



St. John's on Madeline Island

# St. John's United Church of Christ Madeline Island Lighthouse May 2022

## Midge and Frank Montano – Guest Preachers

Join us for a special worship service on May 22 when Midge and Frank “Anakwad” Montano will share poetry, music, word, and wisdom. Midge and Anakwad live on the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa reservation. St. John's is honored to have them lead worship on May 22.

Midge Montano, an Anishinaabe elder and community healer, is a fourth generation of women poets in her family. Active for twenty years at the New Day Shelter, Midge has helped launch behavioral health and wellness programs at the Red Cliff Community Clinic.



Accomplished Native American flutist and international performer Anakwad Montano is recognized for integrating Native American stories and culture into his music.

## Summer of Celebration

Don't miss this summer's fun celebrations!

- June 15 – Centennial Game Show: 100 Years of Madeline Island History, 7PM, Madeline Island Museum. Pit your knowledge of island history against local experts! Our Game Show format will be lively and fun. Door prizes!
- June 19 – Summer Solstice at Woods Hall. Open house and art demonstrations, 11am – 3pm
- July 4 - Ice Cream Social
- July 16 - Woods Hall and Madeline Island Chamber Music Artistic Collaboration
- July 17 - Blessing of the Lake and BBQ, Joni's Beach
- August 4-5 – Bazaar!!!
- Musical happenings at the Food Wagon, Island Closet, MIHPA and beyond. Watch for details!



Contact Nile Norton to get involved [npmusic@msn.com](mailto:npmusic@msn.com)

## Celebration of North Country Seasons

Looking for something special to do on Mother's Day Weekend? Visit the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center to celebrate art, music, teachings.



**Saturday, May 7  
3 – 5 PM**

**North Great Lakes Visitor Center (near Ashland, WI)**

3 - 4 PM - Art Show featuring over 30 area artists

4 PM - "Translating Ancient Teaching into Meaningful Life Experiences" Red Cliff Tribal Elder Rob Goslin, Sr. Rob Goslin will share Anishinaabe teachings related to the creation of the world and respecting Mother Earth.



5 PM -The Garland City Consort will perform Vivaldi's "La Primavera." Formed in 2016, the Garland City Consort is one of the few musician-owned cooperative orchestras in the entire world.

There will be a free-will donation at the door. The event is sponsored by the Chequamegon Bay Arts Council and the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center.

## May 30 Memorial Day Honors Veterans

Pastor Rachel will be part of the annual Memorial Day morning ceremony on Monday, May 30 at dockside. We will gather to remember and honor all those who have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving our country.

Following the VFW portion of the program, firing a 21-gun salute and committing the memorial wreath to the waters of Lake Superior, we move to the MIHPA site at 11:30 am to honor our local veterans in a ceremony where family members will place memorial pavers at the base of the flagpole.



## **Pastor's Column**

Dear friends, I enjoyed a blessed visit with Penny Gill to learn about her latest book *The Radiant Heart of the Cosmos: Compassion Teachings for Our Time*. I would like to share it with you.

**Rachel:** How would you describe your book?

**Penny:** I had hoped to offer a guide to beginning the long journey on the Spiral Path of healing: deep healing, soul healing, and heart healing. I wrote it for people who needed some suggestions about how to begin, and then some encouragement for this great work of a lifetime. And it begins, of course, when we can recognize our own suffering, often long repressed and nearly invisible. Only then can we remove those layers of defensiveness and fear, to reveal our access to our shining heart centers.

**R:** How did your book come to be? How did it evolve?

**P:** I had collected some Teachings on compassion, and the Teachers urged me to bring them out for other readers. As I tried to weave the Teachings together into a coherent whole, something that could be useful to others I began to understand the path of my very long spiritual journey. And, in so doing, I uncovered my own deepest wounds. I discovered that I had been taught to hide my own interiority, my own giftedness. The process of undoing my defense system was both painful and, in the end, freeing.

**R:** Wasn't it Meister Eckhart who said "the spiritual life has much more to do with subtraction than it does addition?" He talks about the necessity of peeling back that little self that so obstructs our lives with the Sacred. It seems your gift is your courage to be transparent about your spiritual journey, to be vulnerable to your pain and, to celebrate your freedom. How do you encourage people to walk their spiritual path?

**P:** Well, the first thing was that I had to be persuaded, that telling my own story would be a huge help to others. Though I resisted that mightily, I finally recognized how true that was.

