

# 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.

January 2020

## ***“A Few Thoughts On.....”***

### ***Experiencing the Birth***

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“Seekers” Bible Study .....	5
Loaves and Fishes .....	6
Winter Farmers’ Market..	7
Celebration .....	10
Women’s Retreat.....	11
Children’s Ministry .....	12
Youth Ministry .....	13
Fellowship/Outreach .....	14
Church Directory.....	15

#### **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

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As those who were with us in the late service on Christmas Eve will know, I was once again drawn, this year, to truly consider the Christmas story through eyes of those who were there. It is a Scriptural exercise in which I engage with some regularity, but each time I do so with the Christmas story, I am amazed at the strikingly unique manner in which each person would have encountered this birth.

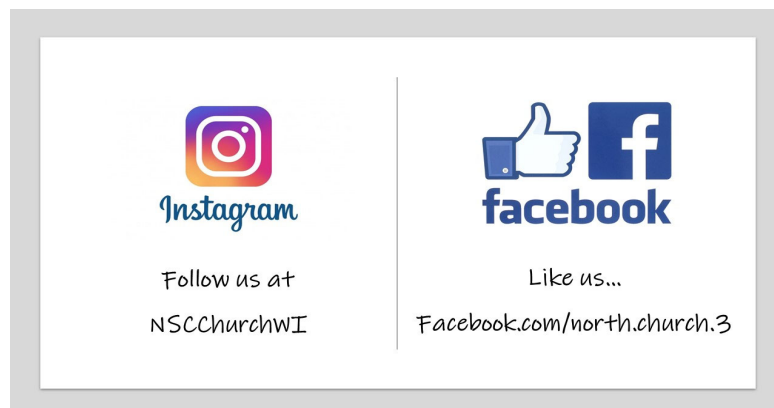
- In Mary we find a woman who was compelled to set aside every plan and expectation she had for life, in order to submit to God’s call.
- In Zechariah and Elizabeth we find a blessed and faithful couple with a deep and profound longing. In this story, they found hope - hope that their prayers would be answered and their dreams fulfilled.
- The will of God that was revealed to Joseph was one that not only required him to set aside his own feelings, but to follow a call that went against the standards and expectations of his family, his community and his faith.
- This birth was the ultimate threat to Herod - undermining his authority, his power and his very identity as King.
- For the shepherds, the shock of this story came in the fact that it was pronounced directly to them. The common shepherd was given the privilege of being among the first to stand at the side of the Christ-child.
- For the visitors from the east (or the Wise Men as they are often called), the encounter with this story meant that the very road the traveled would be changed.
- And, the angels? The angels were given the profound joy of delivering the Good News to so many whose lives would be changed by it.

## ***Experiencing the Birth continued...***

So many different experiences of the story...so many distinct encounters with the Christ-child...and still, only one child! That, for me, was the stand-out reminder that I heard this year. This may be one story, but it was a distinct experience for each and every person who was there. The same is true for us. This may be the story we know so well - these may be the Scriptures that we have heard again and again for decades - but if we truly allow ourselves to engage the birth of the Christ-child, we will find that it is a wholly new experience that we've never known before.

Do you need to be challenged to set aside your plans and follow God, as was Mary? Do you need hope amidst your longings like Zechariah and Elizabeth? Do you need to be reminded to set aside your own expectations for power and control? Do you need to experience the joy of sharing the Good News with someone who needs it? That is the miracle of Christmas! This may be one child and one story, but this birth can meet whatever need you most know this year. I implore you, open yourself to the experience of Christmas - to the birth of the Christ-child! Because, if you do that, I am convinced there is a whole new encounter in store for you.

