# North Shore Church News

growing God's church



OUR PURPOSE IS TO GROW AND DEEPEN CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP IN A FAITH COMMUNITY GUIDED BY THE February 2020

## "A Few Thoughts On....."

## The Story That's Ours

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



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#### **Sunday Morning**

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

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This is my story, this is my song, Praising my savior, all the day long. This is my story, this is my song, Praising my savior, all the day long.

These words of Blessed Assurance were composed in 1873 by Fanny Crosby, whose blindness did not stop here from becoming one of the most prolific hymn writers in history. Set to a tune written that same year by Phoebe Knapp, it is a song that I just love to sing. The tune draws us into a joyous spirit of song, and the words echo the wonder and glory of the story of our faith. I do sometimes wonder, however, if we truly consider the powerful claim of this story of Jesus being ours! I think it is natural for us to remember the story as a rich and powerful narrative of our faith. I think we frequently reflect on the story as that which happened 2,000 years ago that shaped much of the story that we live today. But, I wonder how often we truly consider what it means to say that the story that happened 2,000 years ago is ours!

When we rejoice in the triumphal entry on Palm Sunday, do we recognize that Jesus enters our lives with the same majesty and purpose as he entered Jerusalem 2,000 years ago? When we gather on Maundy Thursday, do we see ourselves among those who sit at the table at Jesus' side? Do we realize that we are among those who rested on Jesus' heart as he hanged on that cross, and those he calls in light of his resurrection? Do we truly grasp that the Easter story is as much ours as it was for anyone who was there that day?

Over the course of Lent, we will explore the profound truth of the Easter story being OUR story. Beginning on February 23, and carrying through to Easter morning, our worship services will walk us through the tale as experienced by those who were there – giving us a lens into what it means to claim this story as our own. Then, on Sunday afternoons, we will

## The Story That's Ours continued...

gather for a Creators' Workshop, a time during which we will reflect on the characters of the series and creatively depict their stories in our writing, drawing, painting, or any other medium we desire (see page 12 for more info regarding the Creators' Workshop).

The Easter story is not just a tale to be remembered, nor even an event of the past that helps inform today. This is our story – the very foundation that defines our yesterday, our today, our tomorrow, and our always. This is our story – that which established who we are, and forever will be, in God. This is the story we remember, the story we sing, and the story we live. Over the course of this Lenten season, we will dig more deeply into the profound truth of that claim. And perhaps, as Easter comes, the words of that joyous hymn will take on new meaning as we sing, with true faith and assurance, 'this is MY story.'

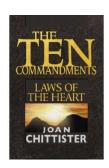
Your Pastor and Friend, Marty

Mark your calendar for Wednesday, February 26, 2020. As we journey through the Easter story as experienced by those who were there, what do we see through the eyes of Judas? Join us for our Ash Wednesday worship, at 7:00pm, as we explore that question together.



#### **EDUCATION AND FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES**

**Book Group** meets in Friendship Lounge on **Tuesdays from 10-11 am**. During February we will finish Joan Chittester's *10 Commandments: Laws of the Heart*. In March for Lent we will read, watch a video and discuss Amy Jill-Levine's *Entering the Passion of Jesus*. Each week is a contained topic so feel free to join in when you can.



- \* Join us in Friendship Lounge on Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:00, discussing Mark's gospel through the month of February. The expanding table has room for you. Feel free to come.
- \* Sunday morning Ephesian's discussion:
  Led by Tom Chelimsky at 9am on Sunday
  mornings. This six week conversation with
  Ephesians began January 26, but each
  week's topic is self contained. Please feel
  free to join in when you are able.



- \* Sunday Afternoon Bible study: At the end February we will conclude our discussion around John's gospel. Please note that the February dates are February 2 and 23! We meet from 4:30-6 pm. You are always welcome to drop in.
- \* Looking ahead to March. On Sunday afternoons we will be hosting a time for biblical discussion, reflection and **creative workshop** experience from 4-5:30 each Sunday. Each Sunday will carry its own topic so please come when you can. Read Marty's opening article for a more complete picture of this!

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.

#### FELLOWSHIP AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES



#### Repairers of the Breach Lunch Making, February 2!

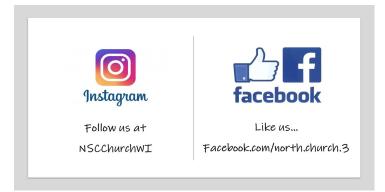
Please join us in the church kitchen following our 10 am worship service to make bag lunches for A daytime homeless shelter: Repairers of the Breach. All ages working together makes this a joyful (and sometimes a little messy) experience. Contact Jane Ford or Mary Kramer if you can help with delivery of lunches to the ministry site on Monday, or provide/purchase some of the items we put in the lunch bags: bottles of water, bread, peanut butter, jelly, dessert, carrots.