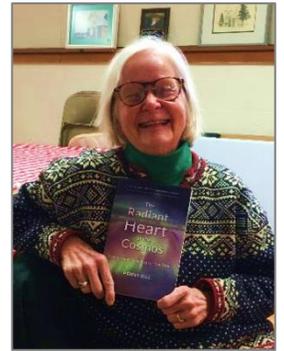
And one of those stories was about the Thick Braid, and how I have integrated profound Teachings from several religious traditions. We are, after all, the first generation that has had wide access to the teachings, scriptures, practices, and teachers of most of the major religious traditions of the world. This is an astonishing opportunity, and truly a great, if bewildering blessing. I try to describe my own ways of planting my feet in crucial aspects of Judaism, Christianity, indigenous earth-based spirituality, and Buddhism.



I love big chunks of the Hebrew Bible, especially the Prophets and the Book of Psalms. Benedictine spirituality has had a strong influence on me, especially the deeply humane teachings about the balance between work and prayer and living in community.

Buddhism has been extremely important as a remarkable set of practices for cutting through the endless delusions of ego; its deep insights into how the human psyche actually works have been life-changing, as have the earth-based teachings of the Native culture.

And oh, I've wrestled with Christian theology. I have never believed Jesus was the first and only child of God; we all are. And I don't believe Jesus surrendered to the cross so we wouldn't have to; he surrendered his life to the Holy One to show us how to do it. Thanks to the meticulous teaching of both Marina and you, Rachel, I've become a student of how Jesus lived his life – when he was irritated, when he lost patience, or when he doubted himself. The Gospels are full of stories of how he navigated a dangerous and stunning life, while keeping himself in alignment with God's call to him.



And, though it had been years since I felt myself "churched," St. Johns, in all its eclectic, heart-open, grounded community, has become my spiritual home.

**R:** It's a blessing, isn't it? We are indeed a wonderful mix of people. What are your hopes for your readers?

**P:** I hope this book offers tons of encouragement to start the work. I would be so grateful if people were encouraged to embark on a journey of healing and new freedom. Coaxing healing from the tumult of my childhood has released me into a new way of being who I am and how I live in my world. I can't think of a more precious outcome, and I would wish it for everyone.

**R:** Penny, thank you. Your book is a gift. I love the invitation you extend to each of us to reveal ourselves.

Blessings to you all, **Rachel**

***The Radiant Heart of the Cosmos: Compassion Teachings for Our Time*** is available at Woods Hall Gallery, Madeline Island Candle Shop, Mission Hill Coffee Shop, local bookstores, and [Bookshop.org](http://Bookshop.org). The ebook version is only available via Amazon.

Green Fire Press is hosting a virtual book launch for *The Radiant Heart of the Cosmos: Compassion Teachings for Our Time*, on **May 22 at 2pm Central**.

Register at this link for Zoom link and reminders.

<https://jenniferbrowdy.punchpass.com/classes/10814095>

## **Island Closet Opening May 14**

*By Gwen Smith Patterson, Island Closet Manager*

The Island Closet is set to open for its second year of operation! The Island Closet, serving the Madeline Island community, is located at the MRF (Madeline Recycling Facility.) Please follow the signs and park cars only at the far end of the building to prevent traffic congestion through the MRF.



### **Island Closet Hours**

**Monday, Wednesday, and Saturdays**

**9:00 AM - 2 PM**

**Large Donation Drop Off Times: 9-9:30 and 1:30-2  
Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays**

If you would like to join in on the fun, we are looking for volunteers. Please call or email Gwen at 715-209-6381 or [cedarpress2013@gmail.com](mailto:cedarpress2013@gmail.com).



The Island Closet is the new “go to” place to pick up gently used clothing and goods in exchange for a monetary donation of your choice. All donations are used to support a paid Manager to keep things clean,

neat, and well organized, as well as for maintenance of the facility. If you have items you wish to donate, please make sure they are clean, in good condition, and/or in good working order.

