

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.

November 2021

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Sunday Morning

10:00am
Worship (Sanctuary/Facebook)

10:15am
Music & Movement and
Godly Fun

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Fox Point, WI

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“A Few Thoughts On.....”

Together Matters ...

As some of you know, I’ve recently taken up cycling as a hobby. Over the course of the past year plus, riding my bike has become part of my regular routine of tending to both my physical and mental well-being. Sadly, as the weather has continued to change, I’m out less and less, but one of trails I ride most regularly is that of the stretch of the Oak Leaf Trail that runs from the waterfront in Milwaukee up to where it meets the Inter Urban Trail at the Milwaukee/Ozaukee county line.

Those of you who bike or walk this trail will know of a tiny segment, about ½ mile north of Silver Spring, where the trail is closed. Apparently, there is some erosion going on under the trail, and the county closed this section out of safety concerns. In light of this closure, the county has posted a detour that takes you through a residential neighborhood, across busy streets, on sidewalks along those highly trafficked areas, and back up onto the trail at Silver Spring. It’s not exactly the ideal detour for someone riding or running along the trail.

So, what do people do? They go right down the trail and around the blockade! Cement blocks and fences have been used to try to cordon off the area, but people simply find a way around. Some climb over the large cement blocks (even using sections of fence to do so), while most end up walking around the blockades on a slippery-when-wet, tree-root-riddled, trampled path of a bypass that’s been created by the thousands of riders and walkers that have made their way around this blockade in the many months they have been in place.

The irony that strikes me every time I walk my bike around that blockade, then, is how the blockade that was meant for safety really does nothing but make things that much more difficult and dangerous. Instead of quickly riding my bike along an area that might fail due to erosion, I’m now walking my bike around blockades on an ankle

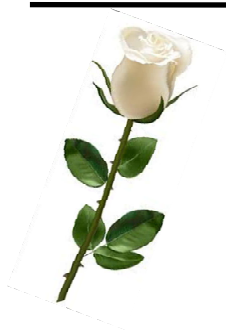
Together Matters continued...

spraining minefield of roots, walking along that same area that might fail, and then turning around and doing the same thing again on the return. Now, I know that people are deciding to go around and taking a risk in doing so, but my point is not about the legalities and liabilities of it all. For me, every time I come to that point on the trail, I am struck by the irony that the blockade that the county created isn't making anyone or anything easier or safer – it's simply making it harder on those who are using the trail. Then, each time that irony crosses my mind, I find myself wondering how often we do the same with God.

One of the biblical themes that seems to be recurrent in the story of our faith is that of the truly relentless nature of God. From one story of the Bible to the next, we see the repeated story of people throwing up their blockades in the path of God. Willfulness, resistance, selfishness, greed, anger, the list is nearly endless. Again and again, we see the story of people somehow or another putting up barriers to God's work in their lives – things that block the path on which God is guiding us. Again and again, however, we see that God doesn't give up. God will push us, and pull us, and poke at us, and continue to try to usher us down that path. And, no matter what barriers we put up, or what barriers our lives may put up for us, God will find a way around! God will guide us over those cement blocks, or around those detouring paths, to help us follow His way. It will be harder, however, because we insisted on throwing up those blockades in the first place.

I simply wonder how often the realities of our lives are reflective of that closure on the trail. How often are we climbing over difficult obstructions, or traversing sketchy pathways towards faithfulness, because we insisted on putting up some barrier to the path that God was setting before us? How often are we forced into those less than ideal diversions that, in the end, are only there because we put up the blockade in the first place?

Your Pastor and Friend, *Marty*



Join us in worship for **Remembrance Sunday** on Sunday, **November 7, at 10am**. This annual tradition centers our worship around the remembrance of those in our church family who have died in the past year. This year, our remembrance will also include some who passed in 2020 in the early months of the Covid pandemic. Please join us for this meaningful tradition in the worship life of our church.

