

# LAKE SHORELINES

April 23, 2008

## *Continuous Creation*

*Creation, we are taught, is not an act that happened once upon a time, once and forever. The act of bringing the world into existence is a continuous process. God called the world into being, and that call goes on. There is this present moment because God is present. Every instant is an act of creation. A moment is not a terminal but a flash, a signal of Beginning. — Abraham Heschel*

### *"The Whole Creation"*

Wednesday night April 30  
6:30 p.m.

Led by Paul Derrick and Fred Gehlbach

In 2001 Drs. Michael Ard and Paul Derrick, a former Baylor professor who writes the weekly column on astronomy in the *Waco Tribune-Herald*, combined their talents to present a concert in which Michael's piano performance of William Duckworth's "The Time Curve Preludes" was given a cosmic perspective by Paul's accompanying slide presentation. Recently Paul's revisited that earlier presentation, and set it to Don Robertson's synthesized recorded "Starmusic: Horizons Beyond Infinity." It produces a visual-auditory experience that takes one from the beginning to the end of time-space, and from the remote reaches of deep space to everyday life. Thanks to Fred Gehlbach for arranging for this and leading the discussion after the presentation.

## **Appreciative Inquiry**

### **Steering Committee Retreat**

**Saturday, April 26 8:30 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.**  
in the "blue room" at the church

## **Worship at Lake Shore** **The Sixth Sunday** **of Easter**

**The Worship of God**  
*April 27, 2008*

*"An Unknown God"*  
*Dorisanne Cooper*

**The Scripture**  
Acts 17.16-31

**The Baptism of Abanda Zofoa**

## **An Up-date from the** **Music Study/Search Committee**

We want to thank all of you who completed the congregational survey or participated in one of the focus groups. Your comments have been invaluable as we plan for the future of Lake Shore's music program. While opinions have been varied, of course, Lake Shore clearly believes music is essential to worship and values quality and a wide variety of musical styles.

Our committee is now moving from the "study" part of our charge to the "search" part of it, and we are actively seeking applications from potential candidates. If you have someone in mind--or know someone who might--now's the time to let us know. We are gathering applications and hope to begin interviews during the first part of May. We're excited and hopeful about the future of Lake Shore's music ministry.

*Kay Avant, Angela Dennison, Bruce Evans,  
Helen Hastings, Jenny Howell, Dorothy Lynn,  
Judy Prather, Mike Raymond*

## *From your pastor*

“Live the questions.” Those words from Rainer Maria Rilke in his book *Letters to a Young Poet* capture my attention in so many ways, in part, because I tend to think of questions as friend, not foe, as companion not adversary. Also in part because I’m still trying to figure out exactly what they mean! Of course, one of the things I appreciate most about this community we call Lake Shore is the welcoming of questions. Some people can be frightened at the frequency with which questions fly around here, but only if you don’t realize that they aren’t a tool of avoidance but engagement.

That said, it’s true that we “engage” a lot around here—with questions about theology, with questions challenging society, with questions exploring a Biblical text or some ethical issue. Questions go beyond just these areas, however. These last few years as we’ve reflected on society and people’s busy lives, we’ve been asking a lot of questions around here about our ministries and missions. Our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary right around the corner has helped this seem like a good time to take some time and see how best to live some of these. For instance, in relation to children’s ministry, we ask about how best to minister to families these days and wonder if it’s as important to offer another activity (even a *really* good one) as much as it is to offer a place to find balance. When we’re talking about the strain on individuals and families these days, we wonder what kinds of spiritual practice, marriage enrichment, or other ways of connecting to God and each other would be helpful. On the other hand, sometimes we ask if we’re doing too much in certain areas; does the fact that we *can* expand something means that we in fact *should*.

One of the things I appreciate most about “where we are” right now as a church is that for the most part we’re healthy and stable. That’s not a new thing, but it is nice to acknowledge now and then. And a healthy, stable place is a good place to take some time and think about what the questions are we want to be living in the generations to come, where and how we most want to reflect “God’s kind of love.”

As you’ve read in the newsletter these last two weeks, “Appreciative Inquiry” is the process we have chosen to begin to structure some conversation around these kinds of issues, but not in the way you might think. This is not a “What are things that need attention?” “What are things that are going wrong?” “What is currently going right?” “What needs changing?” Instead Appreciative Inquiry is a process of first exploring and celebrating who we have been and are. Then out of that process we’ll take a look at our ministries to see where we might make some adjustments, reconfigure, or simply reinvest..

