



St. John's on Madeline Island

# St. John's United Church of Christ Madeline Island Lighthouse August 2023

## Finally...It's Time! The Event of the Summer!

Anticipation has been mounting. Finally, it's time for the annual community Bazaar!

Silent Auction – Bidding closes at 2 PM for these fine collectibles!

One item that's sure to be popular is a jar of the Famous Barb Rogers Homemade Hot Fudge Sauce!!!



Baked Goods - Drop off your tasty treats by 9:00 AM on August 3. These yummy treats sell out quickly so come early!

Shuttle – A shuttle will run back and forth between St. John's and the Island Closet from 10:30 AM – 1:30 PM so you can do all your Bazaar shopping in both locations.



Dropping off items – The tents are up! Please drop off your donated items so our Bazaar volunteers have time to price them and arrange them for your viewing pleasure!

Donating a car, boat, cabin, or other major item? Call or text Mark Pass at 612-860-4570.

Yummy treats – Save room for grilled burgers, snow cones and refreshing scoops of ice cream!

Volunteer Presale – On August 2, Bazaar Eve, Bazaar volunteers who prepay \$10 are eligible for the one hour Volunteer Presale beginning at 4:30 PM when volunteers can purchase items at regular prices.



Each year, our church relies on Bazaar profits for about fifteen percent of our annual budget. The more the Bazaar sells, the more funds St. John's has for ministries and outreach programs.

Kudos to Dawn Michael and her outstanding Bazaar team! See you at the Bazaar!!!

## Creativity & Well Being Conversation Circle

Woods Hall is pleased to announce Creativity and Well Being, an informal conversation circle for island-connected people. Whether or not you consider yourself "creative," please come and share your stories about creative breakthroughs, practices, discoveries, and yes, even blockages and miseries in your creative lives.



We will meet via Zoom on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month from 4-5 PM, starting September 12, 2023 and ending November 16. Penny Gill will facilitate our conversations. Please contact Penny at [pgill@mtholyoke.edu](mailto:pgill@mtholyoke.edu) if you are interested or have questions. A Zoom link will be available soon.

## August Worship Schedule

August 6 – Marina Lachecki

August 13 – Penny Gill

August 20 and 27 – Pastor Nathan Holst

## Welcome Nathan, Sarah, Sage, and Sunny!



St. John's is excited to welcome Nathan Holst and his family to our Madeline Island community. Nathan, Sarah, Sage, and Sunny will be moving into the parsonage in early August. Nathan officially begins work as our new pastor on August 18. You'll see Nathan's new Pastor's Office installed between the church and Woods Hall making the parsonage more family friendly.

## Rearrange

By Maureen Muldoon

Each day I walk the labyrinth on our property on Madeline Island. The labyrinth, which is only a few years old, was designed by my cousin and neighbor Mark Alsup and we created it during the shutdown.

Mark transitioned this past Spring. I walk this labyrinth and think of him, and I listen to the word for the day.

Today the word was "rearrange." I stop on my way through the curving pathway to rearrange stones that have settled too deep or fallen off the course. And I am reminded that life loves to rearrange itself, that we live in the unsettling sands of time, and that although it is sometimes uncomfortable, it would be best to make peace with this ever-shifting world. There are gifts in all the shifts.

On the Island, the rearranging is swift and subtle. The waters of Lake Superior come and go with equal ease, as do the people and their possessions. Everything is ever rearranging itself.

This Island is a shared space of belonging where all our belongings seem to belong to each other. Because aside from the homegrown rugs, candles, baked goods, fresh flowers, and produce, most of our items are imported. This is why the Island Closet is a necessary gem in the community's crown.



The Island Closet is a magical little place where one can go to release unloved or unused items, an old toaster or tennis racket, a prom dress, a painting, a gently used pair of snow boots.

It is a treasure trove of stories and history, a warehouse of strangers' souvenirs left over from moments of their lives. The T-shirt that reads "A Dad's Life," the dog eared copy of the Joy of Cooking, the tiny chipped antique pitcher once used to pour cream into tea cups, or maybe it was a vase for wild daisies. More interesting is the un-lived lives that it still holds. It could be a great toothbrush holder, a pencil holder, or a place to hide the key.

