

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.

November 2025

“A Few Thoughts On.....”

Giving Thanks



Beyond Our Walls	8
Loaves and Fishes	12
Upcoming Events	13
Children’s Ministries	14
BCE Fundraiser	15

Sunday Worship

10:00am Worship
(Sanctuary/YouTube)

10:15am Music & Movement
and Godly Fun
(September - Early June)

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Congregational Church,
Fox Point, WI

Vol. 43 Issue 11



Dear Friends,

It was October 10, three weeks before Halloween, that Sharon and I were out getting supplies for the October 12 Harvest Fest here at NSCC. As we walked through the back aisles of Meijer in Grafton we encountered the usual holiday section filled with décor and trinkets for the upcoming Halloween festivities. Then I turned around and, sure enough, there was an entire aisle filled with - you guessed it - Christmas lights! On October 10... still 76 days out from Christmas... it was already on the store shelves.

Most of you know that I like Christmas, and all of it’s trappings and décor, as much as the next guy (perhaps even more than many), and Christmas arriving at stores earlier and earlier is nothing new or noteworthy. That said, as we climb around our jack-o-lanterns to string our Christmas lights, it’s worth a momentary pause to remember that there’s another holiday in that mix that deserves a reasonable bit of our attention.

As Congregationalists, the Pilgrim history and tradition that sits at the root of the Thanksgiving holiday is rich and meaningful. Beyond those connections to our particular Way of being Church, however, there is a more fundamental connection to our faith that I think can get overlooked in the midst of the ‘ChrisThanksHallomas’ season.

After the kids are done counting their candy from the Halloween haul, and before they start counting the presents under the tree, it is right that we all stop for a moment to count the innumerable blessings that we know in life. It is not that we pretend that life is perfect - nor ignore the trials of the moment that very well might be our reality - but it is right that we stop to remember God's gifts and providence that abound in every day and take a moment to look towards the source of the blessings that we know in life.

At our house, the Halloween décor is up and around both inside and out. And, yes, it is highly likely that we will work to get our outside Christmas décor up and set before Thanksgiving, so as to beat the colder weather that is yet to come (we won't turn on the lights - but they'll be up there!). Still, as Thanksgiving week comes, we will pause long enough to take stock in our gratitude. We will be here for Thanksgiving worship on November 23 to rejoice in God's gifts, we will gather with family on Thanksgiving Day and go around the table with our statements of gratitude, and we will be thoughtful about all of the blessings we so often overlook.

For sure, when Thursday turns to Friday, the bins will emerge from the basement, the Christmas décor will fill the house, and those ready-to-go lights and decorations will be turned on outside. Before we jump from Halloween to Christmas, however, we will find our ways to stop and give thanks for the wonders we know (and so often overlook) from day to day, and I pray that you will find your ways to do the same.

In Faith, *Marty*

Midweek Manna Thanksgiving Edition

Join us on Wednesday, November 19, for a special Thanksgiving Edition of Midweek Manna. After our 6pm dinner hosted by the Church Council, we will move into a period of reflection and gratitude through a series of stations of thanksgiving meant to help us think more deeply about God's gifts and blessings in our lives.



FORMATION AND FELLOWSHIP

Tuesday Morning Book Group

The Advent selection for the Tuesday book group will be *Small Things Like These* by award-winning author Claire Keegan. This short novel was named one of the New York Times's 100 Best Books of the 21st Century and The Irish Times Best Book of the 21st Century. It was also shortlisted for the prestigious Booker Prize.

On Amazon we read, "An international bestseller, *Small Things Like These* is a deeply affecting story of hope, quiet heroism, and empathy from one of our most critically lauded and iconic writers."

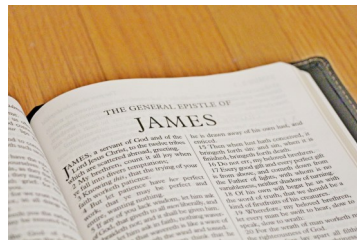
Because this is a short novel, we ask that you read the entire book before our first discussion on December 2. Each week, we will explore how one of the Advent themes of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love are developed and portrayed in this story.

