

North Shore Church News

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



Come Before Him With
Thanksgiving

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

November 2016

“A Few Thoughts On.....”

Voting on Faith...

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HOLY SPIRIT.



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Sunday Morning

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

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Fox Point, WI

Vol. 34 Issue 11



Dear Friends,

Allow me to start, this time, with outlining the fundamental premise of that which I want to express in this month’s message. Stated simply – the separation of church and state has absolutely nothing to do with your vote next week! Now, allow me to say a little more...

Unless you have been living in depths of a mile-deep cave located somewhere on the far side of Mars – you, like all the rest of us, are painfully aware of highly charged, highly contested, media-circus of an election in which we will take part on November 8, 2016. From President to dog-catcher, our ballots will be full of individuals who are seeking our support for their respective positions in our governmental system. Some will lean red, some blue, and a few other will have a purple hue, but there they will be – names on a card on which we have to make a choice. And, that’s where my point comes in.

It may seem silly to say it, but I feel particularly compelled to remind us all that the separation of church and state has absolutely nothing to do with your vote next week! The simple truth is that the vast majority of us walk into that polling place riddled with baggage. We walk into that poll loaded down with political affiliations, social justice perceptions, financial considerations, legal viewpoints, constitutional perspectives, personal relationships, and a host of other things that ramble through (or perhaps keep any other thoughts from inkling into) our brains. But, all too often, we forget our faith. Whether we realize it or not, we walk into those booths carrying our checkbooks, investment portfolios, accreditation cards, voter registration cards, and a dozen other things that guide our thoughts and considerations and, all the while, we leave our faith sitting at home!

Far too many of us have grown increasingly comfortable with the notion of allowing our national commitment to a separation of church and state to become the practical equivalent of a separation between faith and voting. When we finally get past our absurd focus on who has the better hair, we focus on fiscal policies, trade policies, social policies and a

Voting on Faith... cont..

plethora of other matters that make a real difference in the world in which we live. We focus on these perspectives of the candidates and weigh which of those available to us more fully fit that which we believe is best. How often do we ask ourselves, however, how well those very beliefs fit into our understanding of Scripture? How often do we seek consistency between the message of the candidates and the message of our faith?

It is not my wish, my desire, nor my place to push anyone in the direction of any candidate in any particular race. It is my wish, my desire, and my place, however, to remind us all that our faith is not only allowed, but belongs in that voting booth! No matter who you are leaning towards, and no matter what you are thinking as you consider the selections you will make in so many important elections on November 8, I implore to take the time to test your own perspectives.

Prior to the election, ask yourself two questions:

- ❖ Are you making this vote because it is what you think?
- ❖ Are you making this vote because it is what you believe serves the purposes of God in our world?

I suggest that, if the answer to either of those questions is 'no,' for any one of us, we have some re-thinking to do.

Your Pastor and Friend, **Marty**



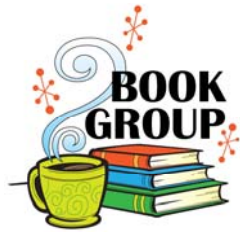
Join us, Sunday, **November 6**, for our annual Remembrance Sunday. During the 10am worship service, we will remember those who have died in the past 12 months as family members present a flower in their honor. Please do not miss this annual tradition of remembering our beloved who have gone before us.

Remember to set your clock back on Sunday **November 6** when Daylight Savings ends!



EDUCATION AND FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

Tuesday Morning Book Group



Meets in Friendship lounge on Tuesdays, 10-11 am. For the first half of November we are discussing *Proof of Heaven: A Neurosurgeon's*

Journey into the Afterlife by Eban Alexander M.D. Mid November through mid-December we will take an Advent journey imagining Jesus from his mother Mary's point of view with Alexander Hamilton's book *Not a Silent Night: Mary Looks Back to Bethlehem*. Contact Rev. Julie if you would like her to order a book for you.



Wednesday Evening Study with Professor John Perry

John Perry continues to discuss Resurrection Appearances of Jesus on Wednesday evenings, 6:30 – 8:00, in the upper room classroom. Come for what is sure to be an intriguing, enlightening and challenging discussion on this core aspect of our faith.



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.

