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.

March 2025

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

"A Few Thoughts On...."

Famous Last Words



Sunday Worship

10:00am

Worship (Sanctuary/ YouTube)

10:15am

Music & Movement and

Godly Fun

Vol. 43 Issue 3



Dear Friends,

Many who are reading this note likely have some familiarity with the story of Jesus washing the disciples' feet. In John 13, Jesus kneels at the feet of the disciples to wash their feet (despite Peter's protestation) in an effort to show them what it means to love and serve others. It was his real-life example of the life of discipleship and compassion to which he was calling them in the months and years to come.

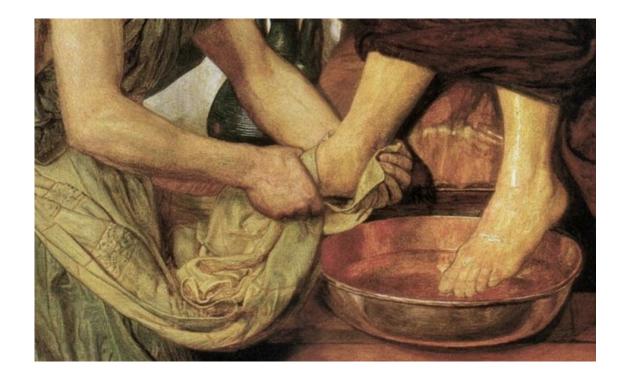
What many may not realize, however, is that the next 4.5 chapters of John's gospel (all the way through chapter 17) are framed as one long conversation that Jesus has with his disciples, leading up to his arrest in John 18. Many of the images and phrases that we know well from John come in this particular portion of the Bible – 'Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another...' 'Do not let your hearts be troubled...' 'I am the vine, you are the branches...' There is a long list of lessons, reflections, and even prayer, that are part of this final discourse in John's gospel. They make up, among other things, a final litany that Jesus wanted to share with his disciples prior to the passion story that was about to unfold. And thus, in that spirit, we are going to spend this Lenten season reflecting on those words ourselves.

In worship, we will take a portion of these readings, each week, as the basis for our Sunday reflections. Starting with the foretelling of Judas' betrayal on Ash Wednesday, and continuing on with a selection of each chapter on the Sundays that follow, these 'Famous Last Words' of Jesus will carry us through the season of Lent, all the way through our Good Friday worship on April 18.

Meanwhile, on Wednesday mornings, we will be reflecting on a chapter of John's gospel each week throughout the season. Starting with John 13 on March 5, and then continuing with a chapter per week through April 2, we will gather to discuss thoughts, questions, and reflections we have about the readings (giving us a bit of a preview of the passage(s) that will be incorporated on the following Sunday). This is not meant to be a formal Bible study, and everyone is encouraged to read the week's chapter prior to the discussion (come on March 5 having read John 13).

I hope that you will make the time to join us on both Wednesdays and Sundays throughout this Lenten season.

In Faith, Marty



FORMATION AND FELLOWSHIP

Tuesday Morning Book Group

Our Lenten book for the Tuesday Book Group will be Following Jesus: Finding Our Way Home in an Age of Anxiety by Henri Nouwen.

Amazon shares this description, "Henri Nouwen writes eloquently about calling and purpose, fear and hope, and he explains why, with so many choices available to the twenty-first-century seeker, including atheism and secularism, the greatest reward for those looking for fulfillment is to choose belief in God. Along the way he offers warm, insightful, and practical spiritual habits to help readers navigate the narrow, sometimes arduous, but ultimately gratifying road of conviction and faith."

Please join us, either via Zoom at 9:00 or in-person at 10:00 every Tuesday morning as we read and discuss Following Jesus: Finding Our Way Home in an Age of Anxiety by Henri Nouwen. This book is available on Kindle, audiobook, or in paperback. The paperback cost is \$13.00.

Lizz Loder & Susan Wauck

Thursday Bible Study: 9:30am

Please join us for Bible study on Thursday mornings at 9:30. We will be working through Paul's letter to the church in Rome. We have shifted to meeting entirely in person. Join us in Friendship Lounge!



FOLLOWING

JESUS

HENRIJ. M.

