

North Shore Church News

FAITH



COMMUNITY



SERVICE

today
i choose
joy

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

October 2025

“A Few Thoughts On.....”

Joy



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Sunday Worship

10:00am Worship

(Sanctuary/YouTube)

10:15am Music & Movement
and Godly Fun

(September - Early June)

Vol. 43 Issue 10



Dear Friends,

In our September Midweek Manna gathering, we spent some time exploring the fruits of the spirit as listed in Galatians 5 (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control). As our discussions continued, some of the conversation surrounded the role we play in attaining/embodying each of these things. In some cases, they seem to be things we need to ‘do’ in life (self-control, patience, etc.), some are more likely things that we discover (peace, for example), and some are gifted to us as much as we may gift them to others. One of the debates I heard emerge, however, was the question of where joy falls in this mix.

How much of a role do we play in knowing joy in our lives? Is this something that we discover? Something that needs to be imbued upon us by forces beyond ourselves? Is joy simply a gift we know when things are going well and God’s blessing abound? Or, perhaps, is there more to it than that?

You will find, in the coming weeks, that our Stewardship Board will be delving into the notion of joy in the context of our giving - the joy that comes from making use of God’s blessings in our lives. I will that piece of the puzzle to them. What I found myself drawn to reflect upon after hearing people explore the notion of joy at our Manna gathering, however, was the reminder that there is such a thing as ***choosing*** joy!

20th century Dutch priest and author, Henri Nouwen, wrote that, “Joy does not simply happen to us. We have to choose joy and keep choosing it every day.” He also wrote that, “It is important to become aware that every moment of our life we have an opportunity to choose joy.” It is essential, of course, to distinguish between joy and happiness. Not every moment is going to be happy. Not every day is gleeful. Life is filled with its days of challenge, and those darker days won’t be filled with a sense of delight. Joy, however, is something deeper. Joy rests in the reminder that the darkness of the moment is not the end of the story. Joy rests in our confidence that hope invades our sorrows. Joy rests in the assurance that God is ours, we are God’s, and God’s love permeates it all!

The trick, however, is that we have to choose to look there. We have to decide to find joy. We have to be intentional about setting our sights on the promises of God - especially in those moments that are ‘less than’ we wish they could be. We have a part to play in knowing true joy in our lives. The joy we will know is a wondrous gift from God. To know it, however, we have to choose to look for it, even in (and perhaps especially in) those moments we expect it can’t be found!

In Faith, *Marty*

Church Forum - October 5

Due to the circumstances that were unfolding in the weeks before the annual meeting in May, the Annual Report did not include 2024 financial statements or a Treasurer's report. Now that our outside auditors have completed a compilation of the 2024 financial statements, an addendum to the Annual Report will be distributed and discussed at a forum, to be held after services on Sunday October 5th. At that time our Treasurer, Gwen Benner, will review financial highlights of 2024 and provide updates on the financial impact of both the embezzlement and basement flood. Marty, Gwen and Council leadership will also entertain any questions from members attending the forum.



FORMATION AND FELLOWSHIP

Tuesday Morning Book Group

The Tuesday Book Group is just finishing up with a text and picking something new for the next round. If you have any interest in joining this meaningful weekly discussion and fellowship, this is the perfect time! We welcome you to join us on Tuesday mornings via ZOOM at 9:00 or in person at 10:00.

Thursday Bible Study: 9:30am

The Thursday morning Bible study group is meeting in the library at 9:30. Please join us as we continue to read Acts of the Apostles. All are welcome!



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

Calling All Women of the Church

Do you want to spend more time with the women of our church family? This is your chance! We are excited to announce the start of a monthly meet-up for women of our church - a chance to get together just to be together! The first gathering was Monday, September 29. We anticipate that we will continue to meet, at varying locations, on the last Monday of each month. Women of all ages are encouraged to join in the fun. Watch upcoming weekly notes for information on our location for October!

Midweek Manna

Our next Midweek Manna gathering will take place on Wednesday, October 15. We will gather for dinner at 6pm, with worship to begin around 6:45pm. The evening typically concludes around 7:30pm.



OCTOBER SPECIAL EVENTS

What's the story?

You are invited to find out at a

WRITING/MEMOIR GROUP HAPPENING

October 19 in the Church Library after the Worship Service

(Tasty treats to be provided)

The Memoir Group has been sharing stories, laughing, reminiscing, and enjoying the musings of our fellow writers. We would love to share some of these stories with you!

