

# 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.

December 2016

## ***“A Few Thoughts On.....”***

### **A Joyous Season Ahead**

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



Ornament Exchange .....	4
Calendar of Events .....	6
Save the Date .....	7
Loaves & Fishes.....	8
Giving Tree .....	9
Share Your Nativity .....	14
Christmas Luncheon .....	15
Advent Festival .....	16
Youth News.....	19

#### **Sunday Morning**

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

©North Shore Congregational Church,  
Fox Point, WI

**Vol. 34 Issue 12**



Dear Friends,

Have you ever asked yourself what it would have been like to have been among those who were there that night? Have you ever considered what the experience might have been for those who witnessed the birth, saw the angelic choir or visited the infant Jesus in the Manger? Have you ever reflected on what that experience would have meant for them? Have you ever thought about what it would have been like for you?

These are the questions that we will explore together in the weeks ahead.

Over the course of the Advent Season, and through to Epiphany, we will embrace a different character of the Nativity on each Sunday, we will reflect on what the experience was like for them, and we will consider what that means for those of us who remember and celebrate the Christmas story today.

On November 27 we will consider the experience of Joseph – a well-respected man faced with the impossible choice between the expectations of his peers and the expectations of God.

On December 4 we will look to the story of the guests at the Inn and consider how their Christmas experience can be a profound reminder to those of us embracing every element of this wonderful season.

On December 11 the choir will share Cantic of Joy by Joseph Martin and we will briefly examine the shepherds and the people who had waited generations for the promised Messiah and wondered if this might truly be the one!

On Christmas Eve we will focus on the Innkeeper himself – an unmentioned but oft-cited character of the story who was face to face with the birth of the Messiah and had no idea what stood before him.

## A Joyous Season Ahead cont...

On New Year's Day the spirit of new beginnings that comes with the New Year will draw us towards Zechariah and Elizabeth and the miracles that unfolded in their lives at Christmas.

Then, on January 8, we will come to Epiphany worship and look to everything the Magi were willing to endure to discover the Newborn King.

Throughout the season there will special gatherings, unique worship opportunities, and a plethora of meaningful music to uplift our hearts and minds – all of which is explained in much more detail throughout this newsletter. As we enter into the season, however, I encourage you to allow yourself to reflect, a little, about what it would have been like for those who were there that night – and, allow yourself to reflect, a little, on what that says to those of us who celebrate that very same story today.

Your Pastor and Friend, **Marty**

---

### A Few Things....



#### Christmas Morning

Join us Christmas morning for an informal exploration into the Christmas story through a worship of **Lessons and Carols**. Wear your PJ's, come relaxed, and join in song and Scripture as we take a little time to remember what the day is truly about.



Our pre-service 'Carol-sing' was a big hit in 2015, so we are going to do it again! At **9:30am on Sunday, December 18**, we will gather in the sanctuary for 30 minutes of singing the carols of your choice. Please join us for this fun opportunity to lift our voices as we belt out some of our most beloved songs of the season!

Please note that there will only be **one worship service** (10:00am) on December 25 and January 1. The 8am service will continue through December 18, and then resume on January 8.



Christmas and New Year Day  
Worship Service

## EDUCATION AND FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

Book Group meets in Friendship lounge on Tuesdays, 10:00-11:00 am. In December we are taking an Advent Journey with Alexander Hamilton's book, *Not a Silent Night: Mary Looks Back to Bethlehem*.



**\*Please note there will be no book group meeting on December 27.**

### Wednesday Evening Study with Professor John Perry

John Perry concludes his weekly discussion on the Resurrection Appearances of Jesus on Wednesday December 14, from 6:30 – 8:00 pm, in the upper room classroom. Watch for updates for future classes with John Perry.



*If you have any questions or thoughts about Bible studies and book groups, please contact Rev. Julie Smith at 414-588-8693 or [juliesmith@northshorecongl.org](mailto:juliesmith@northshorecongl.org).*

### Thursday Morning Bible Study

Join us in Friendship Lounge on Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:00 as we discuss the Book of Acts with deep insights, shared conversation and laughter. 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.

**Please note there will be no Bible study on Thursday, December 29.**



### Knit together by God!

Finishing touches on Christmas projects...Or whatever you are knitting...come share in good company. Join us Friday, 1:00 – 2:00 pm. NOTE! We will meet at Elizabeth Krueger's/ Sarah Chudnow's library space. Contact Rev. Julie if you would like a ride! Do you have some good patterns or ideas to share? Bring them!