Like many of us on the Island, I am a pirate with an active imagination, I love the hunt and the huddle. So when Gwen, the director of The Island Closet, puts a call out for help, I am all in.



Because when you volunteer at The Closet, you meet up with other clever creatives who are up for seeing the possibilities. One such lady is Elizabeth Ellis, who I met

on my last shift—a stylish, statuesque blonde who seemed to be a fountain of ideas.

We stood over a box of new arrivals and spied a dome-shaped cover used to protect food from the flies at a picnic. Or was it? "You could use it as an Easter bonnet," Elizabeth offered with a grin, "or maybe a fancy frisbee," I added, and just like that, the game began. What else is possible in the sea of second-hand stuff?

We are charged with helping these orphaned items find new loving homes to help ensure the Island does not become a dumping ground.

It feels like meaningful work, but we also show up to meet people, learn names, swap stories, and make friends. A rare and wonderful space that allows us to take in the human tapestry, make peace and take pleasure in the fact that we are all life's leftovers, looking to reinvent ourselves, remember ourselves, and reacquaint ourselves with our full potential. Maybe even possibilities we have yet to think of.

Marty's polka music blares across the way at what has to be the greatest Material Recycling Facility ever. And we move about the shop, folding, hanging, and rearranging the items on display.

"Do you happen to have a garlic press?," a woman asks as she enters with her mother. Gwen is thrilled to inform them that "Yes, we do have one of those!" I am watching a game show, and we are all winning. Uniting a seeker with a solution is nothing short of heaven. Of course, the discovery of the garlic press wakes their curiosity.



"What else do they need? What else can they find?" Suddenly the spark of moxie and muse usually sequestered to children at an Easter egg hunt dances across their faces.

They pick through the dresses and tops and find a turquoise jacket with attached tags. The mother and daughter take turns trying on the jacket and posing in front of the leaning mirror. They are each met with a choir of oohs and ahhs. Elizabeth and I would make great personal shoppers. Our earnest enthusiasm does the trick, and it is universally decided that along with the garlic press, the jacket will go home with them.

A few folded George Washingtons get stuffed into the collection jar, and off they go with greater jubilation than a jacket and a garlic press should warrant.

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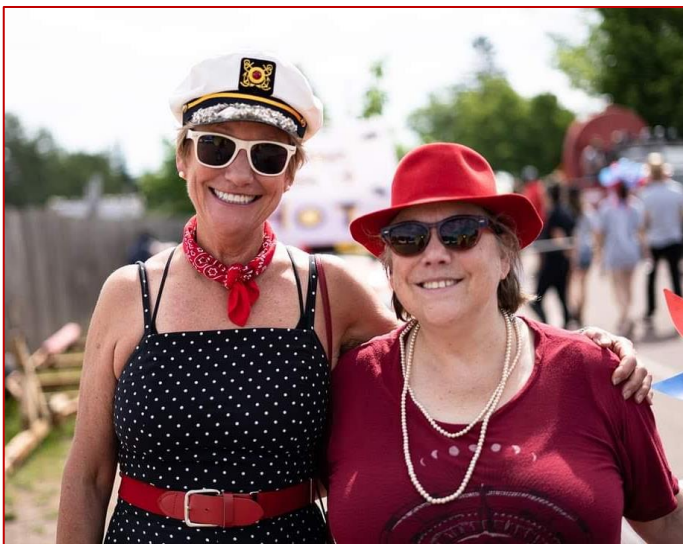
Elizabeth spots the perfect summer dress and announces, "We need a fashion show!" I joined in, "And we need a banner for next year's parade. Someone could design one from this bin of old jeans.

Gwen zeroes in on me, "Would you like to do that?" I have no idea how to sew, I confess. Elizabeth jumps in with, "Oh, and we need an article in the Gazette. We need to let everyone know about all the possibilities. I can string words, I offer. I am a writer. I can do that.

