

# LAKE SHORELINES



November 29, 2017

## Advent and Christmas

### First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 3

Hope: Isaiah 64:1-9 (Psalm 80:1-7; 17-19)

Missions Tree  
Advent Books

Wednesday, December 6

Missions Around the Tables

### Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 10

Peace: Isaiah 40:1-11  
(Psalm 85:8-13; Mark 1:1-5)

Open House  
4:00-6:00

Wednesday, December 13

Music in the Sanctuary  
6:15

### Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 17

Joy: Isaiah 64:1-4; 8-11  
(Psalm 126; Luke 1:46b-55)

Service of Light In the Darkness

3:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 20

Christmas Caroling and Chili Supper  
5:15 p.m.

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 24

Love: Luke 1:26-55 (Psalm 89:1-2)

Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  
6:00 p.m.

*the*  
**IRRATIONAL**  
*Season*



In just four short lines,  
 Madeleine L'Engle's elegant little poem  
 "After Annunciation" captures the depth  
 of the Advent and Christmas season:

*This is the irrational season  
 When love blooms bright and wild.  
 Had Mary been filled with reason  
 There'd have been no room for the child.*

*the*  
**IRRATIONAL**  
*Season*



God's vulnerable, unconditional love  
 plunges us into the "irrational  
 season" –love which bridged the span  
 from heaven to earth to become flesh and dwell among us;  
 love that staggers under its own splendor; love which finds its  
 strength in its willingness to be weak; love that named Mary its  
 midwife.

Nothing about the Advent season is rational,  
 reasonable, or logical. We bypass common sense to deck our  
 church with rich velvet banners. We play music that has the  
 power to evoke memories of comforting familiarity and  
 profound tears. We light a circle of purple candles to mark our  
 steady approach to Christmas during four weeks of otherwise  
 dizzying activity. All these are markers, announcing that we  
 believe in a God who ever and always speaks the unlikely  
 poetry of the imaginative possibility of the birth of new life  
 into our world.

Lake Shore writers have paid attention to the irrational  
 signs of incarnation in this season. They have pondered the  
 merciful irrationality they see in the nativity story, as well as in  
 the stories written through the experiences of their lives. They  
 have contributed their thoughts to our booklet as a gift of  
 meditations for you to read each day of the season.

Before you read each meditation, I suggest you read  
 Madeleine L'Engle's 4 lines again, for they are a guiding light to  
 each writer's words:

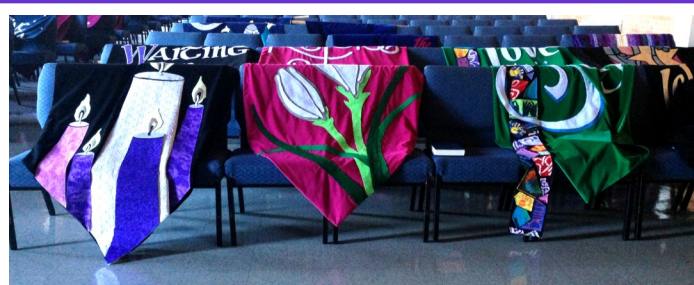
*This is the irrational season  
 When love blooms bright and wild.  
 Had Mary been filled with reason  
 There'd have been no room for the child.*

Along the way to Christ's birth, your mind and heart may  
 be tipped off balance a little; but that's all right . . .  
 sometimes the paths to finding God are more winding – and  
 more wondrous – than we anticipate. May this Advent season  
 be a transforming one for you, in which the orderly, rational  
 ways of the world are turned upside down by God's grace and  
 joy and bright, wild love.

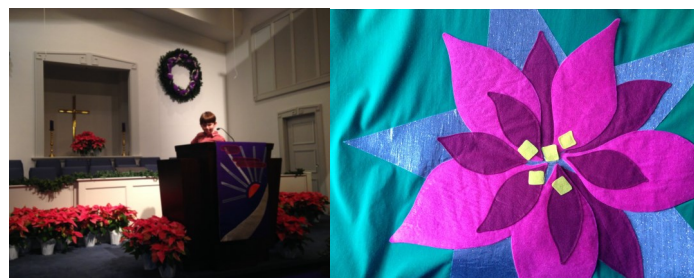
—Sharlande

**Advent books available  
 Sunday, December 3**

- One Advent book is available per household.
- Books will be in alphabetical order in the hall.
- Picking up your book helps defray mailing costs.
- Help us save postage by taking books to family members or people who live near you who aren't at church on the First Sunday of Advent.
- Additional books may be purchased for \$2 in the church office.
- Books were mailed to the out-of-town people on our newsletter list who requested them.



