# North Shore Church News

growing God's church



Our Purpose is to Grow and Deepen Christian Discipleship in a Faith Community Guided by the Holy Spirit.

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# "A Few Thoughts On...."

Born to Us...



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#### **Sunday Morning**

10:00am Worship (Sanctuary/Facebook) 10:15am Music & Movement and Godly Fun

**Vol. 39 Issue 11** 



Messiah...Morning Star...Alpha and Omega...Bread of Life...Light of the Word...Son of God...

I could go on and on. In fact, as some of you may recall from past sermons, I have a book on my shelf that reflects on 319 different names and titles used for Jesus in Scripture. Honestly, I think the author takes a bit of theological license with a few of these claims (some are really more descriptors than names), but the point remains. There are literally hundreds of different phrases used in regard to the child born on Christmas Day. What is most notable about that reality, however, is that you need hundreds of different phrases to try to describe the import Jesus holds in our lives!

Think about it — no single title would do! There is no name, title, or descriptor that could even begin to encapsulate what it is that Jesus brings into this world, into our lives, and into the future that stands before us. Savior...Ancient of Days...Good Shepherd...Prince of Peace...Only Begotten Son of the Father... Each and every one of these titles provides a different lens into one or another aspect of Jesus' presence in our lives, and none come anywhere close to 'summing him up.' There simply is no word, title, or phrase that could ever manage to express the depth and breadth of meaning this birth breathes into our lives. Which brings us to the season of Advent before us.

Beginning on November 28, and carrying on through our Epiphany celebration on Sunday, January 9, we are going to explore a different title (or titles) in each service. For each Sunday of Advent, through some reflections shared by our choir members during Music Sunday on December 12, and on through Christmas Eve and towards Epiphany, we will explore just a handful of these titles that were used for Jesus. To be certain, we will not even begin to scratch the surface of all that is out there. We will, however, take

# Born to Us...continued

a bit of time to dip our toes into the true depths of meaning of the child born this season, and seek to open our hearts and minds a little more fully to the true magnificence he brings to our lives.

I pray you will join us in our many forms of worship this season, and I look forward to sharing all of the wonders of Advent and Christmas with each of you in the weeks to come.

Your Pastor and Friend, *Marty* 

#### Christmas Eve

After an Advent filled with special worship experiences, luncheons, carol-sings and more, join us for the pinnacle gathering of the season, our Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship. We will gather for two services that evening, a 4pm service with special music and a 9pm service with the Chancel and Handbell Choirs. We will have preservice music starting approximately 10-15 minutes prior to the 9pm service. Both services will gather in person as well as stream on Facebook Live.



## ADULT FORMATION

Thursday Morning Bible Study, from 9:30-11:00am. Through December, our conversation with Exodus continues! Thursdays, we meet both in-person (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 emails each week. If you have any questions or would like to

receive more communication about the Bible study, simply let

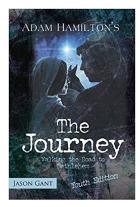
Rev. Julie know.

Sunday Afternoon Bible Study - A journey through Exodus also meets on Sunday afternoons on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays from 3-4:30pm in Friendship Lounge. In December, come on December 5 and 19.

Our Tuesday Morning Book Group is in the midst of a book and video conversation

with Adam Hamilton's "The Journey: Walking the Road to **Bethlehem**" on Tuesdays (9am Zoom and 10am in Friendship Lounge) through December. Feel free to join in any time even if you do not have the book. Adam Hamilton's book and video combine 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 heart-felt as you walk along this road.

The link for the Zoom gathering at 9 am can be found each week in the Monday E-News, or contact the church office.



# OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

A Special All Church Celebration! On December 12, following Music Sunday, come downstairs for an all church luncheon served by our Fellowship Committee (free-will offering appreciated). As you enjoy lunch and conversation, there will be packets available for participants of all ages to make some simple ornaments. At noon we will gather around the tree in the Narthex to decorate and sing a few Carols!

Friends, neighbors, grandkids~ invite to share this time!



# **ADVENT**

#### **Advent Devotionals**

Thank you to all who wrote pieces for our Advent Devotional! These are available in the Narthex and online. May these shared thoughts deepen your Advent.

# **Ladies Advent Luncheon**

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.



# LOAVES AND FISHES DECEMBER 21, 2021

**CASSEROLES** \*



**DESSERTS** \*

#### Hadcock, J. Anderson Quilling Lemorande Petersen Zganjar Slagle Nelson Wauck Slagle Krosnoski Swenson Tollefsen Block Callaway Navarro Only 1 pan - half recipe Single recipe do not double

# **DRIVERS**

Gorham	Croysdale	

# **SERVERS**

Slagle	Tollefsen
Slagle	
Slagle	
Gorham	



#### Christmas Decorations and Dedications

Your Decorating Committee is once again making plans to adorn our beautiful building for the upcoming Christmas season. We always look forward to seeing our sanctuary in all its glory as we worship at this very special time of year. Donations to our flower/decorating fund, which is made available to fund plantings and decorations placed around the church building and campus throughout the year, will be gratefully accepted. We are also always looking for more helping hands and creative ideas, so please consider joining us in this special endeavor.

