

North Shore Church News

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

January 2021

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CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP
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Sunday Morning

9:00 Worship—Sanctuary/Facebook
11:00 Sanctuary/Facebook
11:00 Godly Fun—Downstairs

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Fox Point, WI

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“A Few Thoughts On.....”

A Word of Appreciation

It just so happens that authoring this newsletter article is the first thing that caused me to create a ‘2021’ folder in our publication files here at the church. In a small way, it was a fitting reminder of the sense of transition and new beginning that is more and more engaging our societal conscience as we look towards the start of 2021. In many ways, that sentiment is going to be the focus of my reflections when we gather together for Epiphany Sunday on January 3. For today, however, I really want to put our sights more on looking back in the direction of that which has been in 2020.

There is clearly no reason to recount or relitigate that which has unfolded in our country and world over the course of the last 9 months. We are all entirely aware of the realities of 2020, and as tired as many of us are of those realities, I think there are many that are equally tired of constantly talking about them! So, I assure you, that’s not my purpose as we look back upon 2020. Instead, my purpose to offer words of appreciation, to the congregation, for the remarkable responsiveness and support our church staff has experienced through it all!

Many of you have heard me share these thoughts, but some of you have not, and it is for that reason that I want to circulate them most widely in this article. The sad reality is that both Julie and I are entirely aware of the fact that many of our colleagues and friends have struggled tremendously throughout the pandemic. They have been embattled over decisions they’ve made, criticized for their responses, and left feeling defeated in the face of strife and contention. Google the phrase, ‘clergy Covid fatigue’ and the articles and reflections will pour in. You’ll even find

A Word of Appreciation continued...

some that speak about heightened levels of withdrawal from the ministry and alarming increases in suicidal thoughts among clergy.

Now, to be clear, my point is not to dwell on those colleagues and stories. I know it is a reality that weighs on Julie's heart as it does mine, but that is not the point of this commentary. Quite to the contrary, my point is to highlight that, in every way, Julie and I, and the entire church staff, have had an experience that has been altogether different. From the inception of the changes that were made in March, and in each and every step along the journey, we have been overwhelmed by the chorus of supportive comments, appreciative gestures, and genuine openness to our attempts to do things in new and meaningful ways. Even as I wrote this note, an email arrived in which a member of the church shared a brief word of appreciation to the staff for the work that's been done throughout the pandemic.

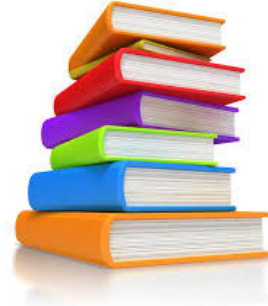
I can't express, to the congregation, the manner in which this unbridled appreciation, and our true sense of God's Spirit so active among us, has sustained us through the course of 2020. There's no avoiding the reality that 2020 has had more than its share of challenges, and we've certainly had our missteps along the way. That for which we will be forever grateful, however, is the fact that our church family has abounded with grace and love in these unparalleled times, and has uplifted us with support and affirmation in countless ways. For that gift that has not only sustained us in 2020, but has us energized and excited for 2021 and beyond, I simply cannot sufficiently articulate the gratitude that we feel. Personally, and on behalf of the staff of your church, I thank you for all you have done to stand behind us, and our church, throughout these remarkable times!

Your Pastor and Friend, **Marty**

ADULT FORMATION

Tuesday Morning Book Group

This is a great opportunity to step in, even if you haven't been a part of a book group. January 5, join in and share titles and brief summaries about the books you have enjoyed. Come January 12 with your list of movies, series, and podcasts that have made you laugh, cry, learn something new, or whatever inspired you about it! We will meet "hybrid" style, some on Zoom and some in the room (6 person limit for "in-person," so please let Rev. Julie know if that is your choice).



The book group meets every Tuesday from 10-11. Zoom link included in Monday email as well as a reminder the morning of.

Thursday Bible Study

This Bible study meets from 9:30-11am each Thursday. January 7 and 14 we are finishing off our time in Luke. January 21 we begin a discussion on Isaiah! We are very excited about it. We have been grateful to have people join in from out of town and even state, growing together through our discussions. Come via Zoom or in the room (6 person limit for "in-person," so please let Rev. Julie know if that is your choice).



Sunday Afternoon Bible Study

On the first and third Sundays in January, the **Sunday Afternoon Bible Study** will meet from 4-5:30 This group currently meets in Friendship Lounge around an expansive table. We continue to enjoy broad discussion as we move through Genesis and other thoughts on where this carries meaning today. Please join us if you would like to connect. Contact Rev. Julie with questions, or if you would like to receive reminder emails.

ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Repairers of the Breach Lunch Making

We are grateful to serve the community through Repairers of the Breach daytime homeless shelter. Start 2021 off making bag lunches for 75 homeless and at risk adults who are connected to Repairers. We continue to manage this opportunity through a **“sign up genius” link that will be sent through the Monday email on December 28.** Please look for that link.

Those who wish to be involved simply click on the sign up link, then input how many bagged lunches you will make (5, 10, 12?). Lunches usually include a peanut butter sandwich, piece of fruit, bottle of water or juice, salty snack, and a sweet treat. Lunches are to be dropped off at church **Sunday, January 3**, between 8-12, inside the north parking lot door. We will deliver lunches to the Repairers of the Breach sight on Monday, late morning, January 4. Thank you.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

New Worship Details Beginning December 27

As much as we have enjoyed the outdoor worship services that we have shared since early September, Old Man Winter has arrived in full course here in WI, and it is time to move back inside for a few months.