A new box arrives, and we scatter and rearrange ourselves like dancing leaves on a blustering day. In a few hours, we will see many items come and go, and the giver and receiver will be happier for the exchange. The money raised goes to St John's, which in turn helps the community in many ways, such as the food pantry and using the funds to keep the closet open and organized. I leave with a few prizes, a needlepoint of a crane, and a tiny chipped antique pitcher once used to pour cream into tea cups. I am sure I will find a purpose for it.



But the real find is the experience of living on an Island where people know how to share their goods and care for the land. Many things will get rearranged, but there are other things that you hold to and cherish forever.



*Elizabeth Ellis (left) and Gwen Smith Patterson.  
Outfits complimentary of the Island Closet*

**On Bazaar day, Thursday, August 3, a special shuttle will be running from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm between St. John's and the Island Closet for a complete shopping experience.**

## **Congregational Meeting**



St. John's is hosting its Annual Meeting after worship on July 30.

Click [Annual Report](#) to read all the reports and review financial statements plus net year's proposed budget. See you in the Fellowship Hall at 11AM.

## **Thank You Blood Donors**

*By Becky Hogan, Coordinator*

As soon as the blood drive appointment schedule came out, donors went online or called to sign up! It was filled in no time! Also, the 14 volunteers willingly agreed to help at the drive. Thanks to all the donors and volunteers who made this year's Community Blood Drive on July 12 a success!

The American Red Cross team was all set up and ready to go as the first donor arrived. Donated cookies and bars covered the canteen table, waiting for donors after they completed their donation. All in all, 40 donors presented with 35 units of blood collected!!



**American Red Cross**

The canteen table was a popular spot as everyone stayed and chatted with

old and new friends.....or maybe it was the cookies!

Thank you to the Madeline Island Ferry Line for offering passage for the Red Cross, the Bayfield school district for allowing us to host the drive in the La Pointe school gym, and the Madeline Island Yacht Club for providing the ice for the coolers.

And a huge round of applause to the Madeline island community for rolling up your sleeves to save lives!



*Registration volunteers Becky Hogan and Julie Nelson helping Jerry Dunn check in.*

## Pastor's Column

### It's Hard to Say Goodbye

How do I say goodbye to what we had? How do I encapsulate my feelings and emotions into 500 words or so? How do I express the honor and privilege it has been to serve as your interim pastor and experience the unique community of St. John's church and Madeline Island? I don't really know what to say at this moment, and yet, I have about 425 words left to try.

The question I always ask myself when I get to a church is, "If this church ceased to exist, would anyone but those who worship here care?" Would people ask why the doors are shuttered and the windows are boarded up? Would people support the church who didn't come to the worship services?

Throughout my year here with you, I have seen how you care for the people of this island. Through the Food Shelf and the Island Closet, you ensure people have the food they need and the essentials to live here on this beautiful island. You have cared for people who call this place home all year round, and you have surrounded people with love who spend a few months here each summer. You offer hospitality to the preschoolers of the island as we host Little Learners. I saw this place care for people who were in the midst of many troubling times and going through transitions. There are so many other ways you care for the community; it is hard to count.

This church has an abundance of passionate people who care deeply about the mission of St. John's and Woods Hall. Your passion for the creative arts is apparent in cultivating and partnering with creative people through various artistic mediums. Your care for creation and reflecting this magnificent island's roots is evident in how you respect each other and those who came before. You want to see this church go into the future to be a beacon of love, justice, and peace on Madeline Island, Wisconsin, and worldwide.

Finally, I found hope here. Hope for the future of the church and the mission of bringing love, justice, and peace to this hurting world. There is hope for impactful ministry with the island community to make the world better for future generations. This encourages me as I move on to my next call. I want to know there are churches living God's hope for the world in their everyday lives, how they care for people, and using their abilities and passions to work together for equity for all.



So how do I say goodbye? By simply saying, "Thank you." Thank you for being who you are in the world. Thank you for being the kind of church people would care deeply about if something happened to it. Thank you for using your time, talents, and treasures to make St. John's and Woods Hall all they can be. And thank you for allowing me to be a small part of it for a short while.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your interim pastor, and I hope all the best for St. John's and Woods Hall as you start your next chapter in ministry. May God bless you beyond measure!

