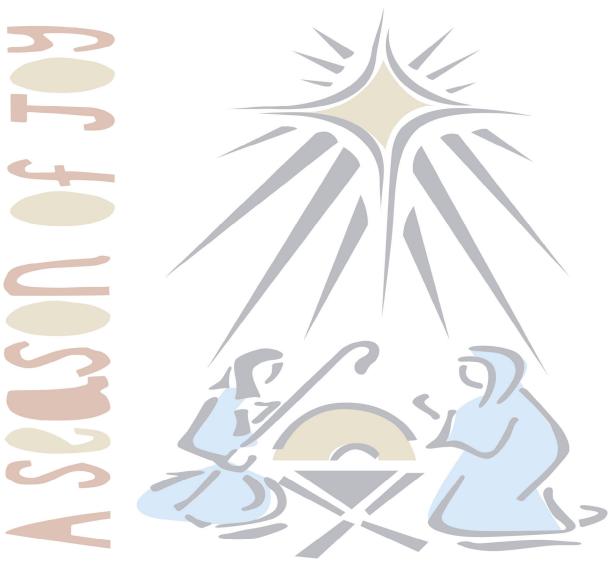
North Shore Church News

growing God's church



Our Purpose is to Grow and Deepen Christian Discipleship in a Faith Community Guided by the Holy Spirit.

December 2018

"A Few Thoughts On....."

The Gift of the Church...

Our Purpose is to Grow and Deepen Christian Discipleship in a Faith Community Guided by the Holy Spirit.



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Sunday Morning

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

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Vol. 36 Issue 12



Dear Friends.

Last week I attended a Board of Governor's meeting for the Congregational Foundation – the long-range fundraising arm of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches. As the meeting began, the chair asked us to share three things with the group: our name, our role in the NACCC, and a positive memory or experience of being in the church. People shared stories of how the church had met them at various points in their lives, how they had been part of touching the lives of others in the church, and more. They were some wonderful stories to hear. As the rotation cycled around to me, however, all I could think of was my experience of the church in the weeks that had led up to that meeting.

I started talking about all of the calls, emails and cards that I had received in the weeks that followed my father's death (contacts and cards that are still coming in on a daily basis). I talked about the gestures of kindness and support that I had experienced from our church members again and again. I shared stories of those from churches I served in Michigan who had taken the time to attend his memorial. I talked about the staff and lay members of our church who made the 700 mile round trip from here to Lansing, MI to support our family as we remembered his life. The list went on and on...

Being asked for a positive experience of being in the church, all I could think was that recent experience of how broad and enveloping the church can be in the face of sorrow or strife. All I could think of was the fact that, for days following our family's loss, not a day, and barely an hour, could go by without our experiencing some manifestation of support and love from our church family (both current, and past). All I could think of is how tremendously grateful I am that I, Sharon, and our kids, have the blessing of knowing what it is to live in a community of genuine Christian love and care.

So, as we emerge from this season in which we are reminded of all of that for which we are thankful, and we move into the season that reminds us of the gift of gifts we received in the

continued...The Gift of the Church...

Christ-child, I simply want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for the gift you have been, and are, to our family. We have received support and care in ways one could never adequately describe, and we are forever blessed in knowing the love of this community of faith.

May you each have a truly blessed and wonderful Christmas season!

Your Pastor and Friend, Marty

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This Christmas, at NSCC...

❖ The Advent Season will kick off with Advent Fest on Sunday, December 2. Join us for our communion worship services at 8am and 10am, then stay after the 10a service for a delicious lunch, crafts and activities for the kids, and fellowship for members of all ages!



- Sunday, December 9, is Music Sunday. Accompanied by brass, organ and percussion, our Chancel Choir will lead our 10am worship service with the sharing of John Rutter's Gloria. Please note that there will be no 8am chapel service on this day.
- Sunday, December 16, the joys of the season continue with our 8am chapel service, an all-church carol-sing beginning at 9:30, and our annual Children's pageant at 10am. The kids have been working diligently on this year's program...don't miss it!
- ❖ We will join together at both 8am and 10am for our **final Advent worship** of the season on **Sunday, December 23**. A **Congregational Meeting** will follow the 10am service, at which time we will review and approve the 2019 budget.
- * On Monday, December 24, we will gather for two worship services. Our early service, at 4pm, will include special music and candlelight services. Our later service will start with pre-service music and carols at 8:30, which will lead into our 9pm Candlelight service that will include special music, the Handbell Choir and the Chancel Choir.
- ❖ Due to the holidays, please note that the **office will be closed from Monday, December 24 through Tuesday, January 1.** Rev. Marty will be in town and in the office, but please call before coming in to make sure that he will be here to receive you at that particular time.

Join us this season as we gather, in many times and ways, to give glory to the coming of Emmanuel - God with us!

EDUCATION AND FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES



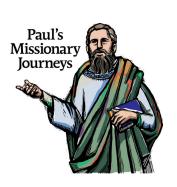
Please mark your calendars!