**Items accepted, when approved by the Island Closet Manager:**



Clothing, books, toys, household items, linen/towels, bedding, CDs/DVDs, pet items, sports equipment, shoes/boots, tools/hardware, gardening tools, yard decor

**Items not accepted:**

Gas-powered items, electronics, undergarments, VHS tapes/cassette tapes, phones, mattresses, vinyl records, sofas, used bed pillows

**We are not equipped to handle large items! Please save them for the Bazaar in August or post them on the bulletin board at the Island Closet so others can call you.**

## **Everyday is Earth Day**

*By Gwen Smith Patterson*

As we celebrate Earth Day, we think about what we can do to “Save the Earth.” In our community we go around picking up bottles and garbage that has been buried in the snow all winter. I wanted to start with a cute poem about this and to plug the Island Closet as a place to reduce, reuse and recycle items. A place to come and have fun. But then I did some research and discovered that the need for the Island Closet is dire and picking up garbage on the side of the street is not enough. It is not enough to think of such things one day out of the year.

According to Scott Cassel, CEO of the Product Stewardship Institute which provides guidance for governments, producers, recyclers, and consumers in New York, manufacturers of clothing, shoes, belts, and accessories, otherwise known as textiles is the second largest polluting industry in the world after oil and gas. That’s right, pesticides used to grow cotton, toxics in dyes and energy-intensive manufacturing create a huge impact on the environment and public health.

What happens when these products go out of style and are no longer wanted? According to figures from 2017, 83% of these textiles ended up in the garbage, even though the majority of them could be donated for reuse and recycling. In New York alone that added up to 1.4 billion pounds of clothing and textiles in the garbage in one year.

Some of us have clothing that is too worn to be donated. These items are great to cut up for rags. Utensils that no longer work make great pieces of art. We have to be creative and think about how much garbage we really want to produce.

Luckily, on Madeline Island, we have an alternative right at the MRF. The Island Closet is

here to welcome all of your gently worn items of clothing as well as other household utensils. It is also a fun place to come and see what people have gotten rid of. And it is a place to socialize. Volunteering is a great way to do this. If you would like to volunteer please get in touch with me at 715-209-6381 or [cedarpress2013@gmail.com](mailto:cedarpress2013@gmail.com).

**It sounds like a cliché, but Earth Day is and must be an everyday intention.**



## Affordable Housing is a Critical Issue on Madeline Island

Affordable housing is a nationwide issue and a topic of major media focus. Madeline Island has not escaped the downward spiral of housing availability. In a recent presentation to the Town Board, Katie Sanders, Chair of Affordable Housing Advisory Committee, pointed out that the island's real estate housing market is changing rapidly. "Property sales in the LaPointe have more than tripled in the last three years, increasing 244%," explained Katie. These escalating prices make it nearly impossible for many island residents to afford to buy or rent property.

St. John's Council and Woods Hall Board of Directors viewed a Presentation of Data from the Regional Housing Study for the Town of LaPointe by Kellie Pederson, Community Development Educator for Bayfield County. Both St. John's and Woods Hall leadership teams felt compelled to state their support for the work of Madeline Island's Affordable Housing Advisory Committee. A copy of the letter is reprinted below.

As stewards of people for whom Madeline Island is a special place, St. John's and Woods Hall encourage you to view the presentation. Put aside 90 minutes to learn about demographic trends specific to northern Wisconsin, understand the challenges of local residents wishing to rent or purchase housing, and discover the housing conundrum for seasonal workers and part-time employees who support the influx of seasonal residents and visitors during the summer season. The statistics, trends, and stories are startling.

Click on this link to view the full presentation. Kellie Pederson presents for the first 50 minutes followed by Katie Sanders presentation for another 15 minutes after which the Town Board opens the discussion for questions and reflections.  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/zw\\_MqylbOi7OS9E7\\_3vbobekCL20awknUU962VS5sA3CByfombfVcUdXdPed\\_TEuu0hbPdwniYARG7A.hCIEA3yl7Drqg5rT?continueMode=true](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/zw_MqylbOi7OS9E7_3vbobekCL20awknUU962VS5sA3CByfombfVcUdXdPed_TEuu0hbPdwniYARG7A.hCIEA3yl7Drqg5rT?continueMode=true)



Town of La Pointe  
Michael Anderson, Supervisor  
Aimee Baxter, Supervisor  
Susan Lawhorn Brenna, Supervisor  
John Carlson, Supervisor  
Glenn Carlson, Chair

April 14, 2022

RE: Letter of Support – Affordable Housing Advisory Committee

Recent public presentations and discussions led by the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC) have made clear the structural challenge of the Island's housing shortage. The board of directors of both St. John's UCC and Woods Hall wishes to thank the AHAC for its leadership and to affirm its important work. Please include us as another resource in your efforts to seek and deliver solutions.

