

Soundings

February 2024 - 3506

Lake Shore
CHURCH

Dear Friends –

This year Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day fall on the same day, Wednesday, February 14. The internet has marked this with memes showing foreheads with ashes shaped like hearts. It's intriguing to consider how these pictures mix the serious meaning of Ash Wednesday with the loving feeling of Valentine's Day.

Traditionally, ashes are a humble acknowledgment of our mortality - "we are dust and to dust we shall return." The cross-shaped ash signifies Jesus' sacrifice for our sins. When you receive the ashes, you are proclaiming to the world, a truth that is often shunned: our inherent sinfulness and mortality. These are difficult truths, yet we courageously confront them with the knowledge that it is Christ, not sin and death, that have the final word.

Lent begins the journey toward Jesus' death. It invites us to contemplate our own life journeys, which was recently discussed among your newly elected church leaders, is far from a straight line. Sometimes we move forward. Other times backwards. Sometimes it feels like we move in circles or are wandering around aimlessly.

This is the inspiration for our Lenten Series, "Wandering Heart." We will follow the story of Peter, one of Jesus' disciples. We see how his faith ebbs and flows as he searches and yearns for Christ. At times he shows his excitement and commitment. Other times we see his missteps and mistakes. His journey is not perfect, and neither is ours. Like Peter, through it all, we are tethered to the love of God. As we wander with Peter, we will wonder on the good news of God's love, and hopefully learn some things about ourselves along the way.

"Wandering Heart" is a worship series developed by "A Sanctified Art." This group has developed the resources that will provide a foundation for our own study. One of the things they offer to us is the theme song, "Come Thou Fount." It's a song that was written in the mid-18th century but has stood the test of time and continues to be sung not just in traditional settings but has also in modern ones. Indeed, among others, it's been sung by the likes of Chris Tomlin and David Crowder (we've sung both these versions at Lake Shore Church).

As we delve into Lent, I will align my sermons with the hymn's lyrics, (printed on the next page) exploring the parallels in our spiritual journey. I hope you will allow the Lake Shore Church to be your companion this Lent, as we journey together toward deeper understanding and connection.

In Christ,



Pastor Adam

Church Contact Information -

Address -

27801 Jefferson
St. Clair Shores, MI 48081

Phone - 586-777-8533

Fax - 586-777-7197

Web -

www.lakeshorechurch.com

Facebook -

Lake Shore Presbyterian
Church

Staff -

Senior Pastor

Adam Grosch

Associate Pastor

Brendan Ashley

Office Manager

Stacey King

Bookkeeper/Comm. Coord.

Jeanette Mazmanian

Modern

Jenna Dell

Organist

Michael Brooks

Choir Director

Peggy Braden

Custodian

Beverly Wainio

IT

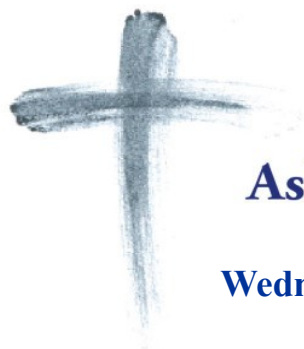
Kevin Saunders

All on-line content is now available through the church website & the app!

**Go to - www.lakeshorechurch.com
click on the "online services" tab
or**

Download the app (questions? Ask the office.)

The 10:45am Worship is also Live-Streamed on YouTube & FB



Ash Wednesday
— Lent Begins

Wednesday, February 14th

Drive Thru Ashes ~ 11-1pm
In the circle drive at the Welcome Center

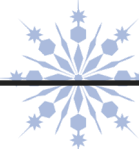
**Worship Service with
Imposition of Ashes ~ 7pm**
In the Sanctuary

Everyone is welcome at either/both events -
spread the word!



When the Lake Shore, Lakeview or South Lake School Districts are closed due to inclement weather, the church will be closed also.

Please remember to check your local radio or TV school closings, as we would not want you to go out in bad weather only to find the church building closed.



"Come Thou Fount"

Glory to God: the Presbyterian Hymnal (2003)

1 Come, thou Fount of every blessing;
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of God's unchanging love!

2 Here I raise my Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

3 O to grace how great a debt-
or daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.

Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.



