Sunday Bulletin, with something of the green eyed monster of envy. I went along, I think, for three years and loved it. I think some of my enjoyment came in associating with different age groups, parents of college age kids, parents of high school kids, and the kids themselves. As I've said before, I hadn't had teen friends in many years, in fact since I'd been one myself and that was a long, long time ago. I was the only one of my age in the group and I was in the early 80's, Reasonably good health but no building talents at all.

Then I had a bad year and a half health wise. I decided I should stay home because if I got really sick it would spoil the trip for everyone. I try to help in other ways: 1) Helping with a small donation for extras on the trip; 2) I send lots of homemade cookies; 3) Do what advertising I can about the good these trips do for others.

Matthew 25 has a quote which I always think about when I'm at Hosanna. Very freely, it says in words from Jesus, "What you do for the least of these, you do for me." Whether I'm just helping pick up scraps in the yard or inside painting, or cutting back weeds, etc... I feel that verse inside me. It is the BEST feeling. If you are well and enjoy working with others and helping others, consider going along next year. It would be so worth it to you and to those you are helping. Thanks for listening. **Love, Pat Jipson**

LOAVES AND FISHES

St. Ben's Meal is an outreach program that serves Milwaukee's neediest citizens. On the third Tuesday of each month, September through May, NSCC provides casseroles, desserts and servers for the evening meal. Please consider joining over 100 NSCC volunteers* who already help out on this much needed, and personally gratifying program. If you have questions, please contact Dona Wininsky, 414-778-2243.

(*Last year's volunteers will receive a separate mailing. Please respond only once.)

I will provide casseroles (one recipe = two pans)

Monthly (September-May) _____

The following months (please list) _____

As needed (Dona will call to confirm) _____

I will prepare desserts (60 pieces)

Monthly _____

The following months (please list) _____

As needed (Dona will call to confirm) _____

I will serve at St. Ben's (please list number of servers) _____

The following months (please list) _____

PLEASE NOTE – **MARCH** IS RESERVED FOR CONFIRMATION CLASS

As needed (Dona will call to confirm) _____

I will drive food from church to St. Ben's (pick up at 3:45pm)

Monthly _____

The following months (please list) _____

As needed (Dona will call to confirm) _____



RETIREMENT PLANNING WEBINAR



Do you wonder:

- ❖ How can I pay for retirement?
- ❖ How should I invest retirement assets?
- ❖ How can I maximize my Social Security and Medicare benefits?

Free retirement planning Webinar/Seminar

Wednesday, August 10, 8 am - 10 am (continental breakfast starting 7:30).

NACCC office (8473 South Howell Ave. Oak Creek, WI) OR home viewing via your computer.

RSVP to Dan Drea at 1-800-262-1620 ext 1616 or email ddrea@naccc.org.

See flyer for more information (below the bulletin board).

NSCC BRIDGE MARATHON 2016-2017



COME & be a part of a fun group of church ladies!!

Find a partner and join our Bridge Marathon for the coming season. We hope to kick off the year with a simple luncheon and Bridge game at the church in September.

Then, you will have a schedule of "who" to play "when" over the next seven months (each team pairing set their own dates) and we will wrap up the year with another simple luncheon and Bridge game at the church in May!

Catch a theme here? We like to have fun, enjoy a light lunch together and play Bridge. Join Pat Harper, Beverly Riggert, Pat Jipson, Sue Wood, Mary Ferguson, Hetty Tollefsen, Liz Strong, Susie Bigham, Pat Seidel & Joyce Evans. Come, join in.

Notify Marsha Krosnosky (mkrosnosky@icloud.com) or Jeanne Gaenslen (414.218.5415) of your interest.



THIS AND THAT....



We are currently finalizing the changes to our member profiles after our Membership Profile drive. If you did not receive a profile, or have yet to send it back, please either do so or give Connie Mullins a call in the office on Monday or Thursday between 10am and 2pm.



Have you liked our page on Facebook? See what everyone is up to! We regularly post pictures or other information so that we can all share in the life of our congregation. This is also a way that we can share our ministry with our friends on social media! You can use this link to reach the page;

<https://www.facebook.com/north.church.3/>

A reminder that the Office hours for the Church are between **8:30am and 2pm Monday through Thursday**. During this time the telephones and doors are sure to be answered. Should you find yourself needing to be in the church outside of these hours, call ahead to see whether there is someone to open the door for you. There is most often someone in. If not, then please use our voicemail system to leave a message with the person you are trying to reach. Emergency phone numbers can be found on the back of all Orders of Worship or the Newsletter. Email is another option.



