

LAKE SHORELINES

January 10, 2007



Playground Task Force Update

Since the fall of 2004 a group of church members has been involved in thinking about and planning for an updated and safe playground for our children. Many ideas have been presented; area playgrounds have been studied; playground suppliers have been contacted, and blueprints have been prepared.

The deacon executive committee appointed a new playground taskforce in September 2006 to revisit the need to provide a safe and attractive play area for our children. The committee members — Faith Kopplin, Donovan McNeil, Karyn Miller, and Beth Raymond — are studying the needs and rethinking ways to update the children's play area keeping in mind the importance of green space in the lives of children. *Last Child in the Woods* by Richard Louv (now in our church library), has provided a starting point for our discussions and given us a new way of looking at and thinking about our church grounds. When speaking of church grounds, we are specifically referring to the area currently considered playground and perhaps the area beyond the present fence facing Bishop Street.

The author, Richard Louv, discusses how the absence of nature in the lives of today's children has led to some disturbing trends such as attention disorders, obesity and depression. Louv talks about the healing qualities of green space. Studies from the University of Illinois demonstrate that children who have access to outdoor play are at reduced risk of needing medication to calm their nerves. The committee has been re-appraising the church grounds and appreciates the beauty of our green space. We would like it to be more than a playground that focuses only on equipment. Our dream is for it to be a play area and a park with native plants, a flower garden, butterfly shrubs, a small vegetable garden (so that children learn food comes from the earth), and a stopping place for birds.

We see our immediate challenge to be replacing the deteriorating wooden fence, grading the play area, bringing in dirt to level the eroding hillside, reinforcing and raising the concrete supports, and sodding the area so that new equipment such as a climbing structure and slides can be brought in. Our present play area is very unsafe. The wooden fence is deteriorating and its surface is splintered. One corner of the grounds has eroded badly, exposing roots which are a danger to children. The swings have been removed for safety reasons and only one climbing structure remains from the time some 15 years ago when the playground was first developed.

Many of us remember how beautiful the playground was, and we all know it's been well used and loved by our church and neighborhood children.

A new generation of children needs a place to play, to run, to daydream, and to be with their friends. Please take ten minutes to walk around our present children's play area and start to dream of how we may transform this area into an inviting and welcoming space for all of the children whom our church serves — the Sunday School, the youth, the Children's Center, and the neighborhood children. Developing this green space is important for the continued growth of our congregation. We want and need to attract families with children. Our present children's outdoor area is not very inviting nor appealing. We will appreciate your input and your support for this very significant mission!

Faith Kopplin, Chair,
Playground Committee Task Force

Worship at Lake Shore

January 21, 2007

The Baptism of the Lord
Sunday

The Sermon

"What's With All the Baptisms?"

Dorisanne Cooper

The Scripture

Luke 3.15-17, 21-22

A Statement of Faith from Capucine Morin

The following statement was written by Capucine Morin and was read in worship by her sister, Louise Marie, on January 7, the date of Capucine's baptism.

One Lord, one faith, one baptism. Ephesians 4:5

Today I am getting baptized to show everyone that I have accepted Christ in me. This decision came to me when we were driving back from New Orleans. The last night we were there I went to talk to my Bible study leader, Tami, about the whole idea of what it meant to be baptized. I understood what I needed to know that I can accept Christ in my heart fully. After that I went to talk to Mike and Kathy, they both showed me that being baptized is more than accepting Christ, but you are reborn into something new. Talking to Kathy was an amazing experience I will never forget. As we talked about Christ I felt more secure and comfortable with my decision. Being raised a Catholic I never really understood the whole idea of God, and had a hard time of going to church. So when Diana and Don showed us Lake Shore we liked it with just one glimpse of it. Well after 3 years of being here that's all I needed to know that I can call this my church. This is our second family to us, smiles everywhere, unlimited amount of love, and beautiful voices. Let me tell you, I fell in love with everyone and learned so much about Christ here. I never want to leave this church because it has showed something other churches never showed me! Having friends is important, and my friends helped me with

questions I had about Christ. One of them showed me that getting baptized is wonderful, my best friend Samantha Baker and her family. One night we were talking and we ended up on the subject of baptism. She said, "When you're baptized you know you won't have to worry about anything because God is always going to be there by you, you always will have somewhere to go after life, an even better place." Of course I'm worried about everything and her words just calmed me down and stopped the nerves. When you're with God you can't make mistakes only make choices. The sooner I found that out the less I got nervous and the more I was ready.

