

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.

December 2022

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

“A Few Thoughts On.....”

Extending Christmas ...



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Sunday Worship

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

Midweek Manna

Wednesdays at 6:30pm

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Fox Point, WI

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It's remarkable how the experience of Christmas evolves through the stages of familial life. As children grow from infancy into childhood, the anticipatory nature of the holiday – and the fervor of the morning – grow with them. Christmas Eve nights inch later and later for tired parents, while Christmas mornings arrive earlier and earlier as the children anxiously wait to come bounding down the stairs to be welcomed by all of their Christmas morning surprises. In time, however, those same kids start wanting to sleep a bit later, ‘understandings’ develop which make certain pretenses less necessary, and the Christmas experience takes on a new tone. And the evolution continues...

In our house, this year, multiple members of the family have work commitments that will dramatically impact how and when our Christmas celebrations will take place. And we are keenly aware that in the years to come we will enter into that season of life in which family time is shared, significant others make their way onto the scene, and not all of Christmas happens on Christmas anymore. And that's ok!

The truth is that there's a special joy that stems from that need to spread out the blessings of the season beyond the harried moments of the toddler Christmas. There's a blessing of gathering with family and friends on December 28 (or December 12, or January 2, or whenever it may be...). There's a blessing of being able to widen the joy and merriment of the holiday beyond those few hours of Christmas morning. There's a blessing in being drawn into the gifts of family and faith throughout a season that can serve to enliven our hearts and our spirits throughout the year that is to come.

In the pages that follow in this newsletter, you are going to find a lot of information about special opportunities to gather in worship with your church family here at NSCC. It will be, I pray, another opportunity to widen that

Extending Christmas continued....

Christmas experience and endeavor into that Christmas joy and merriment throughout the weeks that stand before us. In addition to some wonderful fellowship opportunities, our December worship schedule is filled with unique and memorable services, and it's worth noting that many of our December Wednesdays will be distinctly different than that which we will experience on Sundays.

So, I encourage you to look through the many details that are shared in the following pages. Take the time to know what opportunities are available to gather with your church family this Christmas, and then take the time to be there! There is great joy and blessing in the 'extending' of Christmas into the days and weeks that surround December 25, and I pray that you will make these events a part of your Christmas experience this year.

In Faith, *Marty*



Our always-popular **Advent Fest** is **almost here!** Join us after worship on **Sunday, December 4**, as we enjoy the delicious brunch provided by the Fellowship Committee and the crafts and activities coordinate by the Board of Christian Enrichment. This is always a wonderful way to kick off the season, and we hope that you will join us.

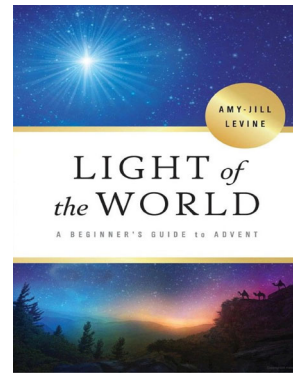
ADULT FORMATION

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

In December the Thursday Bible study group will be reading and discussing Amy-Jill Levine's book *Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent*. We welcome all interested friends.

This is
the pressing question
of every age:
What is it that we cannot see?
For life is hiddenness
as is God,
and we have been given
the gift of searching.

-Drew Jackson



We will meet Thursdays December 1, 8, 15 and 22 from 9:30 to 11:00 in the Owl Room. **There will be no Bible study on December 29.**

The link for Zoom will be in the Monday emails each week.

Tuesday Morning Book Group

We start December with our next book, *Bright Evening Star: Mystery of the Incarnation* by Madeleine L'Engle.

Please join us as we enter Advent together and reflect on the beauty and mystery of the Incarnation.



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

SHARING OPPORTUNITY

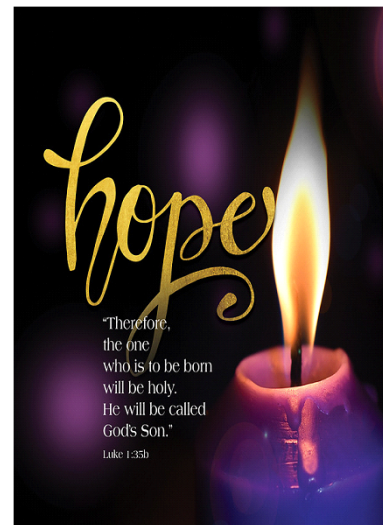
Remember to sign up for a tag to make the wishes of a child come true this Christmas. If you have difficulty accessing the Wishlist, please give Kerrin a call and she will assist you in making a selection. Tags and information of how to bring your gift can be found at:



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48ABAE23ABFAC07-2022>

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

The 2022 Advent devotional, written by your fellow members of NSCC, has been distributed by email and is available in paper form at the church office. If you would like a copy of this emailed or sent to any other address, please contact the church office.



