

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.

November 2020

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



| | |
|-------------------------|----|
| Special Services..... | 5 |
| Looking Ahead..... | 8 |
| One Season of Giving... | 12 |
| Poinsettia Sale | 14 |
| Thanksgiving/Advent ... | 15 |
| Children & Youth..... | 18 |

Sunday Morning

9:00 Worship—Sanctuary/Facebook
10:00 Sunday School—Facebook
11:00 Worship—Outdoors
11:00 Godly Fun—Outdoors

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Fox Point, WI

Vol. 38 Issue 11



“A Few Thoughts On.....”

Covid Fatigue

For those who are active on various social media platforms, I suspect that you, like I, have had more than a few laughs at the various 2020 based memes that are circulating. From Covid-19 to ‘murder hornets,’ 2020 has been a year of one unprecedented event after another – and social media has made the most of it. One of my favorites is the picture shown here that includes the caption, “*If 2020 were an ice cream truck...*”



Another one I’ve enjoyed simply reads, “*I’m staying up until midnight at New Years! Not to ring in 2021, but to make sure that 2020 leaves!*” There are a slew of these out there, and if you ever need a good chuckle, Google ‘funny memes about 2020’ and you’ll find a plethora. What I find telling beneath all of the needed comic relief, however, is our shared psychological state that is reflected in that very humor.

The phrase “Covid Fatigue” is something that has become more prevalent as we have inched further into fall. With case counts growing higher, days getting shorter, and weather getting colder, the coping tactics that many have used in recent months are increasingly problematic – and all the while, we are torn apart by a divisive election, facing holidays without traditional gatherings, and staring down a long, cold, winter of isolation. And you know what? We’re tired of it! The result of that fatigue, then, is that, like the meme expressing our longing to make sure 2020 leaves, we are driven ever further into a wholehearted focus on getting this all behind us. The challenge, however, is to remember that which can help us to carry that burden even as we wait.

Covid Fatigue continued...

The good news is that this will all, at some point, be behind us. While the specific timing is yet unknown (and the opinions, as always, vary greatly), there does seem to be a general scientific consensus that, as much as 2020 has felt like a slow and constant descent further into the pandemic, 2021 will bring that slow but hope-filled climb out towards the other side. It won't happen quickly, and there is no getting around that the next 8 weeks will be among the hardest we've known all year, but we will get there. Of that I am confident.

While we await that turn, however, and endure that slow climb to the other side, it is Jesus' word in Matthew that have been ringing in my mind. "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens," Jesus says, "and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11: 28-30)

I want to encourage you...to implore you...to hold those words close to your heart in the weeks that are ahead. Claim the wonder of that invitation that Jesus extends, and bring your fatigue to him. We are weary! We are carrying heavy burdens! I have strong confidence that the vast majority of those who read this message fully understand what 'Covid fatigue' is meant to imply. What we also understand, however, is that we get to bring that weariness...that fatigue...those burdens...to the one nestles up beside us, thrusts his yoke upon our shoulders, and walks alongside as we carry that burden together.

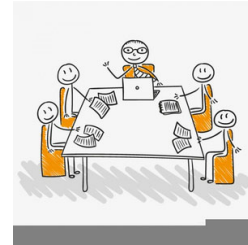
Some of us are feeling it today. Many more will be drawn down by the weight of it all in the challenging weeks that are to come. I encourage you...I implore you...when that happens, claim the invitation that Jesus has extended. Let go of your willfulness and determination, and cling to the yoke that Jesus offers. Allow Jesus to be, for you, what he longs to be – and what you so desperately need him to be.

The bad news is that we are still far from beyond all of this, and that the months ahead could be as difficult as any. The good news is that there is very real hope that the climb towards the other side closer by the day. The great news is that, even as we wait, we can cling to the yoke of Jesus as we reminded that we never have to carry our burdens alone!

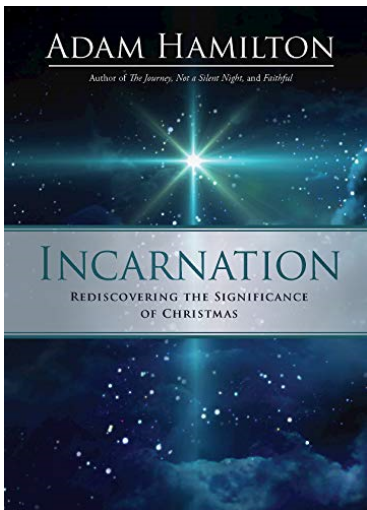
Your Pastor and Friend, ***Marty***

ADULT FORMATION

Come, via Zoom or in person, for our **Thursday Morning Bible Study, from 9:30-11:00am**. As we move toward finishing our discussion on the Gospel of Luke, watch for updates on the next Thursday morning study. If you wish to come in person (we have a limit of 7), or want to receive reminder emails, please contact Rev. Julie.