My family, who helped a lot, supports this decision I made and won't let me forget what it means. They have been with me a lot these past few weeks and made me realize it's not only going to affect me but also them. My little niece, who is only four weeks old and can't even say one word, summarized what life meant to me. Being so small you can't think or act for yourself, and when I came to this decision of being baptized I realize that it was MY decision and not someone else's. That's the thing about being a Baptist that I like, you make your own choices and no one will judge you for them.

Doing this means the world to me, and how I'm going to spread my faith is how God wants me to. If I ever give someone advice about being baptized I'm going to give the same inspiring and motivated statement that my fellow youth leaders, family, and friends have given me.

Contribution Statements

Year-end contribution statements are ready and will be available in the office beginning Wednesday, January 17.

Please join us in our effort to save on postage costs, by picking up your statements at the church. Those that are not picked up will be mailed at the end of January.

"What Makes You Happy?"

Adult Seminar
Wednesday, January 24
Mike Frisch
Professor of Psychology, Baylor

Mike Frisch will complete his two-part seminar "What Makes You Happy?" next Wednesday. His recently published book *Quality of Life Therapy* is the culmination of several years of research on happiness and quality of life. Happiness comes from various areas of our lives—friends, spiritual relationship with God, work, and health. Frisch's research concludes that about half of a person's happiness is genetic.

Join the adult seminar as we learn some practical, life applications of positive psychology.

Dorisanne on Capital Needs Assessment Committee

Dorisanne is serving on Waco's Capital Needs Assessment Committee to explore projects for a potential bond election in May. She'd love to have your input! (Dorisanne@hot.rr.com or 772-2910)

Good News

Bruce & Dorothy Neatherlin celebrate 54 years of marriage today.

Prayer Concerns

Elizabeth King has moved back into her home, 2031 Trinity, 76710.

Boyd Miller has been moved to Hillcrest rehabilitation center after suffering a stroke last week. Continued prayers for Boyd, his wife JoAnn, and the rest of the Miller clan.

Preston & Genie Dyer Travel Again to Moldova

Dear Lake Shore Friends,

As many of you know we will leave for the Republic of Moldova January 26 and return March 2. We will teach graduate social work courses at the Baptist College of Theology and Education in Chisinau, the capitol of Moldova. Moldova, formerly a part of the Soviet Union, is one of the smallest and poorest countries in Europe.

When we made our first trip to Moldova in 2005, many of you contributed generously to humanitarian supplies we took with us. This included Lake Shore t-shirts, and now children all over Moldova wear those shirts. Many have asked if they can again send these gifts. Unfortunately, this time we simply do not have room to take these because we have to take books and other teaching materials with us.

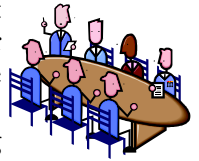
The faculty and staff at the Baylor School of Social Work are providing us with a small cash discretionary fund to use when we find special needs. Some of it, I'm sure, will go to purchase social work textbooks in the Russian and Romanian languages. The rest we will use in the various social ministries the students are involved in or even to help some of the students. If you would like to contribute to this fund, we will certainly appreciate your help and will be sure that our Moldovan friends are aware of Lake Shore's continuing interest in them.

Most of all, we will appreciate your prayers. — Preston

(If you are interested in contributing to the discretionary fund through Baylor that the Dyers will use, please contact Preston or Genie directly.)

Committee News

Wondering about new committees for 2007? The Committee Coordinating Council has worked diligently over the last few months to make recommendations for committees and committee members. These recommendations will be presented in the deacons' meeting this Sunday.