Please let Lizz Loder know if you'd like her to order a copy for you. Email her at lizzloder@yahoo.com. Looking forward to more spirited conversation as we read together, *Small Things Like These*.



Thursday Bible Study: 9:30am

The Thursday morning Bible study group meets in the library at 9:30. We have just finished the Book of Acts and we are moving on to James. This is quite a short book, so if you join us now you can help the group decide what to read going forward. All are welcome – we hope to see you there!



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

NOVEMBER SPECIAL EVENTS

Calling All Women of the Church

Do you want to spend more time with the women of our church family? This is your chance! Church Ladies is a monthly meet-up for women of our church - a chance to get together just to be together! Watch upcoming worship orders and emails for a location, and plan to join us on Monday, November 23.

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. If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Hall at (248) 245-0415 or DisneyFamily01@gmail.com. Need a ride? Let Sharon know and we'd be glad to try to work that out.



Game Day Fellowship and Chili Cook-off *November 9, 2025*

Great fellowship, delicious chili and classic board games to fill a Sunday when the Packers aren't playing - what could be better?! Bring your best chili to see if you can knock off our two-time running champion Chuck Petersen, along with your favorite classic game, and join in the fun as we gather in fellowship hall immediately after worship on November 9, 2025.



Make sure to join us for **Remembrance Sunday**, November 2. This beloved annual tradition is a rich and meaningful way to remember loved ones from our church, and our individual lives, who have died in the last year. Please plan to be with us for this special service.

NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
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/AI-Anon	28 9:00am Book Group (Zoom) 9:30am Yoga (Friendship Lounge) 10:00am Book Group (Library) 1:00pm LX Club
2 Communion 8:45am Chancel Choir 10:00am Remembrance Sunday Worship 11:00am Fellowship 11:00am Repairers of the Breach - Bag Lunch Express 7:00pm Confirmation	3 9:00am PEO 1:15pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Evening Prayer 8:00pm AA/AI-Anon	4 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)
9 9:00am Chancel Choir 10:00am Worship 11:00am Game Day Fellowship and Chili Cook-Off 11:10am Memoir Group	10 1:15pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Evening Prayer 8:00pm AA/AI-Anon	11 9:00am Book Group (Zoom) 9:30am Yoga (Friendship Lounge) 10:00am Book Group (Library) 1:00pm LX Club
16 9:00am Chancel Choir 10:00am Worship 11:00am Fellowship 4:00pm KidsConnect	17 1:15pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Evening Prayer 8:00pm AA/AI-Anon	18 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
23 9:00am Chancel Choir 10:00am Thanksgiving Sunday Worship 11:00am Hanging of the Greens 11:00am Pie Feast Fellowship	24 1:15pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Evening Prayer 8:00pm AA/AI-Anon	25 9:00am Book Group (Zoom) 9:30am Yoga (Friendship Lounge) 10:00am Book Group (Library) 1:00pm LX Club
30 Advent Begins 9:00am Chancel Choir 10:00am Worship with Rick Ruenzel preaching 11:00am Fellowship	1 9:00am PEO 1:15pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Evening Prayer 8:00pm AA/AI-Anon	2 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)

