

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.

June 2016

“A Few Thoughts On.....”

Summer Vacation

OUR PURPOSE IS TO GROW AND DEEPEN
CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP
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HOLY SPIRIT.



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Sunday Morning

8:00 Worship—Chapel
9:00 Confirmation, Children's Choir &
Centering Prayer
9:15 Chancel Choir
10:00 Worship—Sanctuary
11:00 Coffee & Fellowship
©North Shore Congregational Church,
Fox Point, WI

Vol. 34 Issue 6



Well – it seems that it is finally coming! Despite the unseasonable cold snap (and the snow that some of us witnessed over the weekend), the flowers and trees are blooming, the birds are chirping, and by the time you read this message Memorial Day will be upon us, spring will be in full swing, and summer will be right on its heels. It's just a matter of a few weeks, now, before school lets out, pools open, travels ensue, and we all bask in the joys of summer vacation! What I want to point out as that date approaches, however, is that things at North Shore Church will be active and thriving throughout the summer, and I pray you will come around to be a part of it.

The truth is the one of the recurrent themes I have encountered in ministry (regardless of where it is) is the manner in which ‘summer vacation’ has become an institutional reality for the Church. As schools close for the season there is an immediate shift in culture that begins to function as though the churches have closed along with them. At some point along the way, the 9-month school-year became the norm for the church-year and we don't give a second thought to the practice of walking out of worship in early June and not returning until Labor Day has come and gone.

There is no question that we all have vacations, commitments and opportunities in the summer months that impact our participation in the life of the church (our family will be missing a handful of Sundays for trips as well). One of the first conversations we shared among our staff when I arrived last summer, however, was our commitment to one basic and fundamental principle – that worship in August is every bit as important as worship in April! In other words - God doesn't take summers off, so why do we?

Heading into the summer of 2016, this is an assumption and practice we hope to transform! Throughout the summer we will have scheduled activities and programs such as the July 7 Chinooks game that will draw our community together during

Summer Vacation cont...

the summer months. We are making an intentional commitment to multi-level Sunday school opportunities for our kids each Sunday throughout the season. And, our staff is coordinating a 10-week worship series based on the hymnody of the church that will include reflections from the staff, special music presentations, and more (you'll hear more about this in next month's newsletter).

We know that we all (including our church staff) will have opportunities and commitments that will impact our participation in the life of the church over the summer. As a staff, however, we are working diligently to support the conviction that God is just as much God in July as He is in January – and, as a community of faith, we must live up to that truth. We pray that you will have joyous and safe experiences throughout the summer months. We also pray, however, that when you are home, you will join us as we continue our ongoing journey to worship, explore and grow closer to the God who never takes a break on us!

We'll see you this summer, **Marty**

Intergenerational Mission Opportunity

The Hosanna Mission Trip in Western Pennsylvania is Saturday, June 18 - Friday, June 24.

This is a cross-generational week of work, fellowship, spiritual growth, and building God's Kingdom! Ages 12 and older, all levels of fitness, and all levels expertise are needed. If you are interested in being a member of the Meal Team or serving on the Mission Team, please contact David Schimpf at 262-242-8709 ASAP.

Both Youth and Adults will be commissioned for the June 18-24 Hosanna Mission/Build trip to PA during our 10am worship service on **June 5**. *Hosanna Industries, Inc.*



June 19th is not only special because it is Father's Day! Join us for worship in which we will see and hear about the creativity and fun that happened during our Summer Bible Camp "Gardening for God!" Don't forget to check out the garden they planted near the circular drive out front! Watch it's progress during the summer OR volunteer a day or two to its care.

EDUCATION AND FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

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

Tuesday Morning Book Group



10 to 11 am,
Tuesday mornings:
In June we finish reading “The Art of Neighboring: Building Genuine Relationships Right Outside Your Door.” We will not meet in July!

Thursday morning Bible Study

Please note that we will gather between **9:30-11:00** on **June 2nd, 9th, and 16th**, completing our conversation on the Gospel of Matthew. Please feel free to join us in Friendship lounge.



Knit together by God! Join us any third Friday at 1 pm in Friendship Lounge. Contact Rev. Julie if you would like to get on the monthly reminder list (in case we take to the road again)! We would love to knit you in ~ join us!



Spruce up in Spring: At the end of April an energetic team of people cleaned, scrubbed, dusted, and polished up the sanctuary and narthex: Many thanks go to Catherine Shepard for leadership and the mighty work of Su Davison, Bo Dowsett, Sharon Hall, Pam Holmes, Barb Holzhauer, Marsha Krosnosky, Katy Nelson, Trish Paul, Hetty Tollefsen, and Debra Warejcka



FELLOWSHIP AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Repairers of the Breach Lunch Making June 5th.



