

Love our endless Story

“Love be our song and love our prayer
and love our endless story . . .”

Martie Haugen, 1983

These words from the hymn “Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn” are our song, our prayer, and our story this Advent season. They are the theme of our worship, the connecting thread of the meditations in our booklet, and the focus of the art on our banner.

The green velvet banner in the sanctuary is accented with a ten-foot brilliant “mosaic ribbon” that runs from top to bottom. The pieces of the mosaic are made from the most natural materials we could find to tell the Lake Shore story — pieces of old Lake Shore t-shirts. Look closely and you’ll see designs from Helping Hands, youth camps, children’s camps, Eleven on Eleven, Bridge Builders, mission trips — all symbols of the way Lake Shore tells its story.

Lake Shore is grateful for the artists who created the banner — Pam Allen, Joyce McKee, Mary Rowan, Sandy Sadler, and Bobbee Watts. It is a vibrant, colorful story in in velvet and t-shirt material.

When you have a chance, take a look at the ministers’ Advent stoles.

Second Sunday of Advent

December 9

“The Story of Peace”

Isaiah 11.1-10, Luke 1.68-79

“The Story of Christmas”

by Alexander Matthews
Adult Choir and Orchestra

Wednesday Night

December 12

“Telling Our Stories”

Celebrating Our Favorite Christmas Stories

Missions Tree

Early Sunday morning the Missions Tree in the hall was decorated with over 100 ornaments that are miniature versions of the mosaic ribbon on our Advent banner. After worship, many of you chose ornaments that represent ways you will help in our community and our world this Advent season. Now the tree is decorated with ornaments bearing the names of you who are giving in so many ways.

Take time to look at the new ornaments on the tree. Here are a few examples of ways you may choose to give:

- * Bring candy for our Meals on Wheels recipients.
- * Bring food for our food pantry breakfast one Thursday in January.
- * Bring lunch to our Children’s Center teachers the week after Christmas.
- * Give a scholarship to a child at Shalom Children’s Center.

If you have one of the Friends for Life gifts, make sure your gift is at Lake Shore by Friday morning, December 7.

A few other ways to help:

* If you have **new** items of clothing or other items you are not using, that we can give to adults or children in the families we are helping, please place them *unwrapped* in the large box beside the tree. We do not need used clothing at this time, except heavy coats and jackets.

*Several children on our list have requested bicycles and lap top computers. If any one has either of these used, let Catherine know you have them. She will direct you to the right ornament. A special thank you to Sandy Sadler, who designed the mission tree ornaments based on the banner and coordinated all the work. Thanks to those who helped her: , Jerri Love, Mary Rowan, Carolyn Rodabough, Catherine Davenport, Patty Field, Joyce McKee, and Karen Matkin..

Love . . . Our Endless Story



Each Sunday during the Advent and Christmas seasons, Lake Shore members will tell a story about how they have experienced God's hope, peace, joy, or love in a different place in our world. On the first Sunday of Advent, Genie and Preston Dyer, who have ministered in Moldova, shared this story of hope.

My name is Maria and I live in Chisinau, Moldova. Moldova, a former Soviet union nation in Eastern Europe, is about the size of Maryland and the poorest country in Europe. When I was 2 my mother left me and my two sisters with my granddaddy and went to Turkey to try to make a living for us in the sex trade. My granddaddy was old and had a hard time taking care of us on his \$25 a month pension; so, when I was 3 he put us in a state-operated orphanage.

Because jobs are so hard to find in Moldova and wages are so low, there are many children living in orphanages because their parents left the country to find work. The orphanages are crowded and do not have resources to care for all the needs of the children. They sleep on cots with sagging mattresses that many times have two children to each cot. Generally they are clean and the staff cares for the children but they simply do not have enough money to provide for them adequately. When children turn 16 years old they are "aged out" of the orphanages without a high school education, no job skills, and little preparation for independent living.

I did well in school and hoped to be able to complete high school and maybe go to college, but as I approached my 16th birthday I began to lose hope and feared I would end up like my mother as do most of the girls who age out of the orphanages. Not long before my birthday, I learned a family in Chisinau was interested in adopting me. I first met Alex and Lucia and then their five children. I could not believe these people were willing to take a chance on me, to allow me to become part of their family. They don't have much money but they have a lot of love. They are Christians and earn their living providing housing for Christian mission groups who come to Moldova.