ADULT FORMATION

Thursday Morning Bible Study, from 9:30-11:00am. Exodus continues and we are enjoying our conversations together! If you wish to join in, we can catch you up! We meet both in person (Rev. Julie's office) and online through Zoom. Please let Rev. Julie know which method will work better for you. The link for Zoom will be in the Monday email each week. If you have any questions or would like to receive more communication about the Bible study, please contact the church office.

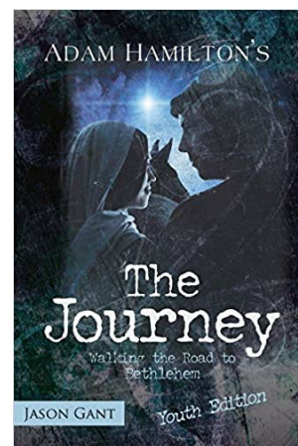


Sunday Afternoon Bible Study - A journey through Exodus also meets on Sunday afternoons on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays, from 3-4:30, in Friendship Lounge. Come and join in, and see if this meets your interest!

Our **Tuesday Morning Book Group** will begin a book and video conversation with **Adam Hamilton's "The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem,"** on Tuesdays (9 am Zoom and 10 in Friendship Lounge). We will begin on **November 16** with a preview to the 5 week study to take place on November 23, 30, December 7, 14, and 21.

Contact Rev. Julie ASAP to order your book: \$12.99. Large print \$14.99 or Ebook \$11.99.

Adam Hamilton's book and video combines historical information, archaeological data, and a personal look at some of the stories surrounding the birth, the most amazing moment in history will become more real and heartfelt as you walk along this road.



OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Poinsettia Fundraiser 2021 - This year we have some exciting changes. Items will be provided by Bayside Garden Center. Not only will we be offering beautiful poinsettias and evergreens, but also gift cards. Proceeds will go to **updating our Baby and Toddler Room**. Ordering started **October 24**. For your convenience, online ordering and payment can be made at <https://form.jotform.com/212835059215151>, or you can order in Friendship Lounge on Sundays, October 31, and November 7. Items will be available for pick up on Saturday and Sunday, November 27-28. Watch for the order form in upcoming church notes and newsletters.



ADVENT

Advent Devotionals, written by YOU: If you have not yet signed up to write a page (up to 250 words) go to this link, <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d48abae23abfac07-advent1>, or contact the church office. **Please email your reflection, by November 8, to juliesmith@NSCChurchWI.org.** The booklets will be available on Sunday, November 21.



Mark your calendars and let your friends know about a Ladies Advent Luncheon, December 4! Thank you to the Soupers for their financial support for this event.



By any chance do you have or know of a lonely, unused electronic piano collecting dust in your home?

Our **children's Music and Movement** team is in need of a used, simple electric keyboard with a steady stand for the Godly Fun room!

If you have one to donate please contact Rick Kieffer

We have a collection of Lost and Found items in the open closet area by the South door of the church. Please come and find what is yours! We plan to donate any items left by **November 22** to a local charity.

**LOST &
FOUND**


The Stewardship Board would like to thank those of you who have returned your Estimate of Giving (“EOG”). It is very important to have those estimates to help us finalize next year’s budget. We are on our way, but still 27% below our projected budget with many EOGs still to be received. As we seek to continue with the programs our church as undertaken to do the Lord’s work, we look forward to receiving your EOG.

Please deliver your EOG, using one of these easy methods:

1. **Physical delivery.** Fill out the EOG card we previously sent you and mail it to the church office or drop it off the next time you visit. (7330 N Santa Monica Blvd., Fox Point, WI 53217)
2. **Email** your annual EOG to KerrinWhite@NSCChurchWI.org.
3. **Online.** Make your estimate of giving at **onRealm.org** or the Realm Connect app by selecting “**EOG – 2022.**” If you have not previously registered on Realm, please contact our Office Manager, Kerrin White, and the church will send you a Realm registration link.
4. **Call** Kerrin White at **414-352-6123**. Kerrin can assist you with your EOG or with making an EOG contribution over the phone.