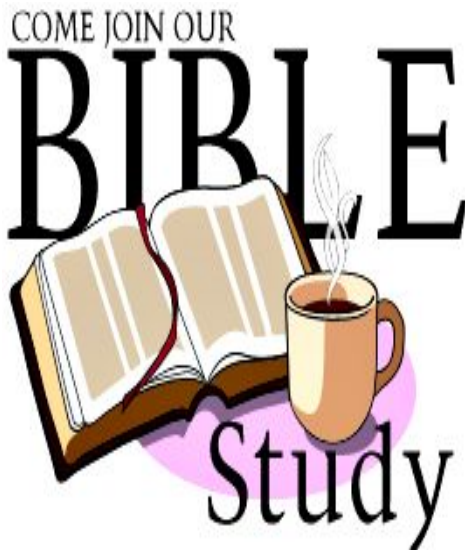
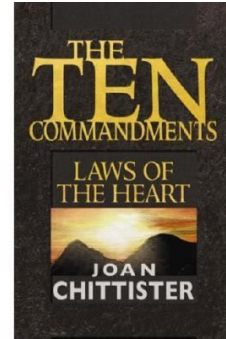
Your Pastor and Friend, ***Marty***



## EDUCATION AND FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

### Book Group:

The Book Group meets in Friendship Lounge on **Tuesdays from 10-11 am**. We return to and continue reading Joan Chittester's 10 Commandments: Laws of the Heart (January 7 we start with chapter 4, The Law of Caring). Join us.



Join us in Friendship Lounge on Thursday **mornings from 9:30-11:00**. The expanding table has room for you - feel free to come. Open format for questions and discussion is rich. January we will enjoy the fast paced Gospel of Mark.

**Sunday afternoon Bible discussion.** In January and February we will meet from 4:30-6 pm on the second and fourth Sunday (January 12, 19, February 9 and 23). We are continue to explore John's gospel through a combination of video presentation and discussion. You are always welcome.

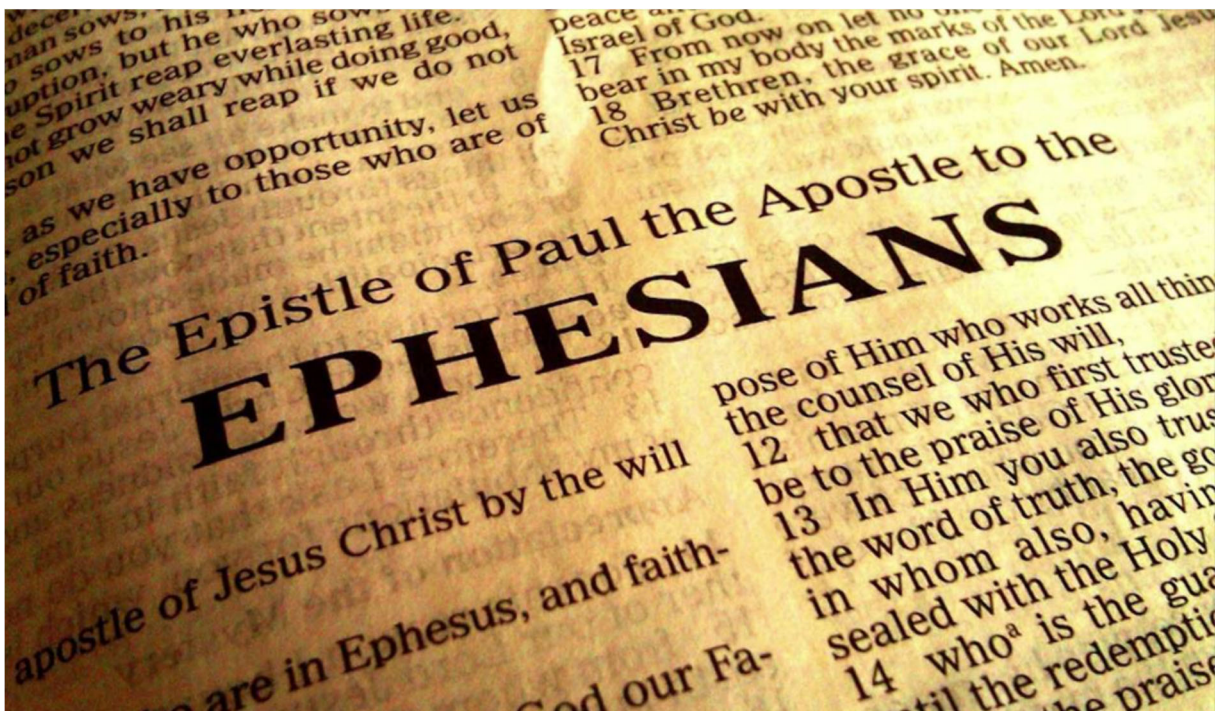
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*If you have any questions or thoughts about Bible studies and book groups, please contact the Rev. Julie Sheridan-Smith at 414-588-8693 or [JulieSmith@NSCChurchWI.org](mailto:JulieSmith@NSCChurchWI.org).*