Advent - Epiphany
2022/2023
North Shore Congregational Church
Growing in Discipleship



A Season of Worship and Joy

Sunday, December 4

Advent Worship with communion and Advent Fest

Luke 1: 5-45, the story of Mary and Elizabeth

Wednesday, December 7

Midweek Manna:

The Stories Behind Our Favorite Carols

*Choose some of your favorite carols (a list will be provided)
and listen to the stories that stand behind them.*

Sunday, December 11

Music Sunday

*The choir, cello, French horn, and more!
Join us for a compilation of music and reflections
as we consider what it was that got them all
singing and rejoicing in the first place!*

Wednesday, December 14

Midweek Manna with the Rev. Rob Fredrickson preaching

*Our very own Rob Fredrickson will return to lead another Midweek Manna
service as we inch closer to Christmas.*



Sunday, December 18

Advent Worship with the Rev. Dr. Ashley Cleere preaching

Join us early, at 9:30, for our annual Carol-Sing!

The Rev. Dr. Ashley Cleere, Executive Director the of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches, will lead worship on this final Sunday of Advent.

Wednesday, December 21

Midweek Manna with

Remembering That Night:

A Christmas Narrative with Lessons and Carols

This unique approach to the Christmas story features a first-person retelling of the events of that night as recalled by Joseph, Mary and Saul the Shepherd. Blended with carols and Scripture, this is a wonderful way for members of all ages to explore this well-known story in a new and memorable way. (Note that this service will be identical to that which will be presented on Sunday, December 25)

Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services at 4:00 and 9:00pm

(pre-service music begins at approximately 8:30)

Join us for a men's choir with brass for the 4pm service and then for the handbell and chancel choirs at 9pm. Both services will conclude with our Silent Night candle lighting service.

Sunday, December 25

Remembering That Night:

A Christmas Narrative with Lessons and Carols

A repeat of the 12/21 Midweek Manna Service



Ladies Advent Brunch for You and Your Gnomies

Saturday, December 3 • 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

North Shore Congregational Church

7330 N. Santa Monica Blvd. • Fox Point

Let Heaven and Gnome Sing

You are invited to gather with family and friends to kick off the Advent season with a Swedish twist! Join the fun as we gather in Fellowship Hall and share Advent music, readings, a delicious light lunch and drawings. *Invite your friends and neighbors!*

Pay It Forward

Bring **NEW** hats, gloves or mittens for kids to be donated to the Neighborhood House (NSCC Giving Tree recipient) and get one ticket for your chance to win a fabulous basket of goodies!

RSVP

Sign up today! Call the church office at (414) 352-6123, email the church office at kerrinwhite@nscchurchwi.org, or find the sign-up sheet below the bulletin board in the hallway. **RSVP by Friday, November 25.**

Lunch funding provided by the "Soupers"

CHURCH BUSINESS

Budget Forum

A forum has been scheduled for any questions people might have regarding the **2023 church budget**. Copies of the budget will be distributed by email the week of December 5 and will be available for pick-up at the church beginning Sunday, December 11.



Please join us in the chapel, or on Zoom, at 7pm on December 13. For those accessing via Zoom, the meeting ID is 86420784544 and the passcode is 900789. There will also be a direct link that will be distributed with the weekly email on December 12. If you do not receive it, or need assistance, please contact the church office.

Congregational Meeting

The next congregational meeting will take place **after worship on Sunday, December 18**. The purpose of this meeting will be to act on the proposed **budget for 2023**. Attendance can be in-person or on Zoom. For those accessing via Zoom, the meeting ID is 88504254080 and the passcode is 596468. There will also be a direct link that will be distributed with the weekly email on December 12. If you do not receive it, or need assistance, please contact the church office.