Thursday Morning Bible Study

Join us in Friendship Lounge on Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:00 for engaging conversation with the Bible and each other. We are exploring the Book of Acts. 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.



Knit together by God!

Christmas projects, prayer shawls and good company. Join us Friday, **November 18** from 1pm – 2 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, November 4 - **Coffee, Chords and Kids!** Come for an evening of live music, coffee, tea, and desserts for the adults and movie for the kids, 6:30 – 8:30.

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!

Guitarist Naeim Rahmani. Naeim is an award winning classical guitarist who performs in the Milwaukee area, Seattle and internationally and is on staff at the Latino Arts String program in Milwaukee.

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 November 6th stay after church and help make Bag Lunch making for Repairers of the Breach daytime homeless shelter. This is a wonderful activity that people of all ages can do together. If you wish to help by donating items such as pretzels, carrots, peanut butter or jelly please contact Tom Smith at jtsmith5@sbcglobal.net or call 414-774-8688.



Are you ready for some **Football?**

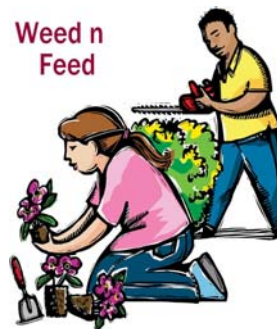
November 13 after the 10am worship service join in fellowship with friends from North Shore Congregational Church as we watch the Green Bay Packers take on the Tennessee Titans! Brats, hotdogs and other game fare will be served. So, get your game gear ready to help root the Packers on to another win on their way to the Super Bowl!



Weed n Feed:

We need your help preparing the gardens before winter. Come Saturday, Nov 19, 9 – 11 am, for the “Final Cut Down.”

Bring some gloves and light tools! It is always a joy to work together. Contact Judy Shirley judyshirley@wi.rr.com to RSVP!



A big thank you to the crew that worked on October 4th! Su Davison, Ana Frable, Michael Krosnosky, John Papineau, Trish Paul, David Schimpf, Judy Shirley, Don Stahl, Mary Taves-Ruenzel, and Susan Wauck. We shared a wonderful potluck dinner of chili and salad after working.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS - LOOKING FORWARD

- November 6-20** Poinsettia Greenery Sale - pick up date November 4. Order Forms available at tables on Sunday, November 6, 13 and 20, and in the office. See insert for more information
- November 6** Communion/Remembrance Sunday, YouthConnect, Repairers of the Breach Bag Lunch Express - DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS
- November 13** Stewardship Drive Conclusion, Children's Choir Sings, Packers Bash Lunch and KidsConnect
- November 20** Children's Chapel, YouthConnect Breakfast, Prata Duo Concert
- November 24** Thanksgiving Worship

Advent/Christmas Primer

Mark your calendars for a wonderful season of worship and celebration throughout Advent and Christmas this year. With a seasonal focus on the characters of the nativity our worship, devotional and fellowship life will seek to help us all focus on the experience of Christmas for those who were there when...!

- Sunday, **November 27** ❖ Advent begins
- Sunday, **December 4** ❖ Second Sunday of Advent with communion
- Sunday, **December 11** ❖ Music Sunday with a 'Bring your Nativity' luncheon to follow
- Sunday, **December 18** ❖ Carol sing at 9:30, children's pageant as part of the 10am service, Congregational Meeting after the 10am service
- Saturday, **December 24** ❖ Christmas Eve Services at 4pm and 9pm (pre-service music begins at 8:30)
- Sunday, **December 25** and Sunday, **January 1** ❖ One service only at 10am



SAVE THE DATE!

Join us for our annual Thanksgiving Day service on Thursday, November 24, at 9:00am. We will gather in the church parking lot at 9am, march together to the Warming House, and then worship together around the fire. We encourage all to join us for this wonderful time of worship and fellowship that reminds us of the true purpose and meaning of Thanksgiving.



Join with **Lydia Circle** on Monday, November 28 at 10am in Friendship Lounge (yes that is the Monday after Thanksgiving) as we hear from Cindee Re about her new ministry, **Chronic Joy**. Our own Rev. Julie Sheridan-Smith is on the board of this organization.

