

# Soundings

Dec. 2019 - 3458

Lake Shore  
CHURCH

Dear Friends:

And now begins a new season in the life of the church, the season of Advent. It is a season of waiting. We wait in line at crowded stores and in parking lots for spots to open up. We wait for the decorations to go up, the lights to go on, the Christmas music to play, the cookies to be baked, and the family to come to town. But underneath it all, we are also waiting for something of eternal importance: the coming of Jesus Christ.

And because we wait for Jesus, there are some things that just can't wait. Things like our worship, praise, and repentance. Things like forgiveness and reconciliation. Things like hope, love and joy. Our world can't wait for peace, we can't wait for justice, and we can't wait to address the existential crises that are looming.

Too often the urgent things crowd out the most important things. Not only at Christmas, but throughout the year as well. We go through life hustling from here to there thinking that we just have to get through the current moment in our lives and then things will slow down and get better. We tell ourselves that we will soon get to those important things. We say: "One day I will get back to church. One day I will reconcile with my family. One day I will quit smoking. One day I will get my financial life in order. One day I will start exercising. One day I will change careers. One day I will spend more time with my family. One day I will focus in on my relationship with God." How long have you been waiting for that day? Might it be time to act?

As we contemplate these questions, advent gives way to the arrival of the Christ child. Thank God, God doesn't wait for us. God doesn't wait for us to put our lives together; he doesn't wait for us to get it right; he doesn't wait for us to move into his desired future. Out of the blue, God arrives whether we are ready for him or not.

What things in your life can't wait? Shouldn't wait? This advent as we read the scripture texts of the season, I will invite us to consider what things in our lives can't wait. Our advent preaching series this year is titled, "It Can't Wait." As we wait for Jesus' arrival, there is much work and preparation to do. There are things that can't wait.

I can't wait to worship with you this Christmas.

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](http://www.lakeshorechurch.com)

### Staff -

#### Pastor

Adam Grosch

#### Office Manager

Stacey King

#### Director of Music: Traditional

Ginny Stieler

#### Director of Music: Modern

Kevin Saunders

#### Bookkeeper/Comm. Coord.

Jeanette Mazmanian

#### Evening Custodian

Mo King

#### Tech/IT

Kevin Saunders

## Dates to Remember

### December

- 1st Communion, No Youth
- 2nd 7pm Candlelight Communion Service
- 14th 2pm Choir Concert/Pageant
- 22nd Gift Sunday, Christmas Joy Offering
- 24th Christmas Eve - Office Closed  
4pm Family Service and 10:30pm Candlelight Service
- 25th Christmas Day - Office Closed
- 31st Office Closed



### January

- 1st Office Closed
- 2nd Last day for 2019 donations
- 5th Communion
- 20th Office Closed MLK
- 26th Congregational Meeting - 10am Unity Service

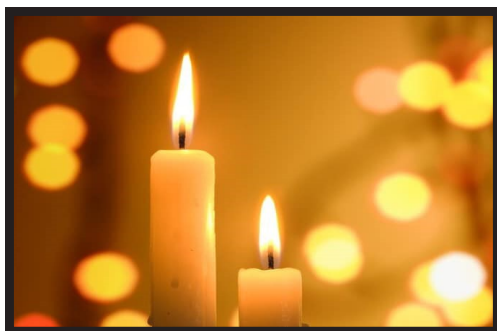


## *Candlelight Communion Service*

**12/2/19 @ 7pm**

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend this beautiful evening!

Guest speaker is Ruth Azar



## Lake Shore Church's Annual Gift Tree for the Needy

The Gift Tree will be up and ready to release its envelopes to anyone willing to help on December 1st.

The gifts / food must be returned to church on or before, Gift Sunday, December 22nd, as they will be delivered to the families that afternoon.

Questions?  
Please contact Cheryl Smark.



**SPECIAL OFFERINGS**  
**CHRISTMAS JOY**

**December 22nd, Please give to this if you are able - 50% of your gifts make it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges, equipping communities of color, and the other 50% assists current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial needs. God is with us –Matthew 1:23 The Perfect Gift "If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot"**

# Christmas Eve Services - December 24



**4pm Family Service**  
*nursery care available*



**10:30pm Candlelight Service**

Join us for either (or both) of these beautiful Christmas Eve services. This year, the offering at both services will be donated to The Second Mile Center - an after school program, a part of our own Presbytery, located in Detroit. We support this program annually and really want to do all that we can. Thank you for being an integral part of that support .