Lydia Circle will be meeting on Monday, February 24, at 10:00am. Please bring a picture of your wedding, engagement picture or even an "elopement" snapshot (hear there is at least one of those.) Anything you might want to share such as a newspaper headline for the day you were married. It will be a fun filled time with laughter and maybe even some tears. Come join us for coffee and a cookie. I assure you it will be a warm time of fellowship in cold February in Wisconsin.



Are you connected?

Find us...



## **LOAVES AND FISHES**

## February, 2020

## CASSEROLES DESSERTS

Gaenslen	Lemorande
Streich	Lennie
Cook	Schill
Ford	Wauck
Lange	Weber
Loder	Wink
Block	Zimmer
	Zganjar
	Bauzenberger
	Callaway
	Hadcock
	Navarro



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

## **DRIVERS**

Block	Osborne		

## **SERVERS**

Block	Lennie
(Block)	Osborne
Lennie	Croysdale
Lennie	

### **WOMEN'S RETREAT**

## "The Gift of Presence"

If you haven't signed up, but are interested in going (Friday evening February 7 through Saturday afternoon February 8) to ChristPond (just north of Random Lake off Highway 57), check with Rev. Julie about space availability.

Beautiful grounds to explore and a comfortable inviting building offers a cozy great room

with cathedral ceiling and fireplace, updated kitchen, 5 bedrooms and 3 baths can accommodate 17. Bring your own pillows, bedding towels and towels (bedding can be rented for \$5 with advance notice). \$30 per person (plus shared meal costs).



## **HEALTH COMMITTEE**

Join us on Sunday, March 8, as we discuss the Challenges of Change in our lives.

Whether seemingly simple or more magnified, such as beginning another round of daylight saving time, or facing a job or family alteration, we will explore ways in which we are affected and how we respond



Meet in Fellowship Hall after the 10am worship service to share a soup and salad lunch, as we learn from each other and from our speaker, Adele Lund.



Your Benevolence Board has worked diligently this year to allocate the funds that were generously provided to us in the 2019 budget. Depending on how you look at it, our job in 2019 was either easier or harder as the amount that we had to distribute was 33% smaller than in 2018. This was due to priorities our Congregation determined when the 2019 budget was approved.

For 2019, we prioritized our \$30,000 budget with a focus on first, local organizations (70% of our giving), second, national organizations (17% of our giving), and third, international organizations (13% of our giving). After a lot of contemplation and incorporating input from the 75 and Beyond initiative, we prioritized our local giving to those organizations where we felt our amounts would have the greatest impact and where our church members are involved. We hosted and welcomed several organizations to our 2019 monthly meetings who appealed to the Board for support.

We have access to funds outside the annual budget to support organizations in the form of the Mission Reserve Fund (approximately \$40,000 that will be allocated over time). Your Benevolence Board is open to appeals from members of the Congregation for worthy recipients. We want to responsibly allocate these funds and welcome additions to the Rev. Karl D. Schimpf Memorial and Special Gifts Fund for additional benevolence purposes.

#### Jeff Bartlett, Chair

#### **Benevolence Board Members:**

Jeff Bartlett, Thomas Chelimsky, Debby Fulton, Lorna Hilyard, Betty Moore, and David Schimpf

## WE ARE HAPPY TO PRESENT TO YOU THE ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORTED WITH 2019 FUNDS:

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20041.		Amount	Org	anization		
	\$	1,000.00	Ber	nedict Center		
	\$	1,000.00	Literacy Services			
	\$	1,000.00	Milv	Milwaukee Christain Center		
	\$	1,000.00	St.	Ben's Outrea	nch	
	\$	1,000.00	Chr	onic Joy		
	\$	1,000.00	Hel	ping Hands,	Healing Hooves	
	\$	2,100.00	ABI	.E		
	\$	2,100.00	Adv	ocate of Oza	aukee	
	\$	2,100.00	Chi	ldren's Dysle	xia Center	
	\$	2,100.00	Cor	nmunit Proje	ct for Seniors	
	\$	2,100.00	Hop	e House		
	\$	2,100.00		Kyle's Korner		
	\$	2,100.00		ject Angel Hı	-	
	\$	300.00	NS(	CC to pay for	Winter's Farmers Market	
National:						
	\$	5,000.00	Che		ational for Distribution to the Following National Groups	
			_	Amount	Organization	
			\$	1,000.00	Congregational Library	
			\$	1,000.00	Retired Ministers Fund	
			\$	1,000.00	Morgan Scott Project	
			\$	1,000.00	NACCC Missionary Sociaty	
Intonotional.			\$	1,000.00	Seafarer's Friend	
International:	Φ	4 000 00	Ch	ale ta tha Ni	stional for Distribution to the Fallowing International Course	
	\$	4,000.00	Cne		ational for Distribution to the Following International Groups	
			\$	1,000.00	Organization Association Civil Cristina Congergational, Argentina	
			\$	1,000.00		
			\$	1,000.00	Christ to the Villages, Nogeria National Association of Congregational Churches, Philippines	
			\$	1,000.00	Panamerican Institute, Mexico	
			Φ	1,000.00	i anamencan insulate, Mexico	
Grand Total	\$	30,000.00				
		,000.00				

