

LAKE SHORELINES



December 20, 2017

the IRRATIONAL *Season*



Worship at Lake Shore
The Fourth Sunday of Advent

The Worship of God
December 24, 2017

Sermon
Kyndall Rothaus

The Scripture
Luke 1:26-55

Christmas Eve
Service

Sunday, December 24,
6:00 p.m.

You can prepare but still
it will come to you by surprise

crossing through your
doorway calling your name in
greeting turning like a child
who quickens suddenly
within you

it will astonish you how wide
your heart will open in
welcome

for the joy that finds you so
ready and still so unprepared.

—*Jan Richardson*

The Irrational 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.
— Madeleine L'Engle*

While thinking about this upcoming “irrational season” of advent, I am reminded of how irrational our decision to move to China seems to so many, especially those outside of our faith. When preparing to come, people would ask how long our trip to China would be, and after I tell them, “Well, we hope for at least the next 20 years,” they are astonished. It does not make any sense. Why would we leave the comforts and safety of our home and family? It is interesting to see the different responses, some so surprised and confused by something that seems so natural to us.

But that is the neat thing. To me, it seems so strange *not* to leave. We have felt this tug on our hearts for the nations for so long. And the thought of a life *not* lived in China seems so unnatural to me. Trying to imagine a different life for Casey, Juniper, and me seems so wrong.

It makes me wonder about how Mary felt about the

unreasonable thing she was a part of, the incarnation of God among us. Had Mary been reasonable, how would she have responded to that angel bringing her the news that she would carry our Savior.? She responds to the angel, “Let it be to me, as you have said.” Had she, too, felt a special tug and calling her entire life and was just waiting for that strange message from the angel? Could she have imagined the confusion, rejection, and pain that would come from her calling? Did she know the absolute joy and honor she would experience from being the mother of Jesus?

It is helpful to think of this right now, as we have just arrived in China, this place we have been journeying to for so long. And while our calling to this place seems so natural, it is not always easy. But what a joy to be a part of the incarnation of God here in this place. What an honor to get to share in this news of our Savior with so many who have never heard. And oh, the joy of knowing that the journey continues! We get to dig deeper into the good news of our Savior. We get to walk on in our calling and see what other irrational and beautiful things God has called us to.

How is God calling you this season?

— Brittany Ramirez, Chengdu, China



**Christmas Eve Service
Sunday, December 24,
6:00 p.m.**

The “nativity” above was painted by Mikhayla Evans when she was in elementary school. We are delight to have a framed image of her art hanging in the entrance to our church.

Christmas Eve Offering

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Offering for Global Missions

100% of your gift helps sustain the long-term presence of CBF field personnel serving around the world.

This means that you'll help care for refugees around the world, welcome refugees to the U.S. and care for people who need help. You will welcome people, you will share the Gospel and you will create Beloved Community.





The Gift of Poinsettias

Given in honor of:

Annette Brister, *Paul and Michal Ann Adams*
 Barbara Johnston, *Johnstons*
 Barbara Johnston, *Tillman and Carolyn Rodabough*
 Carlisle and Breck, *Kathy and Steve Reid*
 Carnes-Whelan Family, *Faith Kopplin*
 Coker Family, *Faith Kopplin*
 Don and Kristi SoRelle, *Ellen Brown*
 Honor Horn, *Celia Dupree*
 Janette Rothe, *Johnstons*
 JoLeen Eiklenborg, *Faith Kopplin*
 Jo Pendleton, *Judy and Gary Bowman*
 Kellison-Stonikinis Family, *Faith Kopplin*
 Our Children and Grandsons, *Nancy and Fred Gehlbach*

Given in memory of:

Alex Ware, *Tillman and Carolyn Rodabough*
 Bill and Tillie Bellinger, *Libby and Bill Bellinger*
 Cokie Held, *Naomi and John Fox*
 David Kopplin, *Naomi and John Fox*
 David Kopplin, *Brent and Ellen Brown*
 David Kopplin, *Bob and Alice Baird*
 David Kopplin, *Tillman and Carolyn Rodabough*
 David Kopplin, *Faith Kopplin*
 David Kopplin, *Laurel Zeiss and Daniel Maresb*
 Faye and Hale Smith, *Libby and Bill Bellinger*
 George and Winnie Avant, *Gayle and Kay Avant*
 Katherine Baird Darmer, *Bob and Alice Baird*
 Lem and Evelyn Coalson, *Gayle and Kay Avant*
 Malcom and Vivian Hall, *Beverly and Dennis Hill*
 Minnie Herring, *Carolyn and Mary*
 Nancie Wingo, *Sharlande Sledge*
 Our Parents and Grandson, *Nancy and Fred Gehlbach*
 P.M, Jeff, Jerry, and Jack Johnston, *Johnstons*
 Selma Choucair, *Kim, George, Emery and Roy Stonikinis*
 Todd Zeiss, Mary Jo and Alex Maresb,
Laurel Zeiss and Daniel Maresb
 Vicky Hunt, *Sandy and Skip Londres*

Prayers for . . .

Dianna Vitanza, who is at home recovering from a fall.
 David Ryals, charter member and deacon of LSBC, as he undergoes chemotherapy for pancreatic cancer that was diagnosed last September.
 David Mosley, who had a nuclear stress test Tuesday morning. He will know the results in a couple of days.
 Susan Johnson asks for prayers for her mother, Patricia Johnson, who broke both legs when she in an accident in her nursing home in Connecticut. She has severe dementia.
 Rita Joseph, who is scheduled to have a pacemaker put in next week.

Missions

Tree

We are nearing the end of this year's Missions Tree emphasis.

Thank you to all of you who participated in sharing God's Light and Love with the world in this way.

Some gifts were delivered locally earlier this week. Others will go out later this week or sometime next week.

If you would like to assist with delivering gifts, we'd be glad to have you participate. We are in need of individuals to deliver hygiene kits to Mission Waco • Mission World's Meyer Center, supplies for Meals on Wheels clients to the Central Texas Senior Ministry, Bibles and toolboxes to Waco Habitat for Humanity, and assorted foods and snacks to The Cove.

Please email Ellen Brown (bek0428@gmail.com) to volunteer. Although the church will be closed next week, access will be available through the Children's Center on December 27-29.

Many thanks to all of you who fulfilled projects that will have a positive impact on homeless individuals, senior adults, children, immigrants, victims of abuse, and low income families in our immediate community. Gift cards and monetary gifts will assist friends and strangers in Houston, Turkey, Lebanon, Chengdu (China), Cameroon, Ghana, and Haiti.



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 24

10:45—Worship
 6:00— Christmas Eve Service

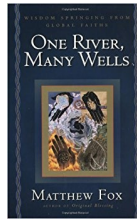
Wednesday, December 27

No activities

Wednesday, January 3

No activities

The
 Metanoia
 Sunday
 School
 Class



The Metanoia Sunday School class will begin discussion of *One River, Many Wells* by Matthew Fox on January 7. All are welcome. Contact Claudia Beal at threebeals@gmail.com or 254-855-1621 for questions about the class.

Caroling and Chili Supper Tonight, December 20 Be here at 5:00.

We'll board the bus
 in the front of the church.
 Get on the bus when you arrive.

The bus leaves **promptly** at 5:15 p.m.
 Chili *after* caroling
 (corny dogs for children)

(Eat an appetizer before you board
 the bus if you're used to eating early!)

\$3 adults, \$2 children



Volunteers for

Sunday, December 24

Extended Care: Joe Coker
 Ushers: Lawyah Kari
 Noah Fau

Church office will be closed
 December 25-January 1.

Children Center will be
 closed December 25-26.

Choir Rehearsal

December 20, 7:45
 after caroling/chili

Wednesday Night Suppers Will Begin

January 17

No Sunday School
 on Christmas Eve
 or New Year's Eve
 Worship at 10:45
 both Sundays.

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 10,755.

<u>Year to date needs</u>	<u>Year to date received</u>	<u>Difference</u>
\$476,653.84	\$468,819.41	(\$7,834.43)

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