NOUWEN

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

The Nominating Committee has begun its search for church members who would like to serve on our boards or committees, or as officers of our church. Each year, about 25 current members complete their terms in the Spring. Our goal is to identify by mid-April nominees to replace them, for review by the Church Council and then the entire congregation.

Let any of us on the Nominating Committee know if you are interested in serving, or if you know someone who might be.

If you have questions about the activities and responsibilities of any position, we would be happy to talk with you or to provide a one-page description of any board, committee or officer post. Please give some thought to these opportunities for service. The vitality and growth of our church depend on the active involvement of our members!

Please reach out to *Debby Fulton, Marsha Krosnosky, Larry Molinari, John Tornetta or Susan Wauck,* to learn more about how you too can have a more meaningful role in the life of our congregation. We are often in Friendship Lounge each Sunday after worship. We look forward to talking with you!







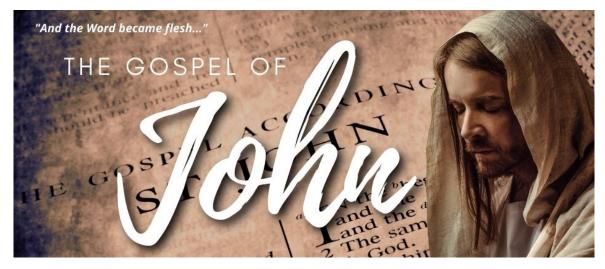
Trinny would like to send an invitation to the members of the congregation who would be interested in being part of the music ministry. She has compiled a short questionnaire to gather information on how members, no matter their experience or talent, can partake in the worship experience through the medium of music. Her goal is to share the joy of making music with all. Please scan the QR code to fill out her survey.

LENT 2025



Mark your calendars and join us as we kick off the Lenten season with our **Ash Wednesday** worship service on **March 5 at 7pm**.

During the course of Lent, Rev. Marty will be hosting a **weekly Bible Discussion on Wednesdays at 10am**. The group will meet for five weeks, with the first session taking place on **Wednesday, March 5**. Each week will focus on one chapter of the Gospel of John, as we explore the 'famous last words' of Jesus to his disciples. Please join us for the first conversation on Wednesday, March 2 (please read John 13 prior to attending).





Holy Week at NSCC April 13-20, 2025

Holy week is LATE this year, so let's get it on our calendars early!

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday - April 13

Join us as we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Stay after worship for our annual *Eggstravaganza Brunch and Easter Egg Hunt*.

Maundy Thursday - April 17

Our remembrance of the Lord's Supper on will follow the pattern we have enjoyed in recent years as we gather around the table and share in worship, fellowship and food beginning at **6pm**. Gathering in worship, sharing in a light meal, and breaking bread with one another, we will be reminded of what it was like for those who ate with Jesus on that very night he was betrayed.

Good Friday - April 18

We will gather at **2pm**, as we have for many years, to worship and reflect upon the crucifixion. The service will end with the tolling of the bell at 3pm.

Easter Sunday - April 20

We will celebrate the joy and wonder of the resurrection with two services (one at 9am and the other at 11am). Both services will be identical, including the choir, brass, and an atmosphere of joy and celebration in the celebration of the Risen Lord.