SAVE the DATE

February 9th - 6pm

**Soup Cook-Off
& Karaoke**



Sign up & details
in the Atrium

CELEBRATING WHAT GOD IS DOING AT LAKE SHORE CHURCH

I spoke to almost a dozen new members and frequent visitors this month to hear what brought them to Lake Shore Church (LSC), what they have experienced thus far, and how God is using our church and its people to make an impact in their lives. Through these conversations I learned what people are looking for in a new church, and the value of connecting with others. I want to share some of the wonderful stories I heard with you.



Nancy grew up in LSC. Her parents and their parents were members here. As a young child, she remembers going to the church nurse class in the upstairs room of the house across the street. That house is no longer on Jefferson, but her memories of that time in her life remain. In the '60's she was on the LSC girls' softball team and spoke fondly of the fun she had. She married and left the area, and then years later moved back to St. Clair Shores. About two years ago, she felt a strong need to be back in church, and on one Sunday, she found herself in the last pew listening to Pastor Adam preach. She noticed two women in front of her searching through their purses for something and heard one of them mention hand sanitizer. She offered them hers to use. They were so appreciative that the following week one of them gave Nancy a bag of candy to say thank you and invited her to join their small group. Nancy was hesitant to go, having never being involved in one before, but decided she would do it. She found the ladies in the group to be warm and kind and she kept going back. Now she wouldn't think of missing their time together of fellowship and learning about Jesus. Nancy rediscovered the church from her youth and made new friends in the process.

Jackie drove by LSC often when traveling around town, and she began noticing how many events we held outside. People looked like they were having fun and she was impressed by how we welcomed the community to these events. One day she decided to check us out on a Sunday morning. She found a welcoming pastor and congregation within the walls. She enjoys the social aspects of belonging to our church community as much as she enjoys the worship service. This was a little over a year ago, and now she happily calls Lake Shore Church her church home.

Emily enrolled her two young children in the VBS program last summer for the first time. They live down the street from the church and saw the program advertised. Both kids loved the experience! You could say that the VBS program brought the entire family of four to church as they started attending shortly after that in the Fall. The children look forward to Sunday School every week, and she has become involved in the MOPS small group. For Emily, connecting with other young moms on those Sunday evenings has been priceless.

Andrea, a woman in her 30's, was looking for a Bible-based church to attend, and when she saw the beautiful stained-glass depiction of Jesus from the street one day, she was both captivated and interested to see what our church might be like. From the moment she walked in the Welcome Center with her son she felt warm hospitality and God's presence. She said every message she hears on Sunday connects with her heart and mind. She now sees LSC as a safe space for her to continue to grow her relationship with Jesus Christ. It's a place where her relationship with him is watered, nurtured, and continues to bloom.

Meghan is in her 20's. She and her husband were in the process of looking for a church that they liked and felt comfortable in when they started coming to LSC. She told me that people here are kindhearted and friendly and that the Sunday morning messages speak to them in some way each week. They are looking forward to the upcoming Membership Matters class taking place on March 8th. She and her husband are seeking ways to become involved at LSC together as a couple. They currently attend the 9am Traditional Worship service as her husband has a fondness for the organ.

Bill, a retired engineer, said becoming involved in the Anchor Group small group was the catalyst for him becoming a member at LSC. The ability to share his thoughts and grow spiritually in a no-judgement zone was refreshing and liberating. He said, "There is no doubt that there was a piece of me that was missing that Lake Shore Church is helping me to rebuild....I deeply appreciate what the church has done for me by helping me build my faith in Jesus as our only path to salvation."

Con't. on next page

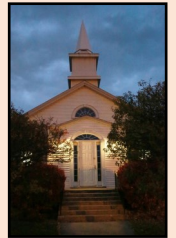
Con't. - CELEBRATING WHAT GOD IS DOING AT LAKE SHORE CHURCH

Erin, another young mother, said our church feels like family to her and that she, "Cannot say enough good things about LSC. The experience has been amazing!" One of the highlights for her family was participating in VBS this summer. She said her youngest son, age 4, is still singing the songs he learned that week in August. Both of her boys go to Sunday School, and she participates in MOPS too.