Come down to the church kitchen and help make 75 bag lunches for Milwaukee's daytime homeless shelter. You are always needed! If you are able to help in other ways such as shopping for supplies, donating items ahead of time, making desserts, or delivering the lunches on Monday morning, please contact Tom Smith at 414-774-8688 or jtsmith5@sbcglobal.net

Take Me Out to the Ballgame!

Join with other members and friends of North Shore Church as we see our own Lakeshore Chinooks battle the Wisconsin Woodchucks, **July 7th at 6:35 pm at Kapco Park in Mequon, WI.** Tickets are on sale after the 10 am worship service, in Friendship Lounge, for just \$9.00 for grandstand reserved seating. Look for Sharon Hall on June 5th, 12th, and 19th after worship. Feel free to email Sharon at disneyfamily01@gmail.com to reserve your tickets, or call 262-236-9847.

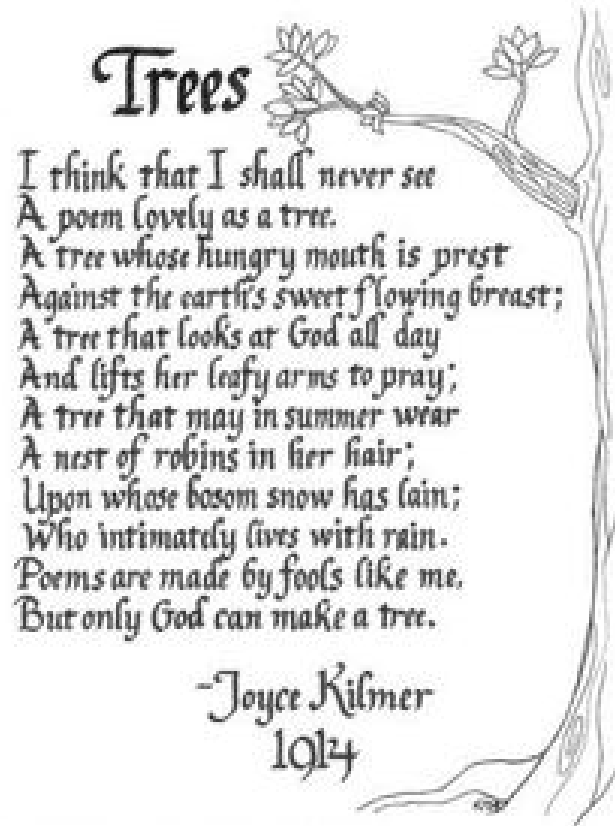


THE PLANTING OF A TREE

At some long ago adolescent year of our church, Bill Riggert, House Chairman and Jeanne Gaenslen, Board of Trustee Chairman, together, on their knees, planted a very small Blue Spruce tree next to the south east parking lot door. A bystander, watching them till the soil said, “You know that this is going to grow, don’t you?!” – And grow it did! And as it climbed towards the Heaven, like most of God’s handiwork, age took its toll – and now, what was once a small tree, grown to full beauty – a haven of birth song and shade – has been laid to rest.

With the generous help of Judy Shirley in the choosing and the planting, a new White Star Magnolia tree stands in the place of the one which served is so well for so long. It is a gift to the Church in Honor of Bill Riggert and Fred Gaenslen by Beverly and Jeanne.

As the American Poet, Joyce Kilmer reminded us in his final line of the Poem “Trees,” “Only God can make a Tree.”



SUMMER BIBLE CAMP

“Gardening for God”

SUMMER BIBLE CAMP

JUNE 14-16

9:00AM-12:00PM

Preschool – 5th grade (completed)

Friends and neighbors are invited to attend!

Join us to learn how God created the earth and everything on it!
Explore why we are caretakers of God’s Creation and help grow a garden!

Happy Life Children’s Home has a garden!

They use the food they grow to eat and sell at a market!

All proceeds beyond covering the cost of supplies go to
Happy Life to help them continue to grow God’s creation!



Stories and songs,
crafts and games,
outreach projects,
and of course yummy
snacks!



Sign up today!
\$25 per child.

(Enrollment fee will
cover cost of supplies
and benefit Happy Life
Children’s Home.)

Please register by
June 3rd. Call the
church for more info.
(414)-352-6123

Registration forms
available at NSCC and
on the church website.

