

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 2018

“A Few Thoughts On.....”

Holy Indifference

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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. 36 Issue 8



Dear Friends,

At the Annual Meeting and Conference of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches, in June, I came across a speaker who spoke of a philosophy of St. Ignatius of Loyola, a 16th century priest. I had not heard this particular phrase before (or if I had, I didn't recall), but it is something that grabbed onto me in the moment in a truly remarkable way. The phrase? ***'Holy indifference.'***

Now, the key to the true power of Ignatius' philosophy is the meaning he puts behind 'indifference.' In his holy indifference, it is not indifference as in apathy – a 'who cares' attitude towards God. No! Instead, for Ignatius, holy indifference meant a total submission to the will and work of God in one's life. It's not, then, that we are indifferent towards God, it is that we are indifferent towards ourselves in the face of God's lead in our lives. Holy indifference, in Ignatius' philosophy, is the complete turning over of one's will towards the holy – the divine will of God.

In other words...

It's not what I think, it's what God thinks...

It's not what I expect, it's what God expects...

It's not what I want, it's what God wants...

It's not about my will or wants. To this I am indifferent that I may be wholly attuned to God's will instead.

That, for Ignatius, is holy indifference.

What truly jumped out to me about this concept, however, was that the timing of my hearing it simply could not have been any better. Over the past few months, our church leadership has been exploring a possible journey for the coming year that we have titled 75 and Beyond. With a number of transitions and systems coming into place over the past couple of years, and with our minds now looking

continued...Holy Indifference

forward towards the arrival of our 70th anniversary in 2019, this is the perfect time for us to consider where God is leading our church in the years ahead. Imagine if, as we came upon our 70th anniversary, we had a clear and faith-filled picture of what God wanted our ministries to become for our 75th anniversary in 2024, and beyond!

That's what 75 and Beyond is all about, and that's what we will spend a good amount of time on in the 2018-2019 program year. From preaching and opportunities for Bible studies, to open dialog about current joys and future opportunities, we will dig into some of our core ministries as a church. Holy indifferent and tuned to God's Spirit and lead, we will spend time praying, talking, dreaming and discerning God's picture for our ministries in the years ahead.

As this newsletter is being published, our Church Council is putting the gears in place to help this journey flourish in our church in the coming year. In the coming weeks and months this will continue to unfold in worship, study and dialog. I will say right now, however, that Rev. Julie and I are both genuinely excited for the stories, dreams and visions we will share in the coming year. God is at work among us, and God will be at work as we dream His dreams for our future. We truly look forward to sharing this journey with each and every member of our church family.

Your Pastor and Friend, ***Marty***

Discerning a Vision Many Dreams, Many Questions

In my opening prayer during our Congregational Meeting last month, I asked:

“Dear Lord, who are we, and where are we going?”

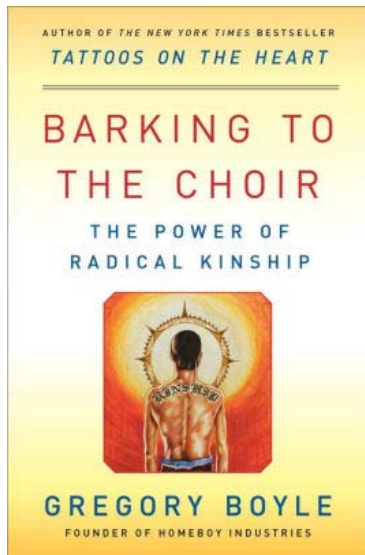
Have you ever wondered what God wants for this church? Or, looking ahead five years from now, what we are going to tell others – fellow members, friends, family, those we casually meet or others that walk through our doors for the first time – about this church – about God's church.

As we begin to develop a vision for NSCC and our ministries, there will be many questions that we, as a congregation, may not have easy or ready answers without, at least, prayerful thought, listening and reflection.

This is a tremendously exciting time for our congregation - to truly understand our strengths and what makes us unique. So let us put our faith and trust in the Lord and where He will lead us.

Rick Ruenzel Moderator

EDUCATION AND FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES



Please mark your calendars!

The **Tuesday Morning Book Group** will meet on **August 14 and 28**. We are finishing *The Book of Joy* and will begin discussing *Barking to the Choir* in mid July. Interested? Questions? Contact Rev. Julie.

If you have any questions or thoughts about Bible studies and book groups, please contact Rev. Julie Sheridan-Smith at 414-588-8693 or juliesmith@northshorecongl.org.

Thursday Morning Bible Discussion: We are traveling through Paul's letters! During the summer (please note dates) Rev. Julie will lead a Thursday morning conversation, learning about the variety of churches/people that Paul wrote to: what were their joys and concerns and what does this mean to us today?