REPORT ON THE NATIONAL ASSOC. OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES (NACCC) ANNUAL MEETING

It was my pleasure and privilege, as your delegate, to attend the 62nd Annual Meeting & Conference on Saturday, June 25-Tuesday, June 28 in the Detroit/Dearborn area of Michigan. The focus & theme for the conference was “Who is my Neighbor? Luke 10:29 – a fitting theme while in metro Detroit, one of the most diverse areas in the United States.

The theme expanded on this description of ‘neighbor’ in the following way:

- ❖ It’s not a matter of proximity
- ❖ Or a matter of who looks like me
- ❖ Instead, a matter of who is travelling through this life, at this time, that we may have an impact on them, and they on us. Looking at not only those within our church, but our communities and many of the NACCC missionaries across the world.

Our time there included several Business sessions, ministry council reports, a 3-part Bible lecture, and the final review and ratification of the Articles of Incorporation for the Corporation for the National Association Congregational Christian Churches of the United States.

Bible lecture series: Bible lectures are part of the conference agenda every year – it’s not only taking care of the business of the association, but learning, discussing and growing together. This year the lecture series was done by Rev. Stephen Butler Murray. His presentation was very thought provoking – he spoke about how people today explain that they aren’t necessarily religious, but are spiritual and then reflected on what that might mean moving forward. Rev. Murray is an ordained minister in the American Baptist Church, has served as senior pastor of the First Baptist Church of Boston, as the American Baptist chaplain to Harvard University and presently is president and professor of Systematic Theology and Preaching at Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit.

New Member churches: At a time when religious groups are challenged in maintaining and growing their congregations, it was a pleasure to vote to accept 10 Congregational churches into membership in the NACCC – 8 congregations new to the association and 2 returning congregations.

Plymouth Landing, 400th anniversary: The year 2020 will be the 400th anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth, MA. At last year’s annual meeting, it was proposed and voted that the NACCC offer to partner with the planning group for the anniversary celebration. The NACCC “Plymouth Landing Anniversary Task Team” has been created and has joined as an organizational partner with Plymouth 400 Inc. I’m sure we will hear more about this as the time of celebration draws closer. However, if this bit of history and the celebration interests you, you can visit their website for more information: <http://www.plymouth400inc.org/>

Also attending the conference from our congregation were: Rev. Martin Hall, Rev. Julie Sheridan-Smith, Debby Fulton and Rick & Barb Bauzenberger.

Location of next year’s Annual Meeting & Conference: Piedmont College in Demorest, GA – about 1.5 hours northeast of Atlanta, GA, in the foothills of the north Georgia mountains.

Respectfully submitted: Laurie Swartwout

NACCC YEAR ROUND DELEGATE REPORT

As your Year Round Delegate to the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC) my “job description” has two parts. The first is to provide periodic updates through this Newsletter and to the Council about events, services, and opportunities available through the Association. The second part of being a Year Round Delegate is to take feedback or questions from the congregation back to the NACCC.

I was not able to attend the NACCC Annual meeting this year. Laurie Swartwout did attend as your Delegate. Be sure to see her report in this Newsletter.

The June 2016 issue of the Congregationalist magazine is available in the library or on line at <http://www.congregationalist.org/>. This issue includes an interesting article “Judaism and Congregationalism: The Reality of Diversity.”

The NACCC Board of Governors has generously pledged to donate dollar for dollar up to \$12,500 any donation to the Shared Ministry Fund through September 1, 2016. The Shared Ministry Fund supports NACCC operations (50%), the Congregational Foundation (30%), and the Providence Fund (20%). The Congregational Foundation ensures the financial well-being of the NACCC. The Providence Fund provides grants to member churches to assist them with sending a delegate to the Annual Conference. You can make a donation directly to the NACCC Office, PO Box 288, Oak Creek, WI 53154-0288, or online at <http://naccc.org/>

The NACCC is partnering with the Ministers and Missionaries Benefits Board (MMBB) to offer a retirement planning seminar. The seminar will be on Wednesday, August 10th from 8:00 am - 10:00 am CDT at the NACCC offices in Oak Creek, WI. The seminar will also be presented as a webcast for those of you not in the Oak Creek area.

Financial planning experts from MMBB will be on hand to present sound strategies to start building towards your secure retirement. They will also talk about how social security and Medicare fit into a sound retirement strategy including the latest changes in the social security provisions. Topics will include issues unique to clergy but the vast majority of the information shared will be applicable to non-clergy as well. More information and registration details can be found at <https://simplebooklet.com/nacccretirementplanningseminar>

I would like to hear from you. What would you like to know about the NACCC and its programs? Best way to initiate a conversation is to corner me (Mark Swartwout) after Worship service, or send an email to me at Mark.Swartwout@gmail.com.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Save the Date!!!!!! Rally Day is just around the corner on September 11!