## FELLOWSHIP AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES



### A Neighborhood First Friday Event!

Friday, December 2 - Coffee, Chords and Kids! Come for an evening of live music, coffee, tea, and desserts for the adults and a movie for the kids, 6:30 – 8:30 pm.

Hosted by North Shore Congregational Church, this is a neighborhood event, invite your friends! (There is no charge, a free will offering for the musicians appreciated.) Invite Neighbors, come and relax!

Our Music will be provided for by **Mike's Country Classics** - a vocal and instrumental trio featuring songs of America's West with Mike Roth-bass, Twila Bergeron-guitar and Jonathon Brodie-fiddle.

A supervised movie will be shown for the kids downstairs in our new large group room.

Contact Rev. Julie if you can make a delicious dessert to offer.

---

### Repairers of the Breach Lunch Making

For December 4, stay after church and help make Bag Lunches for Repairers of the Breach daytime homeless shelter. All ages welcome and needed to help! If you wish to help by donating items such as pretzels, carrots, peanut butter or jelly please contact Tom Smith at [jtsmith5@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jtsmith5@sbcglobal.net) or call 414-774-8688.



### Advent-Epiphany

**Devotional!** Thank you to all who shared prayers and reflections that became a beautiful devotional booklet for the church. If you have not yet picked up a copy, please do so ~ copies are in the lower narthex! Grow in faith each day during this season by reading NSCC's daily devotional.



---

### Moms 'n' More Annual Ornament Exchange and Christmas Party!! December 18, 5:00 pm

Please join us for a get together that will surely put you in the Christmas spirit! We will continue our annual ornament exchange tradition. Please bring a wrapped ornament with no name on it for the swap. The ornament can be hand made or at/ under a \$10 value. Also, please plan to bring an appetizer, drink or dessert to share. It should be a lovely evening!

Molly Allen has graciously agreed to host the event at her home:

1300 E. Fox Lane  
Fox Point  
414.588.9360  
[mollywallen@gmail.com](mailto:mollywallen@gmail.com)



## **EXPLORING THE NATIVITY THROUGH WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP – THIS CHRISTMAS AT NORTH SHORE CHURCH**

### **❖ Sunday, December 4**

- ◆ Evergreen/Poinsettia Pick-ups and Giving Tree
- ◆ 8:00am and 10:00am worship with communion
- ◆ YouthConnect
- ◆ Children's Ministry talk-back and Repairer's Meal prep at 11am

### **❖ Sunday, December 11**

- ◆ Giving Tree continues
- ◆ Music Sunday during the 10:00am worship service
- ◆ Children start downstairs at 10:00am for Pageant Rehearsal and Sunday school
- ◆ Share Your Nativity Brunch and Advent Fest at 11am (details on pages 14 and 16)

### **❖ Sunday, December 18**

- ◆ Carol-Sing at 9:30am
- ◆ Sunday School Pageant during the 10:00am worship service
- ◆ Congregational meeting immediately following the 10:00am worship service

### **❖ Saturday, December 24**

- ◆ Twilight Worship with candlelight service at 4:00pm
- ◆ Special Pre-Service music at 8:30pm
- ◆ Candlelight service at 9:00pm with choir and bells

### **❖ Sunday, December 25**

- ◆ 10:00am worship service ONLY
- ◆ Lessons and Carols service (see details on page 3)

### **❖ Sunday, January 1**

- ◆ 10:00am communion worship service ONLY
- ◆ Repairers Meal Prep after the 10am worship service

### **❖ Sunday, January 8**

- ◆ Epiphany Sunday with worship at 8am and 10am





## SAVE THE DATE!

A Congregational Meeting has been scheduled for immediately after the 10am worship service on **Sunday, December 18**. The primary purpose for this meeting will be to review and approve the budget for 2017. The Church Council will also share a preliminary presentation about a minor change in our 'volunteer year' that will be presented for action in early 2017.



### Special Submission Dates for Publications

- ❖ January Newsletter – December 12
- ❖ December 11 bulletin – December 1
- ❖ Christmas Flower Dedications – December 12
- ❖ December 25 and January 1 bulletins – December 13



### Holiday Office Hours

The Office will be closed on December 26 in observance of Christmas. For the remainder of the week between Christmas and New Year's, the office will remain closed due to staff vacations. Rev. Marty will be around throughout the week – please contact him for assistance and/or call before you come into the office.