December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<p>27</p> <p>9:00am Chancel Choir</p> <p>10:00am Worship - Rev. Dr. Barry Szymanski</p> <p>10:15am Music & Movement and Godly Fun</p> <p>11:00am Fellowship</p>	<p>28</p> <p>2:00pm Staff Meeting</p> <p>8:00pm AA/Al-Anon</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:00am Book Group (Zoom)</p> <p>10:00am Book Group (Friendship Lounge)</p> <p>7:00pm Evening Prayer (Zoom)</p>
<p>4</p> <p>Communion</p> <p>9:00am Chancel Choir</p> <p>9:00am Repairers of the Breach - Bag Lunch Express</p> <p>10:00am Worship</p> <p>10:15am Music & Movement and Godly Fun</p> <p>11:00am Advent Fest</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:30am PEO AM</p> <p>2:00pm Staff Meeting</p> <p>8:00pm AA/Al-Anon</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:00am Book Group (Zoom)</p> <p>10:00am Book Group (Friendship Lounge)</p> <p>5:30pm Benevolence Board (Friendship Lounge)</p> <p>6:00pm Deacons (Owl Room and Zoom)</p> <p>6:00pm Stewardship Board (Upstairs Classroom)</p> <p>6:00pm Trustees (Library)</p> <p>7:00pm BCE (Youth Room)</p> <p>7:00pm Evening Prayer (Zoom)</p>
<p>11</p> <p>9:00am Chancel Choir</p> <p>10:00am Music & Movement and Godly Fun</p> <p>10:00am Music Sunday Worship</p> <p>11:00am Fellowship</p>	<p>12</p> <p>2:00pm Staff Meeting</p> <p>8:00pm AA/Al-Anon</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00am Book Group (Zoom)</p> <p>10:00am Book Group (Friendship Lounge)</p> <p>7:00pm 2023 Budget Forum (Zoom and Chapel)</p> <p>7:00pm Evening Prayer (Zoom)</p>
<p>18</p> <p>9:00am Chancel Choir</p> <p>10:00am Worship with Rev. Dr. Ashley Cleere</p> <p>10:15am Music & Movement and Godly Fun</p> <p>11:00am Congregational Meeting followed by Fellowship</p> <p>11:30am Confirmation</p>	<p>19</p> <p>2:00pm Staff Meeting</p> <p>8:00pm AA/Al-Anon</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:00am Book Group (Zoom)</p> <p>10:00am Book Group (Friendship Lounge)</p> <p>4:00pm Loaves and Fishes</p> <p>7:00pm Evening Prayer (Zoom)</p>
<p>25</p> <p>10:00am Worship - Remembering that Night: A Christmas Narrative with Lessons and Carols</p> <p>11:00am Fellowship</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Office Closed</p> <p>8:00pm AA/Al-Anon</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Office Closed</p> <p>WCA Young Adult Retreat</p> <p>9:00am Book Group (Zoom)</p> <p>10:00am Book Group (Friendship Lounge)</p> <p>7:00pm Evening Prayer (Zoom)</p>

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30) 10:30am Yoga 6:30pm Midweek Manna 7:30pm Fellowship	1 9:30am Bible Study (hybrid) 9:30am Yoga 6:00pm Handbell Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	2 6:30am Men's Discussion Group (Zoom and offsite) 7:30pm RR Historical Society	3 9:00am OEAnnon - Friendship Lounge 10:30am OEAnnon Special P -Meyer - Friendship Lounge 11:00am Ladies' Advent Brunch 12:00pm Confirmation Cookie Delivery
7) 10:30am Yoga 6:30pm Midweek Manna - The Stories Behind Our Favorite Carols 7:30pm Fellowship	8 9:30am Bible Study (hybrid) 9:30am Yoga 6:00pm Handbell Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	9 Church Decorating 6:30am Men's Discussion Group (Zoom and offsite)	10 9:00am Music Sunday Rehearsal 9:00am OEAnnon - Friendship Lounge
) 14 8:30am Quilters 10:00am WCMF (NSCC Host) 10:30am Yoga 6:30pm Midweek Manna w/ Rev. Rob Fredrickson 7:30pm Fellowship	15 Newsletter Deadline 9:30am Bible Study (hybrid) 9:30am Yoga 6:00pm Handbell Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	16 6:30am Men's Discussion Group (Zoom and offsite)	17 9:00am OEAnnon - Friendship Lounge
) 21 10:30am Yoga 6:30pm Midweek Manna - Remembering That Night: A Christmas Narrative with Lessons and Carols 7:30pm Fellowship	22 9:30am Bible Study (hybrid) 9:30am Yoga 6:00pm Handbell Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	23 6:30am Men's Discussion Group (Zoom and offsite)	24 9:00am OEAnnon - Friendship Lounge 4:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 8:30pm Pre-Service Music 9:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
) 28 Office Closed WCA Young Adult Retreat 10:30am Yoga 6:30pm Midweek Manna 7:30pm Fellowship	29 Office Closed WCA Young Adult Retreat 9:30am Bible Study (hybrid) 9:30am Yoga	30 6:30am Men's Discussion Group (Zoom and offsite)	31 9:00am OEAnnon



