



St. John's on Madeline Island

St. John's United Church of Christ Madeline Island Lighthouse October 2021

Island Closet's First Season a Huge Success

The Island Closet closes its doors on October 9 wrapping up a successful first season and looks forward to opening next spring.



Island Closet Manager Gwen Smith Patterson was inspired to write a poem about the Island Closet. Enjoy Gwen's creative poetry (*page 2, left column*).

The Island Closet is obviously much more than a redistribution of household goods. Gwen's poem suggests a more profound interpretation of this new community resource.

Reprinted (*page 2, right column*) is a letter from Marty Curry, our Town Recycling Supervisor, reflecting on this first year of the Island Closet. Marty, with his bird's eye view of the goings-on at the Island Closet, offers trusted perspective. Thank you, Marty, for your feedback!

Quite a Quilt: Island Closet Silent Auction

What is made from four pairs of jeans, two shirts, one fleece blanket, two table cloths? A 63" x 63" quilt perfect for Northwoods summer picnics and cold winter nights! Designed by Mary Whittaker, Woods Hall Board Chair

Bid at Island Closet for the opportunity to take this quilt home. Auction ends October 9th at 2:00 pm with the highest bidder taking home the quilt. Proceeds go to St. John's Church to support outreach programs including Island Closet, Food Shelf, and Island Harvesters.

Please bid in increments of \$5.00. You do not need to be present to win. The winning bidder will cover any shipping costs. Thank you and good luck!



St. John's is hiring!

Part Time Staff Opportunity: Broadcast Coordinator

St. John's UCC on Madeline Island has established a position that will be responsible for operating our audio/video equipment (A/V), and managing all aspects of the A/V for our in-person and online programming. This is a paid staff position. Projected workload is about seven hours/week (including Sunday mornings).

The position includes direct operational responsibility for smooth week-in, week-out production of the St. John's "on air" church service broadcast -- i.e. our livestream on the Internet -- plus occasional special events (including seasonal programming). Also



important is the ability to work well with volunteers who will provide back-up. Examples are visible on the St. John's Madeline Island Youtube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFaKJNLiLrkmu8CSzreNt7g>



Applicants should be comfortable operating digital video and a variety of computer applications. Previous experience with audio and video production, use of computer programming for A/V production, and familiarity with current A/V production equipment and technology is strongly preferred.

The position will report to the pastor of St. John's UCC. A full position description is posted on the St. John's website: stjohnsmadelineisland.org

Applicants for the position are asked to **submit credentials for consideration by October 15, 2021 to John Apitz at jfapitz@gmail.com or 651/260-0885**. Anyone interested in the position is encouraged to contact John -- he will be happy to field questions from potential applicants.

**IT STARTED WITH
LACQUERED WOODEN HANGERS
THAT ONCE HELD SUITS
OF LOVED ONES
NO LONGER ABLE TO TELL
THEIR OWN STORIES**

**EACH HANGER
HELD THE LOVE OF THE HANDS
THAT RELEASED THEM**

**I KNEW THEN THAT
THE ISLAND CLOSET
WAS GOING TO BE MUCH MORE
THAN AN EXCHANGE**

**AND THEN THE CLOTHING CAME IN
WITH STORIES TO FILL THOSE HANGERS,
...WHEN SHE LAST WORE THIS DRESS,
OR HOW DAD, WHO IS IN MEMORY CARE
AND WILL NEVER VISIT THE ISLAND AGAIN
LOVED TO WEAR THOSE SWEATERS HERE,
HOW A MOTHER COULD NOT GET THAT DRESS
OFF HER DAUGHTER,
"SHE WORE IT TO BED"
AS A TEAR ESCAPED WITH THE MEMORY
FREELY GIVEN AMONGST CANDLES
AND DISHES**

**THE ENERGY OF THIS LOVE
RADIATING SO BRIGHTLY
THAT THE NEXT VISITOR GLEEFULLY
PICKED IT UP TO CREATE ANOTHER STORY
AND SO IT WENT ALL SUMMER**

**THOSE OF US ACCEPTING THESE
DONATIONS BORE WITNESS
TO THESE STORIES OF THE
LETTING GO, THE STARTING OVER
IN NEW LIVES, NEW HOUSEHOLDS**

**WE WERE HONORED TO HOLD
THE SPACE OF THAT
AND THE WEARINESS OR EXCITEMENT
OF STARTING OVER**

**WE REDUCE, RECYCLE AND REUSE
THE CREATOR IN ALL OF IT
WILLING US TO KEEP
THE LOVE ALIVE THROUGH STORY
OF FINDING THAT PERFECT OBJECT OR DRESS
TO WEAR TO THE DISCO BIRTHDAY PARTY**

