

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.

July 2021

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



Summer Schedule.....	6
Office Closed.....	7
Beyond our Walls.....	10
A Note from St Bens	12
Fellowship	13
Children & Youth.....	15

Sunday Morning

9:00 Worship—Sanctuary/
Facebook

11:00 (10:30 as of 6/13)
Worship—Outdoors

11:00 (10:30 as of 6/13)
Godly Fun—Outdoors

Vol. 39 Issue 6



“A Few Thoughts On.....”

A Thoughtful Return to ‘Normal’

It’s a joyous time, indeed! After well more than a year of life being constantly influenced, impacted, and/or restricted in countless ways, the past weeks have brought upon us a massive shift in our societal engagement with Covid-19. The pandemic is far from over (particularly in the face of global spread and the risk of variants), but our cultural mindset has changed dramatically in recent weeks as we have increasingly emerged from our cocoons, more frequently left the mask in our pockets, and progressively engaged in opportunities that we have been missing for so many months. While each one of us has different factors that affect the manner in which this dynamic has played out in our individual lives, there is no denying that these recent weeks have fostered greater steps towards ‘normal’ than any of us have known for more than a year. With that step towards ‘normal,’ however, comes an opportunity for reflection that I pray none of us will miss!

One of the things that we will all experience in our church life, throughout the rest of 2021 and into 2022, is the unfolding of a fundamental conviction that our post-pandemic programs and ministries cannot, and will not, be a simple mirroring of that which existed some 18 months ago. Like it or not, the pandemic experience has taught us things about ourselves, about our church, and about our ministries, that we cannot ignore moving forward. At the same time, the pandemic realities have created an occasion in which our established patterns and routines have been broken, opening to us an unparalleled window of opportunity to create new patterns and routines as we establish a fresh path going forward. From Sunday school and worship to benevolence programs and small groups, we will see the blessings of this unique opportunity unfold in our church later this fall, and into 2022. For what this can mean for our church and our ministries, I am truly excited.

A Thoughtful Return to ‘Normal’ continued...

At the same time, however, I think we would be remiss if we didn't spend some time thoughtfully reflecting on this same underlying principle in our individual lives. Like it or not, the pandemic experience has taught us things about ourselves that we cannot ignore moving forward! Whether it is questions of work-life balance, the things we prioritize from day to day, the passions that engage us, or the physical/mental health we sustain, the pandemic has opened our eyes to things that have changed the manner in which we engage with the world around us, and we need to be thoughtful about how those new perspectives play into our lives as they unfold in the coming months and years.

There is no doubt that there are many portions of our lives as individuals, and as a church, that we will reclaim in ways that are nearly identical to that which pre-existed the pandemic. There are many, many things that were ideal in their form then and will continue to be ideal in that same form in the months and years ahead. In a number of meetings over the past few months, however, we have discussed that one of the greatest risks we face as a church is naturally falling back into old routines without taking the time to thoughtfully consider whether those pre-pandemic patterns remain the best options for us in 2022 and beyond. I have a firm conviction that this question needs to be at the heart of almost everything that comes in the life of our church in the coming months, and I have a firm conviction that very same is true for the daily living of our individual lives!

Whether it is a ministry here at the church, a detail of your professional life, an aspect of what happens with your family at home, or any of a thousand other things... there is absolutely nothing wrong with deciding that what was going on in February of 2020 is what should still be going on in February of 2022. There is also absolutely nothing wrong with deciding that what needs to be in February of 2022 is very different than that which was in 2020. The only place we can err, I would suggest, is in failing to ask the question. Like it or not, this pandemic has taught us things, and has opened for us a window of opportunity to create an even better tomorrow than the yesterday we've missed. The biggest mistake we could make is failing to ask the question of what we've learned and what that tells about that which needs to come next!

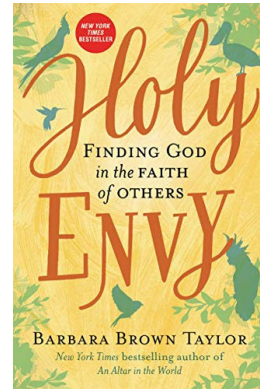
Your Pastor and Friend, ***Marty***

FORMATION AND ENRICHMENT

Tuesday Morning Book Group:

NEW! Please note that the Tuesday Book Group meets at 9am on Zoom and 10am in Friendship Lounge.