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 Sunday, December 18.

Name _____

I\, We would like the wording in the Christmas Eve bulletin to appear (select one):

In honor of

In memory of

In celebration of

THINGS TO NOTE

Confirmation

Our 2022-2023 Confirmation program is underway. One of the things that is asked of our participants is that they need to have their requirements' (worship attendance, meetings, volunteering...) signed by members of the church. If you are approached by one of our confirmands for a signature, please take that opportunity to introduce yourself and learn a bit more about the growing faith of these young men and women of our church family.



Office Holiday Hours

The office will be closed the week between Christmas and New Years'. Marty will be available by email and cell, and will be in and out of the office throughout the week, but Kerrin will be off. So, please call before dropping by in order to make sure that someone is here to assist you.



LOAVES AND FISHES

December 20, 2022



Loaves & fishes
—MINISTRY—

CASSEROLES

DESSERTS

Anderson	Dowsett
Slagle	Hadcock, M
Slagle	Hadcock, J
Moore	Lemorande
Barsch	Loder
George	Wauck
Ford	Wermuth
Navarro	Wood
<i>Half recipe, single pan</i>	Zganjar
-----	<i>Single batch ~30</i>
-----	-----
-----	-----

DRIVERS

Osborne	Dowsett	-----
---------	---------	-------

SERVERS

Slagle	Dallman
Slagle	Wauck
Slagle	Wininsky
Dowsett	Wininsky



Come early on Sunday, December 18, as we enjoy our annual Carol-Sing prior to worship. Starting at 9:30, we will invite any and all to request their favorite carols as we lift our voices in joyful anticipation of the Christmas celebration to come! Don't miss it!



ONE SEASON OF GIVING OFFERING

You should have, or will very soon, receive your special holiday offering letter. Please give thoughtful consideration and a generous donation to the Milwaukee Rescue Mission, a faith-based organization providing food, shelter, clothing, training and pastoral care to Milwaukee's most needy, so they can begin the process of healing and re-establishing productive lives. MRM has been serving these needs since 1893 and we are excited about the opportunity to support their good work.

THE GIVING TREE



Every child deserves to experience the joy of Christmas morning. Our hope is to provide Christmas magic to 102 boys and girls from the Neighborhood House of Milwaukee through this year's online Giving Tree. The Neighborhood House was founded to help strengthen children and families in some of the city's most under-served neighborhoods. It reaches more than 4,000 people annually through wrap-around services, including quality early child care, after

school programs for youth and teens, adult education for refugees, parenting support, and a food pantry.

Sign-up for a Tag or Two

Go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48ABAE23ABFAC07-2022>

to fulfill a child's wish. Purchase one or two items from the tag for the child, wrap the gift(s), add a tag with the child's name on each package, and bring to church. (Please make sure the child's name is on the gift and it is legible!) Wrapped gifts should be returned to the tree in the narthex no later than **Sunday, December 11**. For those not able to access the Giving Tree list online, please contact Kerrin in the office and she can help you select a tag. **Note:** if ordering gifts online, please have them delivered to your home (not church).

Questions?! Reach out to Becki Schimpf (262.707.5223; rschimpf@wi.rr.com) or Sheri Scharnweber (262.352.3675; sscharny@att.net). Thank you in advance for your generosity and continuing this loving tradition.

ST BEN'S LOAVES AND FISHES

We were thrilled to have Br. Benton with us on November 13 to hear what is happening at St Ben's these days and to present to him our Benevolence Board donation, along with the monies collected this year at the Farmer's Market.