**Decorating the Sanctuary for Advent  
 Tonight, November 29, after supper  
 All ages can help!**



**Bereshith Sunday School  
 Class Lunch**

after worship  
 Sunday, December 3  
 at the home of  
 Reagan and Glenda Ramsower  
 1616 Estates Drive  
 Newcomers and visitors are invited to lunch!

**Vote on the 2018 Budget  
 Sunday, December 3  
 after worship**



# Advent Missions Tree

Every year we decorate two trees — the Chrismon (“Christ monograms”) Tree in our sanctuary and the Missions Tree in our hall. On Wednesday, November 29, more than a hundred Christmas ornaments will hang on the Missions Tree. Projects that will benefit ministries in Waco and around the world were suggested by community agencies with which we interact and by our global contacts in Turkey, Lebanon, Cameroon, Ghana, (Chengdu) China, as well as the CBF ministries in Houston where our church group worked in October. Attached to each ornament is a description of a missions project.

Stop by the tree before or after supper on Wednesday and choose a project you want to do this Advent season. Sign the numbered logo tag that says “the Irrational Season” and place it in the basket on the table. Please note that an ornament with a pink ribbon denotes that it is a child-friendly project.

On the first Wednesday and Sunday of Advent, please choose only one ornament, so that everyone will have a chance to get one. You may select additional ornaments during the following Wednesdays and Sundays.

## This year’s ornaments

Once again this year, our ornaments were purchased at Mission Waco’s World Cup Fair Trade Market. A portion of the cost of each ornament on our Missions Tree will go to the artisans who made them through Maisha Store in Kenya. Maisha’s mission is to help alter systems and cycles that propagate poverty and economic disparity around the world. Maisha believes that socially-conscious industry holds the key to permanent change. When craft items are purchased, the profits flow directly back to the artisans, helping them make changes for good.

Four kinds of grass ornaments are on our tree: some with flutes, some with harps, some with stars, some in postures of prayer. Choose one with a missions project to take home.



## Community Missions Projects

Here are a few *examples* of ornaments:

### The Cove

*The Cove seeks to give youth experiencing homelessness a safe place to thrive.*

- Provide boxes of individually packaged snacks for the homeless teens who study and eat at The Cove.

### Family Abuse Center

*The purpose of the center is to minister to women and children who have suffered physical abuse.*

- Buy a board game for children 12 and younger who are living temporarily at the center.
- Give a set of bed pillows for a client who is moving to a new home.

### Lake Shore Baptist Children’s Center

*Our center is a source of nurture and preschool education and a steady place in the lives of working families.*

- Give board books suitable for infants ages 6 to 18 months.
- Give a Fisher Price Shape Sorter and animal figures.

### Meals & Wheels

*In our church kitchen we package and deliver meals to more than fifty individuals three days a week as we partner with Meals and Wheels to help meet the needs of older adults.*

- Provide funds for a portable electric heater for a MOW client.

### Mission Waco/Mission World

*Mission Waco’s purpose is to provide a holistic relation-based ministry with the poor and marginalized in inner-city Waco, as well as throughout the world, including Church Under the Bridge and the Meyer Center.*

- Pack a hygiene kit for a homeless man.
- Pack a hygiene kit for a homeless woman.

### Talitha Koum Institute

*TKI is a faith-based organization, and, using research-based therapeutic intervention, TKI partners with parents to raise children who are intellectually capable, emotionally resilient, and prepared to be contributing members of the community.*

- Give various sizes of kids’ playground balls.
- Give washable tempera paints.

### Waco Habitat for Humanity

*Waco Habitat is an ecumenical Christian housing ministry, helping to eliminate substandard and poverty housing in Waco.*

- Provide a toolbox with some basic tools for a new WHFH homeowner family. Provide a Bible for a family.

### Waco Immigration Alliance

*The Waco Immigration Alliance is a volunteer community group that seeks to make Waco a welcoming place, inclusive of every faith, nationality, and legal status.*

- Give a \$40 UPS or Office Depot gift card to enable the organization to print, make copies, or purchase office supplies.