We continue reading Barbara Brown Taylor's "Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others." We have enjoyed rich conversations and welcome you to join in! The author explores the ways other people and traditions encounter God, digging in so we can learn more about other traditions as well as find new meaning in our own.



Thursday Bible Study:

This group meets "hybrid" style, some on Zoom and some in Friendship Lounge from 9:30-11am. We will conclude our discussion of Isaiah in late July. If you are interested in joining a new discussion on the book of Exodus, please let Rev. Julie know to put you on the email reminder list. If you have not yet, but would like to join or "stop in" please do. Zoom link included in Monday email as well as a reminder the morning of.



Sunday Afternoon Bible Study:

On the **first, third, and fifth Sundays, from 3-4:30**, the Sunday Afternoon Bible Study meets in person in Friendship Lounge.

We are beginning to read and discuss Exodus. Would you like to join in on the conversation? Contact Rev. Julie with questions, or if you would like to receive reminder emails.



OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Evening Labyrinth Walk

Come enjoy walking an outdoor labyrinth (a form of prayer walk) at 6:30pm on July 22 (weather permitting). We will meet at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, 7845 N River Road. Bring a lawn chair and relax with conversation and light refreshments following. Contact Rev. Julie if you can bring refreshments to share.



Little Library: Books and Faith

We will continue to use our "Under the Portico" space for the Little Library: Books and Faith.

Come, exchange, and enjoy!
Books for children and adults
available.

SUMMER WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP

We have returned to weekly Sunday fellowship time. The summer worship services are taking place as follows:

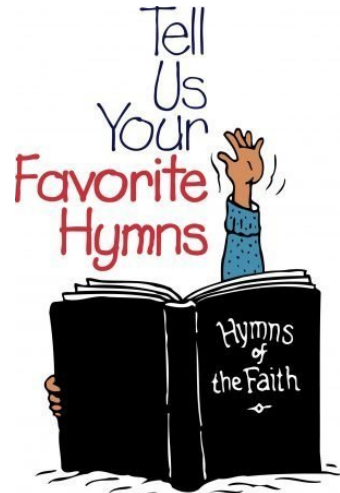
- Services take place at **9am** (indoors and online) **and 10:30am** (outdoors, weather permitting) each Sunday.
- Sunday **fellowship** takes place between the two services (**9:45am to 10:25am**) and is held **outdoors** (weather permitting). Note that, in the case of inclement weather, the fellowship time will be moved indoors to Fellowship Hall.



A SUMMER OF SABBATH SONG

Our **summer series**, 'A Summer of Sabbath and Song' began on **Sunday, June 13**. Throughout the course of the series, there will be three '**hymn-sing**' **Sundays**, during which we will focus our worship on sharing in some of our favorite hymns. These Sundays will be **June 27, July 18, and August 8**.

If you have a hymn or hymns you'd like to see included in these hymn-sings, please contact Rev. Marty at martinhall@NSCChurchWI.org, with your hymn(s). If you are unable to attend worship on any of those three Sundays, please include that information with your hymn suggestions.





Due to summer travels, time off, and the WCA summer camp, our church office will operate in some unusual ways in July. Please take note of the following details.

- ◆ The office will be closed on Monday, July 5, in observance of Independence Day
- ◆ The office will be open on July 12 and 13, but with only Rev. Marty available. Please call before coming in to make sure he is here to receive you.
- ◆ The office will be closed on July 14 and 15. Contact Rev. Marty by cell phone in the case of an emergency.



This Beyond Our Walls page is your go-to place to find out what is happening in areas of outreach at North Shore Congregational Church and how YOU can get involved too!

*“Do all the good you can
By all the means you can
In all the ways you can
In all the places you can
At all the times you can
To all the people you can
As long as ever you can.”*

John Wesley

Repairers of the Breach – Daytime homeless center and clinic.