Please remember to sign up to cook, serve or transport food to St. Ben's for our monthly commitment. Contact Dona at:

dona.wininsky@gmail.com



Loaves & fishes
— MINISTRY —

MISSION RESERVE FUND

The Benevolence Board is happy to share that we have given a \$5000 grant from the Mission Reserve Fund, funded by a branch of the Rev. Karl D. Schimpf Memorial and Special Gifts Fund, to Balance Adult Family Homes. Balance offers family-style living for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities. They operate eight homes in Ozaukee County and touch more than 200 lives a day. We were made aware of their need by the Dowsett Family.

The Mission Reserve Fund is to provide for special projects, gifts and programs related to the benevolence and mission of ministries of the church.

JUST ONE MORE MINISTRY

We continue our collection of plastic bags, peanut butter and other non-perishable items. We have learned that JOMM is down to two employees and is seeking volunteers who can come and help sort or bag food. You can sign up for a volunteer slot by going to their web site: jomministry.org. Also, we anticipate there may be other specific needs during the holiday season. Please check the Monday email for more information.



REPAIRERS OF THE BREACH

Due to Advent Fest, the **December 4 lunch making for Repairers will take place prior to worship, at 9am, in Friendship Lounge.** Please come early to lend a hand. Then with the New Year's holiday falling on Sunday, we will be making lunches from home in January and dropping them off at church either January 1st or 2nd. More details to follow closer to the date.



WORSHIP MATTERS



Our Midweek Manna services in December will often deviate from that which is happening on Sunday mornings. Please look over the Advent and Christmas worship outline printed on page 6 and consider being a part of both our Wednesday and Sunday services throughout this Christmas season.

Yes – **there WILL be Midweek Manna on December 28**, as well as on all Wednesdays throughout December. It is our hope that these Wednesday worship options will provide an additional and/or alternative worship option throughout the busy Christmas season.

If you would be interested in hosting the post-worship fellowship after one of our upcoming Midweek Manna services (bringing a few treats and beverages to share), please contact Sharon Hall at disneyfamily01@gmail.com. We have been blessed with rich fellowship after these weekly services and would love to expand the group of those helping to foster this new portion of our church life.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Christmas Worship: In addition to our traditional Christmas Eve services at 4p and 9p, we encourage families to join us for *Remembering That Night: A Christmas Narrative with Lessons and Carols*. This special presentation of the Christmas story will feature first-person narratives mixed with our favorite Christmas carols, in a way that will be particularly accessible to the younger members of our church family. This service will be presented as our Midweek Manna gathering on **December 21** (6:30pm), as well as on **Christmas morning** at 10am. Wear your jammies (to either – or both!) and be a part of this unique way of celebrating the gift of Christmas!

Confirmation:

- Our December class session will take place in the Youth Room on Sunday, December 18, at 11:30am. Please make sure that your Gospel book reports are completed for that class.
- Our always-popular cookie deliver is scheduled for Saturday, December 3. Please let Rev. Marty know, ASAP, if you will not be able to attend.



Special Dates: Please note that, due to the holidays, **there will be no Music & Movement and Godly Fun on Sundays December 25 and January 1**. There will be a special service, very welcoming for children, on Christmas morning, and the Noah's Ark activities are always available for those who would like to enjoy them!

Midweek Manna: Midweek Manna (Wednesdays at 6:30) continues on with a number of special opportunities throughout December. For families, please know we have some fun, accessible bulletins and items to help children engage that are updated each week to work alongside the focus that evening. The setting is welcoming and casual, come see what you think!

Make a Difference! Don't forget to see the Beyond our Walls page with opportunities to serve the community. Both Soles for Jesus and Repairers of the Breach lunch making are easy for all ages to engage in together.

Special fellowship events are coming up in the life of the church. Plan to stay for some classic Christmas fun during our **Advent Fest on December 4!**

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 joining in.

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

414-352-6123
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7330 N. Santa Monica Boulevard
Fox Point, Wisconsin 53217



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**North Shore
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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
Mike Fugarino, Custodian

Kerrin White, Office Manager
Meike Pampalone and Heide Hongsermeier, Organists

Megan Hall and Becca Hall, Sunday Custodians