**TO SOUNDS OF POLKA ON SATURDAYS,
OPERA ON MONDAYS
AND TIRES ON GRAVEL DRIVING AWAY
FULL TO THE BRIM
WITH THE LOVE OF GOD**

**LISTEN HARD,
GOD IS STILL SPEAKING**

~~~By Gwen Smith Patterson~~~

As we wind down the inaugural season of the Island Closet at the MRF, I would like to take time to reflect on the overall success and challenges of this first year.

The customer appreciation from the MRF end of the equation was overwhelmingly positive. Our customers would frequently ask if the closet was open and made numerous comments that it was "a great addition and expansion" for the community. Not only did we provide a space for the recycling of household materials and clothes, but islanders were satisfied with the peace of mind that comes along with being able to support this unique partnership. The positive feedback wasn't limited to the islanders either. Many of our seasonal guests and campers passing through, loved the space, loved the volunteer aspect as well as the quality of items that were being offered.

This year as with others, there were numerous households that came to the MRF having just bought a home or just sold a home and were looking for a way to get rid of quality household items. Not only did they find an outlet here at the MRF, but many households furnished their homes with items from the Island Closet. For me, the most notable example was the benefit provided to the Bad River Housing Complex on the North end. Blankets, rugs, kitchen ware, pillows, and other furnishings were provided at no cost to assist and support their efforts. This exemplifies partnership and community support. This was the initial goal of this venture, and it is my belief that we have achieved this.

As with all successes, there are challenges. At beginning of the season, we allocated 4 parking spots for the Island Closet. At the height of the season, there were no less than 12 cars parked in various locations around the MRF grounds creating some incoherence and challenges for flow of traffic. Drop off locations were dependent on individuals (some of them elderly) being able to lift and transport donated items to the garage; often with cars parked in the main thoroughway where commercial traffic and construction debris was being hauled. I believe with more signage and familiarity with the process this can be avoided in the future.

There was a continued request by some to expand this venture to include furniture and building materials.

We are making our way to the finish line in mid-October after which time the MRF will resume use of the garage space in preparation for winter.

Congratulations on a Job Well Done. All feedback is greatly appreciated.

Cheers, *Martin Curry*

LaPointe Material Recovery Facility, Recycling
Supervisor

Pastor's Column

Dear friends,

This past week I had the privilege of being on study leave. I chose to retreat to a cabin on a small lake within the Boundary Waters; an idyllic location for reading, writing, reflecting and refilling my internal well. At one



point I took the canoe which comes with the cabin out for a short paddle. It was one of those perfect days: 70 degrees, blue skies with white wispy clouds, the lake calm like glass.

As I paddled, I came into a channel where the trees were aglow: yellow turning to orange turning to red and every shade of green. The gestalt of beauty surrounding me took my breath away and I felt a tightly wound place in me begin to release. I spontaneously began to sing:

For the beauty of the earth, for the splendor of the skies,

For the love which from our birth over and around us lies,

God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

Soon I realized I was weeping. Not from grief, but gratitude for the beauty of that place and for the way this hymn, embedded in me from decades of congregational singing, rose up like a prayer opening my heart to the healing grace of that moment.

I wondered to myself, *How can it be that, though I live 250 feet from Lake Superior and am surrounded by beauty 24/7, my view can be obscured by the minutia of the days' events and tyranny of my mostly self-imposed "must do" list?*

I'm so grateful for the renewing experience of reading the Good News of beauty inscribed in Nature – and the opportunity to do that in fresh places that remind me to read it anew.

I am grateful for that intimate moment in the canoe – a private and profound encounter with the restorative power of the Holy Spirit.

I'm curious..... Have you had moments when you have been overwhelmed and moved to intense emotion? How do you explain these incidents? What do they mean to you. I'd love to hear your stories.

Peace, *Rachel*

Challenge Match Deadline Approaches

