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

## "A Few Thoughts On...."

Gratitude ...



#### **Sunday Morning**

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

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Vol. 40 Issue 5



As we come out of the flurry of Holy Week, each year, there is something of a collective deep breath that we take as a staff. With all of the planning and arranging that goes into the varied worship gatherings for the season, there is an unavoidable surge of busyness that comes with the week, and there is always that bit of brief weariness that follows. In many ways, you feel like a runner at the end of the race – bent over, hands on your knees, sweat dripping from your forehead, your deep breaths gradually slowing as the minutes pass. You're thrilled with the success you've had and know that you will be ready to run again in the coming days. In the moment, however, all you want to do is stop long enough to catch your breath! This, in many ways, has been my Holy Week experience for many years.

In the wake of Holy Week 2022, however, there was a wholly different experience that emerged. As Easter passed, and we stood across the finish line catching our breath, we looked up to find that the starting pistol was firing the beginning of a whole new marathon. Without missing a beat, one race had simply moved to the next, and we were off and at it again! Planning for the service and fellowship for Rudy Lange... Arranging in-person and remote meeting options for our April 24 congregational meeting... Managing details for the future of worship presentation and O&A... Pulling together annual reports... Getting things ready to host the annual meeting of the Wisconsin Congregational Association... Visiting and caring for an unusually large number of members facing illness and injury... The days and weeks after Easter have been as harried in this church, if not more so, than we ever felt leading up to Holy Week. So, it did feel a bit like we never got to catch our breath from the first race before moving to the next, and I know that there are those in our membership who have felt much the same way.

#### Gratitude continued....

What does this have to do with gratitude? In short, not one element of all that we've experienced these past weeks has fallen solely on the staff of this church. While I talk about the staff taking a well-deserved deep breath after Holy Week, the truth is that our church staff is but a small cog in the wheel that is the ministries of our church. I can't even begin to put together a comprehensive list of those who have participated in the varied ministries of the church these recent weeks. I figure that Holy Week, alone, is carried out by a team of some 50-60 people. Then, of course, there's the officers and leaders who arrange for our congregational meetings, the Worship Vision Team that worked for a solid year on the plan currently under consideration, the Soupers making lunch for the WCA meeting we are hosting, the others hosting evening snacks and breakfast for the same... This list goes on and on. My mind can't erase the image of some dozen people gathered outside of worship, on April 24, compassionately supporting and helping Pat Jipson as she received the medical attention that she needed.

I can't express the depth of gratitude that I feel for the plethora of church leaders and volunteers who have partnered with us in these projects. By the time you read this message, much of what I've noted will either be in progress or will have already taken place. As we emerge from this particular race, we may find that we have an extra minute to catch our breath, or we may look up only to discover there's another pistol firing off the start of the next race that we will run. While I hope we might all have a brief respite before that time comes, I find myself comforted and empowered in knowing that, whatever and whenever the race may be, there is a cadre of faith-driven and devoted members of our church who will run it with us!

I am forever grateful for the gift of that is the membership of this church, and offer my deepest thanks for all you have done, are doing, and will do to support God's work in and through NSCC!

Your Pastor and Friend, *Marty* 

#### ADULT FORMATION

#### Thursday Morning Bible Study, from 9:30-11:00am.

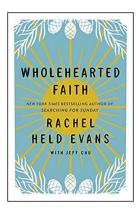
In May, Thursday Morning Bible Study will meet **May 5 and 12 only.** We will look at the letter to the Philippians. Those of us who come in person, meet in Rev. Julie's office where we are joined by others online (through Zoom). The link for Zoom will be in the Monday emails each week.

**Sunday Afternoon Bible Study -** Our Sunday afternoon study will conclude our long journey with Exodus on May 1. Meet in Friendship Lounge from 3-4:30 PM.

#### **Tuesday Morning Book Group**

The "Zoom" group meets at 9 am (link provided in Monday E-News), the 10 am group meets in Friendship Lounge. May 3 and 10, we continue discussing "Wholehearted Faith," by Rachel Held Evans and Jeff Chu. **May 17 and 24 the group will not meet**, and on May 31 we will meet and recap lingering thoughts and questions pertaining to this book.

Contact the church office if you would like a copy of the book ordered: \$20



If you have any questions, or would like to receive more communication about our study groups, contact anyone in the church office.

#### NOTE FROM THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Special thanks to all who signed up and braved the snowy weather for the Karl D. Schimpf blood drive on April 2. Together we collected 16 units and helped save up to 48 patients in need.

Thank you to our volunteer team: Bill and Bo Dowsett, Midge Croysdale, Jean Lemorande, Terry Doty-Webb and Rev. Julie Smith.



# LOAVES AND FISHES May, 17 2022

## **CASSEROLES \***

## **DESSERTS** \*

Bartlett	Dowsett
Ford	Hadcock
Wininsky	Holmes
Streich	Wermuth
Zimmer	Lemorande
Loder	Schill
	Petersen
	Tornetta
	Callaway
Only 1 pan - half recipe	Single recipe do not double

# **DRIVERS**

Osborne	

# **SERVERS**

Lange	Lange
Lange	Lange
Lange	
Lange	

#### From the Moderator

# May 15<sup>th</sup>: In the Homestretch

"For nothing will be impossible with God."

On May 15<sup>th</sup>, following worship, a congregational meeting will be held to vote on the *Future of Worship* proposal, as well as the Nominating Committee's slate of nominees for church boards, committees, and other offices, as well as those holding ongoing positions. These matters are being brought before the congregation by the Council. We'll also conduct our end-of-year church meeting, and distribute the annual report.

