

North Shore Church News

FAITH • COMMUNITY • SERVICE



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

January 2025

“A Few Thoughts On.....”

Thriving...



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Sunday Worship

10:00am

Worship (Sanctuary/
YouTube)

10:15am

Vol. 43 Issue 1



Dear Friends,

As I expect is likely true for many of you, our family has a Thanksgiving tradition of going around the table, during dinner, with each person sharing what they are thankful for. It is, always, a blessed time of smiles and laughter as each shares a portion of what they are most grateful for that year. As we go through this experience, however, I often try to find that special thing that is unique to the year. As thankful as I am for family, and friends, and food on the table, and a roof over our head, and a loving and supportive church, and... and... and... I try, each year, to be thoughtful about a specific blessing that I am experiencing at that time. So, as the conversation circled around to me, I looked at our three children (who are each rapidly becoming adults), and noted that the unique aspect of gratitude I felt at Thanksgiving, this year, was for the manner in which each of our three children are truly beginning to thrive in specific corners of their lives that are reflective of their passions, their God-given gifts, and the futures they envision for themselves. In each three, as we entered the holiday season in 2025, I could point to specific things that had happened, even in just the past few months, that showed how they are genuinely thriving in these passions of their lives.

Now, what does any of this have to do with a January message as we enter into 2025? It’s this...

I’ve often said that being a parent to children is one of the (if not THE) greatest lenses into what God’s experience must be with us. As much as we are limited in understanding the divine reality and experience of God, the experience of parenting a child, with all joys, strains, triumphs and struggles that comes with it, gives us a small but meaningful glimpse into what I know must be the joys, strains, triumphs and struggles that God experiences with us. And that Thanksgiving experience, I know, is one of those glimpses!

God wants us to thrive! As I sat and looked at our children, thinking about the manner in which they are truly thriving in the path of their passion and gifts, I was overjoyed. I have to imagine that the same is true for God. God wants us to lean into our passions and God-given gifts and to find joy and renewal in what we are doing, and will do, in the days/months/years to come.

So, for our family, for our church, and for each and every one of you – that is my prayer as we enter into this new year. I pray that we each may thrive. I pray that we might each find new life and opportunities in our passions and God-given gifts that lead us into new phases of our service and discipleship. And, I pray that as we approach Thanksgiving, some 10+ months from now, that God can look upon each of us with the same contentment and glee that I felt sitting at that table, with my kids, on Thanksgiving this year.

In Faith, *Marty*



We had great success with our first ever ‘Hanging of the Greens,’ as we decorated our beautiful building for the Christmas season. Now, we need help going the other way. Please plan to stay with us after worship on **Sunday, January 5, as we take down all of the Christmas décor** and store it away for next year. With enough help and support, we are confident that we can have things accomplished quickly.

FORMATION AND FELLOWSHIP

Tuesday Morning Book Group

Our next book for the Tuesday Book Group will be *A Year of Biblical Womanhood: How a Liberated Woman Found Herself Sitting on Her Roof, Covering Her head, and Calling Her Husband Master*, by the late Rachel Held Evans.

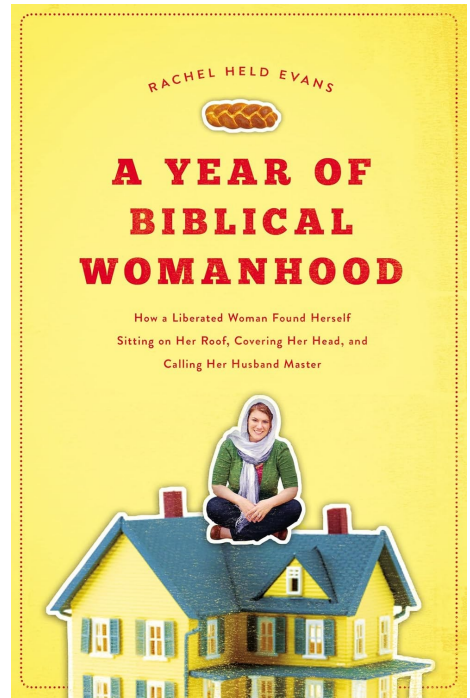
Have you ever wondered what God truly expects of women? Is there really a prescription for biblical womanhood? Does the Bible's idea of womanhood have a place in modern Christianity? New York Times bestselling author Rachel Held Evans embarks on a year-long study of what it means to live by the standards of biblical womanhood. In *A Year of Biblical Womanhood*, Evans shares her courageous and often humorous journey of:

- exploring what a "woman's place" is according to the Scriptures
- applying the Bible's teachings to day-to-day life, sometimes to literal extremes
- focusing on virtues like domesticity, obedience, beauty, submission, and grace
- developing a "Biblical Woman's Ten Commandments" to serve as a guide for daily living

Join Evans as she dives deep into the lives of the women we meet in Scripture and redefines what it means to live biblically (notes taken from Amazon).