Gratefully,

St. John's United Church of Christ  
Lee Baker  
Rev. Rachel Bauman  
Michael Childers  
Michael Collins  
Ron Harrold  
Ralph Imholte  
Rob Karwath  
Debbie Knopf  
Jerry Speckien  
Julie Stryker  
Marty Vadis

Woods Hall Gallery & Studios  
Michelle Auger  
Lee Baker  
Rev. Rachel Bauman  
Janine Dobson  
Elena Bangeeva Erickson  
Jay Erstling  
Louise Parker  
Valentyna Waterhouse  
Mary Whittaker

## La Pointe Blood Drive

Mark your calendar today!  
**American Red Cross Blood Drive**  
**Wednesday, July 13, 2022**  
**La Pointe School, 11 am - 5 pm**

To make an appointment to donate, call

1-800-REDCROSS (1-800-733-2767) or online at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org)  
Volunteers needed. You can help by calling Becky Hogan at 218-310-6092.



**American Red Cross**

## AA Meetings – Saturdays at 5:30 pm



AA meets every Saturday at 5:30 pm. All are welcome. Questions? Want to learn more? Need a Zoom link? Contact Larry McFarlane at [lmcfarlane@gmail.com](mailto:lmcfarlane@gmail.com) or 715-559-7661.

## Weekly Prayer Circle

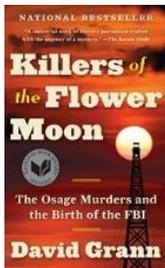


Join our Prayer Circle on Thursdays at 8:00 am. All are invited to this weekly circle of prayer via Zoom (Zoom meeting ID 868 5052 2126; Passcode: 983123)

## Racial Justice Study Group

Racial Justice Study Group meets at 7pm Central time on the first Wednesday of every month. Here is our reading list for future months:

**May and June** - Anton Treuer, *The Cultural Toolbox: Traditional Ojibwe Living in the Modern World*



**July** - David Grann, *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI*

**August and September** – Book title to be announced.

**October** - Winona LaDuke, *To Be a Water Protector: The Rise of the*

*Wiindigoo Slayers*. The Madeline Island Book Club is also reading this in October, and we hope to do a joint meeting.

**November** - Louise Erdrich, *The Sentence*

For more information or to be placed on the email chain for this group, contact Robin Roderick at [robinrest@aol.com](mailto:robinrest@aol.com).  
Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86741340213>

## St. John's Bible Study – In-Person & Zoom

We continue our discussions on *Reading While Black: African American Biblical Interpretation as an Exercise in Hope* by Esau McCaulley. If you would like to join the discussion, contact Rachel and she will get you a copy of the book.



Bible Study is every Friday morning, 11 am - Noon. We are gathering both in-person (Fellowship Hall) and 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](mailto:pastor@stjohnsmadelineisland.org)

## 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 Prayers of the People.

## Full Moon Circle for Women

May 15<sup>th</sup> is the Full Flower Moon and this year will coincide with a full Lunar eclipse! In Ojibwe it is Zaagibagaa-giizis the Budding Moon or Namebine - giizis the Suckerfish Moon.



June 14<sup>th</sup> is the Full Strawberry Moon and a Supermoon, when the moon is at its closest points to Earth. In Ojibwe it is Odemiini - giizis also the Strawberry Moon.

We will light candles and offer prayers at 7pm. Any questions, email or message Julie at [strykerjf@yahoo.com](mailto:strykerjf@yahoo.com). Thank you, Miigwech

## Serenity on the Rock AIAnon Meetings



Serenity on the Rock AIAnon Meetings are on **Tuesdays 4:00 – 5:00 pm** via Zoom - Meeting ID: 880 1533 6936  
Passcode: island. AIAnon is a mutual support organization for the families and friends of alcoholics. All are welcome.

# WOODS HALL

Gallery & Studios

## Gallery Hours and Events:

Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, 11am – 3pm

Also open by appointment.