Here's a description from the Chronic Joy website to give you some background:

"But you look fine." It's something we hear often. We do look fine. But we're not. We are two of a staggering statistic – two of approximately 162.5 million people in the United States alone who live with one or more chronic illnesses. Two of half the world's population living with chronic illness. We are not alone. Yet, often we are an invisible population striving to live well in the brokenness.



Many of us are desperately hurting, lonely, exhausted, and in pain. We struggle with anxiety and depression, and sometimes with significant limitations.

Illness affects our marriages, our families, finances, friendships, education, hobbies, and work. In short, illness affects every thread and fiber of our lives.

Chronic Joy Ministry: Radical hope. Compassionate change. Equipping those affected by chronic physical and mental illness through community and education rooted in Jesus Christ. **Small groups of 4-6 will begin meeting.**

LOAVES AND FISHES

November 15, 2016

CASSEROLES

DESSERTS

Bartlett	Dowsett
Cook	Grove
Krosnosky	Hadcock
Quilling	Hannan
Tornetta	Lemorande
Bauzenberger	Levatich
Loder	Nelson
Jipson	Sweet
Navarro	Wauck
-----	Weber
-----	Wood
-----	Zimmer



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

DRIVERS

Hannan	Tollefsen	Zimmer
--------	-----------	--------

SERVERS

Hannan	Tollefsen
Lennie	Tollefsen
Lennie	Zimmer
Lennie	Zimmer

BENEVOLENCE SPOTLIGHT THANKSGIVING SPECIAL OFFERING

Two of the local missions North Shore Congregational Church supports are Lad Lake and Helping Hands Healing Hooves. Both of these missions will also be the recipients of our Special Offering this Thanksgiving.

Lad Lake considers itself to be the “emergency room of the child welfare system.” Ninety-five percent of the young people it serves come from families in crisis that are unable to offer their children the support they need due to poverty, family instability, abuse or neglect. Lad Lake counselors provide young people safety, individualized therapy and training to build the skills they will need to become independent. The residential treatment program and school for troubled boys age 9 to 18 are located on 365 rural acres in Dousman. The St. Rose campus in Milwaukee offers housing and treatment for girls age 12 to 18 who have severe emotional and behavioral issues. Lad Lake also offers off-site mentoring services, as well as independent living resources for young adults. Lad Lake serves 1100 to 1500 young people each year.



Helping Hands Healing Hooves (HHHH) is a therapeutic equine-assisted program located in the town of Cedarburg at Black Star Farm. HHHH is volunteer driven, helping individuals of all ages grow physically and emotionally through the very real connection with specially trained horses. HHHH serves more than 65 clients in their year-round facility. Individuals with almost any cognitive, physical and/or emotional disability can benefit from purposeful, safe and supervised interaction with horses. Clients are taught to care for their horse, including grooming, saddling and unsaddling, and providing well-deserved treats after their session. Each rider takes pride in the care and love they provide the horse they ride each week.



STEWARDSHIP - THE PARABLE OF THE MUSTARD SEED

The Parable of the Mustard Seed is **this year's Stewardship theme**.

What happens to the seeds of time, talent and money that we spread for our Christian ministry? They grow into bounteous and beautiful things: the guidance and inspiration of Marty, Julie and the staff, the music of Sunday worship, the education and confirmation of our kids, the feeding of those in need, the changing of lives in lands far away. These small seeds grow and spread. A small piece of what we do and share does so much more than we will ever know.



As you complete the EOG cards, consider adding a note about the time and talents you might want to offer in the next year. The blessing will flow, for you and countless others!

In Faith,

Your Stewardship Board

Grant Gallinger

Cindy Journey

Bruce Loder

Rick Ruenzel

Susan Wauck



ESTIMATE OF GIVING



North Shore Congregational Church

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

My Commitment for 2017

\$ _____

weekly/monthly/annually

(please circle one)

"...but when it is grown, it is greater than the herbs, and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in its branches." — *Matthew 13:31-32*

Please return this card to the church office by November 13, 2016



MINISTRY OF THE MONTH

Kids Connect meets on the second Sunday of each month from 4-5:30 downstairs in basement. It is open to children grades 3 through 6, and we always encourage the kids to "bring a friend!" This is a free event where we play games such as tag, sardines, and hide and seek. We almost always do an art project which fits with the time of season or lesson, have a story and snack, play bingo, go on a scavenger hunt, bake, and just have some PLAIN OLD FUN!!!!!!



