



“Hope.” “Peace.” Joy.” “Love.” — These are words that help us mark the four weeks until Christmas. As we light the candles in preparation for Christ’s birth, we live in the power of these words. We sing about words like “silence” and “waiting” and “darkness” and “light,” trying to find meaning in them with our earthly language. We prepare for the time that Emmanuel God comes to live among us, defining “hope,” “peace,” “joy,” and “love” in their fullest sense.

In this year’s book of Advent meditations, we will hear the language of Advent through the voices of Lake Shore members. In the scripture, hymns, carols, prayers, and stories of worship, we will engage words that point us to the Word among all words, the One that dwells among us.

Advent and Christmas 2006

First Sunday of Advent

December 3

“Word Among Us: Hope”

Luke 21.25-36

The Gathering Sunday

Mission Tree Begins

Advent Craft Workshop

5:30-7:00 p.m.

Family Self-Sufficiency Christmas Party

Thursday, December 7, 5:30 p.m.

Second Sunday of Advent

December 10

“Word Among Us: Peace”

Luke 1.68-79

Coronation Mass

by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Service of Light in the Darkness

3:00 p.m.

Christmas Open House

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

at the home of Tom & Carole Hanks

Third Sunday of Advent

December 17

“Word Among Us: Joy”

Luke 1.39-45

**Christmas Caroling on the bus
and Chili Supper**

Wednesday, December 20

5:30 p.m.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24

“Word Among Us: Love”

Luke 2.1-12

Christmas Eve

December 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

6:00 p.m.

A Statement of Faith

The following statement was written by Thomas Miller on the occasion of his baptism:

I have attended Lake Shore my entire life. My entire time here, I have been surrounded by people who have shown me God's love and what being a Christian is.

As much as I'd like to say otherwise, I have not always been as faithful a believer as I am now. While I have always believed that God existed, I wasn't always sure that He was there for me. There were times when I thought He had just hung me out to dry. Thankfully, God, whom I once believed had deserted me, has led me to my decision to proclaim my faith here today. Though I realize my life will never be free of pain and questions, I accept God's grace and know that Christ has experienced every kind of pain for my sake.

No single thing or event has led me to my decision to be baptized. I consider it more a culmination. There is

my recent trip to New Orleans with my youth group. The mission projects that we do as a church. My friends at church and school. My family. Guidance from Dorisanne and Sharlande helped propel me here, and there was Mike and Rachel's unconditional love and caring, despite all the shenanigans the youth pull.

One thing is evident, though. Without Lake Shore, I most certainly would not be standing here today. Each and every one of you has contributed to my faith journey. You might have been a Sunday School teacher when I was a little child. You might have been a leader or teacher of one of the many groups and activities within the youth group. You might have been a leader in Bridge Builders or Helping Hands. You might have been one of the campers or counselors at Children's Camp. Regardless, you all have supported me one way or another throughout my life, and I thank you many times over for that.

Off to Africa

After several months of dreaming and anticipating, Channa Gray will leave Wednesday to participate in a two-week mission trip to Kenya. She said she is a little nervous about the long journey but is excited about working with the children at Buckner Children's Home in Nairobi. She will lead recreation in Vacation Bible School and help distribute new shoes and socks to the children. Several Lake Shore individuals have helped fund Channa's trip, and Lake Shore children held a car wash fund raiser in July. The Philia Sunday School Class and others have donated money to buy shoes.

Missions Tree

By this Sunday, the Missions Tree in the hall will be decked with over 100 ornaments. Each one represents a way you can help show the Word Among Us in our community and our world through gifts of time, money, or service to others. Here are a few examples of ways you may choose to give:

- * Buy twin bed sheets for House of Dignity, Mission Waco's women's shelter
 - * Buy Disney CDs for special needs children at Lake Waco Elementary
 - * Bring lunch for the Children's Center teachers
 - * Bring M&Ms for Meals on Wheels recipients
 - * Buy a volleyball for the children at the Family Abuse Center
 - * Provide a non-perishable meal for a family of six to put in our food pantry
 - * Wrap a toy and an article of clothing for a child at J.H. Hines who otherwise would not have Christmas gifts
 - * Buy a sweater or jewelry for a Friends for Life client who lives at Care Inn
- Look for details next week about how to help through the Missions Tree.



Preparing for Advent

Saturday, December 2

9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Join the Worship Committee as we prepare the sanctuary for Advent. Opportunities to help range from decorating the Christmas tree to making ornaments for the missions tree and

In just a few words Lake Shore writes of stewardship the joy and challenge

Giving is a joy
God gave the best gift of all
Give of your blessings

This haiku, the last in our emphasis on stewardship was written by the 4th-6th grade Sunday school class. Thank you to everyone who took the time to submit something for our stewardship emphasis this year. Robert Denton, chair Stewardship Committee

Children's Corner

Toddler, Preschool, & Kindergarten Cookie Bake:

Saturday, December 9, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. at the church. Decorate cookies – some to eat and some to share – and make a Christmas ornament.