Come just to listen or come to get inspired.

We are expanding the purpose of our group to include those interested in other types of writing, including narrative, storytelling, anecdotal, etc.

All are welcome!

HarvestFest - October 12

Join us for our 3rd annual Harvest Fest on Sunday, October 12, immediately after worship. Please note that there is no chili cook-off this time around (we'll get to that later this year). The Fellowship Committee will provide the meal. As always, crafts and activities will be available for the kids. If you have any questions, or would like to help out, please contact Sharon Hall at disneyfamily01@gmail.com.



October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
28 10:00am Worship 11:00am Fellowship 4:00pm Grandsons of the Pioneers (Sanctuary and Friendship Lounge)	29 Women's Fellowship (offsite) 1:15pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Evening Prayer 8:00pm AA/Al-Anon	30 9:00am Book Group (Zoom) 9:30am Yoga (Friendship Lounge) 10:00am Book Group (Library) 1:00pm LX Club
5 Communion 9:00am Chancel Choir 10:00am Worship 11:00am Congregational Forum 11:00am Fellowship 11:00am Repairers of the Breach - Bag Lunch Express 4:00pm KidsConnect	6 9:00am PEO (Friendship Lounge, Chapel) 1:15pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Evening Prayer 8:00pm AA/Al-Anon	7 9:00am Book Group (Zoom) 9:30am Yoga (Friendship Lounge) 10:00am Book Group (Library) 1:00pm LX Club 5:30pm Benevolence Board (Friendship Lounge) 6:00pm BCE (Youth Room) 6:00pm Deacons (Large Upstairs Classroom and Zoom) 6:00pm Stewardship Board (Small Upstairs Classroom) 6:00pm Trustees (Library)
12 10:00am Worship 11:00am HarvestFest Fellowship 11:10am Memoir Group	13 1:15pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Evening Prayer 8:00pm AA/Al-Anon	14 9:00am Book Group (Zoom) 9:30am Yoga (Friendship Lounge) 10:00am Book Group (Library) 1:00pm LX Club
19 9:00am Chancel Choir 10:00am Worship 11:00am Fellowship 11:00am What's the Story: Memoir Group Introduction	20 1:15pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Evening Prayer 8:00pm AA/Al-Anon	21 9:00am Book Group (Zoom) 9:30am Yoga (Friendship Lounge) 10:00am Book Group (Library) 1:00pm LX Club 4:00pm Loaves and Fishes 7:00pm Council
26 Bible Sunday 9:00am Chancel Choir 10:00am Worship with Rebekah Barsch preaching 11:00am Fellowship	27 1:15pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Evening Prayer 8:00pm AA/Al-Anon	28 9:00am Book Group (Zoom) 9:30am Yoga (Friendship Lounge) 10:00am Book Group (Library) 1:00pm LX Club

2025

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 9:30am Bible Study (Library) 9:30am Yoga (Friendship Lounge) 1:00pm LX Club 6:00pm Handbell Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	3 6:30am Men's Bible Study (Zoom and offsite) 7:30pm RR Historical Society	4 8:00am Fox Point Farmer's Market 9:00am OEAnon - Friendship Lounge 10:30am OEAnon Special P-Meyer - Friendship Lounge
8	9 9:30am Bible Study (Library) 9:30am Yoga (Friendship Lounge) 1:00pm LX Club 6:00pm Handbell Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	10 6:30am Men's Bible Study (Zoom and offsite) 9:00am Trish Paul PEO Fellowship Kitchen - Prep	11 8:00am Fox Point Farmer's Market 9:00am OEAnon - Friendship Lounge 9:00am Trish Paul PEO Fellowship Hall Kitchen 3:00pm G. Whyte Memorial
15 Newsletter Deadline 6:00pm Midweek Manna Meal 6:45pm Midweek Manna Worship	16 9:30am Bible Study (Library) 9:30am Yoga (Friendship Lounge) 1:00pm LX Club 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 (Library) 9:30am Yoga (Friendship Lounge) 1:00pm LX Club 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 (Library) 9:30am Yoga (Friendship Lounge) 1:00pm LX Club 6:00pm Handbell Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	31 6:30am Men's Bible Study (Zoom and offsite)	1 9:00am OEAnon - Friendship Lounge 10:30am OEAnon Special P-Meyer - Friendship Lounge



Beyond Our Walls

St. Ben's Coat Drive

October 5th-19th we will be collecting new and gently used clean winter coats for St. Ben's. It's a great opportunity to clean out your closet before winter arrives! All sizes are needed: childrens, womens, and mens coats are wanted.