2025

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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 10:00am Bel Canto Chorus Auditions 10:30am OEAnon Special P-Meyer - Friendship Lounge
5	6 9:30am Bible Study (Library) 9:30am Yoga (Friendship Lounge) 1:00pm LX Club 6:00pm Handbell Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	7 6:30am Men's Bible Study (Zoom and offsite) 7:30pm RR Historical Society	8 9:00am OEAnon - Friendship Lounge
12	13 9:30am Bible Study (Library) 9:30am Yoga (Friendship Lounge) 1:00pm LX Club 6:00pm Handbell Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	14 6:30am Men's Bible Study (Zoom and offsite)	15 Newsletter Deadline 9:00am OEAnon - Friendship Lounge
19 8:30am Quilters 6:00pm Midweek Manna Meal 6:45pm Midweek Manna Worship 7:30pm Budget Forum	20 9:30am Bible Study (Library) 9:30am Yoga (Friendship Lounge) 1:00pm LX Club 6:00pm Handbell Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	21 6:30am Men's Bible Study (Zoom and offsite)	22 9:00am OEAnon - Friendship Lounge
26 Office Closed for Thanksgiving	27 Happy Thanksgiving! Office Closed for Thanksgiving	28 6:30am Men's Bible Study (Zoom and offsite)	29 9:00am OEAnon - Friendship Lounge
3	4 9:30am Bible Study (Library) 9:30am Yoga (Friendship Lounge) 1:00pm LX Club 5:00pm Kobylinski-Vickery Rehearsal 6:00pm Handbell Choir 7:00pm Chancel Choir	5 6:30am Men's Bible Study (Zoom and offsite) 5:00pm Kobylinski-Vickery Wedding 7:30pm RR Historical Society	6 Ladies' Advent Brunch 9:00am OEAnon - Friendship Lounge 10:30am OEAnon Special P-Meyer - Friendship Lounge



Beyond Our Walls

Turkey Drive

We are again supporting Just One More Ministry by collecting Turkeys for Thanksgiving. The Turkey Drive will be held from November 2-16. Last year we collected over 62 turkeys for this great cause. Let's beat last year's record! Please drop off a turkey in the cooler outside the portico, in the freezer downstairs, or give a monetary donation right to Bruce Loder. He will purchase turkeys with the money raised. Consider giving to this wonderful organization this Thanksgiving!



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, November 2 in the kitchen after the service to help make PBJ sandwiches for Repairers of the Breach. Many hands make light work! Remember, it is Daylight Savings Time so Fall back!



Neighborhood House Giving Tree



Keep an eye out for information about our Giving Tree collection which will be held from 11/23-12/7 this year! You will be able to choose an ornament from the tree in the Narthex or sign up via SignUp Genius to purchase a gift for a child. We will be partnering with Neighborhood House again this year!

2025 St. Ben's Coat Drive

Thank you for your tremendous support for this year's coat drive for St. Ben's. Many will find warmth throughout these coming winter months because of your generosity!



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

A Special Note of Thanks...

In 2021, my childhood friend's husband was diagnosed with ALS. He fought that disease with positivity, tenacity, charm, and grace until his body gave out this summer. Last winter I sent him a prayer shawl and explained a bit about NSCC's prayer shawl ministry. Here is part of the note I received in return:

Todd is reading his Kindle right now with the cozy shawl you sent him around his shoulders. It is the perfect size and perfect weight and perfect addition to making him comfortable. Please tell the shawl ministry group what a big difference they have made to our lives. The shawl is like one big hug!

The prayer shawl knitters and crocheters bring joy, light, and love into the lives of those who need it. As we approach Thanksgiving, I wanted to pass along my friend's gratitude, as well as my own. Thank you so much for providing this service. If you've ever thought about making a prayer shawl, go ahead and do it! The impact can be powerful.

~ Kathy Schill



HEALTH COMMITTEE

Enjoying Holiday Eats and Treats Without Guilt

The temperature is dropping, the sun is setting sooner and joyful holidays are upon us. We look forward to a plethora of gatherings large and small.

What is the common element we all share when we gather, aside from the fellowship of friends and family? It's food of course!

Here are a few ways to approach the holiday tables more mindfully so you can enjoy your favorites and come away without guilt and extra pounds:

- Don't arrive to the party hungry. A good hint is to have a pre-party snack before setting out consisting of a protein and complex carb, such as a few apple slices and peanut butter or similar combo. This will guide you to the next step:
- Buffet savvy. Wander around the table and assess what is being served. Check out the options and select 2 or 3 favorites and balance with some healthier choices. Be aware of how much is on your plate and do not stand next to the buffet table!
- Bring a dish to share that you have made yourself that you know is healthful but is also amazingly delicious.
- Enjoy your favorites. Spend calories judiciously on the foods you absolutely love. It's ok to indulge occasionally at special times that are meaningful and shared.
- Eat slowly - savor each bite. Engaging in light conversation with those around you can also help in this regard.
- Limit sugar-sweetened beverages and alcohol. A trend toward non-alcoholic drinks abounds. If you choose to drink alcohol it's advisable to alternate with a glass of water or other non-alcoholic beverage (be aware - there are many seltzers and other drinks that are "hard", which contain alcohol. Some are also caffeinated).
- Pay attention to what really matters. Put the focus on your family, friends and conversation.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM YOUR
HEALTH COMMITTEE!



