

# Lake Shore Lines newsletter

December 5, 2018

All  
is  
Calm

## Worship at Lake Shore The Second Sunday of Advent

*December 9, 2018*

**Sermon**

*Kyndall Rothaus*

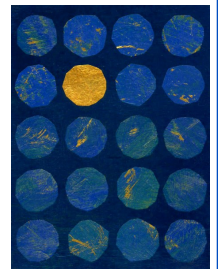
**Scripture**

*Rahab*

## A Service of Light in the Darkness Wednesday December 12

5:15 p.m.

*The Service of Light in the Darkness is a safe, welcoming space for anyone who experiences any type of loss, grief, pain, or emotional difficulty during the holiday*



## CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP

Intergenerational Event  
(in the style of years past)

DECEMBER 9, 2018

4:00-6:00PM



# All is Calm

*"When all is not calm"*

As I sit on our 8<sup>th</sup>-floor porch with my Bible and journal in hand, I breathe deeply. Lord, let my soul rise up to meet you, as the day rises to meet the sun. Deep breaths. "Hooooonk." Okay, let's try again. Breathe in deeply. "Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God ---" (drilling sounds from the apartment above me).

Breathe.... "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a s----" (street vendors blasting recorded advertisement on the sidewalk below, more honking, crying children at the children's hospital across the street).

Experiencing calmness and solitude in a Chinese city of 14 million people outside your window can be a challenge. Sometimes I think the loud noises that distract me during my morning prayers are a good representation of the challenge I have always had to quiet my soul and seek God. I have never felt like I was good at having "quiet times" or silent meditations. My brain just doesn't shut off. I start thinking about the other things that are bothering me, or the to-do list in my head. Or, I ask, "Is my heart in the right place?" The current religious situation here doesn't help with the calmness factor. It seems to be getting stricter, and some foreigners have even been asked to leave the country. It is hard to experience the calmness of Advent while the "what if's" go through my head.

I am guessing that I am not the only one who has a hard time experiencing calmness during this season. You might not be dealing with the noise of a large Chinese city, but I know that there is a lot of noise in your life. The maddening political and social noise in the United States and around the world is hard to turn down. The busyness at work and/or stresses of family life can take over. How do I experience the calmness of the coming Christchild in the midst of all the needs?

Each day I read from Shane Claiborne's *Common Prayer*. My favorite thing about reading this is the prayer "Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it is was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever." It is so reassuring that through all the noise, through all the pain and injustice and frustration of what is happening in the world, God's glory (and justice, and love, and peace) have been and will be forever. There have always been faithful followers standing up in the midst of it all, pointing towards the light and calmness of God's coming and being in our world.

May we be those faithful followers in this time and this place. May we seek and find him in the midst of the noise. May we remember that His coming truly does bring the calm, bright, loving light into our world and into our souls when we need it most.

—Brittany Ramirez

*Brittany Ramirez sent us this beautiful Advent meditation in late October, and I misplaced it on my computer. Last week, just after leaving the book at the printer's, I realized my mistake. My great apologies to Brittany. Here is her Advent gift to us from Chengdu, China.*

—Sharlande

## **Prayer for the World, offered in worship by Steve Henry Clark Sunday, December 2**

God, as we enter this Advent season, we rejoice that you are the God of Hope and we give thanks for the sacred hope that we have in you. Lord, we acknowledge the places in our lives where we need our hope strengthened. And we pray that with your help, we bring hope to others in need in the world around us.

Lord, the hope we find in the Advent story is the hope of all eternity. Throughout the ages you promised hope to your people and you kept your promises. You promised Emmanuel, that God, you would be with us, and that eternal hope, He became the hope of the world. Fill us with that hope today, the hope that comes from knowing You are with us.

In the gospel of Mark Jesus told a man whose son needed a miracle that, "All things are possible, only believe" to which the man replied, "I believe, help my unbelief."

God, sometimes we feel the same way.

We have hope, but

*Lord help our un-hope.*

When we are disappointed, or people let us down,

*Lord, help our un-hope.*

In moments of despair, when we don't know what to do,

*Lord help our un-hope.*

When things aren't going love's way, and it looks like hate will triumph,

*Lord help our un-hope.*

If emptiness starts to have its hold, and we feel lost and alone,

*Lord help our un-hope.*

Whatever the reason, whenever we become hopeless,

*Lord help our un-hope.*

We pray for hope for those around us who may also experience emptiness, despair, or pain during the Christmas season. For those whom the holidays contain bad memories or hurts, we pray that this year your hope brings healing and peace to their lives. We pray that the shadow of hurts and pains of the past will be overcome by the light of the hope that is in you.

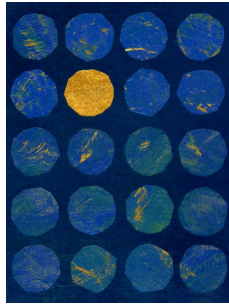
Fill our hearts with hope today. Fill our mouths with words of hope. As we go through the busy-ness of the season, let us carry hope to the people we touch in our daily lives.