## Another new opportunity! “Seekers” Bible study

The centering prayer group will host a 6-week seekers Bible study for all interested church members on **Sundays at 9am beginning on January 26, 2020.**

The study will be led by Tom Chelimsky. All sessions will be open to anyone whether you have attended prior sessions or not. We will study the book of Ephesians because it tells us a lot about prayer. Each session will open with a few minutes of centering and silence while someone reads a few key verses from the chapter. An open reading of the whole chapter together will follow, comparing the New Revised Standard Version with the Message. We will do our best to be sensitive to the Holy Spirit’s leading in asking questions that develop new light and understanding. We will finish with more fellowship and discussion. Some may choose to seek further answers to the questions raised during the week (by looking at other verses, writings or resources) and report their findings to the group at the next session. This is strictly voluntary, neither expected nor required.





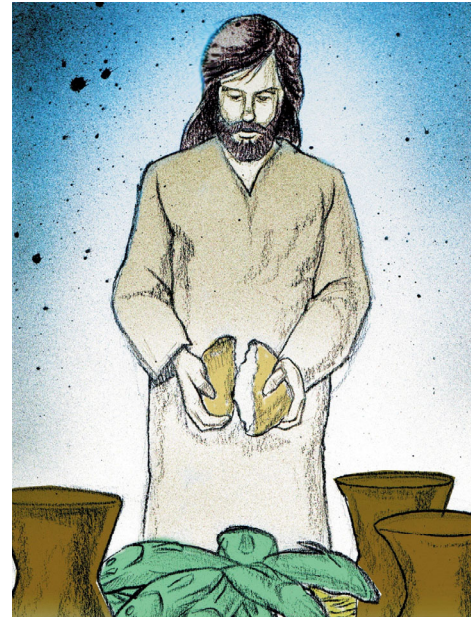
## LOAVES AND FISHES

January 21, 2020

### CASSEROLES

### DESSERTS

Bartlett	Dowsett
Miller	Lemorande
Quilling	Shawger
Ritke	Tornetta
Scharnweber/ Schimpf B	Weber
Swenson	Wink
Navarro	Wood
_____	Zganjar
_____	Enea
_____	Loder
_____	Anderson
_____	Ford



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

### DRIVERS

Osborne	Smith, J	
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### SERVERS

Scharnweber	Westfahl
Schimpf, B	Westfahl
Schimpf, D	
Westfahl	

## **WINTER FARMERS MARKET & BRUNCH**

### **Winter Farmers Market and Brunch – January 26 from 11-1:30 pm**

Local farmers, vendors and exhibitors, a delicious brunch, and fellowship with your church family...what could be better?

Mark January 26 on your calendars for our Food, Faith & Farming Network Winter Farmers Market and Brunch. Building on the wonderful success of hosting the Fox Point Farmer's Market the last few years, we are excited to bring back the Winter Market this January! The event is co-sponsored by Food, Faith & Farming Network, an ecumenical organization that works to foster urban and rural relationships and promote earth stewardship, community, spirituality and economic justice through healthy food and sustainable farming practices. Food will be sourced from local farmers.

A goodwill donation will be accepted, for the brunch, to support the work of Food, Faith & Farming Network, helping farmers across the state. Purchases from vendors not only supports their livelihood, but also supports the Harvest of Hope Fund, a nonprofit providing emergency financial assistance for farmers. Vendors donate 10% of their sales if they make a minimum threshold of sales to the fund. Since the Harvest of Hope fund was initiated in 1986, it has given away over \$1 million dollars to farmers in need.