Beginning December 27, and continuing through the winter months, both the 9am and 11am worship services will take place indoors. We ask that those who plan to attend either service, in person, pre-register via the link sent in the Monday email and posted on the church website, or by contacting the church office.



Please note that both services will be streamed on Facebook Live.

Budget 2021 Wrap-Up



We had a quorum of voters, who voted overwhelmingly in favor of approving the budget. Thanks to all who participated in the process! We look forward to the time when we can hold our congregational meetings in person again.

MUSIC SUNDAY

Music Sunday, 2020

Many thanks go to all of the musicians and readers who participated in the 2020 Music Sunday presentation. If you haven't yet seen the presentation, it can be found on our YouTube channel or on Facebook (see the Monday email for links). Audio CD's and DVD's can also be made available upon request. Please contact the church office to make arrangements.



BENEVOLENCE

2020 Giving Tree - Benefiting Neighborhood House

* *

The Benevolence Board would like to thank all of those who participated in our annual Christmas Giving Tree. Your response was truly amazing! The gifts were beautifully wrapped or bagged and ready to distribute to the eighty- six children and teens at Neighborhood House. Your generosity will make their Christmas a little more special and bring them smiles and joy!



MISSION OUTREACH

What Would YOU Like to Invite Others Into?

Based on input received during 75 & Beyond talk-back sessions, the Mission Outreach Committee is reaching out to YOU! We'd like to hear your story and find out what you are or have been involved in that you'd like to invite others to learn more about!

Is there a non-profit organization that means a lot to you? We would like to know more about it.

Just to clarify, your benevolence board does a fabulous job of allocating funds for those in need, and we don't want to get in their way. Instead, the Mission Outreach Committee is looking for ways to help NSCC members learn about, and engage in, outreach opportunities with local missions as a one time event or more. Working and learning about distance ways to engage in outreach now as well as toward the future as we are able to step into on site opportunities

Send us a brief note, share what you are excited about, and help North Shore Congregational Church grow in our community. Contact Ginny Kannenberg at ginnykannenberg356@gmail.com or 414-698-3131.





Celeste & Glen Arnold

In celebration of our wonderful children and grandchildren.

Charlotte & Catherine Celmer

In loving memory of Catherine Shepard.

Norm & Marsha Christensen

In celebration of God's love in our family, in His Church and praying to see It in our world.

The Fleck Family

In loving memory of David Fleck, husband and father.

Jeanne Gaenslen

In memory of Fred Gaenslen and children Chrissie and Barbie with love.

Jeannine George

In celebration of the sustaining love of family and our church community during this entire past year.

The Hall Family

In remembrance of Janet Dallwig and the Rev. Dr. Lloyd Hall, and in deepest gratitude for the steadfast faith and support of the membership of North Shore Congregational Church.

Pam & George Holmes

In celebration of our grandchildren, Lucy and Carter.

The Demchak & Krosnosky Families

In memory of Michael Krosnosky, always in our thoughts.

Bruce & Lizz Loder

In celebration of the birth of Charlie Bagwell to Kaity Loder Bagwell and Trey Bagwell, and the special blessing of being first time grandparents.



The Perlick-Molinari Family

In memory of Robert & Eugenie Perlick and Al & Vi Molinari.

The Scharnweber-Snider Family

In celebration of all the blessings realized in this crazy 2020 year!

Bob & Pam Smith & Family

In celebration of Sterling & Catherine Price & family.

Susan & Stacy Terris

In memory of our parents Carol & Frank Haack, Jr and Valerie and George Terris and in celebration of our dear family and friends.

Hetty & Dick Tollefsen

In honor of our son and all the other medical workers.

The White Family

In Loving memory of Connie Mullins.

Happy New Year!

*From all of the staff and leadership of
North Shore Congregational Church*

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Families receive packets and mailings at home with creative ideas and items to connect with classic Bible stories and how they carry meaning now. We hope to connect the warmth of God's love, and our care for you, during these winter months.



**JOIN OUR
MAILING
LIST**



On Sunday mornings, “**Godly fun**” activities with the children will be held downstairs in the large open room. Games, stories, and activities will be designed to go along with, and add a bit of movement to, the weekly mailings.

During the second half of January we will also have fun with some rhythm instruments and drum circles. Teachers and children mask inside. We appreciate when you register for Sunday morning as this helps us plan for space and supplies.



AgapeSphere for Young Adults

AgapeSphere continues into 2021! This is a Zoom connection offered the second Wednesday of each month-**January 13 at 7pm.** We enjoy seeing and hearing from young adults on campuses and at home around the country who know each other through Wisconsin Congregational Association youth and camp events. Rev. Rob Fredrickson from Ozaukee Congregational, Tonia Wallner from First Church Wauwatosa, and Rev. Julie (NSCC) team up and share a devotion, trivia challenges and prayer. If you or someone you know would like to be part of this, please contact Rev. Julie. We simply need an email to send the zoom link to.



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North Shore Congregational Church

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FOX POINT, WI

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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	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