Whether or not you deliver your EOG, please give generously as we approach the end of 2021. Whether that means making a payment to satisfy an EOG you made last year, increasing the amount of your EOG this year, or giving to the church beyond regular “EOG giving,” your gift will be appreciated and put to good use.

Blessings from your Stewardship Board. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

ESTIMATE OF GIVING		<u>North Shore Congregational Church</u>	
		Name: _____	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;"><p>My/our commitment for 2022: \$ _____</p><p>weekly/monthly/annually</p><p>(please circle one)</p></div>
		E-mail: _____	
		Phone: _____	

“...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, 2021



TURKEY TIME!

Just One More Ministry is collecting turkeys early in the month of November. Please buy an extra turkey this year and drop one off at JOMM and they will house it in their massive freezer. Frozen Turkeys will be **collected at JOMM November 8-17**. Morning Hours for drop off include:

- Monday – Friday, 8:00 - 12:00.
- Saturdays, 7:00 - 11:00.



Just One More Ministries is located at 4180 N. Lydell Ave in Glendale. Take Port Washington Road south past Hampton, past the Orthopedic Hospital of WI, to Olive Street-east (left), then travel to Lydell Ave north (left). JOMM is on the east (right) side of the street.

Need the Benevolence Board to shop for you? You may donate for this purpose through <https://onrealm.org/NorthShoreCongr/give/GiveTurkey>, or please contact **David Schimpf at 262-707-5224** and a Benevolence Board member will help with turkey transport arrangements.

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE IS COMING!

We at North Shore have a long standing tradition of helping to provide a merry Christmas to children in need. This year we will partner with **Neighborhood House of Milwaukee**, a community center in the settlement tradition, which was founded to “help strengthen children and families in some of the city’s most underserved neighborhoods.” We will have the chance to share our blessings with about 110 children this holiday season. Use this link to signup for the child you would like to shop for: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48ABAE23ABFAC07-2021>.



TIS THE SEASON OF GIVING!

The Benevolence Board has once again decided to combine a Thanksgiving offering and a Christmas offering into a special **One Season of Giving Offering** with all donations going to **Just One More Ministry**, an organization with which we have been pleased to partner.

Chris Capper, Executive Director, and his staff are an inspiration. Their organization has grown from giving a single box of bread to serving, not “just one more,” but thousands more of the most needy and hungry in Milwaukee. Not only do they use generous monetary donations and in-kind gifts of pantry items, but they also ‘rescue’ quality unused foods from local restaurants and groceries such as the Bartolotta Restaurants, Saz’s and Whole Foods. They do all this with grace and faith and a deep reverence for all.



Just One More Ministry shares this prayer: “Dear Lord. We thank you for the many people whose generous spirits have guided them to donate and prepare this food for us. We ask you to bless us and guide us to do Your will, that we may be a blessing to others. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.”

As we turn our hearts toward this season of giving, we pray you will give careful consideration to generously supporting this worthy mission.

Note: Donations may be made through <https://onrealm.org/NorthShoreCongr/give/GivingSeason> or by check. Make checks payable to North Shore Congregational Church; write “JOMM” (Just One More Ministry) on the memo line.





SOLES FOR JESUS

Mark your calendars for another lively, couple of hours sorting shoes to be sent to Sub-Sahara Africa at the Soles for Jesus warehouse on Saturday, November 20, from 9-11. Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F4EA9A829A5FE3-soles2>, or contact David Schimpf at dschimpf@wi.rr.com.



REPAIRERS OF THE BREACH

#Together Matters! Join us for sandwich making after worship on **November 7**. If you can't make it, please consider: Providing supplies to make 85 bag lunches – 8 loaves of bread, 5 pounds of baby carrots, 85 bottles of water, fruit or a sweet treat. Or, volunteer to drive lunches to Repairer's site on Monday morning by 10:30. Contact Jane Ford to volunteer at janer1975@gmail.com.