As you’ve also read, the deacons have appointed a steering committee to begin learning about the Appreciative Inquiry process and then giving some shape to how we best want to use it here. It won’t surprise you to hear that part of why we like it is because it involves everybody in the congregation along the way through small group dinner parties or perhaps through individual interviews. A bonus is that the process involves a good excuse to be together and listen to each other and the Spirit of God in this place. And it involves questions! Questions about, well, whatever we want to ask questions about!

It’s hard to say more than that right now because our steering committee has yet themselves to learn and discern how they think we should shape this time. We aren’t going in to this Saturday with a strict agenda in mind of how we’ll finish. We also aren’t planning this as extended exercise in navel gazing and nothing more. We’re going into it with the capable leadership of Ashley Thornton to guide us through an explanation of this process and then some discussion of how best to structure this for Lake Shore. This isn’t taking a process and trying to squeeze who we are into it. This is taking a process and shaping it to us before we even begin.

If you’re intrigued enough at this stage, come join us this Saturday. If not, keep watching your newsletter over these next few weeks and months for what the first steps will be and how we’ll be asking for your input. Then start thinking about some of the questions you’re hoping we’ll “live” into the future.

As Rilke says, we may in the process find *our* way of living into the answers.

### **Appreciative Inquiry Steering Committee**

Bob Baird  
Annette Brister  
David Davis  
Angela Dennison  
Emily Fau  
Sam Hastings  
Loeen Irons  
Barbara Johnston  
Van Jones  
Karen Matkin (deacon chair)  
David Miller  
Scott Myers  
Kay Neugubauer  
Buddy Powell  
Pam Smallwood  
Kristi SoRelle  
Ashley Thornton  
David Tonghou

## ***Welcome to Our New Members, Mike and Rachel Anderson***

We warmly welcome Mike and Rachel Anderson who formally joined this church family on Sunday. If you've not yet met them, you will learn that they are committed parents and delightful people with two lovely children, Shannon and James.

Mike and Rachel were persistent "church shoppers" as they diligently visited several churches in their search for a community which was open-minded and accepting of a diversity of ideas. As is often the case for those attempting to visit Lake Shore, they sought us out on Lake Shore Drive, could not find us, visited another church that Sunday, only to attend Lake Shore the following Sunday. They've been with us ever since. Once here, they found the familiar faces of April Scales, Robin McDurham, and Maya, David, and Magi Davis.

Mike and Rachel met while working at Mother's Café in Austin (a vegetarian restaurant) when they were students at the University of Texas. Mike has degrees in political science and journalism and Rachel in education. They moved to Waco when Mike was offered a job with the *Waco Tribune Herald* where he is currently the Night Editor. He enjoys vegetable gardening, listening to all kinds of music, reading, and vegetarian and down-home Southern cooking. Rachel presently teaches the Upper Elementary (grades 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup>) students at Waco Montessori School. In addition, she teaches Nia classes (eclectic dance exercise classes for all levels) at the YMCA on most week-ends, loves thought-provoking and inspirational reading, and "doing stuff" with the kids. Six year old Shannon completes kindergarten this year. She loves to read, swim, and ride her bike (Do you remember her picture in the Bike-A-Thon report?) James, eight months old, is a happy, growing, healthy boy who is currently cutting his teeth.

Mike, Rachel, Shannon, and James, it is with much joy and gladness that we welcome you. We look forward to joining with you in our journeys together. We offer ourselves to be your family and surround you with God's love.



### ***Prayers for . . .***

Boyd Miller, who fell while visiting friends in Grapevine and has been hospitalized there. He will return to Waco for rehab.

Ana Marie Houser's mother, Millie Douglas, is scheduled for heart surgery in El Paso Monday. Ana is our friend who is a CBF missionary in South Africa. She was already scheduled to arrive in Texas with her daughters this week for an extended stay, including time in nursing classes at MCC this summer. Scott Houser, who has spoken at Lake Shore several times, will teach at Baylor in the fall.

Janet Bass's sister, Kathleen (Kakie) Van Zandt Howard died Monday, April 15, in Houston. Her father, Jack Van Zandt, and another sister, Susanne Durham, also live in Waco.