In accordance with our church bylaws, we need sufficient attendance at the **congregational meeting on May 15<sup>th</sup>** to conduct a vote. A quorum of at least **50 members** is required, including those attending in person and those on Zoom.

The meeting will follow the Sunday morning worship service and begin at 11:00 in the sanctuary. This allows us to accommodate those attending remotely on Zoom. Those attending worship in person can go to Friendship Lounge, get refreshments, and rejoin us for the meeting at 11:00.

Please be part of this important May meeting—we will celebrate our church year together, whether in person or via Zoom!

Susan Wauck, Moderator





#### EASTER OFFERING AND FOUR WEEKS OF LENTEN GIVING

Thank you, thank you! Once again the generosity of our membership shines as you supported and donated to this year's special offering for Repairers of the Breach. As one member so aptly put it — "There was no room in the BIN!" Cleaning supplies, toiletries, clothing and first aid items were distributed to Repairers, sometimes two to three times a week, to keep the bin outside from overflowing. Such good work from such a caring congregation!

#### ST BEN'S LOAVES AND FISHES

May 17 is St. Ben's Day! We serve a variety of ways: making casseroles or desserts, driving food to the St. Ben's site late afternoon, or serving the meal that evening. Please contact Dona Wininsky at <a href="mailto:dona.wininsky@gmail.com">dona.wininsky@gmail.com</a> if you are able to help with casseroles, desserts, to deliver or to serve.

#### **SOLES FOR JESUS**

There will be no sort and serve at Soles the month of May. Mark your calendars now for **June 25 from 9:00-11:00**. As you are doing your spring cleaning, save those shoes you no longer wear and drop them at church or at the Farmer's Market beginning June 18.

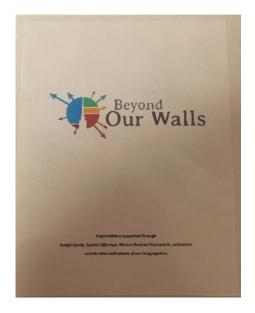
Please consider registering for the *Stroll for Soles* fundraiser on June 19. Register at solesforjesus.org and 'walk a mile in their shoes'.

#### REPAIRERS OF THE BREACH LUNCHES

May 1, our "In the Middle" youth will learn more about Repairers of the Breach as they gather to **prepare** the lunches beginning at 10:15 am in the church kitchen.

#### **JUST ONE MORE MINISTRY**

We continue our collection of peanut butter, plastic bags and non-perishable items Under the Portico.



Do you know where your Benevolence Fund money is going? Check out the new binder that describes all of the organizations we give to each year. It will be in Friendship Lounge for viewing.

Our contributions go to such things as:

- Fighting domestic violence
- Helping a visually impaired child get a test or assignment written in Braille
- Providing hay for therapy horses used to work with disabled and autistic individuals
- Reaching out to the elderly and connecting neighbors
- Supporting the Congregational Church historical records library
- Giving aid to a school in Mexico, a clinic in Argentina and a Christian radio show in Nigeria



# SAVE THE DATE

Join us for the **Annual Meeting** of our congregation on **May 15**. The meeting will take place shortly after the conclusion of the worship service, starting at **11am**. While we hope most will be able to join us in person, virtual attendance will be made available through Zoom. In addition to our normal business (including the vote on the 2022-2023 nominating slate), this meeting will include congregational action on the future of worship proposal shared at our April 24 meeting.

Do you have questions about the **future of worship proposal** that was shared at our April 24 congregational meeting? Join us for a **Q&A session immediately after worship on Sunday, May 1**. If you are unable to attend that meeting for any reason, please feel free to reach out to Ann Halstead (Deacon Chair), Amy Peterson and Becki Schimpf (Worship Vision Team Co-Chairs) or either of our ministers.



# SPRING FUNDRAISER



We are excited to be bringing a spring fundraiser back again this year - We will be offering beautiful hanging baskets, patio pots, and gift cards from **Bayside Garden Center**. Profits will help to finish our updates to the **baby and toddler room**. Sales will be offered online and at church on Sundays from **May 1-15**. Items will be available for pick up at Church on Sunday, May 22.

Please use the link here to order https://form.jotform.com/221144246287151

# CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

#### Parents, always 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. We are always happy for the sight and sound of children in the Sanctuary.



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. We continue to learn and talk about 'What does The Lord's Prayer mean?' and, we look forward to helping lead the church in prayer this soon

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!



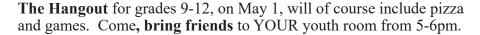
#### **All Youth and Families**

#### In the Middle (grade 5-8)

May 1, In the Middle kids (and parents are invited) - come downstairs to the church kitchen right after The Lord's Prayer. We will make the bag lunches for Repairers of the Breach (and learn about what that organization is)!



#### **High School**





Parents and Families, please share graduation plans for your child(ren) from High School and College with Rev. Julie (send and email). We are always happy to congratulate and wish them well!

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

#### Wisconsin Congregational Summer Camp Mt. Morris, Wisconsin.

- MiniKamp, grades 3-5 (complete 2022)
- Jr. High, grades 6-8 (completed 2022)
- Sr. High, grades 9-12 (completed 2022)

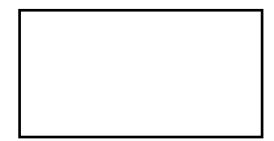
For kids who have come, they call it "the best week of the year!"

Join us for a week-long "Summerfest" style celebration of Peace and Faith through music! How can we think about faith in the media we consume, the movies we love, the music we listen to, and more? Music, great food, field games, craft barn, pool time, nature hikes, skit night, campfires and more.

July 10-16. \$425 Early Bird, or \$475 to register in June. Scholarships available through both NSCC and the WCA!



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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