NORTH SHORE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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HELPS FROM THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

LIFE - BLOOD

Leviticus 17:11 tells us “For the life of the flesh is in the blood.” In several verses, the blood of Jesus describes *protection* and also *cleansing*.

Our own blood delivers life-giving oxygen and nutrients to every cell in our body, and carries away wastes and toxins to be eliminated. Its white cells fight off invading bacteria and viruses, protecting us from disease. When we need it, as every 3 seconds in the U.S. someone needs blood, there is no substitute.

According to the Blood Center of Wisconsin, someone in your area receives a blood transfusion every 4 minutes. Another fact is that 1 in 3 people will need a blood transfusion in their lifetime. 1 unit of blood can benefit up to 3 individuals.

We need encouragement to recognize the need to offer ourselves to donate this precious gift. The need becomes greater during the summer months and holiday periods when donations decrease around 20%. Although 60% of the eligible population can donate blood, only 5% actually do so. The Blood Center needs 800 donors daily, 6 days per week, statewide, to meet the needs of its 50 member hospitals in Wisconsin.

To donate blood you must be at least 17 years old, weigh more than 110 pounds, and in good health. There are some medication and travel restrictions to ensure the safety of the blood supply. A private health screening is done prior to donating.

Our church is fortunate to be very near Fox Point Lutheran Church, at 7510 N Santa Monica Blvd, that offers blood drives for the Blood Center of Wisconsin, throughout the year. This year's dates are:

**TUESDAYS:
MAY 24, JULY 26, SEPTEMBER 20, NOVEMBER 22
from 2 - 6 pm**



Appointments are encouraged, call 877-232-4376 or www.bcw.edu.

Walk-ins welcome (enter via east door).

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 have mentioned that the 2016 NACCC Annual Meeting & Conference will be June 25-28 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Detroit/Dearborn. The theme will be “Who Is My Neighbor?” (Luke 10:29) Registration, Hotel, Meeting, and Conference information is available on the NACCC web site. The direct link is <http://www.naccc.org/2016-amc-information.html>. I will not be able to attend this year due to a prior commitment. Laurie Swartwout, your Moderator-Elect, will be the Delegate. A major item on the agenda will be the revised Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation as the NACCC moves from being both an Association and a Corporation to being a Corporation.

I found the Annual Meeting & Conference to be a great opportunity to learn about **How** and **What** the NACCC is doing, to make my views heard, and to meet and learn from other Congregationalists. You don't need to be a delegate to participate, contribute, and enjoy the Annual Meeting. I hope you will consider attending. See the link above for more detail or email me (see below) with questions.

Laurie and I were among the attendees from North Shore Church at the Annual Meeting of the Wisconsin Congregational Association which was held at the First Congregational Church of Beloit on April 30. Laurie was our church's Delegate. Rob Fredrickson gave a very informative presentation about Mission Mazahua in the central highlands of Mexico. Rob has led several mission trips there. Reverend Hall was part of a group presentation about “Practical Ways to Empower Laity.” This was another great way to meet and share with other Congregationalists.

The Year Round Delegates recently had a series of Town Hall Meetings over the telephone. It was a chance to meet others, share our experiences with the program, and ask questions of the NACCC Leadership. Further meetings are planned.

I hope these monthly reports have been informative and that you have taken the opportunity to explore the NACCC web site and look through recent editions of the Congregationalist. I hope I have encouraged you to get more involved in the NACCC. If you have specific questions or interests; or would like to provide feedback to the NACCC, feel free to contact me. 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.

WCA 2016 MEETING REPORT

Several members of the North Shore Church Family attended the Annual Meeting of the Wisconsin Congregational Association (WCA), held at the First Congregational Church of Beloit on Saturday, April 30. Reverends Marty Hall, Julie Sheridan-Smith, and Mike Robertson attended and took part in the meeting program. Reverend Karl Schimpf and Mark Swartwout also attended. I was the voting Delegate from our church, appointed by Church Council.

The morning session at these meetings is a set of presentations from several member churches about recent programs or initiatives. These can be very inspiring. The Church in Mukwanago described how they rewrote the Church Constitution doing away with large committees and adapting a "mission team" approach. Rob Frederickson narrated a video presentation about Mission Mazahua in Mexico and a recent trip he led there. Their church members have volunteered there several times. Reverend Marty Hall was part of a group that presented thoughts about "Practical Ways to Empower Laity." Though the presentation was primarily aimed at Clergy, they shared some good thoughts that would apply to board and committee chair and members as well.

Also during the morning session was the presentation of "Certificate of Completion" for the Leadership and Lay Ministry Program. This is the second group that has completed the three-year program. Recognizing the study and work accomplished by these five individuals was very moving. Reverend Julie Smith is one of the leaders of this program, which is now planning a new session, recruiting students and instructors.

