

# LAKE SHORELINES

A PUBLICATION OF  
LAKE SHORE BAPTIST  
CHURCH

March 1 , 2006

Worship at Lake Shore

Lent 2006

Are You One of the Crowd?

Rampant individualism or group think? Which is more of a problem these days? Which do you find more of a temptation? On the one hand our Christian faith prompts us to participate in community. On the other hand, we know that "crowd thinking" can be dangerous. How do we find balance in our own need for individual growth and the call to community? How can we sense if we are balancing the two?

During this season of Lent, we will several texts in the gospel of Mark in which a crowd of people plays a role. Sometimes the people in the background; sometimes they are drawn forward; sometimes they are the point of the story. As we individually and communally seek the paths to follow Jesus, we will explore Jesus' own journey between his public and private self, how crowds and solitude played different roles in his ministry.

***The First Sunday of Lent***

*March 5*

"A Face in the Crowd"

Mark 1.9-15

*Communion Sunday*

***The Second Sunday of Lent***

*March 12*

"New Family Values"

Mark 3.31-35

***The Third Sunday of Lent***

*March 19*

"Alone in the Crowd"

Mark 5.21-43

***The Fourth Sunday of Lent***

*March 26*

"Downward Mobility"

Mark 10.17-32

***The Fifth Sunday of Lent***

*April 2*

"Stark Choices"

Mark 6.17-46

*Communion Sunday*

***Ride for Children  
in South Africa  
Missions Bike-A-Thon***  
Sunday, March 5  
3:30-5:30 p.m.

It's this Sunday! Lake Shore preschool and school-aged children will ride their bicycles, tricycles, scooters, or other wheeled means of transportation around the back parking lot and/or the block behind the church to raise money for Lerato Love Home Orphanage in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Lerato is a home for children of all ages whose families have been affected by the HIV/AIDS virus and is associated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

You may have already been asked to sponsor a rider. Please give generously to this annual mission event of Lake Shore.

If you're interested in riding or helping with the pizza dinner afterwards, contact Rachel.



## “Living Lent”

*Last year, after we used these words in worship, many of you asked for a copy. To help us begin our Lenten journey this year, we offer the words again.*

We didn't even know what moderation was. What it felt like. We didn't just work: we inhaled our jobs, sucked them in, became them. Stayed late, brought work home — it was never enough, though, no matter how much time we put in.

We ordered things we didn't need from the shiny catalogues that came to our houses: we ordered three times as much as we could use, and then we ordered three times as much as our children could use.

We didn't just eat: we stuffed ourselves. We had gained only three pounds since the previous year, we told ourselves. Three pounds is not a lot. We had gained about that much in each of the twenty-five years since high school. We did not do the math.

We redid living rooms in which the furniture was not worn out. We threw away clothing that was merely out of style. We drank wine when the label on our prescription said it was dangerous to use alcohol while taking this medication. “They always put that on the label,” we told our children when they asked about this. We saw that they were worried. We knew it was because they loved us and needed us. How innocent they were. We hastened to reassure them: “It doesn't really hurt if you're careful.”

We felt that it was important to be good to ourselves, and that this meant that it was dangerous to tell ourselves no. About anything, ever. Repression of one's desires was an unhealthy thing. I work hard, we told ourselves. I deserve a little treat. We treated ourselves every day.

And if it was dangerous for us to want and not have, it was even more so for our children. They must never know what it is to want something and not have it immediately. It will make them bitter, we told ourselves. So we anticipated their needs and desires. We got them both the doll and the bike. If their grades were good, we got them their own telephones.

There were times, coming into the house from work or waking early when all was quiet, when we felt uneasy about the sense of entitlement that characterized all our days. When we wondered if fevered overwork and excess of appetite were not two sides of the same coin - or rather, two poles between which we madly slalomed. Probably yes, we decided at these times. Suddenly we saw it all clearly: I am driven by my creatures - my schedule, my work, my possessions, my hungers. I do not drive them; they drive me. Probably yes. Certainly yes. This is how it is. We arose and did twenty sit-ups. The next day the moment had passed; we did none.