Come for some or all, 9:30 - 11:00am, on the following dates:

August 2, 16, and 30.



If you are interested in coming please feel free to join us anytime! If you would like to be on the email reminder list contact Rev. Julie.

FELLOWSHIP AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Repairers of the Breach Lunch Making



A variety of people meet to make bag lunches for Repairers of the Breach (daytime homeless shelter) each month after the 10 am worship. Mark your calendar for **August 5**. All ages welcome, no expertise needed for pretzel baggers, sandwich makers, fruit washers etc., just a willing heart! We are also actively seeking help through donations of supplies such as pretzels, carrots, peanut butter, jelly, bread, juice boxes and occasional baked desserts

(enough for 75 lunches). If able - please contact Jane Ford (janer1975@gmail.com) or Mary Kramer (mewkramer@sbcglobal.net) to volunteer.



Chair Yoga continues through summer in Friendship Lounge! If summer makes room in your schedule - join in on Thursdays from 11:15am-12:15pm.

\$10 per session to drop in or sign up for the current 6-week session. (\$54 for 6 week session.) Chair Yoga offers improvement for mobility and flexibility, overall health and relaxation. Dress comfortably, we provide chairs and a relaxing environment. Instructor, Erica Boos.



Invitation to Play Bridge!

The ladies of the Women's Bridge Marathon, would like to extend an invitation to join them.

If you have played in the past, or even if you have never played, consider yourself a beginner. We would love to add you to our membership!

Interested? Contact Hetty Tollefsen at hetтымilwaukee@netscape.net or Mary Ferguson at mhferg@me.com.



NACCC Annual Meeting Report

The NACCC Annual Meeting in San Diego this June, was truly a remarkable confluence of people and the Holy Spirit.

As your elected delegate - I would like to share with you my experiences, and impressions, of this conference:

- ❖ First and foremost, I had the opportunity to meet many wonderful people. The phrase, “guided by the Holy Spirit” came alive for me; moving me into many unforeseen, and deeply moving, encounters. I met some old friends, and found some new ones, and we spoke of many things - of faith, the Church, our own calling and current events (immigration is a big issue in this part of the country, and a very passionate one with many attendees) - that continue to touch, and hold me, to this day.
- ❖ Church revitalization was a major theme and the focal point of many of the workshops. I attended four of them and found all to be compelling and speaking to a great awareness and need for churches to undertake a heartfelt dialogue and spiritual discernment of what, indeed, is God’s plan and “take the church from where it is, to where God wants it to be”. The keynote address, “What Does a Healthy Church Look Like?” presented by Dr. Bill Wilson, President of The Center for Healthy Churches, was especially topical and should be on the NACCC website in the near future - it is certainly worth checking-out.
- ❖ The other three workshops I attended – “The Ministry of Peacemaking”, “Prophetic Preaching”, and “Approaching Christian-Muslim Dialogue in the Local Church” shared common, and poignant, themes of reconciliation, trust and outreach that, in my mind at least, seemed to have a direct correlation with church renewal and revitalization.
- ❖ The new NACCC Mission Statement is, “To nurture fellowship among Congregational Christian Churches and support ministries of the local church in its community and to the world, all in the name of Christ”. There was discussion of this during an evening Town Hall Meeting, with the consensus this statement placed a more appropriate, perhaps healthier, emphasis on the well-being of the local churches, with less focus on the NACCC.
- ❖ There were several particularly fine lectures that I hope will also soon be available on the NACCC website. The Congregational Lecture by Rev. Dr. Lowell Linden spoke engagingly on the beginnings of Congregationalism in California and its early plantings from the migration of Protestant missionaries from Hawaii, through the gold rush years, and beyond. The Bible Lecture was actually a series of three separate, stimulating, presentations delivered by Dr. Terry Lindvall, and centered on Acts 1:8 (“... and you shall be my witnesses”), highlighting the “Unleashed!” theme of this conference.

- ❖ As a first-timer, I found it to be very helpful to attend the First Time Attendees Orientation, which clarified (somewhat) the nature and structure of the many different boards, committees and foundations that comprise the NACCC (I couldn't help think, however, that a ready reference or glossary of commonly used organizational acronyms would be even more helpful to the uninitiated!).

I was honored to participate in this conference as your delegate and take part in the wellspring of great communion and fellowship that flowed throughout this event, from beginning to end. I would certainly encourage those who are able, to attend the 2019 NACCC in Cleveland next June.