Cory McPeak, son of Tom and Pam McPeak, was in an auto accident last week. After a short hospital stay, he is now home and doing well.

### **Summer scholarships**

If you want to sponsor a youth for Passport camp in Macon, Georgia, this summer, please contact Charles at the church or email at [charlesconkin@hotmail.com](mailto:charlesconkin@hotmail.com).

*Lake Shore on mission  
this summer in Kansas City*

*June 14-20*

*Call the church to reserve your spot!*

### **Celebrations**

Elias Kari graduates from Texas State Technical College this week with an associates degree in Computerized Control Systems (Instrumentation) The Commencement ceremony is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. Saturday, April 26, at Ferrell Center. He has an internship with Shell Oil in Mission, Texas. We celebrate your graduation, Elias. Our blessings go with you on this next part of your journey. Come back soon!

Dottie Buchanan, Librarian for Mountainview Elementary School, received KWTX's Golden Apple Award. "Her kids" have the highest per capita circulation of books of any WISD elementary school; that makes it doubly remarkable that Dottie can remember what each of them is reading. See the complete story at <http://www.kwtx.com/goldenapple/headlines/17757609.html>

## **Children's Corner**



### **Wednesday Nights:**

"My Family" - April 30, May 7, 14

### **3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Friendship Retreat**

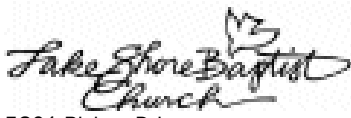
May 3-4 ~ \$40 ~ Three Mountain Retreat Center,  
Clifton, TX

We will depart from the church at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday and return at noon on Sunday. Brochures are available.

Check out the new chairs for children in rooms 106-107.

**Our Church Staff**

**Charles Conkin, Interim Minister to Youth**  
**Dorisanne Cooper, Pastor**  
**Emily Gist, Director, Lake Shore Baptist Children's Center**  
**Gordon Lawrence, Custodian**  
**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**

**Saturday, April 26**

8:30—AI Steering Committee Retreat

**Sunday, April 27**

9:30—Sunday School  
10:45—Worship  
4:30—Youth Committee

**Monday, April 28**

12:00—Newsletter Deadline

**Tuesday, April 29**

9:00—Staff Meeting

**Wednesday, April 30**

5:30—Supper  
6:15—Children's Activities  
6:30—Seminar  
7:30—Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, May 1**

8:30—Food Pantry Breakfast  
9:00—Food Pantry Opens

**Looking Ahead**

**May 3-4**—Children's Retreat  
**May 2-4**—Youth Spring Retreat  
**June 14-20**—All Church Mission Trip to Kansas City

**Wednesday Night Supper  
April 30, 2008**



*Salad Bar  
Dessert*

**Extended Care  
Visitor Cards/Offering  
Sunday, April 27**

Infants: Annette Brister  
Toddler: Prudencia Tonghou  
Preschool/K: Barb Francis

Visitor Cards: Kameron Seibel  
Devin Seibel  
Offering: Graeme Seibel  
Suzie Seibel  
Vern Sauter  
Martie Sauter

Ushers: David Kopplin  
Faith Kopplin

**Youth News**

Breakfast: SoRelle  
Supper: Morin

There will be a **Youth Committee Meeting** on Sunday April 27, @ 4:30 in the Teen House.

Hurry and get your deposit in to reserve a spot for **Passport**, July 13-18. If you need a scholarship contact Charles.

The **Spring Retreat** will be on May 2-4 at Three Mountain Retreat. Sign up in the Teen House if you plan to go. Cost will be \$65 due April 30.

In the church hallway there is a sign up sheet for anyone interested on going to **Kansas City** June 14-20 on a **mission trip**.

**Garage Sale:** Start going through you stuff and find things for the garage sale, June 28. If you need to make room in you house, then you can bring them to the Teen House to be stored. Contact Charles to unlock the door.

**Coming Up:**

May 2-4: Spring Retreat  
June 1: Youth Sunday  
June 28: Garage Sale

**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 2008 budget of \$451,972 are \$8,691.77.

<u>Year to date needs</u>	<u>Year to date received</u>	<u>Difference</u>
\$139,068	\$109,121	\$(29,946)