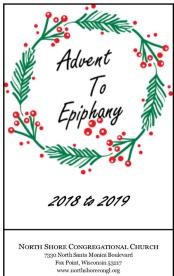
The **Tuesday Morning Book Group** meets in Friendship Lounge on **Tuesdays from 10-11 am**.

Through Advent we are reading Awaiting the Already by Margrey R. deVega. We will begin a new book January 8. Contact Rev. Julie for more information.

Thursday Morning Bible Discussion:

Join us in Friendship Lounge on **Thursday mornings** from **9:30-11:00** as we continue to explore Paul's letters. We are growing and are glad to make more room at the table - Feel free to come. Please note - we will **not meet December 27.**





Advent-Epiphany Devotional!

Thank you to all who shared prayers and reflections which became a beautiful devotional booklet for the church, with a focus pointing toward God and home.

We begin the journey with the first Sunday waiting, anticipating homecoming, followed by reflections on gathering as home, and that in God our true home is joy. As we wrap around Christmas Day and head toward Epiphany we reflect on the what it means that God comes into the world as a home for the Christ-child and how then Jesus reaches out to the whole world.

If you have not picked up a copy yet please do so ~ copies are in the lower narthex!

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE



Repairers of the Breach Lunch Making

For **December 2** the church kitchen is full of Advent Fest doings! Please come upstairs to the **large classroom between 9-10** am to make bag lunches for Repairers of the Breach daytime homeless shelter. We appreciate your help!

Lydia Circle is sponsoring a Christmas luncheon featuring sharing of salads and desserts. Plan on joining us in Friendship Lounge on Tuesday, **December 11**, at 11:30am as we gather for punch and conversation. Plan on bringing a salad or dessert to share. Please sign up if you are planning to attend.





Warm up from the cold!

Come play **card and board games** with your church family **Saturday**, **January 26**, **at 6:30 pm**. Bring a game to play and an appetizer or bag of chips.

Sign-up if able to attend starting January 6, in Friendship Lounge. Contact Sharon Hall at <u>disneyfamily01@gmail.com</u> or 262-236-9847 for more information.

Please note that on Music Sunday, **December 9**, there will be <u>only one</u>

<u>worship service</u>, at 10am. There will be no chapel service on that day!



LOAVES AND FISHES

December 19, 2018

CASSEROLES DESSERTS

Gaenslen	Dowsett
Gorham	Lemorande
Quilling	Lennie
Papineau	Levatich
Petersen	Reimer
Ritke	Sweet
Slagle	Wauck
Slagle	Weber
Lange	Zganjar
	Jipson
	Westfahl
	Smith



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

DRIVERS

Osborne	Gorham	Smith (If Needed)

SERVERS

Gorham	Slagle
Papineau	Slagle
Papineau	Slagle
Papineau	Slagle



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 fund plantings and decorations placed around the church building and 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. Thank you, Jeannine George.



This is an opportunity to remember or honor someone, or something, by making a contribution and having your message printed in the order of worship on Christmas Eve. Please return the section below to the church office, with your check made payable to North Shore Congregational Church, by Sunday, December 16.

me
e would like the wording in the Christmas Eve bulletin to appear (select one):
nonor of
memory of
celebration of

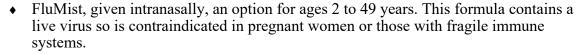
HEALTH COMMITTEE

VACCINES FOR ADULTS

Prevention of the flu (influenza) is of paramount importance and immunization is currently done annually for all individuals from the age of 6 months. There are a variety of types of flu vaccines, which you may discuss with your health care provider.

The three most commonly used are:

- the standard dose option which is given to most individuals;
- a high dose vaccine, designed to increase immune response in persons over 65 years;



- * Pneumonia vaccine is increasingly important for persons over 65 years:
 - Prevnar 13 has been available several years
 - Prevnar 23 has been developed to add immunity to more bacterial strains

It is now advised to get both types 12 months apart to broaden protection (each vaccine works differently)

- * Shingles (herpes zoster) is caused by the same virus as chickenpox. 1 in 3 persons can expect to get shingles in their lifetime, most often after the age of 65-70. It is a painful rash which may have severe complications. An earlier and now a newer vaccine are:
 - Zostavax was the first produced. It is a live virus, expensive, and found to have only 51% effect for up to 4 years.
 - ♦ Shingrix is the current preferred protection: >90%, has an inactivated virus, and cost is covered. Consists of two shots 2 − 6 months apart. Those who already had Zostavax can receive Shingrix. Flu-like side effects are prevalent in many up to 3 days.



GIVING TREE

The annual Christmas Giving Tree has ornaments hung for us to choose a youngster or young adult in need of a Christmas present.

The organizations that will be recipients of gifts this year are **Next Door Milwaukee** and **Nehemiah Project**. These are the same groups that received Christmas Gifts from NSCC last Christmas.

Next Door's goal is to provide a gift to each of the children in the "Adopt a Next Door Classroom." These are children through the age of 5 who live in poverty and participate in exceptional early childhood programming and whole-family support services.