We are rapidly approaching the first of two deadlines to meet our \$250,000 Challenge Match: \$5,000 yet to raise by November 30, 2021 and an additional \$40,000 by January 31, 2022.

Every dollar donated will be matched with a second dollar, ensuring twice the impact of funds to be



directed to initiatives supporting Madeline Island. To make a contribution to the Challenge Match, please write "challenge match" in the memo line of your check and mail to St. John's, PO Box 14, Madeline Island, La Pointe, Wisconsin 54850.

"This Challenge Match is boosting our Second Century Endowment," explained Council President Debbie Knopf. "We are building an endowment to benefit our community for the next 100 years. In addition to underwriting the leadership and facilities of St. John's and Woods Hall, this endowment will be directed to programs and initiatives to support the spiritual, creative, philosophical, and economic needs of Madeline Island residents."

St. John's Church Council has partnered with the United Church of Christ Wisconsin Foundation. This respected Wisconsin institution acts as our Second Century Endowment counsel and fiduciary advisor. The Foundation will provide information and technical support to anyone wishing to explore planned giving options as another way to have a lasting role in St. John's future. People interested in considering a planned gift to Woods Hall and/or St. John's Church are encouraged to contact Pastor Rachel who can connect you with the Foundation. Contact Rachel at pastor@stjohnsmadelineisland.org or (715) 747-3945.

Authors to Lead Book Discussion - October 3



Following worship on Sunday, October 3 at 11:15 am, Marina Lachecki, Linda Mack, Sarah Norton and Lee Baker will lead a hybrid in-person/Zoom discussion on *St. John's*

Ministry on Madeline Island: A Century of Island Spirit.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83422492731>

Copies of the book are available at Woods Hall Gallery and Madeline Island Candles. You may also order online by going to <https://stjohnsmadelineisland.org/>

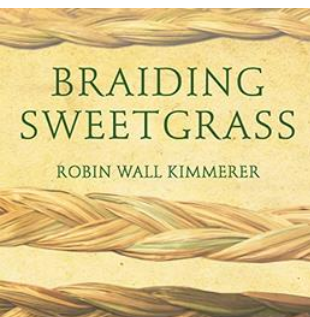
Braiding Sweetgrass:

Wisconsin UCC's 2021-2022 "Big Read"

by Joe Scarry jtscarry@yahoo.com

I'm excited about the choice of *Braiding Sweetgrass* for a "big read" in the Wisconsin Conference! I think it will be a great way to encourage many more people to join the conversation about caring for Creation.

Throughout the UCC in Wisconsin, we've been talking about Creation Care and the need for a "Kairos Covenant" -- which to me means facing the urgency of changing the way we relate to the world we live in, and



making commitments to do the things we need to do for sustainability.

We hope Robin Wall Kimmerer's book, *Braiding Sweetgrass*, can be a catalyst -- the kind of book that people enjoy gathering to talk about, sharing thoughts and

experiences. The book asks provocative questions -- drawing, as the subtitle says, on "indigenous wisdom ... scientific knowledge ... and the teachings of plants."

Presentation by author Robin Wall Kimmerer

Saturday, October 9 - 9:45

a.m. - 12 noon - join a Zoom

presentation and Q&A with *Braiding Sweetgrass* author Robin Wall Kimmerer. This presentation will be shared with congregations

throughout Wisconsin, and is part of the 4-day in-person

immersion event entitled "Restoring Right Relationship with Mother Earth" taking place at the UCC camp in Green Lake*. **Register for the Oct. 9 Zoom talk:**

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Pa90o85HTIyvakpeUt_Y5w

Learn more and join a community conversation on the October 9 event Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1011805356027594>

Within our Madeline Island community:

Wednesday, October 27, 6:00-7:00 pm

This conversation is open to everyone in the Madeline Island community. Join us to explore how *Braiding Sweetgrass* might transform your relationship with Creation Care and the intersection between nature and spirituality. Zoom link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82172995885>



October 2 - Treaty Day on Madeline Island

Mooningwanekaaning Treaty Days

La Pointe Pavilion Ball Field – Madeline Island

Treaty Days, to commemorate the signing of the Treaty of 1854 in LaPointe, has been an annual event on Madeline Island for a number of years. Thousands of Ojibwe people of the Lake Superior and Mississippi River bands were in attendance at the negotiation held on the island for two weeks at the end of September in 1854. The treaty ceded most Ojibwe land on the northern and western shores of Lake Superior to the United States government.