All children will begin in worship with their families at 10:00 and be dismissed for Sunday school after the children's sermon.

Look for Sunday School registration forms on the church website and on the shelf under the bulletin board in the main hallway!

The Crib and Crawler will continue to be staffed from 9:45-11:15 each Sunday morning.

I'm sure that many of you, in your spare time, have wondered why someone would teach Sunday School at NSCC! Here are a few things to think about! Every week is different and there's never a dull moment!

- ☺ Crafts: Paper, foam, markers, stickers, felt, you name it. If it is sticky, you can find a way to incorporate it into a lesson at least once.
- ☺ Make more connections to the great families at NSCC.
- ☺ Practice your crowd-control skills.
- ☺ Learn more about the Bible.
- ☺ Form a team with other Sunday School teachers. We're a fun bunch!
- ☺ It's an opportunity to give back to this great church community.
- ☺ You can have a front row seat at the Christmas Pageant. You've earned it! Talk about an over-abundance of C-U-T-E!
- ☺ Share your faith and what matters to you with young people.
- ☺ The great kids who come to NSCC! They are fun, smart, and they need you!

If any of them appeal to you, contact Maribeth Penno (maribethpenno@northshorecongl.org), and join the ranks of the few, the proud, the faithful ...the Sunday School Teachers!

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Please consider this...

We have been good and truly blessed with Sunday school teachers this past year and are looking forward to creating, equipping and encouraging a team of teachers to begin our fall program year (Sept 11). I am looking to staff each classroom with a team of 4 teachers! Please contact Maribeth Penno to volunteer ~ training, curriculum and supplies are provided. I would love to hear of your interest in this vital ministry!



Crib n Crawler will be
staffed during worship on
Sunday mornings from
9:45 – 11:15.

Questions?
Contact Rev. Julie
Sheridan- Smith today!
414-352-6123 or 414-588-8693
juliesmith@northshorecongl.org
Or
Maribeth Penno, 414-352-6123 or
maribeth@northshorecongl.org
Or **Leslie Krueger**
LeslieKrueger@northshorecongl.org

CONFIRMATION CLASS UPDATE

Confirmation Class



Families with children going into 7th grade and above!

If you are interested in Confirmation class for your child(ren) and have not received registration forms and information in the mail, please contact Rev. Julie at 414-588-8693 or juliesmith@northshorecongl.org.

The incoming Confirmation class will begin their session together on Sunday mornings from 9am – 10am. **September 1 our first class will be an orientation for parents and students!**

SUMMER HAPPENINGS WITH YOUTH!

July 16 we returned from our week at the Wisconsin Congregational Association Camp; renewed, refreshed, invigorated by old and new friendships and a deepened sense of God in our lives, transformed and exhausted!



We were grateful for the many returning campers AND new campers, we are grateful to the many volunteers who give over their time, heart, and energy as Directors who write and implement programs and events, Counselors who build relationships with the children and youth, our Nurse who manages medications and anything that comes up during the week and the Kitchen staff who tirelessly prepare yummy meals and snacks.

Some of the same youth and adults that came to camp had also gone on the Hosanna Mission work week in Pennsylvania! In the midst of upheaval in our world news we are so very grateful to see God's good work at hand.



NSCC Staff and Members at Camp!

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North Shore Congregational Church
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL:

| Staff Member: | Email Address: | Church Extension: | Outside Phone: |
|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Rev. Dr. Martin Hall | martinhall@northshorecongl.org | x15 | 248-245-0415 |
| Rev. Julie Sheridan-Smith | juliesmith@northshorecongl.org | x14 | 414-588-8693 |
| Kerrin White | kerrinwhite@northshorecongl.org | x12 | |
| Maribeth Penno | maribeth@northshorecongl.org | x13 | |
| Rick Kieffer | rickkieffer@northshorecongl.org | | |

NORTH SHORE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Phone (414) 352-6123 ~ Fax (414) 352-8320 ~ www.NorthShoreCongl.org
www.facebook.com/north.church.3

*A member church of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches
and the Wisconsin Congregational Association.*

MINISTERS

All members of North Shore Congregational Church

ASSISTED BY

| | |
|--|---|
| Rev. Dr. Martin Hall, Senior Minister | Rev. Julie Sheridan-Smith, Associate Minister |
| Maribeth Penno, Assistant to Christian Enrichment | Rick Kieffer, Music Director |
| Dr. Rodney Loren, Organist | Becky Whelpley, Organist |
| Leslie Krueger, Children's Choir Director | Kerrin White, Office Manager |
| Mike Fugarino, Custodian | Shannon Schimpf, Crib & Crawler Coordinator |
| Cal Papineau, Abby and Jack Schill, and Nicole Lennie, Sunday Custodians | |