March 2024

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday |
|--|--|---|
| 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 9:00am Chancel Choir 10:00am Worship 10:15am Music & Movement and Godly Fun 11:00am Fellowship | 1:15pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Evening Prayer 8:00pm AA/Al-Anon | 9:00am Book Group (Zoom) 10:00am Book Group 10:30am Yoga |
| 2 Communion 9:00am Chancel Choir 10:00am Worship 10:15am Music & Movement and Godly Fun 11:00am Fellowship 11:00am Repairers of the Breach - Bag Lunch Express | 3 9:00am PEO Am 1:15pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Evening Prayer 8:00pm AA/Al-Anon | 4 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) |
| 9 10:00am Worship 10:15am Music & Movement and Godly Fun 11:00am Fellowship 11:10am Memoir Group 16 9:00am Chancel Choir 10:00am Worship 10:15am Music & Movement and Godly Fun 11:00am Fellowship | 10 1:15pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Evening Prayer 8:00pm AA/Al-Anon 17 1:15pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Evening Prayer 8:00pm AA/Al-Anon | 6:15pm BCE (Youth Room) 11 9:00am Book Group (Zoom) 10:00am Book Group 10:30am Yoga 18 9:00am Book Group (Zoom) 10:00am Book Group 10:30am Yoga 4:00pm Loaves and Fishes 7:00pm Council |
| 9:00am Chancel Choir 10:00am Worship 10:15am Music & Movement and Godly Fun 11:00am Fellowship 30 9:00am Chancel Choir 10:00am Worship w/ Rick Ruenzel Preaching 10:15am Music & Movement and Godly Fun 11:00am Fellowship | 24 1:15pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Evening Prayer 8:00pm AA/Al-Anon 31 1:15pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Evening Prayer 8:00pm AA/Al-Anon | 25 9:00am Book Group (Zoom) 10:00am Book Group 10:30am Yoga 1 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) |

| Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|--|
| 5 10:00am Lenten Bible Discussion 6:00pm Chancel Choir 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Worship | 27 9:30am Bible Study (Friendship Lounge) 9:30am Yoga 1:00pm LXClub 6:00pm Handbell Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir 6 9:30am Bible Study (Friendship Lounge) 9:30am Yoga | 28 6:30am Men's Bible Study (Zoom and offsite) 7 6:30am Men's Bible Study (Zoom and offsite) 7:30pm RR Historical Society | 1 9:00am OEAnon - Friendship Lounge 10:30am OEAnon Special P- Meyer - Friendship Lounge 8 9:00am OEAnon - Friendship Lounge |
| 12 10:00am Lenten Bible Discussion 19 10:00am Lenten Bible Discussion 6:00pm Midweek Manna Meal 6:45pm Midweek | 13 9:30am Bible Study (Friendship Lounge) 9:30am Yoga 7:00pm Chancel Choir 20 9:30am Bible Study (Friendship Lounge) 9:30am Yoga 6:00pm Handbell Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir | 14 6:30am Men's Bible Study (Zoom and offsite) 21 6:30am Men's Bible Study (Zoom and offsite) | 15 Newsletter Deadline 9:00am OEAnon - Friendship Lounge 22 9:00am OEAnon - Friendship Lounge |
| Manna Worship 26 10:00am Lenten Bible Discussion | 27 9:30am Bible Study (Friendship Lounge) 9:30am Yoga 7:00pm Chancel Choir | 28 6:30am Men's Bible Study (Zoom and offsite) | 29 9:00am OEAnon - Friendship Lounge |
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REPAIRERS OF THE BREACH

CALLING ALL SANDWICH MAKERS - We are planning to make sandwiches in the kitchen on March 2. Extra hands make light work – join in!



EASTER SPECIAL OFFERING

HOPE Network for Single Mothers has been designated as the recipient of our special Easter offering. HOPE Network for Single Mothers links single mothers with community support and vital resources throughout their journey of parenthood. Details coming to your mailbox soon!



JUST ONE MORE MINISTRY (JOMM)

Spread the Love Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive - A big thank you to everyone for your incredible support of our February Spread the Love Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive. We crushed our goal of 128 jars collecting over 240! JOMM is beyond grateful for every one of those jars. You truly helped spread the love!



BENEVOLENCE BOARD DONATION DISTRIBUTIONS

Our money at work! Based on direction from the 75 Years and Beyond initiative, organizations selected by the Benevolence Board to receive donations fall into one of three categories:

- **⋄** Food Insecurity
- * Families, Children & Seniors at Risk
- * Racial Disparity

For 2024, these local organizations each received \$2,500:

- * Advocates of Ozaukee
- * Family Sharing of Ozaukee
- * Hope Street Ministry
- St. Ben's Community Meal
- Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge
- * Father Gene's Help Center
- * Tricklebee Café
- * Bridge to Brighter, Inc.



In addition, monies were given to the Retired Ministers' Fund (\$1,000) and the NACCC Mission & Outreach Ministry Council (\$4,000).