LOAVES AND FISHES

November 18, 2025



Loaves & fishes
— MINISTRY —

CASSEROLES

DESSERTS

Barsch	Fleck
Bartlett	Krosnosky
Dowsett	Petersen
Tollefsen	Weber
Tornetta	Wermuth
Weiss	Wood, Sarah
White, S.	Wood, Sue
Ritke	Nelson
Loder	Lemorande
Wink	Donner
	Zganjar
<i>Half recipe, single pan</i>	<i>Single batch ~30 pieces</i>

DRIVERS

Osborne		-----
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SERVERS

Barsch	Schumann
Dallman	Tollefsen
Dowsett	Tollefsen
Dowsett	Weber
Gregory	Weber
Osborne	Weiss

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ❖ **Remembrance Sunday Worship with Communion - November 2**
- ❖ **Fellowship Event - November 9 (after worship)**
- ❖ **KidsConnect - November 16, 4pm**
- ❖ **Midweek Manna Thanksgiving Edition - November 19 (6pm)**
- ❖ **2026 Budget Forum Q&A - November 19 (after Midweek Manna)**
- ❖ **Thanksgiving Sunday Worship - November 23**
- ❖ **Pie Feast, and Hanging of the Greens - November 23 (after worship)**
- ❖ **Church Ladies' Monthly Meet-up - November 24 (Details TBD)**
- ❖ **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)**
- ❖ **Congregational Budget Meeting - December 14 (after 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!



KidsConnect – November 16 from 4-6pm



Join Kelsey for a fun afternoon of games, crafts, and pizza. Kids in grades 2-6 and their friends are welcome. Click or scan the QR code to RSVP.

SAVE THE DATE...

Advent Fest Craft Fest:

Our annual Advent Fest meal and crafts will take place right after worship on Sunday, December 7.

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!

Winter Break KidsConnect Pajama Party:

Keep an eye out for a December date to wear your best Christmas jammies to church for an afternoon of fun and fellowship for kids in grades 2-6.

Annual BCE Christmas Fundraiser

The Christmas season is quickly approaching and once again, we will be offering gift cards from Bayside Garden Center for your holiday home decor needs. A portion of each gift card purchased raises money for BCE programming.

Use the gift cards to purchase poinsettias, evergreens, or your Christmas tree to adorn your home this holiday season. Gift Cards are also a wonderful holiday gift for schoolteachers, coaches, piano teachers, neighbors, or stocking stuffers. If a trip to Bayside Garden Center is a burden, please contact Kelsey to be connected with a personal BCE shopper who will assist you with fulfilling your order.

Orders will be taken from November 1 - November 23. Scan or click the QR code to order.

Pick up will be at church before and after the service on November 30. Contact Kelsey Molinari with any questions!
kelseymolinari@nscchurchwi.org

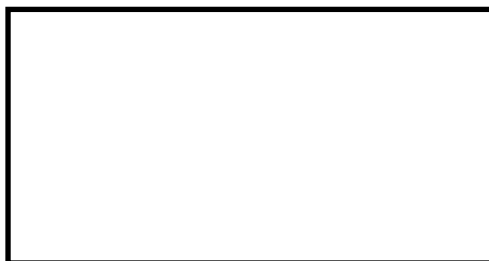


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*A member church of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches
and the Wisconsin Congregational Association.*

MINISTERS

All members of North Shore Congregational Church

ASSISTED BY

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Kelsey Molinari, Children's Ministries

Trinny Schumann, Music Director

Julia Holmes, Office Administrator

Justin Montello, Maintenance

Heide Hongsermeier, Organist

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

Jay Hall, Walker Ford and Morgan Pilling, Sunday Custodians