More Information about Food, Faith & Farming Network and the Harvest of Hope Fund Is available on their website, [www.foodfaithandfarmingnetwork.org](http://www.foodfaithandfarmingnetwork.org).



## TRUSTEES

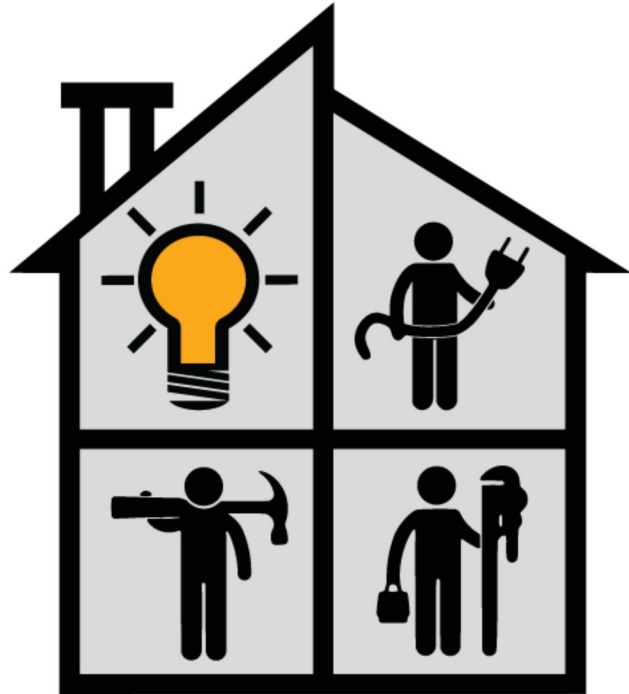
### JANUARY 19, 2020 NORTH SHORE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CELEBRATES

Our appreciation for your prayerful donations and patience, during our recent remodeling of the first floor bathrooms, kitchenette, and hallway, is to be **celebrated on January 19**.

The Trustees are blessed to have had an unbelievable capital campaign team led by Linda Mellowes. As the team reached out to the congregation for financial commitments, our plans to remodel and upgrade the building and property blossomed. Since 2017, we have succeeded in upgrading our meeting house roof, insulation, parking lot with new lighting, first floor bathrooms, kitchenette and hallway with new lighting.

We would like you to join us during the 10:00 am service on January 19, 2020, for acknowledgement and thanks to all involved. Mostly, we want the opportunity to thank you, the congregation, for helping to extend the physical life of our building and property. There will be coffee, juice and cake available after service in Friendship Lounge.

**With appreciation,  
the 2017, 2018 and 2019 Trustees**





## **WOMEN'S RETREAT**

### **“The Gift of Presence”**

It is God's presence with us, it is what we appreciate so much when others are present with us. God works through presence. Being present with ourselves makes it possible to be authentically present with others.

Join us on Friday evening, February 7, through Saturday afternoon, February 8, at ChristPond just north of Random Lake off Highway 57.

We will explore “The Gift of Presence,” cook and share meals, as well as take time to rest/relax indoor and outdoor.

ChristPond offers a quiet, comfortable and relaxing atmosphere, a cozy great room with cathedral ceiling and fireplace, updated kitchen, 5 bedrooms and 3 baths can accommodate 17. Beautiful grounds for a winter walk, cross-country skiing and ice-skating possible, weather permitting.

Bring your own pillows, bedding, and towels (bedding can be rented for \$5 with advance notice). \$30 per person (plus shared meal costs).

Please contact Rev. Julie with any questions and RSVP early as space is limited!



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

## Sunday School Lessons at a glance:

- \* January 5: The Wise Men: Matthew 2: 1-12
- \* January 12: Jesus is Baptized: Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22
- \* January 19: Many Follow Jesus: Luke 5: 1-11; 6: 12-16; 8: 1-3
- \* January 26: Jesus Blesses Children: Mark 10: 13-16

**KidsConnect** will meet **January 12** for GAME NITE!!! For kids in grades 3-6, from 4-5:30. Bring your favorite game from home. Leslie will have plenty of snacks and drinks. Please bring a friend! Leslie is looking for a second adult to host this event...please come forward if able to help.