In exchange, it established the reservations in northern Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan to allow the Ojibwe people to stay in their homeland territory. It also provided the Ojibwe people the rights to hunt, fish, and gather food in the lands that were ceded. The acreage on the north end of Madeline Island was included in the land that was set aside for the tribes.



Sponsored by Honor the Earth and Aiking Development

Treaty Day Events:

- Pull Treaty Fishing Nets: morning
- Drum Making Demonstrations: 11am-5pm
- Wild Rice Processing Demonstrations: 11am-5pm
- Processing Fish Demonstrations: 11am-5pm
- Art and Craft Vendors
- Musicians: 10am – 6pm
- Line #3 & #5 Healing Paddle at Big Bay Town Park Lagoon: Noon-3pm
- Lacrosse Exhibition – Pavilion Ball Field – Open Invitational 2-5 pm(ish)
- Honor the Earth Indigenous Feast 5pm (ish) – La Pointe Pavilion

For more information, contact Skabewis at skabewis@hotmail.com



WOODS HALL

Gallery & Studios

Meet Woods Hall Jewelry Artist Kylie Curran

Interviewed by Woods Hall Board Member Louise Parker

Can you tell me a little bit about yourself?

I am a senior in high school, I am actually graduating early, so I will be graduating in January. Last year I took three college classes with UW Green Bay so I think when I am out of high school I am gonna go the online route of UW Green Bay. I'm not sure about what I want to do for a job yet though.

How did you become interested in making jewelry?

It's actually a part of my Native culture so that was something that made me more interested in it. I'm part of the Red Cliff tribe. My relatives go back and I'm actually related to Chief Buffalo. There's a lot of family



history there so I wanted to reach out and learn more about it (jewelry) so I just YouTubed some videos and taught myself how to make everything.

What kind of material do you use?

I make hoops and fringe. With hoops I like to use whatever good material, good quality hoops I can find that are affordable, and then for my beads I order from online places and my thread I do the same. With fringe, it's more basic than hoops, it's just thread and beads.



How did you become connected with Woods Hall?

I live in Bayfield but my dad has been working on the Island since before I was born. He works for Jerry Dunn's lawn care business. Last summer I worked with my dad (for Jerry) on the Island. I've been doing that for about three years actually and my dad just started telling everybody on the Island about my jewelry which helped my bead work get around. That allowed me to find places to sell my jewelry. I actually sell at two places on the Island, Woods Hall and La Pointe Center Art Gallery.



Have you ever used the jewelry studio at Woods Hall?

No, I have not used it but I've gotten a tour of all the studios. I might be working over there next summer though. They wanted me to do booths out front so people can watch me make my work.

Do you plan on continuing to make jewelry after you graduate?

Yeah definitely. It supports me and it gets me a good amount of money. I've been saving it for the future.



Time to plan ahead for the season of giving. Woods Hall Gallery features unique artwork ... all designed by local artisans ... and perfect for holiday shopping.

Special Apple Fest Weekend Hours:

Friday – Sunday, October 1 – 3, 11 am – 3 pm

Regular October Gallery Hours:

Fridays and Saturdays, 11 am – 3pm

Also open by appointment. Walk-ins welcome.

Gift certificates are available as are personal shopping sessions and FaceTime, Skype, and Zoom shopping. Contact Gallery Manager Tyna Waterhouse for help. 715-747-3943 or woodshallgallery@gmail.com

Woods Hall Gallery and Studios, a ministry of St. John's UCC, nurtures creativity and community on Madeline Island by providing opportunities for creation of crafts in our well-equipped facility, selling crafts in the Woods Hall Gallery and learning hand-craft skills.

Follow Woods Hall Gallery



Website: www.woodshall.com



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WoodsHallGallery>



Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/woodshallgallery/>

St. John's Bible Study

Bible Study is every Friday morning, 11 am - Noon. Zoom



Meeting ID is 865 5496 7054 and the passcode is GoodNews All are welcome! For more information or to be placed on the bible study email chain, contact Pastor Rachel at pastor@stjohnsmadelineisland.org

AA Meetings – Saturdays at 5:30 pm



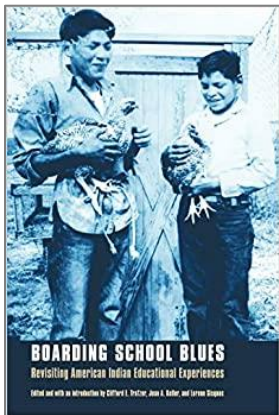
In conjunction with St. John's Health Ministries, AA meets every Saturday at 5:30 pm. All are welcome. Questions? Want to learn more? Need a Zoom link? Contact Larry McFarlane at mcfarlane1@gmail.com or 715-559-7661.

Serenity on the Rock AIAnon Meetings

All are welcome to AIAnon meetings. AIAnon is a mutual support organization for the families and friends of alcoholics. Questions? Contact Rachel. Join us Tuesday, 4:30 – 5:30 pm via Zoom - Meeting ID: 880 1533 6936 Passcode: island