Lunch provided an opportunity to meet new friends and renew old friendships with people from around the state.

The Business Meeting was held after lunch. We quickly went through the various annual reports from committees and officers of the WCA and approved the 2016-2017 Budget. A main topic of New Business was a Bylaw change relating to ministerial "recognition" by the WCA. This mainly applies to ordained clergy who are not currently called to a member church who desire to perform duties such as weddings, funerals, and lead worship services.

Reverend Stu Merkel from Faith Community Church in Franklin, the incoming Moderator, spoke briefly about his vision for the coming year. Following that was a call for volunteers/nominations from the floor to fill the Nominating Committee for the coming year. The meeting does not conclude until the slate for the Nominating Committee is filled – an interesting way to recruit participants! Also - in the congregational way – a vote was taken to decide on a recipient group for the day's offering.

WCA 2016 MEETING REPORT CONT..

The day closed with Worship and Communion.

The 2017 WCA Annual meeting will be held at North Shore Congregational Church. At that time Reverend Julie Smith will be moving from the position of Moderator-elect to Moderator of the WCA. There will be opportunities for volunteers and an invitation to all members to attend.

Laurie Swartwout



At its May meeting, the NSCC Council accepted a proposal that the institution of a Pastoral Relations Committee be brought before the congregation at the June 12th annual meeting.

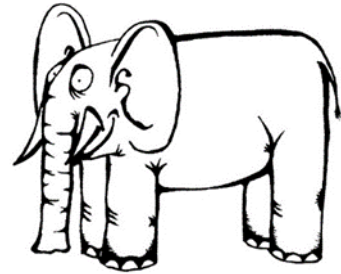
A Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC) is a small group of church members that offers intentional, structured and consistent support for the pastor(s). Acting as a sounding board, a PRC provides a safe and confidential setting in which the pastor(s) can express feelings, concerns, hopes and ideas with respect to the church and his or her role of pastor, and receive information, feedback, guidance and encouragement. PRC's can increase a minister's awareness of a congregation's hopes and concerns as well as assist in clarifying the expectations and needs of both the minister(s) and congregation. PRCs foster an open and healthy relationship between ministers and congregations, allowing the church to more effectively achieve its mission.

Both Marty and Julie are familiar with Pastoral Relations Committees (Marty served a church that has a PRC) and are very much in favor of starting this tradition at NSCC. To learn more about how a PRC can offer support to our ministers and promote the overall well being of our congregation, please attend an information session on June 5th at 9:00am or 11:00am in the Library.

LYDIA CIRCLE

Lydia White Elephant Fun(d) Raiser and Planning Picnic

Mon., June 13 @ 4:30pm @ Hetty
Tollefsen's



7730 N. Beach Dr.,
Fox Point

Wrap up those unwanted, unused,
regifted, forgotten treasures and bring
\$\$\$ to buy those of others.

Since the original date in Jan. for the
White Elephant didn't happen, we're
combining it with our Planning Picnic. We need your ideas/
preferences for **programs** for next year.

Plan on bringing an hors d'oeuvre, salad or dessert to share as
well as whatever beverage you'd like.

Bring a friend! Sign up so we'll have a
balance of food options.

Hopefully the weather will cooperate
for at least that afternoon/evening.

Car pooling is always encouraged!



BRIDGE MARATHON



Join us for
The Annual Ladies' Bridge Marathon Luncheon

on Wednesday, June 8th at 11:30am
in Friendship Lounge.

Please bring a sandwich and deck of cards. Salads, desserts and beverages will be provided. Please contact **Liz Strong at 414-351-6398** if you will attend.

We are also looking for new bridge players to join us. If you are interested in playing or have questions, please give Liz a call.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Sunday School News!

June 5 – God Created!

June 12 – God Created More!

Children in grades preschool - third grade will meet downstairs in their regular classrooms. Children in grades 4 – 7 will meet upstairs in the youth room.

Summer Sunday school beginning June 19! All children will begin worship in the sanctuary with their families and go to Sunday school after a children's message. Children Kindergarten and younger will meet in the Crib N Crawler for some fun Veggie Tale lessons and activities! Children 1st grade – 5th grade (completed) will meet in the youth room for lessons and games. This is a great volunteer opportunity for those that are unable to assist in the classrooms during the school year! Please let Maribeth Penno know if you are able to teach one Sunday this summer or be a helper in the 1st-5th grade class!