### Children's Ministry Talk-Back

As we continue to examine the long-term staffing of our Children's and Youth Ministries, we have one more talk-back session scheduled in which we hope to hear from as many church members as possible. Whether you currently have children in the program or not, please join us after the 10am worship service on **December 4** for our final talk-back session as we prayerfully dream forward to 2017 and beyond.

## LOAVES AND FISHES

December 20, 2016

### CASSEROLES

### DESSERTS

Gaenslen	Callaway
Gorham	Wauck
Slagle	Sweet
Slagle	Weber
Quilling	Arnold
McGinn	Zganjar
Ritke	Dowsett
Swenson	Ford
Petersen	Jipson
-----	Reimer
-----	Hadcock
-----	Lemorande



MAN DOES NOT LIVE ON  
BREAD ALONE BUT ON  
EVERY WORD THAT COMES FROM  
THE MOUTH OF THE LORD.  
DEUTERONOMY 8:3

### DRIVERS

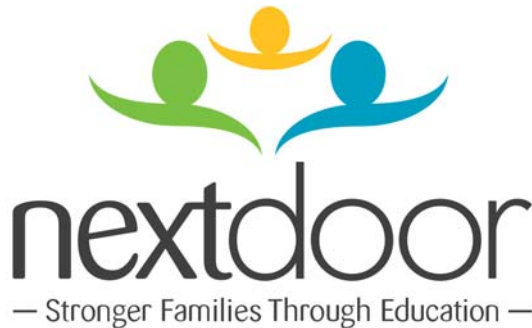
Quilling	Arnold	Gorham
----------	--------	--------

### SERVERS

Slagle	Slagle
Slagle	Arnold
Slagle	Gorham
Slagle	Jipson



## BENEVOLENCE SPOTLIGHT



We will be sharing our Christmas joy with children and teens in need, once again this year, by bringing presents to put under our Giving Tree. Please take a tag (or two!) from the tree. Most of the tags show the name, age and gift requests of a young child who attends the Next Door Foundation. The Next Door Foundation is a nationally recognized program that provides early education and support services for at-risk children ages 6 weeks to 5 years old in Milwaukee's central city.

Other tags are for at risk boys ages 13 to 17 who live at Nehemiah House, a group home that offers the boys educational support and life skills training. These boys need warm winter coats or jackets, sizes L to 3X.

Please pick one of the gifts requested on the tag. The recommended price limit is \$25. Wrap the gift and put in under the Giving Tree by Sunday December 11. Members of the Benevolence Board will sort and deliver your gifts to Next Door Foundation and Nehemiah House before Christmas. Thank you for your generosity. Your gifts will bring joy, comfort and warmth to many children and young people in need this holiday season.



---

Thank You North Shore Congregational Church! We gave a whopping **1,113 lbs. of food to Hunger Task Force**. Many families will be helped this holiday season from our generous donations!

Blessings,  
**The Benevolence Board**



## STEWARDSHIP - THE PARABLE OF THE MUSTARD SEED

Dear members of North Shore Congregational Church

Thank you very much for your 2017 Stewardship Estimates of Giving (EOG)! The mustard seeds are still growing, and will all through 2017, just as your time, talents and treasures will help North Shore in the year to come. If you have not yet submitted your EOG, please consider doing so. The EOG's are the cornerstone of our fiscal planning for the next year.



Pledging our time, talents and treasures is something we do together, do for one another, and do as a response to God's grace.

Thank you Again

**Your Stewardship Committee**



### *Christmas Decorations and Dedications*

Your Decorating Committee is once again making plans to adorn our beautiful building for the upcoming Christmas season. We always look forward to seeing our sanctuary in all its glory as we worship at this very special time of year. Being mindful of the financial strains on both the church budget and our own personal budgets, we do our best to help you experience the true joy and blessings of Christmas at North Shore Church. Donations to our flower/decorating fund, which is made available to decorations and plantings placed in the building and around the church campus throughout the year, will be gratefully accepted. We are also always looking for more helping hands and creative ideas, so please consider joining us in this special endeavor.



