

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.

August 2021

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Sunday Morning

9:00 Worship—Sanctuary/
Facebook

Worship—Outdoors

10:30 am

Godly Fun—Outdoors

10:30 am

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“A Few Thoughts On.....”

A Date to Remember ...

We hear the question again and again, ‘When will things in the church get back to normal?’ The truth is that it is not an easy question to answer. Some of you may recall my reflections, in last month’s newsletter, about the manner in which we are attempting to be intentional and discerning in the balance of what beloved elements of our pre-Covid church life will return as they were, along with what new endeavors and lessons will be a part of that which comes next. The truth is that we will get ‘back to normal’ in some ways, while in others the old ‘normal’ will likely never return in the way it once was. This is an exciting opportunity for the church, but one that also, admittedly, leaves more than a few unknowns for the months and years ahead.

At the same time, while we aren’t entirely sure how much of the old ‘normal’ will be a part of what comes next, we are also entirely aware that none of this has been, or will be, akin to flipping a switch to return our practices to that which once were. The arduous climb out of our Covid realities has been a slow turning of the mitigatory dial, and there is little doubt that there will still be some stages and evolution in the months ahead.

With all of that said, however, there is a date towards which we want to point in the life of the church. After 18 months of Covid separation, followed by various levels of mitigation, followed by a summer distracted by a return to so many beloved opportunities that pulled our energies elsewhere, we are truly excited to be setting our sights on **Homecoming Sunday on September 12, 2021**. After 18 months of being apart for so many reasons, this date is the closest we will have to a date in which ‘normal’ will return!

A Date to Remember continued...

What will that look like? We don't yet know! The next few weeks will bring meetings and discussions which will offer clarity about expected mitigation strategies, what the worship schedule will be, and more. At the same time, we are in active dialog with the members of our choirs, youth leadership, and others, about the form and function of those programs and ministries headed into this fall. More details on all of these things will come in future worship orders, announcements, and of course the September newsletter.

What we can tell you, however, is that things will begin to take on new forms, once again, on September 12. Our fall worship schedule will begin, our choirs will start to more regularly make their way back into our worship life, our weekly Sunday school offerings and regular youth events will restart, and our morning worship experience will be capped off with a Homecoming picnic for the entire church to celebrate the day.

There is still a lot we don't know about what is in store for the fall, and we expect to be able to share much more detail on these things in the coming weeks. For now, however, we pray that you will set aside the morning of September 12 to join us on the day on which we take the next big step towards whatever God has in store, next, for our church.

Your Pastor and Friend, *Marty*

September 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

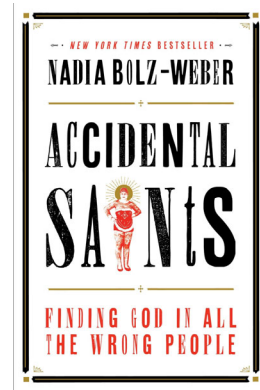
Sunday, Sep 12th 2021

FORMATION AND ENRICHMENT

Tuesday Morning Book Group:

Tuesday Book Group meets at 9 am on Zoom and 10 am in Friendship Lounge.

Please note, our regular meetings between August 10-September 7 will be suspended and on September 14 we will begin to discuss our next book: *Nadia Bolz-Weber's "Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong People."* Founding pastor of "House for All Sinners and Saints" Bolz-Weber, a tattooed, sometime profane, sometimes hilarious author writes of unexpected people whose lives are transformed in ways they couldn't have been on their own.



Please contact the church office if you would like a book ordered for you (\$11).

Thursday Bible Study:

This group meets "hybrid" style, some on Zoom and some in Friendship Lounge, from 9:30-11am. We concluded our discussion on Isaiah and will begin to meet again on September 9 with the book of Exodus.



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 concluded our discussion on Genesis and will **begin to read and discuss Exodus September 19**.



If you have questions, or would like to be on the email reminder list for any of our study groups, please contact any of the staff in the church office. The links for Zoom gatherings are always noted in the weekly Monday emails.

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Evening Labyrinth Walk

Come enjoy walking an outdoor labyrinth (a form of prayer walk) at **6:30pm on August 5** (weather permitting). We will meet at Hartung Park in Wauwatosa. Park on Menomonee River Parkway north of West Concordia.

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

Some titles have circulated in and out of our “Under the Portico” Little Library: Books and Faith.

You are welcome to take, 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.



FALL CHOIRS

FALL CHOIRS SET TO RE-START

Members of both the Handbell Choir and Chancel Choir (Ringers-N-Singers) are going to begin rehearsals, on **Thursday Night, September 2**. If plans come to fruition, we will share in Music Making as well as a social/meal time together. You are welcome to join in, if you would like!