Our first discussion will be on **Tuesday, January 7** via Zoom at 9:00 or in person at 10:00 in Friendship Lounge. Please let Lizz Loder know if you'd like her to order a book for you, the current price is \$9.50 on Amazon.

Lizz Loder & Susan Wauck



Thursday Bible Study: 9:30am

Please join us for Bible study on Thursday mornings at 9:30. After a break for the holidays, we will restart on January 9 and will be working through Paul's letter to the church in Rome. We meet in the Owl room and also have a Zoom option for those joining us from a distance. The Zoom link is found in Marty's Monday email.



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

REPAIRERS OF THE BREACH

Lunches will be made downstairs in the kitchen on **Sunday, January 5**, after worship. Plan to lend a hand with this important ministry if you can!



January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<p>29 Office Closed for Holidays 10:00am Worship 11:00am Fellowship</p>	<p>30 Office Closed for Holidays 7:00pm Evening Prayer 8:00pm AA/Al-Anon</p>	<p>31 Office Closed for Holidays</p>
<p>5 Communion 9:00am Chancel Choir 10:00am Worship 10:15am Music & Movement and Godly Fun 11:00am Christmas Decor Storage, followed by Fellowship 11:00am Repairers of the Breach - Bag Lunch Express</p>	<p>6 1:15pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Evening Prayer 8:00pm AA/Al-Anon</p>	<p>7 9:00am Book Group (Zoom) 10:00am Book Group 10:30am Yoga 5:30pm Benevolence Board (Friendship Lounge) 6:00pm Deacons (Owl Room and Zoom) 6:00pm Stewardship Board (Upstairs Classroom) 6:00pm Trustees (Library) 6:15pm BCE (Youth Room)</p>
<p>12 9:00am Chancel Choir 10:00am Worship 10:15am Music & Movement and Godly Fun 11:00am Fellowship 11:10am Memoir Group</p>	<p>13 9:00am PEO Am 1:15pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Evening Prayer 8:00pm AA/Al-Anon</p>	<p>14 9:00am Book Group (Zoom) 10:00am Book Group 10:30am Yoga</p>
<p>19 9:00am Chancel Choir 10:00am Worship 10:15am Music & Movement and Godly Fun 11:00am Fellowship</p>	<p>20 1:15pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Evening Prayer 8:00pm AA/Al-Anon</p>	<p>21 9:00am Book Group (Zoom) 10:00am Book Group 10:30am Yoga 4:00pm Loaves and Fishes 7:00pm Council</p>
<p>26 9:00am Chancel Choir 10:00am Worship 10:15am Music & Movement and Godly Fun 11:00am Fellowship</p>	<p>27 1:15pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Evening Prayer 8:00pm AA/Al-Anon</p>	<p>28 9:00am Book Group (Zoom) 10:00am Book Group</p>

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Office Closed for Holidays	2 9:30am Yoga	3 6:30am Men's Bible Study (Zoom and offsite) 6:00pm NSCC @ Milwaukee Admirals 7:30pm RR Historical Society	4 9:00am OEAnon - Friendship Lounge 10:30am OEAnon Special P-Meyer - Friendship Lounge
8	9 9:30am Bible Study (hybrid) 9:30am Yoga 6:00pm Handbell Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	10 6:30am Men's Bible Study (Zoom and offsite)	11 9:00am OEAnon - Friendship Lounge
15 Newsletter Deadline 8:30am Quilters 6:00pm Midweek Manna Meal 6:45pm Midweek Manna Worship	16 9:30am Bible Study (hybrid) 9:30am Yoga 6:00pm Handbell Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	17 6:30am Men's Bible Study (Zoom and offsite)	18 9:00am OEAnon - Friendship Lounge
22	23 9:30am Bible Study (hybrid) 9:30am Yoga 6:00pm Handbell Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	24 6:30am Men's Bible Study (Zoom and offsite)	25 9:00am OEAnon - Friendship Lounge
29	30 9:30am Bible Study (hybrid) 9:30am Yoga 6:00pm Handbell Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	31 6:30am Men's Bible Study (Zoom and offsite)	1 9:00am OEAnon - Friendship Lounge 10:00am Bel Canto Auditions 10:30am OEAnon Special P-Meyer - Friendship Lounge

LOAVES AND FISHES

January 21, 2025



Loaves & fishes
— MINISTRY —

CASSEROLES

DESSERTS

Barsch	Krosnosky
Bartlett	Lemorande
Gregory	Nelson
Wauck	Schill
Weiss	Tornetta
Wink	Weber
Anderson	Wermuth
Webb	Wood, Sue
Lange	Schuyler
Swenson	Petersen
<i>Half recipe, single pan</i>	<i>Single batch ~30</i>