Rick Ruenzel - Moderator



Upcoming Dates to Note

Our annual church outing to see the **Lakeshore Chinooks** is set for Sunday, **August 5**, at 5:05pm. Time is running out to get your tickets. If you haven't yet signed up, please contact Sharon Hall, today, at disneyfamily01@gmail.com.



Join us for an exciting and unique worship opportunity during our 10am worship service on August 12. **Agape Players**, a group of 23 high school and college students, will join us to perform their hour-long musical "State Road 47," a reflection on three parables of Jesus that happened 'on the road': The Good Seed, the Good Samaritan, and the Prodigal Son. This musical performance will take the place of our 10am worship service on **August 12**, while our 8:30am chapel service will meet as normal.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, **September 9**, for our annual **Commissioning Sunday** celebration. Worship will return to its 'regular' schedule, our choirs will be back in full swing, and we will rejoice together as we celebrate the work God continues to do in and through the ministries of our church – all to be followed by our annual ice cream social after the 10am worship service!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

At a Glance:

- ❖ **August 5** - Moses Sees God's Holiness (Exodus 33-34)
- ❖ **August 12** - God Makes the Sun Stand Still (Joshua 10:1-15)
- ❖ **August 19** - God Speaks to Samuel (1 Samuel 3)
- ❖ **August 26** - An Idol Bows to God's Ark (1 Samuel 5:1-5)



Save the Date!

Commissioning is just around the corner on September 9! We will be commissioning the many that help lead worship and education ministries. All children will begin in worship with their families at 10:00 am and be dismissed for Sunday school after the children's message and commissioning.

Sunday School Registration

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



Crib n Crawler



We will continue to have staff in the Crib and Crawler room during worship on Sunday mornings from 9:45 – 11:15.

Sunday School Summers' End Bash - *Note the date change!!*

A pool, a beach, a lake, yard games, yummy food and great friends – how can it get any better than that? All Sunday school and youth families of the church are invited to join us for a **cookout and pool party** at the Lac Du Cours Clubhouse in Mequon on **Thursday, August 30**, starting at 5pm (feel free to drop by anytime between 5-8pm). RSVP to Sharon Hall at DisneyFamily01@gmail.com and bring a salad/side/dessert to share. We'll take care of the rest.



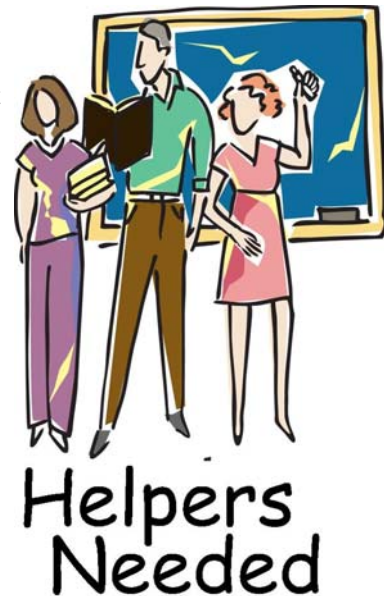
SUNDAY SCHOOL HELPERS

Please consider this...

We have been truly blessed with Sunday school helpers this past year and are looking forward to creating, equipping and encouraging a team of helpers to begin our fall program year. I am looking to staff two classrooms with a team of 3 helpers! Please contact Leslie Krueger to volunteer~ training, curriculum and supplies are provided. I would love to hear of your interest in this vital ministry!

Here are just a few reasons to join our team of Sunday School helpers:

- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Make more connections to the great families at NSCC.
- ❖ Practice your classroom skills.
- ❖ Learn more about the Bible.
- ❖ Form a team with other Sunday School helpers. 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!



Questions?
Contact Rev. Julie Sheridan-Smith today!
414-352-6123 or 414-588-8693
juliesmith@northshorecongl.org
Or
Or **Leslie Krueger**
lrkrueger74@gmail.com

HAPPENINGS WITH YOUTH!

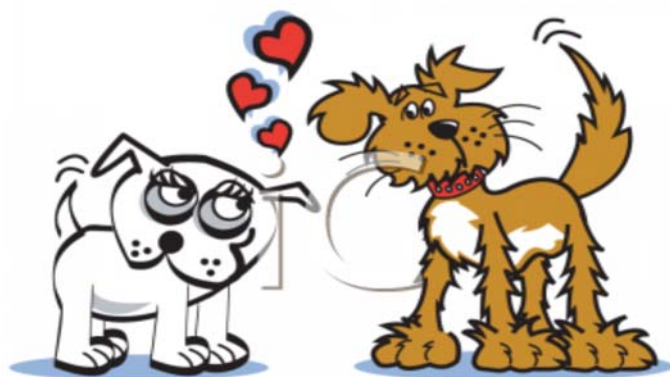
We are excited and planning for the Sunday morning gathering for our Middle School youth, 10:15 – 11:00 am. Not only are we revamping our lessons with interactive games, YouTube clips, and life applicable conversations connecting with our Bible lesson, we will engage more fully in outreach activities and church life! Rev. Julie will be meeting with a team of adults to plan a prepare later in August. Let Julie know if you want to be part of the fun!