CHANCEL CHOIR

New members are always welcome. A simple—mostly painless—voice placement for your voice part (sop/alto/ten/bass). We welcome all calibers of singers.

HANDBELL CHOIR

The Handbell Choir is in NEED of new ringers. We have slots to be filled, and you might be that person. Music reading ability IS required. A conversation with Rick will help discern if you might be a good fit.





Our Faith leads us to our Church, to our own beings and souls, but our faith also leads us outward to care for others. We gave these ideas to Max Smith, a graphic artist and member of the Church. It was he who designed the Beyond our Walls logo and brought these ideas to life in such a perfect way. Thank you so much, Max!

“Love your neighbor as yourself.”
(Luke 10:27)

Neighbors Care Collection Drive - School supplies for children in inner city schools

Collecting supplies through August 8. Thank you to all who generously responded to the Neighbors Care Back to School Drive! The donated supplies will find their way to 7 inner city schools supported by the organization.

Neighbors care is a recipient of funds from our Benevolence Board, so we are thrilled to be helping in this additional way. They host three collections a year and make it easy to contribute through online giving or pick up from your home. Learn more at **neighborscare.org**.

Repairers of the Breach - Daytime homeless center and clinic

Beginning October 3, each first Sunday of the month we will prepare bag lunches at church, to be delivered on Monday morning to the Repairers of the Breach site. We will continue to offer the sign up link (sent in the Monday email the week before) with a list of supplies needed to make the lunches, and volunteer opportunities such as delivering the lunches the next day. If any groups wish to host one of the lunch making events, using the church kitchen or their home please contact Jane Ford at janer1975@gmail.com and specify which month.

St. Ben's Community Meal - *Serving the poor, the hungry and the homeless*

We are grateful to re engage in our Loaves and Fishes ministry, cooking, baking, delivering and serving the meal. Brother Robert from St. Ben's will be with us during worship on September 19 to share some information and encouragement toward our neighbors at St. Ben's. Our church provides 18 casseroles and many dozens of cookies every 3rd Tuesday of the month. If you would like to make casseroles (2 large pans per recipe), or cookies (5 dz per), be a driver of casseroles and cookies to the St. Ben's site, or be part of the team that serve the meal between 4:30-6 please contact Dona Wininsky at dona.wininsky@gmail.com

Just One More Ministry - *Ongoing collections of food items for the hungry*

Your generous donations are greatly appreciated. But the need remains – especially for peanut butter and grocery bags. Recently this organization handed out **2,000 bags of food** over a period of just two days!

Lions Recycle for Sight Program - *Ongoing collection*

Good sight makes such a different to quality of life! In July, we were able to donate 68 pairs of eye glasses that will help to improve vision for many. What a gift! Check your drawers and bring any old glasses to the Church Office. There is a blue bag there just waiting for them.

Soles for Jesus

Service Opportunity Date: **Thursday, August 19** at 6:00-8:00. North Shore Congregational Church will begin serving the third Thursday of each month from 6:00-8:00! We will be looking for 15-20 people each month to organize shoes that will be sent to Africa.

Please contact David Schimpf at dschimpf@wi.rr.com if you are interested in serving! Shoes will be collected in our bins located at the south entrance or during the Farmers Market each Saturday through the middle of October.

MUSIC ON THE LAWN

Music on the Lawn! Come enjoy the music of “Frogwater” - From Celtic to Delta blues, from classical to pop with a healthy dose of unique original material. Invite friends and neighbors of all ages to join you **between 4:30-6 on August 15**. Ice Cream cups, freeze pops, hula hoops and sidewalk chalk to add to the fun. Bring lawn chairs and blankets and find a spot in the shade. Free will offering appreciated for the musicians.



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!



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

As summer draws to a close and school and programs re engage families, watch for updates (email/newsletter) outlining the variety of activities that will begin in September.

For August, during the 10:30 am outdoor worship, we continue to offer “Godly fun” activities for the younger children on the lawn area near the grove. 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 9 am and 10:30 services.



Families with Middle School - High School youth: We were excited to hear from many of our families who had wanted to attend the cookout planned for July 27, but quickly learned that the timing was unworkable for most. ***We look forward to rescheduling this event for the fall.*** We will come together at 6 pm for dinner (grill and sides) near the portico entrance. At 7 pm we youth will break into our two different age groups, "In the Middle" (grades 5-8), and "YouthConnect" (grades 9-12), for games and activities. Watch notifications for a new date.



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North Shore Congregational Church

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

*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

Megan Hall, Becca Hall, and Linnea Plichta, Sunday Custodians