DRIVERS

Osborne	Lange	-----
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SERVERS

Lange	Dallman
Lange	Schuyler
Lange	Schuyler
Lange	Doty-Webb
Lange	Barsch
Osborne	Weiss

HEALTH COMMITTEE

EMBRACING WINTER'S WONDERS

The season of winter may not be everyone's favorite but take a look on the brighter side: Trying some of these things can divert your attention from negative thoughts about colder and darker days:

- ◆ List a few things that you look forward to about winter — the beauty of a glistening snowfall covering the bare lawns and trees; the colorful flames and warmth of a fire; glowing candles; the crisp air.
- ◆ Bring more warmth to your daily routine — spread out a warm comforter for your bed and cozy throws for your reading chair and sofa; gather your favorite sweaters and scarves; switch from a cold to a warm breakfast - try a new flavor of coffee or tea..
- ◆ Bundle up and head outside. People who live in northern latitudes say 'There is no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing.' Learn to dress in layers: a thin base layer top and bottom for insulation, then other layers as appropriate to your comfort and the weather. Be sure to wear shoes or boots with non-slip soles, and you may find walking poles helpful. Take a brisk walk — breathe in the fresh crisp air; notice things around you — be aware of what you see, hear, smell. Returning to the warmth of your home, you will be rewarded with feeling revitalized both physically and mentally.

"How to Winter" by Kari Liebowitz PhD





LOOKING AHEAD:

JUST ONE MORE MINISTRY (JOMM) - Spread the Love Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive - February 9 – 23

February is the month of love, and what better way to share that love than by helping those in need? This February, let's come together for the Spread the Love Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive to benefit those served by Just One More Ministry. We can spread kindness, we can spread joy, and most importantly, we can spread love to those who need it most. Mark your calendars now, gather your donations, and plan to make this February unforgettable for those who could use a helping hand.



LOOKING BACK:

THANKFUL AND GRATEFUL - JOMM TURKEY DRIVE

We did it! Thanks to your incredible support, we collected 64 frozen turkeys during this past November's turkey drive, breaking the old record of 49 and setting a brand new one! Your generosity made this possible, and together we made Thanksgiving a little more special for many individuals and families in the Milwaukee area.



NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE OF MILWAUKEE

✱ **Thanksgiving Offering** - We have a lot to be thankful for! Our special Thanksgiving Offering raised \$1,900 to help Neighborhood House tackle some immediate needs in their classrooms. Your support will have a positive impact in the lives of these kids for years to come!

✱ **Annual Giving Tree** - You really stepped up when Marty gave a last call for tag takers! 119 children and teens opened gifts because of your kindness. Gifts were purchased, wrapped, labeled and transported in extra-large garbage bags filling two vehicles to the brim! The gifts were distributed at a special breakfast celebration. A big shout out to the Benevolence Board elves and Kerrin White for organizing and executing behind the scenes.



Godly Fun Lesson Schedule

January 5 – What's up, Wise Men? Who were these visitors from afar? Why are they important in the Christmas Story? And what in the world is frankincense?

January 12 - New Year, New You – The new year brings renewal, even for kids! We will explore different ways we can grow closer to God in the New Year.

January 19 – Fear not, Snowflakes! – God made each of us special and unique in our own way, just like snowflakes. But snowflakes are fragile and so are we. We will learn that with God, we can do anything!

January 26 – Darkness and Light – Winter can be a cold, dark time of year but God is the Light! We will learn about how the Light is always there, even in dark seasons.

KidsConnect Scheduling

Let's get together again before spring arrives. KidsConnect is a fun-filled afternoon of games, crafts, and pizza for kids in grades 2-6. Friends are always welcome!

Fill out the Availability Survey here by clicking the link or scanning the code.

<https://forms.gle/Pbozrz4z58aVefQB7>

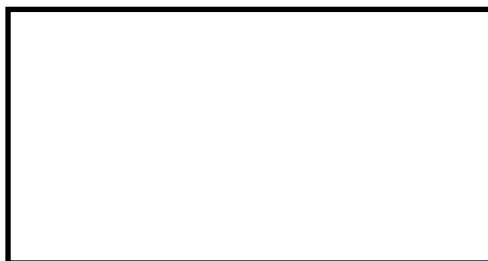


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*A member church of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches
and the Wisconsin Congregational Association.*

MINISTERS

All members of North Shore Congregational Church

ASSISTED BY

Rev. Dr. Martin Hall, Senior Minister

Trinny Schumann, Music Director

Kerrin White, Office Manager

Kesley Molinari, Children's Ministries

Heide Hongsermeier, Organist

Haley Krueger, Social Media Coordinator and Children's Ministry Assistant

Jay Hall, Walker Ford and Morgan Pilling, Sunday Custodians