I really don't know much about religion. We didn't talk about that in the orphanage, but I know that there is something different about my new family there is so much love here. I have been with the family a year now. I've learned to speak Russian and understand a lot of English. I'm graduating from high school in June. Alex has found someone in the USA who may help me go there to attend college. The world looks a lot brighter to me today. In the orphanage I felt hopeless and now I have hope.



If you want to give a poinsettia in memory or in honor of someone you love, please send \$12 to the church office by

Monday, December 10, along with a completed form. You may print out a form from the web edition of the November 29 newsletter or pick up one in the church office. We will place the poinsettias in the sanctuary on December 16, so they will still be fresh for Christmas Eve.

Business Meeting

Wednesday, December 12, at 6:15 p.m. to vote on new committee members, new deacons, and the personnel recommendation (see page 3). The Deacon Nominating Committee has submitted the following names for addition to the 2008 diaconate: Annette Brister, Steve Fontaine, Steve Gardner, Henry Kari, Gary Miller, Kristi SoRelle, and Deb Vardiman.

Christmas Open House

December 16
4:00-6:00 p.m.

at the home of
Steve and Sharon Fontaine

200 Winding Creek Lane
McGregor



Christmas Reception Bereshith Class

Sunday, December 9
2-4 p.m. (come and go)
at the Bellingers
68 Sugar Creek Place



cookies for the party.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

cookie decorating party

Saturday, December 9 10:00-11:00 a.m.
for toddlers, preschool, kindergarten,
and 1st-3rd grades

Please contact Rachel Seiretti if you are willing to make shaped sugar

Parents, if you need childcare for infants and elementary-age children during the Christmas Open House, Sunday, December 16, please make reservations! We will staff accordingly. The reservation notebook is in the hall next to the Missions Tree.



Welcome ...

This first Sunday of Advent was made even more special by the decision that Meredith Holladay made to join this congregation. If you've not met her yet, you will be delighted by her enthusiasm, energy and engaging smile.

Growing up in Louisville, Kentucky, where her father is pastor at Lyndon Baptist Church and her mother is an elementary school principal, Meredith graduated from Georgetown College in Georgetown, Kentucky. Her journey then took her to Washington, D. C., where she worked for the Baptist Joint Committee before beginning her masters program at Princeton Seminary. When she made the decision to come to Baylor to work on her doctorate in Religion, Politics, and Society at the Dawson Institute of Church-State Studies, several people referred her to Dorisanne as a person to meet — thus her connection to and introduction to Lake Shore.

True to her nature, Meredith has very quickly become involved in this church. It is the youth who know her best thus far, as Meredith has found a very welcome place with them in Sunday School, on Sunday nights, and at the Fall Lock-In. She enjoys the worship services and has found the people here friendly.

In addition to her studies, Meredith loves to cook and try new recipes. She likes listening to "all kinds" of music, including folk and independent. Reconnecting with friends through the week is important to her. Meredith, we embrace your presence and celebrate your decision to join with this family of grace.

Prayer Concerns

Linda Olson will leave Emory University Hospital Thursday and spend next week at her daughter's home near Atlanta before returning to Waco.

Coke Held will go to MD Anderson next week for 4 days of radiation therapy.

Celebrations

Bernard Morin is arriving from Paris Friday for a month-long visit with his family here. Welcome,

Pledge Cards ...

Please remember to fill out your 2008 pledge card. Place it in the offering plate, in Jo Polansky's office, or in the mail.

Report and Recommendation from the Personnel Committee

For well over a year, the Personnel Committee along with the Deacons and others on the Building and Grounds Committees have been giving specific attention to our stewardship of our building and grounds. Many have been concerned about the upkeep within the building, and our reliance of the extraordinary effort and time given to the church by people like Bruce Neatherlin and Donovan McNeil. Their efforts along with several other volunteers like John Wise and Jim Fau have been most appreciated for upkeep and repairs. However, the building is aging and in need of both frequent regular and irregular maintenance and repair. Often the staff has to call in service companies to do minor repairs at higher expenses than if we had an in-house person able to do this. We have also had to hire various folks regularly to do small jobs, like setting up tables. In addition, Channa Gray, a church member and Children's Center teacher, has worked part-time cleaning the Children's Center.

