

History Addendum 2019-2021

The end of 2019 saw important personnel changes at Lake Shore. On October 2, the church hired Jon Snyder, a Ph.D. candidate at Baylor, as Director of Music. On November 20, the church hired Charlie L. Fuller as Intentional Interim Senior Pastor. Fuller most recently had been the Executive Pastor of First Baptist Church of Washington, D.C. but had also once served as Dean of Fine Arts at Ouachita Baptist University until 2007. His initial sermon of many good ones was delivered on the first Sunday of Advent. He got to know congregants quickly and dealt with individuals in a highly effective manner.

Other important events from this period included a Rally for Immigrants (August 28) and a concert by Grammy Award-winning singer Carrie Newcomer (October 19). The August rally included a silent auction and music by the band After Midnight, which included our own Steve Gardner. It raised over \$9,000, which was divided between the Semillas shelter in San Antonio and American Gateways, a Central Texas organization that provides legal aid to refugees. On January 15, 2020, the church hired Cindy Fuller, who has degrees in music from Baylor and Sam Houston State, as Organist/Pianist. On February 23, the church hosted Bishop Malkhaz of the Evangelical Baptist Church of the Republic of Georgia. The visit was arranged through the invitation of the Alliance of Baptists and friends at Broadway Baptist Church of Fort Worth.

The outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic led the church on March 18, 2020, to suspend all in-person gatherings and to transition to Zoom meetings for Wednesday night and Sunday mornings. Pastor Fuller continued to lead these meetings until he decided to resign in August, citing personal reasons. The church decided not to seek another Intentional Interim Pastor. A Transition Team composed of Henry Clarke, David Davis, Emily Hinojosa, Henry Kari, Cassie Smith, Mike Raymond, and John Warren, which had been formed in June, conducted church-wide survey that ended on September 14. They received 124 individual responses. Richard Groves, a former pastor of Lake Shore (1975-1981) and retired Pastor of Wake Forest Baptist Church, began providing sermons via Zoom from his home in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, starting with the first Sunday of September.

On January 24, 2021, a church business meeting approved a motion to direct the Committee Coordinating Council to form a Senior Pastor Search Committee and to establish three Task Groups to address issues identified by the Transition Committee. They were (1) Polity, Structures, and Procedures Task Group (2) Staffing Task Group, and (3) Reconciliation Task Group.