Please watch the monthly newsletters and weekly bulletins for information.

The children and families benefit from this event. Not only is it wonderful fellowship for the kids, but it strengthens the relationship between the adult helpers as well.

We are always looking for volunteers for Kids Connect. Two adult helpers are needed to run things smoothly. The volunteers would help organize art projects, hand out snacks, and assist the children where needed.

YouthConnect has several ways of being. On the first and third Sundays of the month we gather for Breakfast and Conversation at 9 am in either the church kitchen downstairs or the youth room upstairs. These breakfasts are for High School youth. **YouthConnect** is also a time that Jr. and Sr. High youth get together for events such as Game Nights, Escape Room, Mini-Golf and whatever events the youth themselves plan for non Sunday morning. These events are communicated through a Group Text set up by youth as well as newsletter and email notices.



YouthConnect is designed to create and deepen the relationship of Youth of the church, friends they invite and adults such as the Ministers and mentors. Any offsite events planned must have permission slips from parents. There will always be at minimum two specified adults participating and we encourage volunteers to contact Rev. Julie to be involved in organizing, driving, and participating.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

BEING GRATEFUL

The autumn season brings crisp, cool air, the colors of nature, the bounty of harvest and Thanksgiving. While we think of those things for which we are grateful, we probably don't realize how gratitude relates to our health.

Gratitude is the thankful appreciation for what an individual receives. When people acknowledge the goodness in their lives it is associated with greater happiness, optimism, and a better sense of well-being. When one feels these positive emotions they can generate a healthier lifestyle. Gratitude can be a buffer against the negative effects of stress; we are able to cope more ably in distressing situations. Those more mindful of benefits they have received are more likely to focus on others and connect to things beyond themselves. We demonstrate this especially at our celebration of Thanksgiving.

But what about the rest of the year? How can I be a more grateful person? Dr. Norman Rosenthal, author of *Winter Blues*, writes: "Some people may not be grateful by nature but it is a habit you can cultivate." Some examples given here are things you may want to try to cultivate gratitude on a regular basis:

- ♦ Start a **gratitude journal**: think of the benefits in your life i.e. "count your blessings"; focus on what you have rather than what you lack; set a time aside to jot down things you are grateful for daily or weekly.
- ♦ **Meditate**: focus on the present moment without judgment - what you are grateful for just now (the warm sun, a piece of music, etc).
- ♦ Write a **thank-you note**: to someone who has done something you appreciate (suggested to write a note monthly); occasionally write one to yourself!
- ♦ **Pray**: for many this is the path to cultivate gratitude.



Jean Lemorande

QUARTERLY BUDGET REPORT

Receipts against pledged EOG amounts remained strong in the third quarter, and expected income from EOGs remains unchanged from the end of the second quarter. Non-EOG income has continued to grow, and this income is likely to end the year significantly higher than prior expectations.

Overall expenses are tracking along according to plan, and there is currently no need to make major budget adjustments for the fourth quarter. Printed copies of financial statements are available on the table in the narthex, and electronic copies are available upon request to Kerrin (kerrinwhite@northshorecongl.org).



Tuesday, Sept. 27 found 24 NSCC members/friends sailing on the **Denis Sullivan**. Although the weather wasn't perfect, the rain didn't start until over half way through our 2 hour sail. Here's a comment from one of the "sailors:"

- ❖ Great time to catch up or get acquainted with others from church
- ❖ Interesting to meet the crew members and hear about their travel experiences with the Denis Sullivan; enjoyed learning a little about schooners and how they're designed
- ❖ Some of us enjoyed helping hoist and lowering the sails
- ❖ Enjoyed hearing church bells tolling 7:00 pm as we came into port



I'd also received comments that "we should do more of this kind of stuff." I agree with that and look forward to similar one-off events in the future.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Sunday School News!