Racial Justice Study Group – October 6



Racial Justice Study Group meets at 7pm on the first Wednesday of every month. This month we are discussing Boarding School Blues: Revisiting American Indian Educational Experiences, edited by Clifford E Trafzer and Jean A Keller.

For more information or to be placed on the email chain for this group, contact Robin

Roderick at robinrest@aol.com. Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86741340213>

Full Moon Circle for Women

This month's full moon is October 20, the Hunter Moon. It's also called Falling Leaves Moon, an Anishinaabe term that highlights the transition between summer and fall. The October full moon is named the Freezing Moon (Ojibwe) referring to the increasingly cold temperatures of this period. We will light candles and offer prayers at 7pm. Any questions, email or message Julie at strykerjf@yahoo.com. Thank you, Miigwech



Weekly Prayer Circle



Join our Prayer Circle on Thursdays at 8:00 am. All are invited to this weekly circle of prayer via Zoom (Zoom meeting ID 868 5052 2126; Passcode: 983123)

Prayer Requests

Have a prayer request? It's easy – and confidential. Hover over the Contact page on our website to see the link to PRAYER REQUEST.

<https://stjohnsmadelineisland.org/prayer/>

Prayer requests **only** go to Pastor Rachel's private inbox. You may ask Rachel to keep your prayer request private or have a name added to the list of people we keep in our prayers during worship every Sunday.



Stories of Our Hearts



Stories of Our Hearts meets on Thursdays, 4-5 pm via Zoom. We gather to share stories, informal conversation, and much laughter. Contact Penny Gill (pgill@mtholyoke.edu) to get the Zoom link or learn more about this opportunity. All are welcome anytime!

Tracking Your Donations

Track your donations to St. John's and Woods Hall. Scroll to the bottom of the St. John's website homepage, click on Donor Dashboard where you create an account or log in and view past financial donations. If you prefer to not create an account, you can still have temporary access to the Donor Dashboard just by verifying your email on the DONATION HISTORY page.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
SEPTEMBER 26 Worship, 10 am Fellowship, 11:00	27	28 Al Anon, Fellowship Hall, 4:30 – 5:30 pm	29 Braiding Sweetgrass Conversation, 6-7 pm	30 Prayer Circle, 8-9 am Stories of the Heart, 4 - 5 pm	OCTOBER 1 Bible Study, 11 am - Noon	2 Treaty Day on Madeline Island AA Meeting, 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
3 Worship and Communion, 10 am Centennial Book Discussion with authors, 11:15 am	4	5 Al Anon, Fellowship Hall, 4:30 – 5:30 pm	6 Racial Justice Study Group, 7 pm	7 Prayer Circle, 8-9 am Stories of the Heart, 4 - 5 pm	8 Bible Study, 11 am - Noon	9 Braiding Sweetgrass Conversation with author Robin Wall Kimmerer, 9:45 – 11:45 am AA Meeting, 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
10 Worship, 10 am Fellowship, 11:00 am	11	12 Al Anon, Fellowship Hall, 4:30 – 5:30 pm	13 Council Meeting, 4:30 – 6 pm	14 Prayer Circle, 8-9 am Stories of the Heart, 4 - 5 pm	15 Bible Study, 11 am - Noon	16 AA Meeting, 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
17 Worship, 10 am, Fellowship, 11:00 am	18	19 Al Anon, Fellowship Hall, 4:30 – 5:30 pm	20 Full Moon Circle for Women, 7:00 pm	21 Prayer Circle, 8-9 am Stories of the Heart, 4 - 5 pm	22 Bible Study, 11 am - Noon	23 AA Meeting, 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
24 Worship, 10 am, Fellowship, 11 am	25	26 Al Anon, Fellowship Hall, 4:30 – 5:30 pm	27 Woods Hall Board Meeting, 4:30 - 6 pm Braiding Sweetgrass Conversation, 6-7 pm	29 Prayer Circle, 8-9 am Stories of the Heart, 4 - 5 pm	29 Bible Study, 11 am - Noon	30 AA Meeting, 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
31 Worship, 10 am Fellowship, 11 am						

See online Google calendar for complete event details. <https://stjohnsmadelineisland.org/events/>



St. John's United Church of Christ

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St. John's on Madeline Island ~ Celebrating a Century of Island Spirit in 2021

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Twitter: @stjohnschurchmi



Facebook: [facebook.com/stjohnsonmadelineisland](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsonmadelineisland)



Worship Streaming

<https://www.youtube.com/c/stjohnsucconmadelineisland>

Pastor Rachel Bauman

831-566-0353

pastor@stjohnsmadelineisland.org



Photo credit: Bill Green

No matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

St. John's is a Christ-centered church and a spiritual center that welcomes all.