**June 19 – Summer Solstice Celebration** Woods Hall Gallery sale and art demonstrations, 11AM – 3PM

**July 1 – Sherri Lynn Wood Recology Presentation**

**July 2 – Reimagine Drop-In Workshop** using items purchased at Island Closet to reimagine into new items, 10am – 5pm

**July 16 – Woods Hall and Madeline Island Chamber Music Collaboration**, concert and art show

## Sherri Lynn Wood Recology Presentation And Reimagine Workshop

Sherri Lynn Wood, an internationally-known textile and quilt artist, will offer a presentation open to the community July 1<sup>st</sup> at 6 pm at St John's Church Sanctuary where she will share her experience as an Artist in Residence at



Recology San Francisco. Recology provides the collection and disposal of municipal solid waste, recycling, and compost with the mission to shift from traditional waste management to resource recovery. The Artist in Residence program offered

Sherri Lynn Wood a unique art and education experience giving her access to discarded items and studio space. Quoting from a press release:

*During her residency, Sherri Lynn Wood has focused on the concept of "making do" as a creative strategy for survival after system collapse. Wood stresses the potential power in this practice—not merely learning to use what one has to get by, but instead activating a level of creativity that may only be possible when we are freed from unlimited choice. Trusting that the dump pile will provide, and accepting the limitations it sets, Wood has constructed a series of quilts that are connected to this art form's roots in scarcity.*

On the day following her presentation (July 2<sup>nd</sup>), a drop-in, *Reimagine* workshop will be held between 10 am and 5 pm outside of Woods Hall (rain location St. John's

Basement) hosted by Mary Whittaker. Prior to the workshop, community members are invited to shop at Island Closet (located at the Materials Recovery Facility grounds) or their own closets to find items that might be destined for the landfill to bring to the workshop. There, they will learn to reimagine and remake them into a new useful item. Things to consider might be jeans, shirts, clothes, linens, napkins, table coverings, sheets, fabric, etc. Basic sewing tools, sewing machines, and irons will be provided at the workshop. No previous sewing experience required – just your creativity!



*Jeans, shirts, upholstery samples, scraps from quilts, thrifted fabrics were used to make these items.*

The community will have an opportunity to display their creations for viewing during an exhibit hosted at St. John's Church during the month of September. Information for participating in the exhibit will be available at the workshop and on social media.

Want more information or have questions? Contact Mary Whittaker [maryswhittaker@gmail.com](mailto:maryswhittaker@gmail.com)

*This project is supported by a grant from the LaPointe Center, which has received its funding from the people of this community, the Wisconsin Arts Board, and the State of Wisconsin.*



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

## Follow Woods Hall Gallery and Studios



Website: [www.woodshall.com](http://www.woodshall.com)



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



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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship and Communion, 10 am	2	3 Al Anon, Zoom, 4:00 – 5:00 pm	4 Racial Justice Study Group, 7 pm	5 Prayer Circle, 8-9 am	6 Bible Study, 11 am - Noon	7 North Country Seasons, 3-6 pm, Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center AA Meeting, 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
8 Worship, 10 am <b>MOTHERS DAY</b>	9	10 Al Anon, Zoom, 4:00 – 5:00 pm	11 Council Meeting, 4:30 – 6 pm	12 Prayer Circle, 8-9 am	13 Bible Study, 11 am - Noon	14 Island Closet Opening Day AA Meeting, 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
15 Worship, 10 am Full Moon Circle for Women, 7:00 pm	16	17 Al Anon, Zoom, 4:00 – 5:00 pm	18	19 Prayer Circle, 8-9 am	20 Bible Study, 11 am - Noon	21 AA Meeting, 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
22 Worship, 10 am, Guest Preachers Midge and Anakwad Montano Penny Gill book launch, 2pm	23	24 Al Anon, Zoom, 4:00 – 5:00 pm	25 Woods Hall Board Meeting, 4:00 – 5:30 pm	26 Prayer Circle, 8-9 am	27 Bible Study, 11 am - Noon	28 AA Meeting, 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
29 Worship, 10 am	30 Memorial Day Commemoration <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b>	31 Al Anon, Zoom, 4:00 – 5:00 pm	<b>JUNE 1</b> Racial Justice Study Group, 7 pm	2 Prayer Circle, 8-9 am	3 Bible Study, 11 am - Noon	4 AA Meeting, 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall

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



## St. John's United Church of Christ

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La Pointe, Wisconsin 54850  
(715) 747-3945  
Tax ID #23-7165228

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

### **Follow St. John's**



Website: [www.stjohnsmadelineisland.org](http://www.stjohnsmadelineisland.org)



Instagram: @stjohnschurchmi



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](mailto: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.***