## Selfies with Santa



**Saturday, December 7th**  
**9:30am - 11:30am**

**Free & Open to the Community**

**Bring your camera and click away!**  
**Cookies and crafts**

**A canned good, donated for our**  
**Food Pantry, is appreciated**

**Please share with all your friends**

## Lake Shore Church's Annual *Choir Concert* / **Children's Pageant**

**Saturday, December 14th at 2pm**

This is a wonderful way to spend a Saturday afternoon, listening to our own choir, bells and the special music prepared for this event. The Children's Pageant is a joyous part of the afternoon and always worth the price of admission! (which, of course, is free!)

A cookie and punch reception  
immediately following!



All are Welcome - Join us!



## SUNDAY SCHOOL

2019-2020 4year olds thru 5 grade

All children ages 4 to 5th grade are invited to join us for all the fun. We head downstairs to our Sunday School rooms right after the Children's Moment during the 11:15am service. We are planning all kinds of exciting things and we hope you'll be part of the fun.

In December, of course, we will be learning all about the birth of Jesus.

Everyone is invited - bring a friend too!!

Don't forget, the Christmas Pageant is part of the Choir concert again this year—December 14th—Saturday—at 2pm.

More details to come.

## Youth Groups - December 2019

12/1 NO YOUTH GROUPS

12/8 Regular Youth Groups

12/14 -15 Christmas Caroling and  
overnighter at church

12/15 NO YOUTH GROUPS

12/22 NO YOUTH GROUPS

12/29 NO YOUTH GROUPS

Keep an eye out for more details, emails, etc. for special events.

Ignite - 3rd—5th Grade

Fusion - 6th—8th Grade

Velocity - 9th—12th Grade

Everyone is always welcome—come, bring a friend!

If you have any questions or concerns, or want more details, contact Sheryl or Brian Mieczkowski at 586-549-3755.



MOPS & MOMSnext

**Lake Shore MOPS & MOMSnext -  
for all moms w/ children ages 0-18!!**

We meet the 2nd and 4th Sundays of  
the month from 6-8pm.

Childcare is provided - 0-5 years old. December's date is only the 8th. The 22nd is cancelled.

Meetings, mom's nights out, service projects, connect with other moms ...

Fear less - Have more fun - Find your people

Jr. Hi & High School Sunday School is held  
each Sunday at 10:25am - Join us!

## The end of 2019 is sneaking up on us . . .

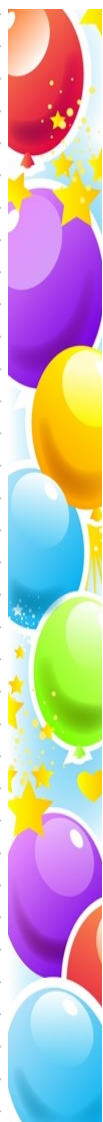
and the bookkeeper wants to let you know that, this year, your 2019 gifts must be into the office or postmarked, no later than January 2, 2020 to be included on your 2019 giving statement. Of course, any PayPal or FaithStreet gifts must also be dated no later than 1/2/20. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact the bookkeeper - Jeanette Mazmanian - Monday through Thursday, 8am-6pm at the church - 586-777-8533 or via [jeanette@lakeshorechurch.com](mailto:jeanette@lakeshorechurch.com).

As always, thank you for your support  
of Lake Shore Church.





## December Birthdays



1st	Rusty Appel, Ken Bolt Mary Chase, Dan Spear
3rd	Linda Young
4th	Linda DeMers
5th	Jill Galindo-Mier
6th	Sandy Appel
7th	Brendan Decker
8th	Chelsea Thompson
10th	Michele Schick
11th	Bob Starnes, Myron Ranney
14th	Nick Hunter
15th	Max Morawa
16th	Troy Mazmanian
19th	Lisa Fischer, Jean Rohde
20th	Al Dickinson, Holly Wernet
21st	Bea Ullrich
22nd	Barb Montgomery
24th	Carole Rowe
25th	David Gallan
26th	De Anna Hohn
27th	Bella Beattie
28th	Gail Hall
29th	Kennedy Corbett

## December

### Anniversaries



*2nd Bruce & Sandy Appel*  
*8th Mike & Chrissie Harris*  
*10th Jim & Linda Whitman*  
*27th Patrick & Carol King*

### Ukulele Jam

Every Wednesday at 1pm, come join us in the Welcome Center!!