November at a glance:

- ❖ **November 6** – Peter and John Before the Council, Acts 4: 1-14
- ❖ **November 13** – Run the Race With Endurance, Hebrews 12: 1-13
- ❖ **November 20** – Children's Chapel
- ❖ **November 27** - One Room Sunday School – Advent activities and craft



The children's Sunday school offering makes a difference! The offering we take at the beginning of class time goes to two children from Happy Life Children's Home: Fred and new baby Sarah (we are glad to share the news that Nadia has been adopted). Check out the information board located downstairs in the Sunday school hallway. For each \$5.00 collected through offerings, a block is added to the wall. Let's make a difference in the lives of our friends in Kenya.

Children's Chapel—Once a month, at **10 am**, all the children will begin downstairs in the large group room for their own children's chapel time rather than in the Sanctuary. We will have a "mini" church service designed to help the children understand the flow and purpose of worship in the Sanctuary.



We continue to search for additional teachers and classroom helpers to join a teaching team. What will you do? Enjoy the creative conversations and ideas the kids come up with, laugh with and help during the small group game or craft. Please pray about this opportunity and let Leslie Krueger know if you are interested. Adult helpers of all ages and stages welcome!

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Kids Connect Group (grades 3-6) will meet on **November 13 from 4:00-5:30**. Ever wanted to play CLUE in real life? What about having help setting the table this Thanksgiving? Your child will be a mastermind at "Spoons!" As always, please bring a friend to join the fun!



One Room Sunday School – Sunday, November 27 During the regular Sunday school time (after the Children's Message) there will be a One Room Sunday School opportunity for children ages preschool – 6th grade. We will talk about what Advent means and make something to take home to help celebrate the Advent season.

Save the Date—Sunday, December 11, from 11:45 – 2:00 is our **Annual Advent Fest**. This year we will begin with an all church lunch following the 10:00 worship service. After lunch there will be a carol sing-a-long with crafts for all ages to complete the afternoon. It's a wonderful, well organized time for those who like to craft and a great opportunity to slow down and socialize with church friends. A small fee will be collected to help offset the cost of supplies.

Please join us for a **MORNING OF CAROLS** on December 18 from 9:30-10:00. Following singing and during the 10:00am worship service, the Children will present a short play, "*A Star is Born*." We celebrate his birth and remember that it is his light alone that enlightens our lives. This is NOT one you will want to miss. See you there!



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

Acolytes/Greeters 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



Children's Choir will sing November 13. We have been working very hard on singing "in rounds!"

Questions?
Contact Rev. Julie Sheridan- Smith today!
414-352-6123 or 414-588-8693
juliesmith@northshorecongl.org
Or
Leslie Krueger
LeslieKrueger@lrccook@uwm.edu

CONFIRMATION CLASS UPDATE

Confirmation Class



This is a very interactive group of students and Marty and I are enjoying exploring the Old Testament through their group projects, skits and comments.

We finished off October with a field trip to Congregation Shalom. Several students are taking early advantage of service opportunities, doing their sermon reports and connecting with their mentors as ushers. Watch for them and say hello, get to know these future church members!

In November we begin our journey with the New Testament: 4 Gospels 1 Story, Parables and the Beatitudes. During Advent students with other family members will be our Advent Candle lighters and readers.

Looking ahead, on **December 4** the group will make, package and deliver cookies with a visit to some of our older members.

With Enjoyment,

Julie

HAPPENINGS WITH YOUTH!

YouthConnect@Church!

- ☺ **Breakfast 9 am** in the church kitchen downstairs. **November 6** we will munch and chat and make dessert for the Repairers Bag Lunch express later that day. **November 20** come and stretch your stomach and prepare for your upcoming Thanksgiving Feast.
- ☺ **Game Night November 18:** Pizza and games - have you played “Head’s Up,” “SpyFall,” “Spot It,” or “Forbidden Island?” Soooooo fun! Come, bring a friend – bring a game to share. Game Night is for Confirmation 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.
- ☺ **Youth Retreat overnight:** Ozaukee Congregational Church **November 4-5**. Check in time 6:30 Friday evening, ends at noon on Saturday. This is a Wisconsin Congregational Association Youth event. Watch for details on other Youth Retreat overnights - February at First Congregational Church of Wauwatosa, April here at NSCC.
- ☺ **Parents/Youth:** Let us know if there is a special event, game, 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
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PERIODICAL POSTAGE
PAID AT
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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	
Adam Penno, Sam Marx, Abby and Jack Schill, and Nicole Lennie, Sunday Custodians	