Children's Choir

We will sing in worship on December 17 and 31. Our December rehearsals are very important, so please plan to be present. Thanks!

Prayer Concerns

Robert Denton's aunt, Florence Denton, is hospitalized and awaiting tests in Hendersonville, NC.

Simona Popova, Dorisanne's sister-in-law, has been hospitalized in Bangkok, Thailand.

Women of the Church

The December meeting of Women of the Church will be at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 12, at the home of Bessie Baxter, 3005 Wood Lake. Bessie will provide beverages; those attending should bring an item for refreshments . . . cookies, chips, fruit, etc. Please bring a guest. If you have any questions, contact Carol Bice, 772-0609.



This Sunday will be the last Gathering for 2006. In addition to the staples for winter—soup, cereal, canned fruits and vegetables, and canned meats—you may also bring 5 pound bags of sweet potatoes or Irish potatoes. Some of this food will be used as we prepare baskets for Missions Tree families.

A Service of Light in the Darkness

Sunday afternoon

December 10, 3:00 p.m.

A quiet interlude from the expectations of the holidays, especially for those who find this season difficult

A time of worship to bring our pains and losses before God to redeem in hope

Business Meetings

There will be a business meeting on Wednesday, December 6, at 6:15 p.m. to vote on new committee members and new deacons, to hear about a proposal to paint the eaves of the building, and to discuss the 2007 budget.

The Deacon Nominating Committee has submitted the following names for the 2007 board of deacons:

Jeff Davies
Helen Hastings
Barbara Johnston
Donovan McNeil
Bruce Neatherlin
Mike Raymond
Donna Slette

The vote for the budget will occur during a business meeting on Sunday, December 10, at the beginning of the worship service.

Advent Craft Night

Sunday, December 3

5:30-7 p.m.

in the sanctuary

Lake Shore's

annual craft workshop

Fun for the whole family



Family Self-Sufficiency

Christmas Party

Thursday, December 7

5:30-7:00 p.m.

We need your help!

Some of our regular FSS workers will not be here for the party. Please call Joyce McKee at 662-3255 and plan to be at the church at 5:00

Poinsettias for Advent



You may give a poinsettia to help decorate the sanctuary during Advent. Please complete the information in this box and send it, along with \$12, to the office by **Friday, December 8.**

We will place the poinsettias in the sanctuary on December 17, so that they will still be fresh for Christmas.

I would like to add a poinsettia(s) to the sanctuary during Advent:

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Given by _____

I have enclosed a check for _____

I have enclosed cash in the amount of _____

Our Church Staff

Richard Aslanian, Music Director
 Dorisanne Cooper, Pastor
 Aaron Garcia, Organist
 Pattie Herbert, Custodian
 Caryl Miller-Compton, 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

MINISTRY AND EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, December 3

9:30-Sunday school
 10:45-Worship
 5:30-Advent Craft Workshop

Monday, December 4

5:30-Yoga

Tuesday, December 5

5:30-Yoga

Wednesday, December 6

8:30-Staff Meeting
 5:30-Supper
 6:15-Business Meeting
 7:30-Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 7

5:30-Family Self-Sufficiency

Saturday, December 9

10:00-Preschool Cookie Bake

Looking Ahead:

December 10-Advent 2
 Service of Light
 Open House
 Deacons' Meeting

Wednesday Night Supper December 6



Fantastic Chicken
 Rice
 3 Bean Salad
 Dessert

Open House and Sale

Barb Francis will host her annual Christmas Open House and Pottery Sale on Saturday, December 2, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, December 3, from 1-4 p.m. in her home, 107 N. Bend Ct. Call her at 666-4295 or 644-3223.

Thank You, Lake Shore

Dearest Lake Shore,
 There are not enough words to write to describe how wonderful it is to have a church family like Lake Shore.

The visits, cards, calls, food, flowers, and most of all prayers were wonderful. Thanks to all of you, I am so much better.

Love, to all, Pattie

Youth News

Sunday Morning:

Breakfast at 9:30: Smajstrla
 Sunday School: Advent Jeopardy

Sunday Night:

Journey to Adulthood & Advent Workshop: 4:30-7:00.
 Dinner by Smallwood/Salvesen

Wednesday Night:

Meditation & Music: We'll have a short time of meditative practice followed by practicing "African Alleluia."

Next Sunday:

Church-Wide Christmas Open House at the Hanks' home

Coming Up:

12/17 - Youth Christmas Party

Extended Care Sunday, December 3

Infants: Carolyn Rodabough
 Toddlers: Barb Francis
 Preschoolers: TBA

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 \$ 5,485.00.

Year to date needs	Year to date received	Difference
\$ 377,528.31	\$ 328,083.29	(\$ 49,445.02)