And let us join our hearts with the words of Paul and pray, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Amen.

# A Service of Light in the Darkness

Wednesday, December 12  
5:15 p.m.



*By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon\* us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. — Luke 1:78-79*

A quiet interlude  
from the expectations of the holidays,  
especially for those  
who find this season difficult.  
A time of worship  
to bring our pains and losses  
before God  
to redeem in hope.

## Celebrations

Sunday, December 2, we welcomed Gayl Hobbs to Lake Shore. Next week we will introduce her to you through this newsletter.

## Prayer Concerns

Nathan Stone, whose treatment for bladder cancer will begin next week.

Ross Tarpley's grandmother, Peggy Ives.

Mikhayla Evans who received an encouraging report from her doctors.

Becky Kennedy, who is in her hometown of Fairhope, AL, this week for the memorial service of her father, Eddie Street, on Saturday, December 8, at Collinsville Baptist Church.

Pattie Herbert, who had a stroke Thursday night. A clot went to her right eye, and she does not have any sight in that eye.

Dorothy Clark's memorial service will be at Seventh and James Baptist Church on Saturday, December 8, at 1:00 p.m. with a reception to follow. Dorothy experienced worship with us at Lake Shore the last several years alongside her daughter Magi Davis and Magi's husband, David. May our prayers wrap all Dorothy's daughters – Magi, Anna, Barbie, and Mimi and their families – in God's love and care.

Becca Sharpless and Tom Charlton as they move together through Tom's hospice care.

Casey Bureson's daughter, Jasa, and her husband, Aaron, who were greatly affected by Hurricane Florence. You may send cards of encouragement to Jasa Jordan and Aaron Paliakoff, 4501 Prior Drive, #137, Wilmington, NC 28412.

Carolyn Plaa, who continues to suffer great pain in her knees and back. She is awaiting the next steps in her treatment.

# Missions Tree

Our missions covenant groups have chosen projects that will benefit ministries in Waco and around the world. This year our ornaments were chosen by Brittany Ramirez from a fair-trade store in Chengdu, China. On the back of each ornament you'll find a description of a missions project. Choose a project you want to do this Advent season, sign the numbered tag that says "All Is Calm," and rehang the tag on the tree. Take the tree ornament home to hang on your tree. The list below names the ministries we will be partnering with for this year's Mission Tree:



## Community Missions

Meals on Wheels  
The Cove  
Family Abuse Center  
Talitha Koum Institute  
Mission Waco/Mission World Meyer Center  
Lake Shore Baptist Children's Center

## Global Missions

Song for Shalom, Ghana  
Lebanese Society for Educational & Social Development  
CBF Ministries in Chengdu, China  
CBF Ministries, hurricane relief, in Puerto Rico  
Nsam Baptist Church, Cameroon  
Interfaith Welcome Coalition, San Antonio  
Christian Mission to Gaza

**Our Church Staff**

Louis Garcia, Custodian  
Sheena Gibbons, Pianist/Organist  
Gordon Lawrence, Maintenance Manager  
Cindy Oates, Director of LSBCC  
Krysta Pittman, Office Manager  
Kyndall Rothaus, Pastor  
Sharlande Sledge, Associate Pastor  
Ross Tarpley, Minister of Music



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www.lakeshorebcwaco.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Volunteers for  
Sunday, December 9**

Extended Care: Faith Kopplin  
Ushers: Aaron Abel  
Andy Powell

**Women's Bible Study/  
Christmas Party**  
Tuesday, December 11  
10:00 a.m.

**Youth Update**

**Wednesday (12/5)**  
No Youth (Missions around the Tables)  
**Sunday (12/9)**  
9:30am- Time Well-Wasted  
4-6pm- Christmas Workshop

**Upcoming**

**December 12th**  
Service of Light in the Darkness  
**December 16th**  
Progressive Dinner (Murphy/Miller/  
Swanson)  
**December 19th** Caroling w/ Church  
**January 11-13th** Mid-Winter

**The Community Race Relations  
Coalition of Waco invites you to  
Dinner and a Movie**

*Black Panther*, Thursday, December 6 at 5pm  
*The Hate U Give*, Saturday December 8 at 3pm  
Both at First Presbyterian  
Call for 717-7903 or email jo@welterfamily.org  
to reserve a space

Barbara Francis Pottery  
**Annual Open House and Pottery Sale**  
**Saturday December 8,**  
10:00am-6:00pm  
**Sunday December 9,**  
1:00pm-5:00 pm  
107 N.107 N. Bend Court, Waco,  
TX 76712, 254-644-3223



**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 **Sunday, December 9.**

*We will place the poinsettias in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 16*



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 \_\_\_\_\_

**Weekly Budget Report**

Your contributions help fund our mission work, church programs, human resources, and physical facilities. Weekly budget needs for our 2018 budget of \$486,000.00 are \$9,826.92. This week's budget receipts were \$21,115.00 (this includes online giving).

<u>Year to date needs</u>	<u>Year to date received</u>	<u>Difference</u>
\$471,692.16	\$381,662.55	(\$90,029.61)

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