Summer Bible Camp is happening June 14-16! All children ages 3 through 5th grade (completed) and their friends are invited to attend! 6th grade and older are encouraged to sign up as helpers! Please mark your calendars for this fun event!

This year's theme is "Gardening for God!" We will explore creation in our own backyard, learn how we were created in God's image and celebrate how beautiful everything turned out! It's a fun filled, action packed 3 days of songs, games, crafts and outreach projects. Our support of Happy Life Children's Home in Kenya has helped make major changes to their facilities and quality of life for all the children that live there!

Opportunities to help include setting up and decorating, helping during the week of camp with games, snacks, and crafts. Please contact Maribeth Penno for more information! We would love any help you can give!

We have been blessed with a fabulous and dedicated group of very special Sunday school teachers this year! I am truly thankful for their time and teaching! Please thank these teams of teachers next time you see them! Preschool-K5: **Carolyn Grove, Kathy Schill, Laurie Navarro**, 1st/3rd grade: **Leslie Krueger, Sarah Krauss and Laura Santilli**, 3rd/4th grade: **Jane Ford, Jennifer Hadcock, Pam Enea and Bo Dowsett**, 5th/6th grade: **Linda Emery, John Papineau**, Confirmation mentors: **John and Mary Tornetta and Rick and Mary Taves-Ruenzel**.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

I am looking for a few additions to the teaching teams for fall! Please consider being an important part of this ministry. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to pray about the possibility of teaching the children of our church. Curriculum is prepared for you and everything is prepped in advance. All you need is a love of children and your church to be a teacher! Please contact Maribeth Penno if you have ANY questions or are interested in being an important part of this ministry!



Come be grandma for an hour! (Or Grandpa, or Aunt, or Uncle...) As we head into the late spring and summer, our normal local college students who tend to our Crib and Crawler each week will return to their homes for the summer break. We have an individual willing to be in there much of the summer, but are hoping to fill in the needs with a pool of volunteers willing to take a Sunday here and there, through the late spring and summer, to care for the youngest of our church family. Volunteers are usually asked to arrive by 9:45, and will be done around 11:15. If this is something you would be willing to be a part of, please contact Maribeth or one of our Ministers.

Crib & Crawler



Save the date!

NSCC Summer Bible Camp Gardening for God" will be held at North Shore Church, June 14-16 from 9am-12pm. (See page 7 for more details)



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



On May 22nd fourteen of our young people confirmed their faith as well as joined the church as full members! Thanks go out to this group's mentors: Rick Ruenzel, Mary Taves-Ruenzel, and John and Mary Tornetta for assisting with the class as well as additional activities such as the Challenge Course and Zip Line experiences, cookie deliveries, serving at St. Ben's "Loaves and Fishes," and visiting our neighboring synagogue. Many of these events were also made possible by parent volunteers who sat in during class time, did our Advent candle lighting prayers, helped drive to events and encouraged and brought their children to class on Sundays during our two year process. We also thank the Fellowship Committee for providing dinner for our concluding dinner and exam on May 18th.

Congratulations to: Gordon Wentworth and William Prindle Allen, Joseph Vincent Enea, Thomas Hadcock, Brian Clark Hanrahan, Joseph Charles Jacobus, Theodore Rex Kies, Haley Lucille Krueger, Katie Ann Lennie, Samuel Santilli Marx, Julia Dewane Papineau, Adam Timothy Penno, Lindsey Nicole Schimpf, and Timm David Snider.

Watch for news and updates for the incoming Confirmation students who will meet on Sundays beginning in September 2016 through May 2018! This group will be made up of youth entering 7th grade and up. If you have questions about the class for your child please contact one of our Ministers!

Planning for summer? **SAVE THE DATE!** July 10-16 at Mt. Morris in Wautoma, WI. Open to all youth grades 3-12. **WCA Camp** is about strengthening connections of friendship, fellowship and faith — with yourself, with others, with scripture and, most of all, with God. If you're interested in strengthening these connections while having lots of fun and meeting new friends, you'll have an awesome time! Where is it? Mt. Morris Camp and Conference Center, Wautoma, WI.

Go to <http://wiscongregational.net/> for registration forms and information!

Scholarships are available to offset some of the fees - just ask Rev. Julie!

Mark your calendar for Summer Bible Camp at church, 9-12, June 14th-16th. Youth - we would love to have you help us run games, or crafts, or music! Contact Maribeth Penno or Rev. Julie to sign on!



**Contact Rev. Julie
Sheridan-Smith today!**
414-352-6123 or 414-588-8693
juliesmith@northshorecongl.org

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NORTH SHORE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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*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	