After moments like that, we were awash in self-contempt. You are weak. Self-indulgent. You are spineless about work and about everything else. You set no limits. You will become ineffective. We bridled at that last bit, drew ourselves up to our full heights, insisted defensively on our competence, on the respect we were due because of all our hard work. We looked for others whose lives were similarly overstuffed; we found them. “This is just the way it is,” we said to one another on the train, in the restaurant. “This is modern life. Maybe some people have time to measure things out by teaspoonfuls.” Our voices dripped contempt for those people who had such time. We felt oddly defensive, though no one had accused us of anything. But not me. Not anyone who has a life. I have a life. I work hard. I play hard.

When did the collision between our appetites and the needs of our souls happen? Was there a heart attack? Did we get laid off from work, one of the thousands certified as extraneous? Did a beloved child become a bored stranger, a marriage fall silent and cold? Or, by some exquisite working of God's grace, did we just find the courage to look the truth in the eye and, for once, not blink? How did we come to know that we were dying a slow and unacknowledged death? And that the only way back to life was to set all our packages down and begin again, carrying with us only what we really needed?

— *Barbara Cawthorne Crafton* **Living Lent**

## A Case Against Hunger Ends Sunday

If you've not purchased food to help Caritas stock its shelves, time is running out. Sunday, March 5, ends our Case Against Hunger Campaign. Cases of food stacked in the sanctuary hallway are available for purchase, and members of the Missions Committee will be available to process your order.

The cases of food serve as tangible reminders of the need that exists to help the hungry in Waco and the impact our purchases can have in addressing that need. Please prayerfully consider how you can participate, and meet us in the hallway to do some grocery shopping.



Last week, Carolyn Rodabough assisted seven families with food on her Thursday morning in the community ministries food pantry. Five more families came on other days of the week. The word is out, and our pantry well-used. Please bring non-perishable food items on Sunday to help restock the pantry. Place them in the baskets outside the sanctuary before worship. Thanks.



## *Mission Trip to Lake Charles, Louisiana during spring break*

Last fall's hurricanes devastated the Gulf Coast. The clean-up process is arduous; the jobs are endless; the skill levels needed are many. Lake Shore members will work with Carey Baptist Association of the Louisiana Baptist Convention to help with the ongoing efforts to repair the damage left by hurricane Rita. Mission Teams will be needed in the Lake Charles area for general clean-up at least through 2006 and probably longer.

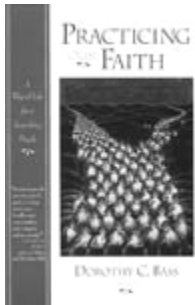
. Most of our work will likely be helping individuals with general cleanup, removing debris from yards and homes. Mission trip folks with skills in sheetrocking and roofing will have the chance to put their skills to use.

We will leave Saturday, March 11, and work through Wednesday. Adults of all ages and youth or children over 10 (if accompanied by parents) may go. The cost is \$75 per person, plus meals. This includes transportation and four nights in a motel. Scholarships are available. Thanks to Lake Shore's missions budget, we are able to plan several trips this year.

Call the church or e-mail Sharlande sharlandes@aol.com for more information.

### ***Practicing Our Faith***

Lake Shore Members Talk About Their Practices of Faith  
Wednesday, March 8



During Lent and Easter our seminar series is called *Practicing Our Faith*, based on the book of that name edited by Dorothy Bass. She defines practices as "things Christian people do together over time in response to and in the light of God's active presence for the life of the world." Practices can vary from congregation to congregation, but they all grow out of the historical and biblical wisdom of the church.

The book and the seminar focus on twelve central practices of Christian community — everything from forgiveness to keeping Sabbath to hospitality to discernment to testimony to dying well. A different Lake Shore member will guide us each of these week through May in thinking about a different practice of the church.

Next Wednesday night, we will see how some Lake Shore members intentionally practice faith. Their variety of experiences remind us that our spirits come to God in a variety of ways: listening, music, working with the poor, generosity, running, reading, art, seeking justice, compassion, gratitude, community, stewardship . . . just to name a few. They will examine these questions: "What things do you intentionally do that help center you spiritually?" "What things (practices) do you think are important in living a faithful life?"