Our **Sunday Afternoon Bible Study** currently meets in person (with masks) in our spacious Friendship Lounge from 4-5:30pm, on the first, third, and fifth Sundays. There is so very much that is intriguing in our discussions on Genesis. Contact Rev. Julie with questions, or if you would like to join into this discussion group and wish to receive reminder emails.



From 10-11am, the **Tuesday Morning Book Group** meets as one group but through a hybrid method of Zoom and in-person. We will begin our Advent series on November 24 with **Adam Hamilton's Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas**. Through the significance of the names we find for Jesus in the Gospels, we will discuss the "historical and personal significance of his birth." Learn the meaning behind the names of Christ and the difference He makes in our lives. The book is \$13.50 in which participants read a chapter before meetings. Our meeting time will combine a video and discussion. Zoom links will be sent each week, but if you plan to come in person please let Rev. Julie know as we have a limit of 7 people in the room.

See the Monday morning email for links to all these opportunities

FELLOWSHIP AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Mask Making for Sojourner Family Peace Center

We currently have about 20 kits of 50 disposable masks to be put made. This is a simple process of folding, cutting, and inserting rubber bands. Instructions and supplies are bagged and ready for you to pick up, make at home, and drop back off at church. We donate these to Sojourner Family Peace center, and they are much needed! Some kits are available just inside each entry door or you may contact the church office and we will leave a kit in the blue bin under the portico for you to pick up and drop off. This is a great individual or family project, can you help?



Repairers of the Breach Lunch Making

We will deliver lunches to the Repairers of the Breach sight on Monday, late morning, November 2. How thankful we are to be able to care for others! A link to sign up and make lunches in your home was in the Monday email last week.

Lunches are dropped off at church the first Sunday of the month between 8-12 inside the north parking lot door. Blessed to be a blessing!



Fall Work Day, November 7, 9am.

Dress comfy, bring some gardening tools and gloves, and work with each other prepping the front garden for winter. Come as a family or alone, we need you! Start at 9, “all hands on deck,” more helpers means we are done well before noon. Pre-prepped sandwiches, water and hot chocolate will be provided. Let us know you can come so we can order enough sandwiches. Gathering outside is a healthy thing to do while serving your church.



SPECIAL SERVICES



Join us at **9am, November 1, for Remembrance Sunday**. This annual remembrance allows us to give thanks for the life and legacy of those who have gone before us, as well as to claim the faith that our earthly life is but a glimpse of that which God has in store. Some seating will be available on a pre-registered basis, and the service will be streamed on Facebook Live for those watching from home.

Some may be wondering what we are going to do about Christmas Eve. The short answer is, we don't yet know. If you haven't already, many of you will soon receive an invitation to a brief survey seeking insight into your thoughts and plans regarding **Christmas Eve worship**. We will use the feedback from this survey to determine what our worship schedule and format will be, and we will share those details in next month's newsletter. Please take the time to complete this survey in order to help us make the most informed decisions possible regarding our Christmas Eve services.



OUTDOOR SERVICES

Since early September, we have had the joy of hosting our **11am worship service outside**. As the weather turns colder, we wanted all to know that we hope to continue to hold this outdoor service, whenever possible, **through December 20**. Since our outdoor services are the only time we get to sing together, the opportunity to share in our traditional Christmas Carols is something we hope to continue up until Christmas. Rain, heavy snow and extreme cold are all reasons that we may move indoors, but we hope to be outside as much as possible - for as long as the congregation continues to join us. So, pull out your hats and gloves...bring a steaming hot cup of coffee or cocoa.....put your Wisconsin fortitude on full display...and join us outside in the coming weeks as we continue to worship in this unique and important way!



LOOKING AHEAD

Mark your calendars! As we come into the holiday season, we are excited to look ahead to some different, but meaningful, ways in which we will be embracing the joys of the season.