Just One More Ministry

Please continue to donate non-perishable food items for Just One More Ministry Food Bank. Peanut butter and plastic bags are always a necessity! If you donate plastic bags, please remember they should be usable grocery type bags (not sleeves from newspapers). Thank you! Also, donated canned goods (mac and cheese etc.) are also appreciated.



Soles for Jesus

We continue to collect shoes for Soles for Jesus (bins can be found inside the south entrance). Consider donating to this worthy cause as you clean out closets this fall!

Repairers of the Breach

Join us on Sunday, October 5th in the kitchen after the service to help make PBJ sandwiches for Repairers of the Breach. Many hands make light work!



***Coming Up! Keep a look out for our upcoming annual Turkey Drive!
More information to come!***

LOAVES AND FISHES

October 21, 2025



Loaves & fishes
—MINISTRY—

CASSEROLES

DESSERTS

Gregory	Callaway
Petersen	Donner
Scharnweber	Fleck
Schimpf	Krosnosky
Soupers	Lemorande
Soupers	Nelson
Streich	Shawger
Wininsky	Zganjar
Ford	Molinari, K.
	Block
<i>Half recipe, single pan</i>	<i>Single batch ~30 pieces</i>

DRIVERS

Osborne	White, S.	-----
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SERVERS

Dallman	Scharnweber
Osborne	Schuyler
Schimpf	Schuyler
Schimpf	Doty-Webb
Scharnweber	White, S.

Children's Ministries

October Godly Fun Help Needed

Our beloved Godly Fun teacher, Ms. Haley, is going on a European adventure over the month of October and early November. Are you interested in helping with Godly Fun lessons? Please scan the QR code or contact Kelsey to volunteer to help!



KidsConnect – October 5 from 4-6pm

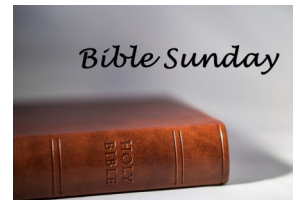


Kids in grades 2-6 are welcome to join in the fun for a fall themed KidsConnect with games, crafts, and pizza! Kids are encouraged to bring along a friend. Use the QR code or contact Kelsey to RSVP.



Bible Sunday – October 26 – 10AM

Join us as we celebrate with this year's batch of Bible recipients. Marking the next phase in their growth as members of God's family and our church community, this special day is not to be missed!



Save the Date – Children's Christmas Presentation – December 14 – 10AM

Following the adorable return of the children telling the story of Christmas last year, we will share the story of Jesus' birth again this December. Be sure to be there on December 14th during the 10am service!



UPCOMING EVENTS

- ❖ **Congregational Forum - October 5** (after worship)
- ❖ **HarvestFest - October 12** (after worship)
- ❖ **What's the Story: Memoir Introduction - October 19** (after worship)
- ❖ **Bible Sunday - October 26** (during worship)
- ❖ **Remembrance Sunday Worship with Communion - November 2**
- ❖ **Fellowship Event - November 9** (after worship)
- ❖ **Thanksgiving Sunday Worship, Pie Feast, and Hanging of the Greens (*tentative*) - November 23** (during and after worship)
- ❖ **Ladies' Advent Brunch - December 6** (time TBD)
- ❖ **Music Sunday Worship with Communion - December 7**
- ❖ **AdventFest - December 7** (after worship)
- ❖ **Children's Christmas Pageant - December 14** (during worship)
- ❖ **Pre-Service Carol-Sing - December 21** (9:30am)
- ❖ **Longest Night Worship - December 21** (7:00pm)
- ❖ **Christmas Eve Worship - December 24** (4pm and 9pm)
- ❖ **Lessons and Carols Worship - December 28**

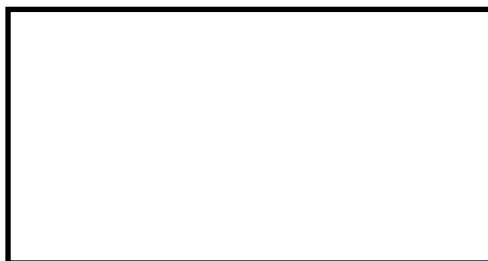
Please continue to watch upcoming weekly notes and newsletters for information about these events and more!

414-352-6123

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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

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Julia Holmes, Office Administrator

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