**GAME  
NITE**

## KidsConnect Lock-In



**January 31** is our annual **KidsConnect Lock-in** (grades 3-6). Drop off 6:30pm (north doors). We will enjoy a pizza dinner together, play Capture the Flag, and watch a movie. Pick up Saturday morning 9:00am (north doors). Breakfast will be served. Please bring pillow, sleeping bag, toiletries, etc. We are asking that all electronics be left at home, including cell phones and tablets. Leslie and a second adult will have cell phones for communication purposes. Please bring a friend! Leslie is looking for a second adult to help host this event. Please come forward if able to help.

## Confirmation Class Update

In January we begin our discussion and experiences around how we worship. In the later part of January we have invited our students to attend another house of worship, and we look forward to hearing their impressions and questions.

## YouthConnect

We look forward to working with **“Soles for Jesus” on January 24**. This means each youth can collect gently used shoes from their homes and friends (no heels or flip flops). Bring them along when we meet at the “Soles for Jesus” warehouse to sort and ready shoes for a large shipment to designated sites in Africa. Carpool or meet on site at 6pm for some good work and to learn more about this organization. Contact Rev. Julie to sign on, arrange a ride, or for more information.

## “The Hangout” at Abby and Nick’s

Abby and Nick’s door is open January 14 and 28, from 7-8pm, for youth gatherings (grade 6-12).

Save the date for **Snow Tubing** at Sunburst with Abby and Nick! Sunday after church, **February 2**, we will have some lunch and then carpool to Sunburst. Friends welcome, but we do need and RSVP (and permission forms for friends).



## Agape Table

The Agape table for young adults will be held at Ma Fischer’s near the UW Milwaukee campus on **January 29, at 6 pm**. Contact Rev. Julie if you know of a student in the Milwaukee area who would enjoy the conversation and a free meal!



## FELLOWSHIP AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES



It's never too early to start planning for next summer!!!

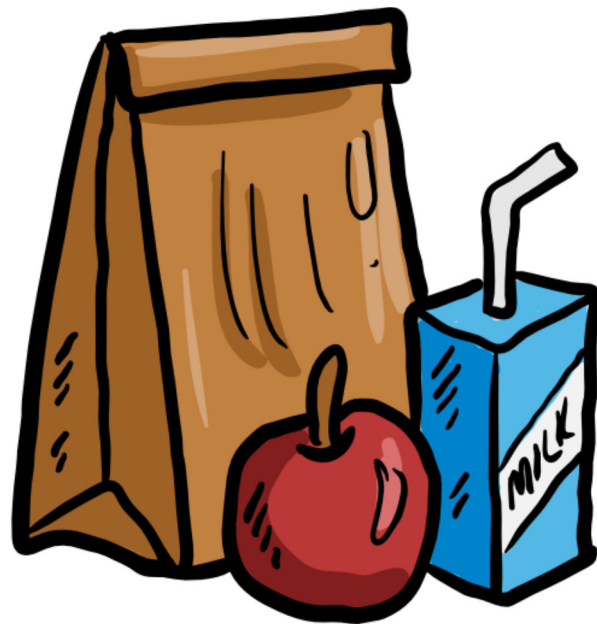
**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Hosanna Industries Mission Trip**  
**June 20-26, 2020**

Contact David Schimpf or Rev. Julie if you are planning on serving!

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### **Repairers of the Breach Bag Lunch Express**

Please join us **January 5, at 11am**, downstairs in the church kitchen and help make 75 much needed bag lunches for Repairers of the Breach, daytime homeless shelter. This is an intergenerational opportunity to work together (something for all ages to do)! Our table is full, let's share with others.



## **PICTURE DIRECTORY**

Our long-awaited picture directory is now available. Thank you to Melissa Block for spearheading this giant project!

Printed copies are available in the Church Office. Be on the lookout for a digital copy through your email.

Remember, those of you with an active OnRealm login, the directory information is at your fingertips through the “Connect” app on your smartphone.



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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  
Ellen Hacker 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  
Eric Detienne, Katie Lennie and  
Adam Penno, Sunday Custodians