Grace and Peace, Pastor Drew

*Pastor Drew,*

*You have had a tremendous impact on St. John's. We are grateful for your leadership and service to our church community. You have provided us with inspiring worship experiences. You have managed important administrative details. You have worked with individuals in need of pastoral care. You have broadened our perspectives and understandings of Biblical traditions. And, you share your joy in everything you do.*

*It has been a privilege to wrap you into our island community and be led by you as our interim pastor. Thank you for your many significant contributions to St. John's, Woods Hall, and Madeline Island.*



### 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 our Pastor's private inbox. Please indicate whether you prefer to keep your prayer request private or have it added to the Prayers of the People.



## Thank You for Helping Stock Our Food Shelf

Thank you for your contributions to keep our Food Shelf well stocked. Your generosity helps support local residents who rely on assistance for food, household goods, and other pantry items.

If interested in making a donation to the Food Shelf so our shoppers can purchase grocery items, please contact Pastor Nathan at [nathan@stjohnsmadelineisland.org](mailto:nathan@stjohnsmadelineisland.org) or mail your donation to St. John's, P.O. Box 14, La Pointe, WI 54850 and indicate that your gift is to be designated to the Food Shelf.



## Balance Exercise Group



No appointments necessary. Just show up when you can every Tuesday and Thursday, 10 am in the Fellowship Hall for Balance Exercise Group. Group led exercises will help improve strength, flexibility, balance, and endurance. They are especially helpful in fall prevention.

Questions? Contact Becky Hogan at 218-310-6092.

## Serenity on the Rock AIAnon Meetings

Serenity on the Rock AIAnon Meetings are every Tuesday 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.

Questions? Contact Sarah (612) 730-8422



## Full Moon Circle for Women



We celebrate two full moons this month! First, the Full Sturgeon Moon on August 1 and the Blue Sturgeon Supermoon on August 30. We will honor the Full Moon by lighting candles and offering prayers at 7pm. Any questions,

email or message Julie at [strykerjf@yahoo.com](mailto:strykerjf@yahoo.com). Thank you, Miigwech

## AA Meetings



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.

## You Don't Have to be an IT Wizard

We are looking for volunteers to broadcast one Sunday service per month. Anyone with minimal technology skills (turn on a computer, plug in a cord, and push a button) can learn to run the church A/V system.

We are also seeking a person to manage the volunteers' schedule, serve as a broadcast back-up and provide limited technical support. The Church Council has approved paying \$20/hour for these services.



So, if you have an interest in helping St. John's and the A/V team continue to bring our gatherings into homes across the country, please contact John Apitz at 651-260-0885 or [jfapitz@gmail.com](mailto:jfapitz@gmail.com).

## Help Us Save Printing and Postage Costs

Are you receiving a printed black and white copy of the Lighthouse in your mail box? When you get the Lighthouse delivered to your email inbox, it's in **COLOR!** And, you're helping St. John's save about \$2000 every year!

To begin receiving the Lighthouse and other St. John's and Woods Hall communications via email, send your name and email address to Lee Baker (Lighthouse editor) at [LBafton@gmail.com](mailto:LBafton@gmail.com). Or, mail a postcard with the following contact information to PO Box 14, La Pointe, WI, 54850.

Name, Mailing Address, Phone, Email Address

THANK YOU for helping us save printing and postage costs. You are making it possible to redirect funds to our missions and outreach programs.

## St. John's and La Pointe's Goals



Curious about next steps for La Pointe's Comprehensive Plan and what the implications may be for St. John's? Consider attending the public hearing on Thursday, August 24 at 5 PM at the Town Hall and/or click on

[Comprehensive Plan](#) to read a full draft of the plan.