There will be a **business meeting** next Wednesday, January 24, to vote on committees. A list of committee members will be available for your perusal in the office next week and before the meeting on Wednesday.

On Sunday, January 28, we will have a Committee Chair Meeting and Committee Organizing Night, Time TBA (*watch your e-mail this week for more information.*)

Sojourners

Tuesday, January 30

12:00 noon

Two young women from our church have been to Kenya on mission trips. Channa Gray went with Buckner Orphan Care International in December. For two summers, Kelly Baker, our new intern, went with Baylor's School of Social Work.

Come hear about their experiences on Tuesday, January 30. The cost for lunch is \$4. Sign up on the sheet in the sanctuary hallway.



Children's Corner

Preschool Pajama Party: Friday, January 26, 6:15-7:15 p.m.

Three-year-olds through Kindergarteners wear your pajamas to church and have fun exploring God's nighttime world.

Mark your calendars!

February 14 – Friendship Party
April 27-29 – Spring Retreat (3rd-6th)
June 11-14 – Helping Hands
March 25 – Missions Bike-a-thon
June 4-7 – Bridge Builders
July 23-27 – Children's Camp(3rd-6th)

Womenspeak 2007

**March 9-11, 2007
San Antonio Convention Center**

Keynote speakers include some of Lake Shore's favorites:

**Dr. Rachel Remen
Joyce Rupp
Paula D'Arcy**

Cost: \$120

**Register and pay online at:
www.womenspeak2007.com**

Rooms are still available at the La Quinta Riverwalk. Our deadline for room reservations is **Monday, January 29.**

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



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MINISTRY AND EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, January 21

9:30-Sunday school
 10:45-Worship
 5:00-Deacons' Meeting

Monday, January 22

5:30-Yoga

Tuesday, January 23

5:30-Yoga

Wednesday, January 24

8:30-Staff Meeting
 5:30-Wednesday Night Supper
 6:15-Business Meeting & Youth and Children Activities
 6:30-Adult Seminar
 7:30-Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 25

10:00-Food Pantry Open

Looking Ahead

Jan. 28—Committee Night
 Jan. 30—Sojourners
 Feb. 2—YAC Prom

Wednesday Night Supper

January 24



Creamy Chicken Breasts
 Rice
 Salad
 Banana Pudding

An Invitation to Lake Shore

A group from Lake Shore has been invited to Congregation Agudath Jacob on Friday, February 2, for Sabbath services and a seder meal to celebrate *Tu B'Shevat*, the new year of the trees. The seder meal marks the change of seasons and surrounds a theme of the environment and our responsibility toward it.

If you are interested in being a part of this group, please contact Dorisanne (772-2910 or dorisanne@hot.rr.com)

Youth News

Mid-Winter Retreat:

Rescheduled for February 17-19

Sunday Morning:

Breakfast at 9:30 – Mike Sciretti
 Sunday School – Karen Matkin

Sunday Night:

Journey to Adulthood and Parents Meeting. We will begin at 6:00 and end at 7:00.

No Dinner

Wednesday Night (25th):

Meditation and Music – After dinner we'll gather at the Teen House to talk about the meanings of communion, or the Lord's Supper. Then we'll start choir practice.

Next Sunday (28th):

God's Gift of Sexuality (GGS) - 6th-12th graders
 Dinner: Mosley/Vardiman and Morins

Coming Up:

February 2 – YAC Prom
 TBA – Spring Retreat
 July 16-21 – Passport New Orleans

Extended Care

Sunday, January 21

Infants: Karyn Miller
 Toddlers: Gin Courtney
 3yrs.-K: Donovan & Monica McNeil

Weekly Budget Report

Your contributions to our budget help fund our mission work, church programs, human resources, and physical facilities. Weekly budget needs for our 2007 budget of \$435,456 are \$8,374.15. This week we received \$19,479.00.

Year to date needs	Year to date received	Difference
\$ 16,748.31	\$ 30,425.00	\$ 13,676.69