Nehemiah Project is a group home providing transitional living services and programming for youth ages 13-18 who are returning to the community after incarceration. Some of the young men are oversized. The Nehemiah Project has innovative programming that addresses the unique needs of each client. The 24 hour care and monitoring provide programs that offer alternatives to recidivism.

Gifts should be wrapped and the gift tags need to be attached. The **deadline** for placing gifts under the tree is **Sunday**, **December 16**.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS AT A GLANCE

December 2 Pageant Dress Rehearsal from

9:00am until 11:00am in the large classroom on the lower level. (a one room Sunday School will be provided during the 10:00am service for those not participating in

the pageant). Advent Fest, all church brunch,

followed by crafts.

December 9 Pageant Dress Rehearsal from

> 9:00am until 10:00am in the large classroom on the lower level (one Room Sunday School for all not staying in

worship).

KidsConnect for kids grades 3-5 from 4:00-5:30pm. Please bring a

REHEARSAL

friend!

December 15 Pageant Dress Rehearsal from 9:00-10:30am.

December 16 Christmas Pageant during 10:00am worship service. Please join us

for a 9:30 carol-sing.

December 23 One room Sunday School. (No Children's Choir)

December 30 All children welcome to attend worship! (No Children's Choir or Sunday

school)

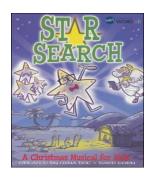
Questions? Contact Rev. Julie Sheridan-Smith today! 414-352-6123 or 414-588-8693 juliesmith@northshorecongl.org

Or **Leslie Krueger** Irkrueger74@gmail.com

ADVENT FEST

Sunday, December 2, at 11:00am. Following the 10:00am worship service, please join us for lunch and stay for crafts. It's a fun afternoon for those who like to craft and a great opportunity to slow down and socialize with church friends. The theme for this year's advent fest is "STARS." Each crafter can make a craft to take home or give as a gift.





PAGEANT SUNDAY

Sunday, **December 16**, at the **10:00am** worship service. You won't want to miss this one!!!!! "Star Search" will be presented by our Sunday School children and youth. Join us in celebration of His birth!

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.

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!



Happenings with Youth!



Our **In the Middle** class steps out of the classroom and is invited into worship, helping, and engaging in the activities of Advent...

- * This year we invite families of all ages and sizes to be part of our **Advent candle** readings, beginning Sunday, December 2. Contact Rev. Julie if your family would like to do this for the 10 am worship service on **December 2**, 9, 16, or 23. On Christmas Eve we have a 4 pm and 9 pm worship service, during that service we not only light the advent candle wreath, but we invite youth and returning college kids to make up the all church candle lighting at the end of the service while we sing Silent Night.
- * December 2, Advent Fest: "Comfort Food" lunch followed by crafts and cookie decorating. We are looking for helpers at the tables (both youth and adults) or simply look forward to seeing you enjoying the fun and fellowship with each other. Contact Rev. Julie if you can help at a table.
- ❖ December 9: "In the Middle" and High schoolers are invited to the church kitchen from 10-11am to bake up many batches of cookies for our December 16 YouthConnect (grades 6-12) Christmas cookie delivery to some of our older members who are less able to come to us.
- * December 16: As noted above, Youth Connect (grades 6-12) will break into teams (with an adult leader) and deliver our delicious and cleverly decorated cookies to some of our older friends. Start at church at 4 pm, gather cookies and "assigned" visit sites. Return for Pizza at 5:30. We NEED several adults so please RSVP to Julie as soon as you check your calendar.



YouthConnect on December 7, 6pm: Pizza and Game Night returns! Come and bring friends for pizza and games: Cups and Downs Christmas style, Unwrapping the Gift, Christmas Run Around challenge, Marshmallow Melt! RSVP to Rev. Julie appreciated.





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 candles. We need a team of 6-8 youth and adults to help start the light at the end of each pew. Contact Rev Julie to sign up. First come, first in!

Agape Table Monday December 3. Rev. Julie and Rev. Rob Fredrickson head back to the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee campus to share dinner and conversation with our college students there. We have enjoyed our previous visits at both Milwaukee and Madison in October and November! Thank you to the church for helping to support this connection. Ask Rev. Julie about this when you see her.

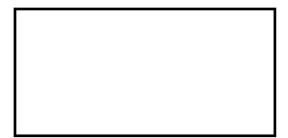




Winter Retreat for Young Adults, December 26-29, at Mt. Morris Camp & Conference Center. This is our fourth Wisconsin Congregational Association Winter Retreat. This two-night, three -day retreat is open to young adults (high school grads/college grads/under the age of 30). There will be faith based programming along with free time, games, fellowship and of course, food. Register through https://www.wiscongregational.net/events or on the Facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/wcayouth/

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

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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

o, Custodian Connie Mullins, Volunteer Office Assistant Brian Hanrahan, Katie Lennie, Nicole Lennie and Adam Penno, Sunday Custodians