# Global Missions Projects

## Shalom Children's Centre, Ghana

*With Lake Shore's support, Christiana Onusu started a preschool in Ghana. Now in its thirteenth year, Shalom feeds and educates more than 300 children in Twifu-Hemang, a rural village in Ghana. Most parents can afford to pay only part of the cost for a child.*

- Give \$12 to help pay for school uniforms.
- Give \$30 per chair to help furnish classrooms.

## Lebanese Society for Educational & Social Development

*In 2015 Lake Shore's Soup Supper benefitted Syrian refugees, and we have maintained a relationship with this Lebanese Baptist ministry. LSESD's mission is "to serve the church in the Arab world through spiritual, social and educational development."*

- Give \$50 or more to help LSESD provide a Christmas meal event for Syrian refugee children at a church in the Anjar, Bekaa region of Lebanon. The funds will help provide transportation, a hot meal, a gift for the child, and 2 blankets for the child's family.

## Mission Waco/Mission World

*This micro-credit program in Haiti provides low interest loans, with weekly meetings for stability, accountability, and community to endure life.*

- Give \$50 or more to support Mission Waco
- Mission World's Women's Micro Credit program that empowers and encourages women in Haiti through training in business, prayer, a relationship with God and others

## Nsam Baptist, Church, Nsam, Cameroon

*This is Henry Kari's home church. It is not only a place for worship, but it is a sanctuary for the village, offering a safe place when groups, Christians and Muslims alike, gather to discuss matters of importance to all the people of Nsam. The holes in the roof have been damaged by years of successive storms, putting the physical foundation at risk.*

- Give \$50 or more to repair the roof on Nsam Baptist Church.

## CBF, Hurricane Harvey Relief, South Houston

*In October Lake Shore members spent a week assisting CBF missionaries Butch and Nell Green in the recovery efforts following Hurricane Harvey. Their work continues.*

- Give a \$50 Home Depot or Lowe's gift card to purchase five sheets of drywall (1/2 in. x 4ft. x 8ft.) to be used for Hurricane Harvey repair and recovery work in South Houston
- Give a \$50 Home Depot or Lowe's gift card to purchase three buckets of All Purpose 4.5 gal. Pre-Mixed Joint Compound to be used for Hurricane Harvey repair and recovery work in South Houston

## CBF, Chengdu, China

- Give \$50 or more to purchase Chinese language Bibles for the new church that Casey and Brittany are helping to start in Chengdu
- Give \$30 or more to purchase chairs (\$30 each) for the new church that Casey and Brittany are helping to start in Chengdu
- Give \$50 or more to purchase Chinese language Bibles for the new church that Casey and Brittany are helping start in Chengdu

## CBF, Middle East

*Refugees are starting small businesses, with the guidance and assistance of CBF missionaries.*

- Give \$20 or more to provide shoe boxes (\$10 each) containing a small toy, toothbrush and toothpaste, pencils, crayons, etc. that CBF missionaries can distribute to Syrian refugee children in Turkey.

## Christmas Eve Offering

### Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Offering for Global Missions



# Missions Around the Tables for all ages

**Wednesday,  
December 6  
after supper**

We'll put our hands and hearts to some of our Missions Tree projects in practical ways.

**Some of the things we will do:**

*Prepare Christmas bags for Meals on Wheels recipients, pack care packages for the Ramirezes in China*

*Wrap gifts for Talitha Koum, the Children's Center, and Family Abuse*

*Write Christmas cards to immigrants in detention centers.*

*Decorate cookies for neighbors.*

**AND we will put the poinsettias in their white holders**

**Celebrations...**

Kerry and Loeen Irons announce the birth of their 4th grandchild, Landry Charles, born to Kyle and Liz Irons on November 15, in Dallas. Big sister Kate welcomes him as well.

**Prayers for . . .**

Louis Garcia, whose daughter Charis Elizabeth Guzman died on Thanksgiving night. A rosary will be held this Friday, December 1, at 10:00 a.m. at San Jose Catholic Church in Austin, with burial to follow at Onion Creek Cemetery. A memorial service is scheduled for Saturday, December 9, at 11:00 a.m. at Lake Shore, followed by a meal at Mutualista Hall at 2214 S. 15th (at LaSalle). If you are interested in helping with dessert for the lunch, please email [Sharlande@lsbcwaco.org](mailto:Sharlande@lsbcwaco.org).

The family of Vicky Hunt, who died November 14. Vicky's service will be at Lake Shore on Saturday, December 2, at 11:00 a.m., reception to follow at the church.