We provide 85 bag lunches for the first Monday of each month. We currently offer the opportunity to make lunches in your homes and deliver to church Sunday morning between 8am – noon. A link to sign up to make lunches for Sunday or deliver on that first Monday is included in the Monday email on June 27 for July 4.

Each volunteer may choose to make between 5 and 20 bags. The lunches usually include a Peanut Butter sandwich, a piece of fruit, a bottle of water or juice, a salty snack and a sweet treat. To sign up with how many sandwiches you can make, click on the Monday email link or contact the church office. Lunches should be delivered to the north parking lot door of Church by noon on Sunday, July 4. If you volunteer to pick up from church Monday morning and deliver to the Repairers of the Breach site on Vliet St between 9-10:30. Contact the church office for further information, sign-up or any questions.

Soles for Jesus - Shoe sorting day at 8835 W. Heather, Milwaukee on Saturday, July 10 from 9:00 to 11:00.

Let David Schimpf at dschimpf@wi.rr.com know if you would like to join us for a morning doing good work with good people for a good purpose. Check out their website at solesforjesus.org.

Farmer's Market Collections - Saturdays in July, 8:00 to Noon

Time to clean out your closets and bring those out-grown, un-wanted shoes that still are in good shape to the **Soles for Jesus** collection boxes that will be available each Saturday at the Farmer's Market. Once again we will also have a box accepting monetary donations for **St. Ben's**.

Just One More Ministry - Ongoing collections "Under the Portico"

Just One More Ministry is grateful for all the pantry items and paper and plastic bags that have been donated. The need continues, however, so the collection bin remains under the Portico. Pantry items and bags are still important. We have just received a special request for jars of peanut butter. Peanut butter is nutritious, contains protein, vitamins, and dietary minerals and does not have to be refrigerated making it a great resource to tuck into the bags of food that are distributed to the needy. Let's all bring a jar or two of peanut butter and imagine all those whom we can help!



And did you know...? **Lions Recycle for Sight Program** – Ongoing collection

Do you have any old prescription glasses or sunglasses? NSCC collects these eyeglasses to improve lives by giving good sight. Millions of people in low and middle incomes lack appropriate corrective lenses limiting their opportunities for education, employment and quality of life. Eyeglasses donated to the Lions Club's program are sorted, processed and distributed to optical missions around the world. Just bring your glasses into the Church office and we will get them to the Lion's Club for processing.



A Note from St Ben's, Brother Robert:

Good day, good people

I pray you and yours are thriving and shaking off the constraints and sorrows of former times.

It's a blessing to be able to share these updates. On to the news:

First, we expect to ask volunteers to return to the House of Peace and Open Door ministry at Saint Ben's beginning in August. We're learning a new software program this month, which we will introduce to our volunteer supporters in July, then "go live" in August.

The five first-year Capuchins who've helped us all year are leaving for the next stage of their vocation. Several brothers who are in studies will be helping over their summer break. Two men preparing to be ordained deacons are assisting at Saint Ben's and the House of Peace as part of their formation. Staffing remains quite tight, however, and candidates for our job openings are rare. Please pray everyone stays well.

We've hosted five Wednesday dinners in the Saint Ben's parking lot. The weather has been superb. The sun sets behind the church just before we serve, so there's cool shade for the tables. We've averaged 40 people, though there was a drop on June 9th. About half the guests sit down, and the others take dinner "to go." It's a peaceful, relaxed time; we play music (too loud, Kenny!), have a raffle, and of course open with a prayer. Please come and visit. We're re-connecting with guests – names and faces you'd surely know – and promoting this meal with other communities of care, asking that they spread the word, too. Several guests have told Kenny, "I'm good, I'm getting by – I just like being at Ben's." This matches what we're seeing and hearing elsewhere: that the supplemental government emergency support people will be receiving until September might be why we're not seeing a surge in demand.

We've connected with two new partners for meals: a youth basketball program where our staff member Armondo volunteers (he joined us in March 2019 and he does such a great job keeping order and calm in the Meal Hall), and a street outreach organization. These partnerships will significantly raise the number of meals we provide each week. Don and the team are handling it well. I don't yet have a date for re-opening the Meal Hall. As always, I commit to keeping the sponsor group leads informed, and to consult as changes are discerned.