Alexis told me that after having her son in May of 2021, and experiencing some scary moments where his health was in jeopardy, it caused her to pause and realize she was missing something in her life. She grew up in a church as a child and went to Lutheran school and even went on to earn a minor in Religion at Duke University, but at that moment in her life she did not have a church to call home. Our Fall Pumpkin Patch brought her to LSC as a convenient way to pick out pumpkins since she lived across the street from the church. After meeting members and Pastor Adam on the lawn, she was interested to learn more about LSC. She started attending service, and just weeks later her mother-in-law passed away suddenly. This new church and its congregation reached out to her in her family's time of sorrow, and it moved her. She went on to join the MOPS small group, and get quite involved in various church activities including Sunday School and VBS. She told me that, "God put me in a place I needed to be, and that place is Lake Shore Church."

Renata is originally from Brazil. She and her husband were looking for a church home that was welcoming and had good children and youth programs. It's especially important to them that they lay the best Christian foundation for their children and continue what their own parents did for them as youngsters. They want their children to have a relationship with God and be part of a community. They found that here at LSC. Their son enjoys participating in the Sunday night youth program. They loved Lake Shore Church so much, that they invited her sister Andrea and her family to join them at church. Both families sit side by side every Sunday at the 10:45am Modern Worship service.

Pam, who is retired, came across our Facebook page while looking for a local church to attend. She started watching our live-streamed service on Sundays and thought immediately that, "Something about this church just feels right". When she was invited to help sell pumpkins by the host in the online chat, she felt compelled to say yes. Later, she attended in person, was baptized, and became a member. She quickly started participating in many activities such as Sunday School, Clothes Closet, and the dances. She also trained to become a CLM and is now a Deacon. She knew that she had a bigger purpose in this phase of her life, and LSC helped her see that it is serving others. Pam told me this church is, "Home for my soul."



Written & submitted by Michele Maksout.

2024 Flower Calendar

You can find the Flower Calendar on the bulletin board across from the office.

These bouquets grace the Sanctuary each week and are a wonderful way to honor or remember your loved ones.

The information for you to sign up and purchase these flowers is on the bulletin board along with the chart.

Questions? Call Stacey in the office.

Thank you for your participation!

Without YOU we wouldn't be able to have these beautiful bouquets each week!

Walking the Mourner's Path™

A Christ Centered Grief Ministry

Are you grieving?

Maybe this workshop is for you!

"Transforming grief into joyful living"

This class will be an eight (8) week workshop, that we ask for your full commitment to, and led by Gayle Spiewak and Ginny Stieler.

Right now we are gauging interest in the class.

On the atrium shelf you will find pamphlets with class details and the three (3) day and time options for attending the workshop. One option will be chosen based on majority preference.

Questions? Call Gayle or Ginny

February Birthdays

2/1 Lee Esterling
2/2 Karen Battjes
Judie Steele
2/4 Susan Huhn
2/7 Tara Aldea, Cheryl Smark
Anna Thomas
2/8 Stephen Hooper
Rick Skerkowski
2/10 Beverley Wall
2/11 Abby Morawa
Carl Rohde, Jr.
2/12 Seth Schloss
2/13 Leigh Hovis
2/14 Stephany Hepner

2/15 Bennett Hunter
Vivian Parker
2/16 Joshua Daniels
2/17 Jeff Flanigan
2/18 Norah () Freeman
2/19 Jacob Opperman
Lew Ruddock
2/20 Steve Smark
2/21 Kathleen Maude
2/22 Carolyn Hammons
Edith Johnson
2/25 Laura Backer
2/27 Margaret Fantucci
Crystal Jenken
2/28 Sue Goeddeke
Makenna Michels



February Anniversaries

2/7 Frank & Sara Welch
2/26 Mike & Cheryl Zito
2/28 Ken & Anna Be



"To sing is to pray twice" as the saying goes. We invite you to sing with the Chancel Choir part or full time. Rehearsals are Thursdays at 7p.m., September through mid-June. We sing at the 9 a.m. Traditional Service & the occasional 10:30 a.m. Unity Service. Join us for Easter or Christmas especially! You may contact Peggy Braden, Director, at 989-324-7574 or at peggyb@lakeshorechurch.com.



MISSION NEWS

Thank you!