- ♦ On **Sunday, November 1**, we will gather at 9am (both in-person and virtually) for our annual **Remembrance Sunday celebration**. See page (6) for more information.
- ♦ On **Sunday, November 8**, as we celebrate the **400th anniversary of the arrival of the Mayflower in Cape Cod**.
- ♦ **Sunday, November 22**, will be **Thanksgiving Sunday**. In this year of unparalleled circumstances, we will remember the joy of knowing that God was with us through it all.
- ♦ **Saturday, December 12**, will be our Advent Fest and Pageant on Zoom, starting at 2pm. See page 17 for more details.
- ♦ On **Sunday, December 13**, we will hold a **streamed Music Sunday presentation at 4pm**. While space in the building will be reserved for musicians, the service will be streamed to all who wish to watch from home.
- ♦ **Thursday, December 24**, is **Christmas Eve**. See page (6) for more information.



STEWARDSHIP 2021

Dear Friends of our Congregation.

Our Stewardship has gotten off to a good start, and we would like to thank all those that have sent in their Estimate of Giving for 2021.

However, we still have a ways to go and need today more than ever to know your 2021 commitment to North Shore Congregational Church. We need this information so that a budget can be put to the Congregation for a vote on in December. When filling out your Estimate of giving (EOG), remember the hard work your Church has done and will continue to do for you, your family, and community.

Your commitment can be registered by sending in this card, or calling/emailing Kerrin White in our church office at 414-352-6123 or KerrinWhite@NSCChurchWI.org.

With God's Blessing

The Stewardship Committee

ESTIMATE OF GIVING



North Shore Congregational Church

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

My/our commitment
for 2021: \$ _____

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 1, 2020

BENEVOLENCE

ONE SEASON OF GIVING

We will have only one special holiday offering this year that will benefit our longtime friends at St. Ben's Meal Program. As far as we can determine, NSCC has been involved for as many as 45 of the 50 years the program has been in place!

St. Ben's mission of serving the hungry, the homeless and the poor has been carried out all of these years by a variety of religious and civic groups, all of whom committed to prepare and serve meals on a regular basis. Six nights a week sponsors, volunteers, staff and guests gathered to share a meal in a safe and friendly community. With the onset of Covid, St. Ben's could no longer serve donated food and everything came to an abrupt stop.

Understanding the vulnerability of the population they serve, St. Ben's had to quickly shift gears to a new model of taking care of those in need. Since March they have closed down the Community Meal Program and begun preparing and distributing 100 meals a day to three different apartment communities serving the homeless, addicted and mentally challenged, as well as the Cathedral Center, a shelter for abused and homeless women and families. Now, instead of donated food and volunteer help, they rely solely on paid staff, food from local purveyors and food banks, and monetary donations. While this shift has been amazingly successful for those in need, it has come with a high price – significant increase in expenses and costs to St. Ben's.

As we considered recipients for this year's special holiday offering, we looked to the ongoing heroic efforts of St Ben's, our long standing relationship with them and the enormous number of people in our community today who are suffering from food insecurity - it was easy to choose them as the beneficiary of our offering.

We pray that you will give thoughtful consideration to sharing your blessings and give at least as much as you have done in the past for this special year-end offering. Where possible, please consider giving more to support God's work for those most in need.

Thank you for your loving support of this important mission.

Your Benevolence Board



SOLES FOR JESUS

Thank you to North Shore Congregational Church and the Fox Point Farmer's Market for supporting **Soles for Jesus!** Your love, joy, and 500 pair of shoes will be felt a world away in Sub-Saharan Africa! May God bless those who gave and those who will receive!

If you would like to **help organize** shoes from **6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 12**, please contact Julie Smith at JulieSmith@NSCChurchWI.org or David Schimpf at dschimpf@wi.rr.com

The following was published in the September online Soles for Jesus newsletter

Volunteer Of The Month

We are thrilled to honor David Schimpf as our Volunteer of the Month! David heard about SFJ through two different people in the same week, both at church and at work.

"It happened the same week that I was trying to get rid of extra shoes at my house. God works in mysterious ways!" David shared.

David usually spends his summers coaching soccer, so devoting time to collecting shoes for SFJ has filled some of the void that this pandemic has created. He has shoe collection bins at North Shore Congregational Church and at his local Farmers Market. David's mom even got involved by collecting shoes at her 55 and older community and filled four large bags!

"It's amazing how many shoes are on the bottom of closets, in basements and in garages. These shoes that aren't being used could be a true answer to prayer to someone in Africa."