Barbara Johnston is continuing to improve---she is not 100 % yet on her diet and strength. She is still required to rest. She appreciates the cards and prayers.

Honor Horn, who is at The Healthcare Resort near Hillcrest for rehab, following her stroke.

Barbara Tucker's mother who has bladder cancer.

Alice Baird was in a car accident on I-35, Tuesday. She was changing lanes when suddenly there was an impact, the car spun around, the airbag deployed, and ended up facing the wrong way, in the shoulder next to the median. She is thankful for seatbelts, airbags, and those that stopped to help her. We are so, so grateful that she is all right. Our prayers for Alice and for Bob's calmness and peace.

David Mosley, was in the ER yesterday and will see his cardiologist tomorrow for more tests on his heart.

## Christmas Open House

Sunday, December 11, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

*Home of Mike and Beth Raymond*

This year we're asking for those of you who plan to attend to sign up for what you'd like to bring. Just bring your food (on disposable plates or containers) whenever you plan to arrive. Sign-up sheets (for finger sandwiches, chips & dips, veggie trays, fruit trays, cheese & crackers, spreads & crackers, and desserts) are in the hall near the office. *The Raymonds' address is in the online directory.*



## Poinsettias for Advent



You may give a pink poinsettia to help decorate the sanctuary during Advent. **Complete the information form and send it, along with \$15 for each flower, to the office by Wednesday, December 6.**

*We will place the poinsettias in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 10.*

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

Louis Garcia, Custodian  
 Sheena Gibbons, Pianist/Organist  
 Claire Helton, Minister to Children  
 Zachary Helton, Minister to Youth  
 Gordon Lawrence, Maintenance Manager  
 Cindy Oates, Director of LSBCC  
 Krysta Pittman, Office Manager  
 Kyndall Rothaus, Pastor  
 Sharlande Sledge, Associate Pastor



5801 Bishop Drive  
 Waco, TX 76710-2713  
 254/772-2910  
 254/772-2914 (fax)  
 www.lakeshorebcwaco.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### CALENDAR

#### Sunday, December 3

9:30—Sunday School  
 10:45—Worship  
 3:00—Newsletter Deadline  
 4:30—Soulfriends

#### Tuesday, December 5

1:30—Staff Meeting

#### Wednesday, December 6

5:15—Supper  
 6:15—Missions Around the Tables  
 7:00—Choir Rehearsal

### Staff Notes

Zach is out until early December.  
 Claire Helton is out until January.

## WEEKLY YOUTH UPDATE

ABRIDGED

### Wednesday 11/29

5:15pm - Dinner  
 6:15pm - Selah

### Sunday 12/3

9:30am - Youth Sunday School

**No evening youth meeting**

### Upcoming

12/17 - Youth Progressive Dinner  
 1/12-14th - MidWinter Retreat

For more, see the Youth bulletin board in the hallway.  
 For questions, or to subscribe to the full Youth Update,  
 email zach@lsbcwaco.org.

### Volunteers for Sunday, December 3

Extended Care: Joe Coker  
 Ushers: Noah Fau  
 Lawyah Kari

### 2018 Pledge Cards

We have 33 pledges for a total of \$158,844. We need your pledge cards, too.

It's not too late to turn in your 2018 pledge card. You can drop it in the offering plate on Sunday or give it to Krysta during the week. Extra pledge cards are available in the church office.



**Called Business Meeting** to vote on the recommendations of the Committee Coordinating Council.  
**Wednesday, December 6, 6pm**

*Names will appear in next week's newsletter.*

### Wednesday night supper December 6

Chicken a la Paris over Wild Rice and Carrot Salad  
 children, \$3.00  
 youth & adults, \$6.00

Write [Krysta@lsbcwaco.org](mailto:Krysta@lsbcwaco.org) by Sunday noon to add or cancel reservations.

**Choir rehearsal will begin at 7:00 tonight, November 29.**

**Deacon's Meeting  
 December 3  
 5:00pm**

### Weekly Budget Report

Your contributions help fund our mission work, church programs, human resources, and physical facilities. Weekly budget needs for our 2017 budget of \$486,000.00 are \$9,346.15. This week's budget receipts were \$6,581.94.

Year to date needs  
 \$448,615.38

Year to date received  
 \$406,491.45

Difference  
 (\$42,123.93)

To give online, please click [here](#).