### **Squeaky Clean**

As we move toward Spring and Lent we are mindful of new beginnings. Sojourner Family Peace Center is a place where new beginnings can become a reality! Starting March 1, the Benevolence Board will invite you to participate in our annual "Squeaky Clean" collection. More information will be in the March newsletter.



#### **UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES**

What's your creative outlet? Writing stories? Poetry? Drawing? Painting? Quilting? Composing music? Crafts? Are you someone who enjoys finding creative ways to express yourself? Would you be interested in blending that creativity with some reflection on the Bible? If so, join us for a 5-week series of Creators' Workshops for the 5 Sundays of Lent in March!

As part of our "**This is My Story**" series, each workshop will run from 4:00-5:30pm. After some prayer and discussion of the passage/character of the week, group members will be invited to spend time crafting in whatever manner they wish. Draw a picture, write a poem, tell a story, create a different square for a quilt each week, there



story, create a different square for a quilt each week – there's no limit to the creative options! Simply join us for a time of faith, fellowship and creativity!

Note: Participants will be invited to share their creations on the Sunday following the meeting, but only by personal choice, as some will choose to keep their artistry between them and God.

#### BACK BY POP-ULAR DEMAND--- the POPS Concert!



Mark your calendars, plan to invite your seven closest friends and family, and practice your applause skills -

NSCC Choirs and friends will share MORE pops music! **Sunday, February 23, in our fellowship hall.** A lunch will be served by our Fellowship Committee, after which you will be entertained by a mix of music selections in a variety of formats.

Performing will be Chancel Choir, Handbell Choir, the Krueger Krew (Leslie, Brian, Logan and Riley), as well as other smaller ensembles. We will also be joining in for a good old-fashioned sing-a-long (auditions: NOT required)!

There will be something for everyone of all generations. DO NOT MISS IT!



#### Church school news at a glance:

#### **February Lessons at a Glance:**

Jesus Teaches about Prayer: Matthew 6: 5-15 **⇔** February. 2:

Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man: Mark 2: 1-12 February. 9:

February. 16: Jesus Calms the Storm: Mark 4: 35-41

February. 23: The Widow's Offering: Mark 12: 38-44

Sunday, February 9, Children's Choir sings during 10:00am worship.





We continue to sponsor children at Happy Life Children's Home in Kenya Africa, through the offering collected in Sunday school each week. Remember each cent collected adds up and is used to help in big ways!

Sunday, February 9 we will host the next Kids Connect (grades 3-6) from 4:00-5:30pm...



FEAR FACTOR!!! Would you eat a cricket? How long can you hold an ice cube in bare hands without letting go your grip? How many jumping jacks can you do in bare feet on a pile of Legos? Want a snack?---how about a marshmallow covered in mustard or baby food squash!!!? IS FEAR A FACTOR FOR YOU? Please bring friends! Let Leslie know if you can be a second adult to host this event!





## **Confirmation Class Update**

In February we continue exploring the concept of worship and what that means within our life together, including the Sacraments of Baptism and Communion. We will also attend a Friday evening Shabbat at Congregation Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun on February 21.

## "The Hangout" at Abby and Nick's Hangout at Abby and Nick's on February 11, 18 and 25, 7-8pm (for youth grade 6-12).





#### February 2, Snow Tubing at Sunburst with Abby and Nick.

The group will eat lunch at the church and then head out to Sunburst, returning by 4 pm. Contact Rev. Julie for more info or questions. As always, friends are welcome, but we do need an RSVP (and permission forms for friends).

#### **Agape Table**

The Agape Table for young adults will be on the UW Madison campus at 6 pm. We host a meal and conversation with our students in the area.

#### **Musicals to See**

Enjoy a high school musical that youth of the church are in.

"Big Fish" will play at Homestead High School February 6-9, with Becca Hall on stage.





"Little Shop of Horrors" will play at Nicolet High School February 27 – March 1, with Olivia Krueger on stage.

We would be so glad to know if any other youth are part of something we can see, so please let Rev. Julie know!

#### **Speaking of Talent**

By popular demand the church is hosting a lunch and "Pops" concert on **February 23**. This was soooo much fun last year, and we want to invite any youth to participate! Play an instrument, sing a song, put together a kazoo band! Let Rick Kiefer know what you would like to do. If you don't want to perform, stay after worship and just have fun watching.



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#### 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