Fun fact about David – he is terrified of sharks, but really enjoys Shark Week each year on the Discovery Channel! Thank you, David, for being such a blessing to SFJ. We appreciate you so much and pray God's blessings over you!

Poinsettia/Greens Fundraiser

The Board of Christian Enrichment will again be having a Poinsettia/Greens Fundraiser in time for the holidays. Proceeds will benefit our Youth Room. Orders will be taken the first three weeks of November.

New this year:

- ♦ Complete the form on the next page (the same form is available for at-home printing online - a link will be emailed to all members), and return it to the church office by email, mail, or in-person.
- ♦ Online **payment** using the following: <https://onrealm.org/NorthShoreCongr/give/Poinsettia>
- ♦ Pick up at church on Saturday, November 28, 9:00-12:00, or Sunday, November 29, 12:00-3:00. You will be able to sign-up for a time and your order will be brought to your car. Watch announcements for a sign-up link.
- ♦ Direct shipment within the US for those who wish to send a gift.

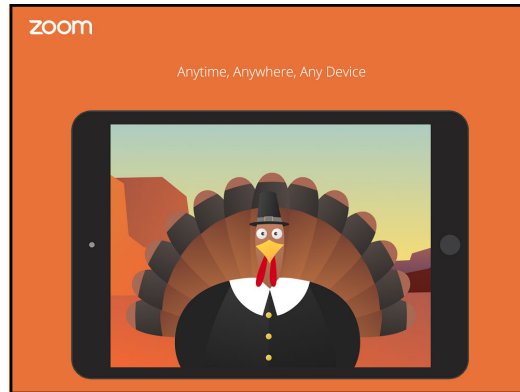


| Poinsettias \$15.00 each | | | | | |
|---|---------|----------|-------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Color | # | Total \$ | Color | # | Total \$ |
| Red | | | Marble (pink/cream) | | |
| White | | | Pink | | |
| Glitter | | | | | |
| Evergreens | | | | | |
| Wreaths | # | Total \$ | Other | # | Total \$ |
| 24" Fir Wreath | \$22.00 | | 32" Outdoor Evergreen Planter | \$32.00 | |
| 34" Fir Wreath | \$32.00 | | 42" Outdoor Evergreen Planter | \$56.00 | |
| 24" Premium Fir Decorator Wreath | \$42.00 | | Fesitve Holiday Chandelier | \$30.00 | |
| 48" Balsam Wreath | \$51.00 | | 25" Douglas & Cedar Garland | \$39.00 | |
| 60" Balsam Wreath | \$60.00 | | 25" Balsam Garland | \$31.00 | |
| 36" Double Faced Balsam Wreath | \$45.00 | | Mixed Door Swag | \$20.00 | |
| Available for Shipping Starting Monday after Thanksgiving | | | | | |
| 20 " Noble Fir Mixed Wreath | \$28.00 | | Fesitve Holiday Chandelier | \$40.00 | |
| 36 " Noble Fir Mixed Wreath | \$46.00 | | 26" Noble Decorator Wreath | \$55.00 | |
| 48 " Noble Fir Mixed Wreath | \$69.00 | | 24" Premium Decorator Wreath | \$52.00 | |
| 26" Noble Decorator Wreath | \$44.00 | | 12" Noble Candle Wreath Ring | \$35.00 | |
| | | | (Prices Incl. Shipping) | | |
| Total | | | Total | | |
| Order Total | | | | | |

THANKSGIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Thanksgiving Zoom

Having heard from several people who will stay at home rather than meet with family and friends on Thanksgiving, we wish to offer a chance to “Zoom and Give Thanks” with some church friends. If you would like the link for this, or have questions, contact Rev. Julie. A time will be set that works best for those interested.



FamilyConnect “Give Thanks, Make and Send”



There are so many members and friends who are experiencing the coming season more isolated at home. We invite you to take part in a special project called, “Give Thanks, Make and Send.” Ideas and materials to create cards, artwork, and simple Thanksgiving decorations will be packaged together for you to do at home together, then drop finished items back off at church.

We will use these and create Give Thanks packages to send to help brighten the lives of those who are less able to be with family and friends. Give thanks that we can bless others this way. **Please contact the church office, if you are able to be part of “Give Thanks, Make and Send,” by Sunday November 5.**

A pack of supplies will be made ready for you to pick up – make - and drop back off at church November 10-16.