ST BEN'S LOAVES AND FISHES

We are glad to be back both preparing meals and desserts, as well as serving the meal at St. Ben's, on the third Tuesday of each month. And we at North Shore are back in the kitchen preparing meals and serving once again! We are seeking additional people to participate! There are opportunities to make casseroles or cookies to be delivered to church by that Tuesday morning, as well as driving the food or being part of a team to serve on site that evening. Please contact our organizer Dona Wininsky by filling out this form:



<https://nscchurchwi.org/wp-content/uploads/bsk-pdf-manager/2021/08/LF-Signup.pdf>.

HOSANNA MISSION TRIP

B R E A K I N G N E W S :

7 SPOTS AVAILABLE FOR JUNE 18-25 MISSION TRIP

Hosanna Industries has confirmed that our dates for 2022 will be

Saturday, June 18 through Saturday, June 25

And, due some changes with their dormitory capacity, we're working with a limit of 24. With three churches in our group (North Shore, Tosa, and OCC), that means each church has eight spots. First come, first served! High school and college students, and able-bodied adults of any age, are encouraged to consider this awesome opportunity! If you are interested in this opportunity to serve, please contact David Schimpf or the church office.

Hosanna Industries, Inc.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Infants and Toddlers

If you have **children under age 3**, and would like to make use of the **Baby and Toddler room**, contact the church office and we are glad to staff that room!



Godly Fun (Pre-K through grade 4)

Our Sunday morning Godly Fun (for children PreK-grade 4) begins with Music and Movement with Kelsey Molinari and Katie Steele, followed by a story and activity led by our Sunday School team.

Everyone begins together in church and is invited to Godly Fun following The Lord's Prayer.

If you have any questions, or want to know and see more of how this works, please contact the church office!



In the Middle (youth in grades 5 through 8)

Youth in grades 5 through 8 had the opportunity to discuss the great Exodus story and explore ideas about how God's freedom is part of our lives, and how our actions may help others to experience this.

We will have the opportunity to "walk the walk" serving at Soles for Jesus sorting and preparing a shipment of shoes to South Africa.

We will meet again in the Youth Room on **November 14** to learn about the Soles for Jesus organization. (Please begin in worship and then come up to the youth room following The Lord's Prayer.) We will read and talk about what Jesus said and taught (in John 13) when he washed the disciples feet.

In the Middle (grades 5-8) and Youth Connect (grades 9-12) are invited to **make bag lunches** in the church kitchen on **November 7**, at 11am, while learning about the community those lunches are offered to. Thanks for your help in October!

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

YouthConnect (grades 9-12)

The Hangout for grade 9-12 continues on the **first and third Sundays in November**. Come, bring friends to YOUR youth room, **November 7 and 21, from 5-6pm**. Pizza and beverages will be served.

Parents, watch for email and text reminders- and remember friends are always welcome to join in! Volunteer adults always needed and welcome. Please contact Rev. Julie with questions or to help!

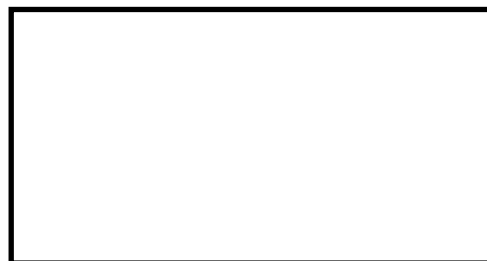
Agape Table for Young Adults

Rev. Julie and Rev. Rob Fredrickson (Ozaukee Congregational Church) continue to connect with our “post High School” young adults with a meal, devotions, and simply being together. Agape table will meet near the **UW Madison** campus on **November 10 at 6 pm!**

Families- please share this information or send along an email or contact information so we can notify young adults we may not have on our contact list.



414-352-6123
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**North Shore
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www.NSCChurchWI.org
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
Rick Kieffer, Music Director
Kerrin White, Office Manager

Rev. Julie Sheridan-Smith, Associate Minister
Meike Pampalone, Organist
Mike Fugarino, Custodian

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