LOAVES AND FISHES

March 18, 2025



CASSEROLES

DESSERTS

| Barsch | Fleck |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Bartlett | Krosnosky |
| Gregory | Lemorande |
| Shawger | Nelson |
| Tornetta | Petersen |
| Wauck | Wink |
| Weiss | Wood, Sue |
| Wermuth | Zganjar |
| Wininsky | Ford |
| | Lange/Dennis |
| | |
| Half recipe, single pan | Single batch ~30 pieces |

DRIVERS

| Osborne | Lange/Dennis | |
|---------|--------------|--|
| | | |

SERVERS

| Barsch | Lange/Dennis |
|--------------|--------------|
| Weiss | Lange/Dennis |
| Dallman | Lange/Dennis |
| Osborne | Szymanski |
| Lange/Dennis | Szymanski |
| Lange/Dennis | |

HEALTH COMMITTEE

A Prescription Worth Taking

Dr. Vivek Murthy, the US Surgeon General through two administrations, is leaving office with a "parting prescription" for all of us.

During his service he became concerned about the many struggles with separation and isolation that so many Americans are experiencing. A lack of fundamental elements needed to live fulfilling lives are diminishing which has an impact on our mental and physical health, as well as lack of engagement and productivity across all ages.

Dr. Murthy's recommendations are threefold:

- * Relationships connecting with others defeats isolation and encourages turning toward each other for mutual benefit. We grow in understanding, support and advocacy. Murthy states, "If I am connected to my neighbors, friends and family, their concerns become my concerns."
- * Service Dr. Murthy has noted a lack in embracing service as a mental health risk and cites research showing positive benefits of helping others: decrease in the risk of depression; decrease in cognitive decline; and increased feelings of connection, even joy.
- * Purpose Finding a purpose and sense of meaning in one's life has a profound effect on both mental and physical health. Some data suggests having a purpose is a "firewall against stress." These three components in Dr. Murthy's "prescription" focus on the need to create, rebuild and strengthen a sense of and an investment in community: that irreplaceable foundation for our very own wellbeing.





Kids Sing on March 9

Don't miss it as the children's choir shares a joyful noise with the congregation during the 10am service. They have been working hard and can't wait to sing for you!





Pajama Day on March 16

The kids collected over 20 peanut butter and jelly jars for our Spread the Love event for Just One More Ministry. Way to go! Let's celebrate with jammies, slippers, and bathrobes. Bring a favorite stuffed animal and we will have breakfast cereal and orange juice during the Godly Fun lesson.

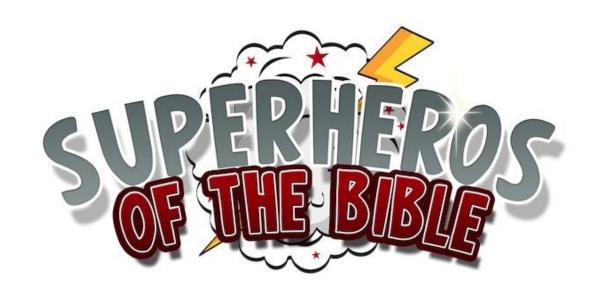
WCA Camp – July 13-19, 2025



Join the Wisconsin Congregational Association for their annual, transformative summer camp. Held at Mt. Morris Camp & Retreat Center near Wautoma, WI, this experience is for kids who have completed grades 3-12 and features all of the summer camp

favorites (swimming, crafts, games) plus biblical discussions, devotionals, prayer, faith-based activities and more! Brochures are available from Kelsey or more detailed information can be found with this QR Code





VBS Returns!

June 23-27, 2025 from 9am-12pm each day

Join Kelsey as we explore Superheroes of the Bible!

For kids completing k5-5th grade, each day will be a fun exploration of a different Biblical hero, games, crafts, and other fun activities.

Registration information will be available soon!

414-352-6123

North Shore Congregational Church

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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 Trinny Schumann, Music Director Heide Hongsermeier, Organist Kerrin White, Office Manager Kelsey Molinari, Children's Ministries Justin Montello, Maintenance

Haley Krueger, Social Media Coordinator and Children's Ministry Assistant Jay Hall, Walker Ford and Morgan Pilling, Sunday Custodians