FELLOWSHIP

Calling all members and friends of North Shore Congregational Church! Do you enjoy participating in the fellowship events and gatherings in our church? Have you missed the opportunity for us to be together through the Covid-19 pandemic? If so, this is for you!

- ♦ **Wanted:** Anyone that is looking to support fellowship activities for our church family.
- ♦ **What:** Planning and participating in events for the church as a member of the Fellowship Committee (note - not every committee member needs to be a part of every event).
- ♦ **How:** Contact Sharon Hall at 248-872-2449 or disneyfamily01@gmail.com to learn more.



We are a vibrant and active part of the church that enjoys bringing our church family together in fellowship, and who have as much fun hosting the events as our members do attending them. We are looking for more members to help us grow this area of our church life in the months and years to come. Do you love bringing our church family together in fellowship? If so, please consider being a part of our group. You will not be sorry!

The Fellowship Committee is excited to announce the **first all-church gathering in 17 months!** We have missed you, and we are thrilled to be hosting a picnic lunch after the 10:30 worship service on **Sunday, July 25**. Join us for the outdoor service, then stay for a **simple picnic** with hot dogs, chips, treats, and the unmatched joy of gathering around the table as a church family. In the midst of a busy summer of embracing so many restored opportunities in our lives, we pray you will take the time to be a part of this one as well. Please join us at 11:30, on July 25, as we take this next big step back towards 'normal' in 2021!



SEEKING WORSHIP MEDIA TEAM VOLUNTEERS

Are you comfortable with an iPad or tablet? Do you want to be a part of helping those at home engage in our worship life while still being able to enjoy worship with your friends or family sitting in the pews? If so, this opportunity is for you!

As we look ahead to worship life in the coming months and years, we are hoping to expand the pool of individuals operating the camera for the live-stream of our worship each Sunday. A Wi-Fi enabled iPad is used to control the camera through pre-sets, allowing volunteers to sit in the pews with their families as they manage the controls throughout the service. It is our hope to create a sufficient pool that no one is being asked to manage this responsibility more than once a month.

If you would be interested in being a part of this team, or would like more information, please contact Rev. Marty.



CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Stop in and see the youth room - it is ready for you YOUTH to start using for gatherings!

Some youth, young adults and an older adults (Rev. Julie) are enjoying a week at camp from July 11-17. Please think of and pray their time together to be rich in enjoyment of their surroundings, each other, and God's presence surrounding.



During the 10:30am outdoor worship, leaders will be here for “godly fun” activities with children. If weather indicates a move inside, “godly fun” will be held in the large classroom downstairs. Please come early for the sweet treats and fellowship between the 9am and 10:30am services.

Let's get together and serve: **Saturday July 10**, we have another opportunity to work at the **Soles for Jesus warehouse from 9-11**. We encourage you to bring your gently used shoes to our “Soles for Jesus” bins on Saturday mornings at the Farmer's Market or Sunday morning in boxes placed by the portico and south doors. Invite a friend to come sort and prep these shoes for shipping to Africa and learn about the incredible impact we can make together. Do RSVP if you are able to come to David Schimpf at dschimpf@wi.rr.com.

July 27, Families with Middle school - High School

youth: Come together at 6 pm for dinner (grill and sides) at 6 pm near the portico entrance. At 7 pm we youth will break into our two different age groups, "In the Middle" (going into grades 5-8), and "YouthConnect" (going into grades 9-12), for games and activities. RSVP to Rev. Julie, thank you.



414-352-6123

North Shore Congregational Church

7330 N. Santa Monica Boulevard

Fox Point, Wisconsin 53217



Staff Member:

Rev. Dr. Martin Hall
Rev. Julie Sheridan-Smith
Kerrin White
Rick Kieffer

Email Address:


martinhall@NSCChurchWI.org
juliesmith@NSCChurchWI.org
kerrinwhite@NSCChurchWI.org
RLKieffer1@gmail.com

Church Extension:

x15
x14
x12

Outside Phone:

248-245-0415
414-588-8693
414-698-6252



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

*7330 N. Santa Monica Blvd
Fox Point, WI 53217
(414) 352-6123
www.NSCChurchWI.org*

*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