On Sunday, January 14th, our MOPS moms made 300 sandwiches for the MCWARM program at St. Margaret Church. The volunteers at MCWARM were so grateful for the donation. Thank you to our MOPS moms for their help in feeding the unsheltered.

The MCWARM program at St Margaret is open on Monday, Wednesday, & Friday, November 1st until April 1st. Everyone who comes is given breakfast, a hot lunch, and a brown bag dinner to go. They are given the opportunity to take a shower and given a clean set of clothes. They are seeing 80-100 unsheltered guests each day they are open. Our prayers go out to the guests and also these wonderful volunteers at St Margaret.

Blessing Bags

We have a new supply of blessing bags available for you to distribute to the unsheltered individuals you may come across. They are available in the table in the Atrium. Please feel free to add any additional items you might think would be helpful.

Our Sunday School kids made child blessing bags on Sunday, January 28. The bags contain socks, hats, snacks, hair-brush, and toothbrush. The bags will be donated to MCREST for the children coming into the program. Thank you to our kind boys and girls in Sunday School for wanting to help other kids in a time of great distress.

MCREST is helping unsheltered families and individuals by providing housing, meals, and resources to live independently. Women and children are housed at a renovated apartment building in Mt Clemens. Men are sheltered at churches across Macomb County.

Mitten Tree

Thank you for all of your donations of hats, gloves, & socks on the mitten tree. These items are going to be included in the child blessing bags.



Thank you for always supporting Mission.
Cheryl Smark

Thank You

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR CHURCH

Membership Matters

March 6th, 6:30-8pm

**Sign up in the
Welcome Center**

**No commitments, come see
what we're all about!**

*Happy
Valentine's
Day!*

9am Traditional
10am Middle & Hi
School Sunday School
10:45am Modern
10:45am Sunday
School - PreK-5th grade
6pm Youth Groups

FEBRUARY 2024



* = a Small Group

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>7:30pm Band Practice</p> <p>1:30pm Ukuleles 7pm Men's AA</p> <p>6pm Bells 7pm Choir 7:30pm AA & AI Anon</p> <p>Office Closed</p> <p>7:30pm NA</p>						
<p>1</p> <p>9:30am GFC*</p> <p>1:30pm Pinochle</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Youth leave for SpringHill</p>	<p>3</p>				
<p>4 Communion</p> <p>→ Youth return from SpringHill</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9:30am GFC*</p> <p>1:30pm Pinochle</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6pm Soup Cook-Off & Karaoke</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10am Breakfast Bunch*</p> <p>8am-Noon Leadership Training</p>
<p>11</p> <p>6pm MOPS</p>	<p>12</p> <p>1pm Food Pantry</p> <p>7pm Joint Meeting of the Boards</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Ash Wednesday</p> <p>11-1 Drive thru Ashes</p> <p>7pm Ash Service</p> <p>2:30pm Bayview Bunch</p> <p>Valentine's Day ♥</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:30am GFC*</p> <p>1pm Liturgy Team</p> <p>1:30pm Pinochle</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Office Closed</p> <p>In honor of President's Day</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>5pm Food Pantry</p> <p>6:45pm Personnel</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:30am GFC*</p> <p>1:30pm Pinochle</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10am Breakfast Bunch*</p>
<p>25</p> <p>Ordination and Installation (Both Services)</p> <p>6pm MOPS</p>	<p>26</p> <p>1pm Food Pantry</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>2:30pm Bayview Bunch</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:30am GFC*</p> <p>1:30pm Pinochle</p>	<p> March, In like a lion?</p>	

March 1st - Friday - 5:30pm Board Game & Craft Night

Join us for family game night, wear pajamas, make crafts, and appreciate the artists in our church!

A sign-up sheet with ALL the details will be in the Atrium.

Snacks and beverages will be provided.

Open to the community so bring a friend, bring a neighbor - this is a perfect opportunity to share your church!



Easter Dates to know...



February 14 - Ash Wednesday
Drive-Thru Ashes 11-1pm
Worship Service 7pm

March 24 - Palm Sunday
9 & 10:45am Services
Sunday School @ 10:45am

March 31 - Easter Sunday
9 & 10:45am Services
Sunday School @ 10:45am