## MINISTRY OF THE MONTH

Loaves and Fishes is a hands-on outreach program to feed the poor in Milwaukee. Many of the guests are homeless and/or unemployed, however a substantial number are underemployed, working part time and/or for minimum wage and struggling to make ends meet on a limited budget. Many are children. The Loaves and Fishes program often makes the difference between going to bed hungry or well-fed.

Loaves and Fishes is a Community Outreach program that NSCC has supported since 1981. On the third Tuesday of each month, September – May, church members prepare, deliver and serve casseroles and desserts to the guests at St. Ben's.

Other organizations and donors provide additional food items and financial contributions. Each night, 300 – 400 guests participate. At the meal, they also receive information about additional free services such as legal counsel, haircuts and other personal grooming services, and warm clothing such as gloves, hats and socks.

Serving has become a family-oriented activity, involving parents, grandparents, and children. Each year the Confirmation Class takes a turn at serving and report it is one of the most gratifying and memorable experiences of the year.

For more information about this ministry, or to volunteer to participate, please contact **Dona Wininsky**.



## HEALTH COMMITTEE

### THE MIND DIET

There is a diet that benefits both your heart and your brain. This diet is the Mediterranean diet combined with a low salt (sodium) diet which helps to lower hypertension and benefit the heart. The Mind Diet focuses on plants, whole grains and fish.

Two recent studies have shown this diet to help the brain. These studies show that this combined diet can slow age-related cognitive decline and perhaps even reduce the risk of Alzheimers disease.

While not all studies have reported the same positive association of cognitive function, these studies suggest that heart friendly effects of dietary patterns may also be brain friendly. Improved cholesterol and blood sugar levels can lead to healthier blood vessels, which means improved blood circulation and increased oxygen to the brain. The causative effect is a reduced risk of small strokes in the brain blood vessel network and better brain function overall.



\*\*\* Facts from Mayo Clinic newsletter

- submitted by Bill Dowsett

---

### Share Your Nativity

Do you have a special, unique or treasured nativity scene that you would like to share with the congregation? This is your chance. As we reflect on the characters of the nativity scene throughout this Christmas season, join us for a special lunch and 'Share Your Nativity' event **immediately following the 10:00 am worship service on December 11.** Tables will be set throughout the Fellowship Hall for your displays, and cards will be available if you would like to share any stories or details about your nativity.

If you would like to come by to drop of and/or set up your nativity early, the tables will be available beginning Tuesday, December 6.



## LYDIA CIRCLE

### NSCC Christmas Luncheon

Thurs., Dec. 15 (arrive 11:45)

NEW LOCATION—ZARLETTI in Mequon

1515 Mequon Rd. (former Laacke and Joys)

ORDER/PAY AHEAD \$30-due 12/11

Choose from:

Turkey BLT, Italian Cheesesteak

Grilled Salmon, Caprese Salad

(price includes entrée/salad, beverage

{soda, tea or coffee}, dessert

[mini tiramisu and mini cannoli],

Entertainment by the Nightengals, tax  
and tip)

Check payable to NSCC Lydia Circle





## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



### ADVENT FESTIVAL

**Sunday December 11-** 11:00-2:00. Following worship please join us for brunch and stay for carols, stories and crafts. It's a fun afternoon for those who like to craft and a great opportunity to slow down and socialize with church friends. Interested crafters can make a nativity scene to take home or give as a gift.



### CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS AT A GLANCE

- ☺ December 4 : The Messiah is Born (Luke 2: 1-20)
- ☺ December 11: Pageant Dress Rehearsal - **No KidsConnect today!**
- ☺ December 18: Christmas Pageant during worship
- ☺ December 25: No Sunday school
- ☺ January 1: No Sunday School

### PAGEANT SUNDAY

Sunday, December 18 at the 10:00am worship service. You won't want to miss this one!!!!  
"A Star is Born" will be presented by our Sunday School children and youth. Join us in celebration of his birth and remember that it is his light alone that enlightens our lives.



### COFFEE, CHORDS AND KIDS

December 2 from 6:30-8:30pm. While the adults enjoy coffee, music, and fellowship, the children can enjoy a movie!!!! In pj's if they choose...BRING A FRIEND!

### HAPPY LIFE CHILDREN'S HOME

Each week, during Sunday School, we take an offering. 100% of the money we collect goes directly to Happy Life Children's Home in Africa. Less fortunate children are given a home, in hope for adoption.