Over this year we have had a number of discussions with Pattie Herbert about what needs to be done within the building and the things that she is able to do for us. As a result of our considerations, we have decided to recommend to the congregation that it is time the church creates a new full-time position and hires a person again who can care for both our building and grounds in a more comprehensive manner, including the needs of the Children's Center. In the early days of the congregation, we had a full-time caretaker, but this hasn't been the situation for more than twenty years. On several previous occasions the Deacons have encouraged the Personnel Committee to consider preparing a full-time job description and seeking a person to fill the position.

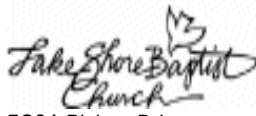
Then with a kind of serendipity Pattie and others found a person who matches just what we need. Gordon Lawrence, a small jobs construction contractor, who worked on the Teen House and did the remodeling of Sharlande's office recently, is interested in the position beginning next year. He is looking for regular full-time work that has hours in the early mornings and evenings, and will allow him occasionally to do small contract jobs some days. He has been approved by the Personnel and Finance Committees and will be presented to the Deacons at their meeting this Sunday. With their recommendation, the new position description and candidate will be presented to the congregation at a meeting of the church on Wednesday evening, December 12. The proposed salary is \$20,800, a rate of \$10/hour.

Pattie Herbert understands this situation, and in fact found Gordon for us. She also noted in our discussions that Lake Shore was one of the few congregations of our size that does not have a full-time caretaker with the skills for repair and maintenance as well as cleaning.

Pattie will retire from church service as our part-time caretaker at the end of the year, though she will remain a consistent presence with our children on Sundays and Wednesdays. The staff and various committees are planning a retirement celebration for her loyalty and many years of service to our congregation and facilities. We truly appreciate all the time, effort, responsiveness, and service that Pattie has given us. She is a wonderful friend to this congregation and to many members. — David Kopplin, Chair, Personnel Committee

Our Church Staff

Richard Aslanian, Music Director
Charles Conkin, Interim Minister to Youth
Dorisanne Cooper, Pastor
Emily Gist, Interim Director, Lake Shore Baptist Children's Center
Pattie Herbert, Custodian
Jo Polansky, Financial Secretary
Sarah Randles, Interim Office Manager
Rachel Sciretti, Minister to Children
Sharlande Sledge, Associate Pastor



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

MINISTRY AND EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Thursday, December 6

6:00 — Family Self-Sufficiency Christmas Party
7:00 — Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, December 8

10:00 — Cookie Decorating
1:00 — Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, December 9

9:30 — Sunday School
10:00 — Choir Rehearsal
10:45 — Worship
2:00 — Bereshith Reception
5:00 — Deacons' Meeting

Wednesday, December 12

8:30 — Staff Meeting
5:30 — Supper
6:15 — Business Meeting; Story Reading
7:30 — Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 13

8:00 — Food Pantry Breakfast
9:00 — Food Pantry Open

Looking Forward

Sunday, 16th, Open House, 4:00, Fontaines'; Wednesday, 19th, Caroling by Bus

**Wednesday Night Supper
December 12**



*Salisbury Steak
Mashed Potatoes
Salad
Dessert*

**Extended Care
Visitor Cards/Offering
Sunday, December 9**

Infants: Faith Kopplin
Toddler: Mike Sciretti
Preschool/K: The McNeil Family

Visitor Cards: Ella Kimball
Mikhayla Evans

Offering: Rosemary Richards,
Annette Brister, Judy Bowman,
Donna McMullen

Ushers: Missy Davis
Donna McMullen

Youth News

Sunday Morning:

Breakfast — Morin
Sunday School — Charles

Sunday Evening:

Sunday Night Meal — Miller-Compton

Save the Date: We will be attending Passport in Macon, Georgia during the week of July 13-18.

Sign up for the Mid-Winter Retreat on January 18-20. The cost is \$95. We need adults for chaperones; please help.

Attention Adults: If you can help with the progressive dinner, please contact Charles Conkin or Barb Francis.

Coming Up:

- December 15: Christmas Party and Dinner
- December 19: Chili & Caroling
- January 18-20: Mid-Winter Retreat

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.

Year to date needs	Year to date received	Difference
\$401,959	\$353,426	\$(48,533)

Lake Shore is invited to a ceremony conferring the rank of Eagle Scout on Brad SoRelle Sunday, December 9, 2007 at 2:30 at Vanguard 2527 Mt Carmel Drive