### **Children's Corner**

#### **Children's Education Committee Meeting:**

Saturday, March 4, 10:00 a.m.

#### **3rd-6th Grade Spring Retreat:**

April 28-29

Three Mountain Retreat Center  
Clifton, Texas

### *Good News*

Congratulations to Anne Smajstrla, a first grade teacher at Mountainview! She was awarded the Educator's Credit Union Student Choice Award for the month of February. She was recommended by Jared Fuller, a third grade student whom she taught when he was in first grade. The presentation will be aired on KXXV - Channel 25 every Tuesday at 6:00 in the month of March.

Ibby and Van Jones have a new grandson, Barrett Weston Browning, born Monday to Katy & Kode Browning of Abilene.

### **Meals on Wheels Needs You**

Meals on Wheels needs drivers for its Monday and Wednesday routes. It's easy, and it's helpful. Please call Catherine Davenport (772-1616) if you're interested in driving one of those days.

### *Prayer Concerns*

Ish Daniel went to Providence for medical procedures Wednesday afternoon.

Barbara Hobbs is having back surgery Thursday at Providence.

Roy Wauson, Dorothy Neatherlin's brother-in-law, is in serious condition due to complications related to diabetes and congestive heart failure.

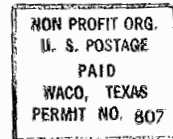
Lake Shore neighbor Cheryl Clark and family have chosen for her to be in hospice care. She has suffered with complications from diabetes for many years.

## Our Church Staff

Richard Aslanian, Music Director  
Dorisanne Cooper, Pastor  
Aaron Garcia, Organist  
Pattie Herbert, Custodian  
Caryl Miller-Reynolds, Administrative Secretary  
Heather Robards, Director, Lake Shore  
Baptist Children's Center  
Mike Sciretti, Minister to Youth  
Rachel Sciretti, Minister to Children  
Sharlande Sledge, Associate Pastor



5801 Bishop Drive  
Waco, TX 76710  
254/772-2910  
254/772-2914 (fax)  
www.lakeshorewaco.org



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## MINISTRY AND EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

### *Sunday, March 5*

9:30-Sunday School  
10:45-Worship  
Case Against Hunger Ends

### *Monday, March 6*

5:30-Beginner Yoga

### *Tuesday, March 7*

Election Day  
5:30-Intermediate Yoga

### *Wednesday, March 8*

2:00-Staff Meeting  
5:30-Supper  
6:30-Seminar  
7:30-Choir Practice

### *Thursday, March 9*

10:00-Food Pantry Open  
7:30-Huaco Outing Club

### Looking Ahead

Spring Break-3/13-3/17  
Mission Trip to Lake Charles-  
3/11-3/15

## Wednesday Night Supper March 8



Joan's Spaghetti  
Green Salad  
Garlic Bread  
Dessert

## Smorgasbord Recipes

Thank you for all the delicious foods we shared on Sunday night. If you haven't gotten your recipe to Catherine, please e-mail it to her (cadavenport@hotmail.com).

## Youth News

### Sunday Morning:

Breakfast: Henderson  
Sunday School: Craig Thornton

### Sunday Night:

Journey to Adulthood—starting at 4:30 with hanging out and C&C. Rite-13 & YAC begin at 5:00. J2A begins at 5:30. Dinner brought to you by the Morins.

### Wednesday Night:

We will begin a series during Lent, "Becoming a Disciple." We'll look at some people in the New Testament and discuss a lot about how we're like or unlike them and how we can become disciples/students/followers of Jesus.

### Coming Up:

March 12-Destination Unknown  
March 24-26-Spring Retreat

## Extended Care Sunday, March 5

Look for your new calendar in the mail.

## Weekly Budget Report

Your contributions to our budget help fund our mission work, church programs, human resources, and physical facilities. Weekly budget needs for 2006 are \$7,865.17. Receipts last week were \$ 5,760.00.

<u>Year to date needs</u>	<u>Year to date received</u>	<u>Difference</u>
\$ 70,786.56	\$ 52,766.42	(\$ 18,020.14)