In these next couple months of giving and being thankful, reach into your hearts and please consider giving more to this amazing place!

## CHILDREN'S CORNER



Consider developing a deeper relationship with your children and their church school education. Please sign up to be a **teacher or 2nd adult** in one of the classrooms this month. Responsibilities as a second adult include, sitting back and enjoying the awe and wonder that only children have as they learn about the birth of Jesus. What better place is there to get into the Christmas Spirit than in one of the Sunday school classrooms? It's an experience you won't want to miss. Check the sign-up sheets, next to the door of the classroom, when you drop off/pick up your child. Please feel free to sign up in any classroom! Or, contact Leslie Krueger to sign up or to find out more.

**Acolytes:** We are grateful for the children that light the sanctuary candles at the beginning of worship each Sunday. We are growing this team so if your child would like to be an acolyte but needs a brief "training" session please contact Leslie Krueger.



**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  
Or **Leslie Krueger**  
lrcook@uwm.edu

## CONFIRMATION CLASS UPDATE

### Confirmation Class



Sharing our Highs and Lows, learning together, group projects, donuts, ushering with mentors, helping out with several service projects...these are a few of our favorite things!

During Advent our Confirmation class families will be leading our prayers and lighting the Advent candles. If you haven't yet met these great kids, stop and introduce yourself!

**December 4**, the students, mentors and some parents will gather after worship to package up delicious **home made cookies**, write cards, load up into cars and head out to **visit some of our senior members**. Such a joy!

We need helpers with our **Advent Festival** craft tables on **December 11**. Stay for lunch and earn a service hour or two! Contact Rev. Julie to volunteer.

With Enjoyment,

*Julie*

## HAPPENINGS WITH YOUTH!

### YouthConnect@Church!

- ☺ **Breakfast 9am** in the church kitchen downstairs for Senior High youth. **December 4 and 18.** Let's try every flavor of pancakes we can think of! Chocolate chips, S'more, Banana Walnut...what else?
- ☺ **Pizza, Music, Trivia** and Minute to Win it Christmas style – Friday, **December 9,** 6:30-8:00 pm.

This is for Jr. and High School people (but a few adults would be welcome to help!). Please give Rev. Julie your cell phone number to be included in the youth group text reminder.

- ☺ **Christmas Eve Candle Lighting!** At the close of our beautiful Christmas Eve service (both **4 pm and 9 pm**) the room will be lit up by each person's candle. We need a team of 6-8 youth to help start the light at the end of each pew. Contact Rev. Julie to sign up. First come first in!

Parents/Youth: Let us know if there is a special event, games, musical, play etc that you are involved in so the church can cheer you on! Message Rev. Julie with dates and events.



**(USPS 394-740)**

Issued monthly by North Shore Congregational Church, 7330 N. Santa Monica Blvd., Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53217. Annual subscription price 50 cents. Periodical postage paid at Milwaukee, WI. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to North Shore Church News, 7330 N. Santa Monica Blvd., Fox Point, WI 53217.

414-352-6123  
North Shore Congregational Church  
7330 N. Santa Monica Boulevard  
Fox Point, Wisconsin 53217

PERIODICAL POSTAGE  
PAID AT  
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL:

<b>Staff Member:</b>	<b>Email Address:</b>	<b>Church Extension:</b>	<b>Outside Phone:</b>
Rev. Dr. Martin Hall	<a href="mailto:martinhall@northshorecongl.org">martinhall@northshorecongl.org</a>	x15	248-245-0415
Rev. Julie Sheridan-Smith	<a href="mailto:juliesmith@northshorecongl.org">juliesmith@northshorecongl.org</a>	x14	414-588-8693
Kerrin White	<a href="mailto:kerrinwhite@northshorecongl.org">kerrinwhite@northshorecongl.org</a>	x12	
Leslie Krueger	<a href="mailto:lrcook@uwm.edu">lrcook@uwm.edu</a>	x13	
Rick Kieffer	<a href="mailto:rickkieffer@northshorecongl.org">rickkieffer@northshorecongl.org</a>		

**NORTH SHORE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

Phone (414) 352-6123 ~ Fax (414) 352-8320 ~ [www.NorthShoreCongl.org](http://www.NorthShoreCongl.org)  
[www.facebook.com/north.church.3](https://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	
Adam Penno, Sam Marx, Abby and Jack Schill, and Nicole Lennie, Sunday Custodians	