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.





HEALTH COMMITTEE



According to a recent trade report by the American Pet Products Association, 68 percent of American households now include a pet. If you are one of these 84.6 million households, you can probably attest to survey results in the same report supporting the belief that a pet can be beneficial to your own health and well-being (service animals aside, over 80% of owners surveyed view their pet as a good source of companionship, affection, stress relief and physical activity). As such, you may want to return the favor in any way you can to this valued “family member.”

A growing trend among pet owners, however, has drawn the attention of consumer advocates, veterinarians, the Center For Disease Controls (CDC) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). As many as 8.4 million people have begun purchasing and feeding their dogs and cats a pricey “back to nature” diet containing raw meat. Experts caution that this new craze is much more a result of an expensive marketing campaign than it is a health benefit for pets. The pet food industry is a booming one, with sales of \$15.3 billion alone in 2006 (and increasing steadily ever since). In fact, General Mills —maker of Cheerios cereal and Häagen-Dazs ice cream for humans—recently purchased Blue Buffalo Pet Products, hoping to capitalize on Blue Buffalo’s successful dog food sales campaign suggesting that cutting carbs isn’t just for humans. Raw meat-based diets, or RMBDs, are one of the fastest growing sectors of the pet food market. They are not shown to be healthier for pets.

This fad could not only be dangerous to your wallet, but worse, dangerous to your own health. A CDC food safety flyer clearly states that the “CDC does not recommend feeding raw diets to pets.” Uncooked meats contain bacteria such as *E. coli*, *Salmonella*, and *Listeria*. Even if you are cautious in your handling of the food, your pets can still transfer bacteria from their mouths and paws to you, and possibly when you pet them. Additionally, dogs fed raw dog food “shed 23 times more *Salmonella* organisms [in their waste] than other dogs.” Cats and dogs that consume raw meat diets are also more likely to become infected with antibiotic-resistant bacteria than animals on more conventional diets. The UC-Davis Veterinary School, too, has stated, “We do not recommend the feeding of raw animal products . . . and these types of diets are not allowed in the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital per Infectious Disease Control Policy.”

There are many other ways to “share the love” with your four-legged friend: take your dog for walks; read the paper while sitting on the couch with your cat; give your pet the occasional—cooked!—table scrap; and if you simply must, ok, go ahead and wear matching Halloween costumes. While pet food companies continue to market raw foods -- what one company calls **B** Biologically **A** Appropriate **R** Raw **F** Foods— consider carefully the unfortunate acronym formed by those four words!



Tim Wall, “Millenials led US pet ownership to 84.6 million in 2016,” PetfoodIndustry.com, April 7, 2017

Jenna Gallegos, “Grain-free pet foods are no healthier, vets say,” Washington Post, August 15, 2017

Aaron Back, “Why General Mills Is Paying Up for a Dog’s Breakfast,” Wall Street Journal, February 23, 2018

George Dvorsky, “Stop Feeding Your Pets Raw Meat,” Gizmodo, January 12, 2018

Consumer Reports in Action: “Is Raw Pet Food Safe? What to know about this trendy diet,” Consumer Reports On Health, Volume 30, Issue 5, May 2018

“Stop Feeding Your Pets Raw Meat”

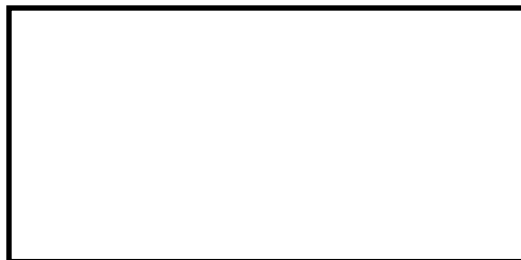
Sara Schaefer, “What To Feed Your Pet Now,” Wall Street Journal (Personal Journal), April 12, 2007

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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
Leslie Krueger, Director of Children's Ministries
Dr. Rodney Loren, Organist
Leslie Krueger, Children's Choir Director
Mike Fugarino, Custodian

Rev. Julie Sheridan-Smith, Associate Minister
Rick Kieffer, Music Director
Meike Pampalone, Organist
Kerrin White, Office Manager
Connie Mullins, Volunteer Office Assistant

Brian Hanrahan, Katie Lennie, Nicole Lennie and Adam Penno, Sunday Custodians