ADVENT

Advent Fest and a Pop Up Pageant

Saturday, December 12, “come” to a new kind of **Advent Fest, and a Pop-Up-Pageant**, through Zoom! All participants will receive bags of pre prepped craft items, treats, as well as items to make a “costume” and simple parts for kids and parents who want to be part of the pageant. We will meet on Zoom for craft making and treat sharing at 2:00, then all pageant participants will talk through the “how to” for the pageant (parents you will already have the materials- there can be speaking parts or not). At 3:00, we will open up for all who are taking part or want to watch the pageant on Zoom. Contact Rev. Julie if you can help with prep work beforehand - thanks!



Advent Devotional

Each year we look forward to inviting you to take part in writing our Advent Devotional. Each week will be framed around the Hymns of Advent and Christmas with a verse from the Bible to consider for reflection. This year especially we can “gather” together through your thoughts, stories, beloved memories, poems, or images shared on the page you choose to write! Up to 250 words. Use this link to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48ABAE23ABFAC07-advent>, or contact the Church office with any questions or thoughts or to have your name added to the list.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

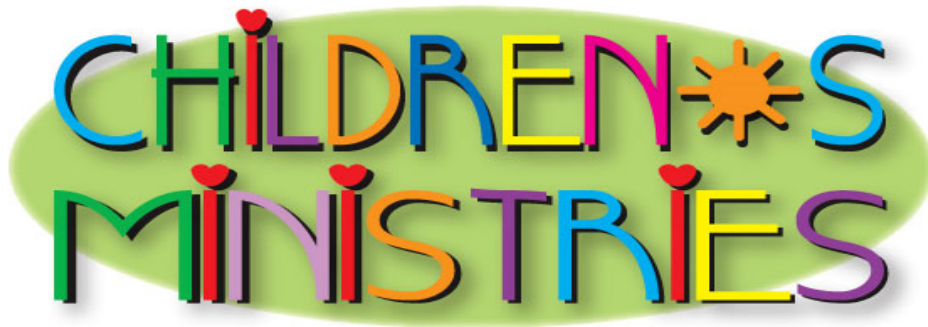


During our beautiful fall weather, we plan to worship together outside in front of the church building for the 11 am service. For families with children, Gaia will be here to do some “**Godly fun**” activities with the children at the northwest lawn area. No need to register ahead, but if inclement weather means we cannot worship outside, a morning email will go out to all.

The Sunday morning Facebook **Kidmessage at 10** can also be accessed later at facebook.com/north.church.3 This brief message from Rev. Julie touches on the story book, lesson activities and music links sent out to the families each week. If you are not receiving these please contact Rev. Julie! Through the fall, we are active with the “big” Old Testament stories.



Weekly packets go out to our families with younger children with a Bible story and activities to engage in at home.





Friday Morning Kidtime

Beginning November 6 we will be hosting a **Friday Morning Kidtime**, from 8 am – noon, for children in grades 2 – 5.

All Covid health aspects will be in place. This time will offer the opportunity for a morning check in, homework, reading, stretch time, art activities, story and games.

Enrollment and Agreement forms are available. Registration is for a 3 week session. This is being communicated through the local schools and neighborhood. Two qualified staff will be present each Friday, and we invite church friends and members to volunteer as well.

**Kid
Time**

Please contact Rev. Julie with questions or requests, as well as scheduling a time to volunteer!

AgapeShare for Young Adults

This monthly gathering for young adults of our Wisconsin Congregational churches currently meets on Zoom. We are connecting from homes and campus' around the country. November's AgapeSphere is Wednesday, November 11, at 7 pm. We will share devotion, conversation, a bit of trivia and prayer. If you or someone you know would like to be part of this, please contact Rev. Julie so that a link to the Zoom meeting can be sent.

414-352-6123


North Shore Congregational Church

7330 N. Santa Monica Boulevard

Fox Point, Wisconsin 53217



| Staff Member: | Email Address: | Church Extension: | Outside Phone: |
|---------------------------|--|-------------------|----------------|
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| Rev. Julie Sheridan-Smith | juliesmith@NSCChurchWI.org | x14 | 414-588-8693 |
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| Rick Kieffer | RLKieffer1@gmail.com | | 414-698-6252 |



**North Shore
Congregational
Church**
FOX POINT, WI

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www.facebook.com/north.church.3

*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 |
| Rick Kieffer, Music Director | Meike Pampalone, Organist |
| Kerrin White, Office Manager | Mike Fugarino, Custodian |

Eric Detienne, Megan Hall, and Becca Hall, Sunday Custodians