# WOODS HALL

## Gallery & Studios



Woods Hall Gallery Hours:  
Mondays - Saturdays 11 am – 5 pm  
Sundays 11 am – 3 pm

### Artist Demonstrations at Woods Hall

We have experienced so many people from so many different places that enjoy the variety and uniqueness of what we have to offer here at Woods Hall Gallery and Studios. They are impressed with the fact that art here is one of a kind created by people with a connection to the island. Some people say they come here year after year to purchase rugs, jewelry and ceramics for their homes and as gifts for friends and relatives. We truly appreciate all the support we get from our community, summer people and customers that come through our door. We also love to give tours of our studios. It means a lot that all of our handcrafted art is made by locals with love.



The second annual [Art Escape](#) runs from September 9 - 17 with demonstrations by several of our artists. Come see what is happening at Woods Hall during that time. Below is the schedule of daily demonstrations

Demonstrations run from 11 AM – 2 PM

- Saturday, September 9  
Amy Almendinger – Weaving
- Sunday, September 10  
Judy Hable – Knitting with Madeline Monster Lady
- Monday, September 11  
Carol Wright – Wheel-Thrown Pottery
- Tuesday, September 12  
Jim Hansen – Hand Build Ceramics
- Wednesday, September 13  
Michele Auger – Weaving
- Thursday, September 14  
Kristen Lein – Wheel-Thrown Pottery
- Friday, September 15  
Susan Sabre – Weaving
- Saturday, September 16  
Penny Gill – Book Signing & Reading
- Sunday, September 17  
Dolly Schneeberger - Weaving

### Looking for the Perfect Gift?

Woods Hall offers ceramics and pottery, hand-loomed rugs, hand-fabricated silver and beaded jewelry, knit good, eco-dyed scarves, paintings, one-of-kind wooden coffee tables, greeting cards, photography, books, island-poured candles, elegant shawls. The possibilities are endless as are our artists' imaginations.



*Nancy Lyver, one of Woods Hall's Summer Assistants, welcomes your questions about Woods Hall artists and their work. Let Nancy help you find the perfect gift for a friend – or yourself!*

Woods Hall Gallery features art created by local artists, all of whom have a connection to Madeline Island. An association of over 80 artisans, Woods Hall is a place of teaching, sharing, and learning, and a haven of creativity for weavers, potters, knitters, writers, soap makers, candle makers, painters, jewelry designers, woodcutters, and metal workers.



### Janine Dobson

Woods Hall Gallery & Studios Manager

[woodshallgallery@gmail.com](mailto:woodshallgallery@gmail.com)




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
30 Worship, 10 am St. Johns Annual Meeting, 11 am, Fellowship Hall	31	August 1 Al Anon, 4-5pm Full Moon Circle for Women, 7:00 pm	2	3 <b>BAZAAR</b>	4 <b>Second day of Bazaar</b>	5 AA Meeting, 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
6 Worship and Communion, 10 am, Rev Marina Lachecki preaching	7	8 Balance Exercise Group, 10 am, Fellowship Hall Al Anon, 4-5pm	9 Council Meeting, 4:30 – 6 pm	10 Balance Exercise Group, 10 am, Fellowship Hall	11	12 AA Meeting, 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
13 Worship, 10 am, Penny Gill preaching	14	15 Balance Exercise Group, 10 am, Fellowship Hall Al Anon, 4-5pm	16	17 Balance Exercise Group, 10 am, Fellowship Hall	18	19 AA Meeting, 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
20 Worship, 10 am and welcoming to Pastor Nathan Holst <b>WELCOME NATHAN!!!</b>	21	22 Balance Exercise Group, 10 am, Fellowship Hall Al Anon, 4-5pm	23 Woods Hall Board Meeting, 4 – 5:30 pm	24 Balance Exercise Group, 10 am, Fellowship Hall	25	26 AA Meeting, 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
27 Worship, 10 am	28	29 Balance Exercise Group, 10 am, Fellowship Hall Al Anon, 4-5pm	30 Full Moon Circle for Women, 7:00 pm	31 Balance Exercise Group, 10 am, Fellowship Hall Woods Hall Open House 	1	2 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

P. O. Box 14, 706 Main Street  
Madeline Island  
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**



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Worship Streaming

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

***Reverend Nathan Holst***

[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 welcoming all.***