Thank you, Jeannie George.

This is an opportunity to remember or honor someone, or something, by contributing and having your message printed in the order of worship on Christmas Eve. Please return the section below to the church office, with your check made payable to North Shore Congregational Church, by Monday, December 6.

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honor of	
n memory of	
n celebration of	

#### '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. As we turn out hearts toward the spirit of this season, we pray that you will give thoughtful and caring consideration to generously supporting this worthy mission.



Donations may be made through <a href="https://onrealm.org/NorthShoreCongr/give/GivingSeason">https://onrealm.org/NorthShoreCongr/give/GivingSeason</a> or by check. Make checks payable to North Shore Congregational Church, with JOMM on the memo line.

Thank you for your loving generosity!

## ST BEN'S LOAVES AND FISHES

Thanks to all who have helped us get back into the swing of preparing meals and serving at St Ben's the third Tuesday of each month! We need to keep this wonderful momentum going, so please sign up, as you can, to make a casserole or dessert, drive the food or serve those in need.



#### REPAIRERS OF THE BREACH

#Together Matters! Join us for sandwich making and lively conversation after worship on **December 5**. If you can't make it or would like to help in another way, consider providing supplies to make 85 bag lunches. Any or all of these would be greatly appreciated: 8 loaves of bread; 5 pounds of baby carrots; 85 bottles of water; fruit or sweet treat. We also always need drivers to get the lunches to Repairers by 10:30 on Monday morning. Contact Jane Ford to lend your help: janer1975@gmail.com.





## Advent and Christmas at a Glance

Be a part of all that is happening here at North Shore Congregational Church this Advent and Christmas Season:

November 27 and 28: BCE Poinsettia Sale pick-ups (Saturday,

November 27, from 9 - 11am and Sunday,

November 28, from 9:30 - 10:00am and again from

11:00am - 1:00pm.)

**November 28:** Advent Worship at 10am

December 4: Ladies' Advent Brunch at 11am

**December 5:** Advent Worship at 10am

**December 10:** Women's Ornament Exchange at 6:30pm

**December 12:** Music Sunday Worship at 10am

**December 12:** Church Family Luncheon at 11am

**December 19:** Carol-Sing at 9:30am, followed by worship at 10am

**December 19:** Congregational Meeting immediately following

the 10am worship service

**December 24:** Christmas Eve Worship at 4pm and 9pm (pre-

service music at approximately 8:45pm)

**December 26:** Christmas Sunday Worship at 10am

**January 2:** Communion Worship at 10am

**January 9: Epiphany Worship** at 10am

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# **Carol-Sing**

Do you love to sing Christmas carols? Can't get enough of those beloved tunes? Join us for our annual carol-sing beginning at 9:30am on Sunday, December 19. We will spend 30 minutes singing the carols chosen by you as we get ever-more into the spirit of Christmas joy!

## **Office Hours**

Please note that there will be limited staff in the office during the week between Christmas and New Year's. Rev. Marty will be available by cell throughout the week, but please call the office prior to coming in so that we can be sure that someone is here to assist you.



## **NSCC MUSIC SUNDAY -- DECEMBER 12**

Our music ministry will weave musical arrangements from John Leavitt's wonderful Festival of Lessons and Carols throughout the 10am morning worship service. This worship led by Rick, the Chancel Choir, organist Larry Wheelock, member instrumentalists and guest instrumentalists (strings, winds and percussion) will include scripture and



heartfelt thematic reflections written and shared by choir members. The morning will be capped with an All-Church Christmas Luncheon

# CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

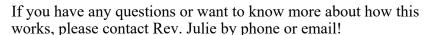
#### Check out the Noah's Ark shelf!

There are books, bags of items, and children's bulletins available for children to take into worship with them. These are refreshed each week. Note, Christmas Eve service at 4pm and 9pm-special bags will be at the ready!



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 worship and is invited to Godly Fun following The Lord's Prayer.





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



In the Middle - In November, youth grades 5 through 8 gathered on a Sunday morning to read and talk about what Jesus was saying, doing, and teaching when he washed the disciples' feet. We learned about Soles for Jesus, and the organization the church has been part of in recent years. Then we had the opportunity to "walk the walk" serving at Soles for Jesus the week before Thanksgiving, sorting shoes and preparing them to be shipped to South Africa.

**December 12 -** card-making supplies will be available for all the youth during the Music Sunday Brunch and Advent Fest to send to some of our folks in care situations. Make and leave - these will be mailed out through the church office.



# CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

In the Middle (grades 5-8) and Youth Connect (grades 9-12) are invited to make bag lunches in the church kitchen on December 5 at 11 am while learning about the community those lunches are offered to. It was good to have several of them helping alongside others in November!

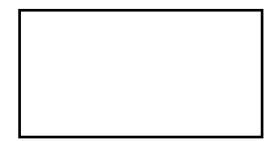
**The Hangout** for grades 9-12 continues on the first and third Sundays in December. Come, bring friends to YOUR youth room, on **December 5** and 19 from 5-6 pm. Christmas treats, pizza and beverages served.



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



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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 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