Newbie or old pro—doesn't matter!!

It's so much fun!! No need to sign up or register—just show up with your ukulele!



31st Lillian Claycomb,  
Megan Crussen,  
Jody Krysinski,  
Ben Vachon



## FYI - TAX \$AVING TIP

Based on IRS rules for retirement accounts, folks over 70.5 are required to take an annual minimum distribution (RMD) from their tax deferred savings accounts by December 31 each year. Did you know you can transfer that RMD to qualified charities, for example Lake Shore Church, without it being deemed taxable income to you? Up to \$100,000 annually can be transferred directly from your IRA to a qualified charity as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). It has to be a direct transfer to qualify as tax free. The tax free transfer does not qualify you to take a charitable contribution donation also, but in many cases it is a better tax benefit, and it is definitely a benefit to the receiving charity. Consult your tax or financial adviser for further information.

\*Nothing in this statement is intended to constitute legal or *tax* advice. Please consult your tax adviser to determine the best option for your particular situation.

## Mission News ~

On Sunday, November 24 our youth groups helped our friends at Westminster Church by packing bags of cookies and candy for their Thanksgiving dinners. Westminster Church prepares dinner for hundreds and hundreds of persons. They serve hundreds at the church. And they use volunteers to deliver hundreds of dinners to shelters, group homes and senior high rises. We supplied about 300 bags for them.

Lake Shore Church also donated hundreds of dinner rolls and a monetary donation. What a tremendous job they do at Westminster to bring a delicious dinner and Thanksgiving joy to so many who would not have a dinner without them. On Sunday, November 24, the youth also packed Thanksgiving dinner bags for families selected by Good Shepherd Coalition.

### Sunday December 1 the Gift Tree will be up.

On the tree are cards for you to choose a child for gifts. Each child through age 12 receives a shirt, pants, and toy or game. Each child 13-18 receives a shirt. Each family receives a Christmas dinner basket and a gift certificate for their main dish. All of the children attend school in St Clair Shores. The families are referred to us by the counselors/social workers at the schools. We are also adopting 15 children from Second Mile Center for Christmas. Each of the children will be receiving a shirt, pants, socks, and a toy or game. Gift Tree Sunday is Sunday, December 22. All gifts are delivered on that day. Please bring everything to church that day during service. If you are not going to be around that day, please deliver to church before the 22nd! We will be looking for volunteers to deliver to our families on the 22nd. Thanking you in advance for your generosity, caring, and support of this outreach!!

### Food Pantry/Clothes Closet

During this season there are so many for whom it is not a time of joy and happiness. Families and individuals are struggling. Please remember our food pantry/clothes closet during this time. We can always use donations of canned goods, shampoo, dish soap, toothpaste, bar soap. Also, as you put new clothes from Christmas away in your closet and drawers, please donate your clean, gently used, current season clothing to our clothes closet. We have been seeing more families at pantry. We had 47 families Wednesday night! For Thanksgiving we are giving each family a food gift certificate to help them.

Thank you for always supporting Mission - Respectfully submitted, Cheryl Smark

## Consecration Sunday 2019

We had a great crowd and excellent response during our Consecration Sunday Service and Brunch. A huge thank you to our guest speaker, Eric Lange. And thanks to your generosity, for 2020, we are looking at a 10% increase in giving over 2019!! We ARE a caring, growing, serving church!



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

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

Thank You.



9:15 & 11:15 am  
Services of Worship  
10:25 am Wired Word  
10:25am 6th-12th grade  
Sunday School  
11:15am pre-k-5th gr.  
Sunday School  
6pm Youth Groups

# DECEMBER 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9:30am Cortright Grp. 12pm YMMS	9:30am Cortright Grp. 12pm YMMS		1 pm Ukulele Group 6pm Homestyle Dev. 6pm Bells 7 pm Men's Aa 7:30pm Choir	10:15 am GFC Small Grp 1 pm Pinochle 7pm Band 7:30pm AA, Al Anon	Office Closed	7:30 pm NA
1 Communion 6pm SNS NO YouthGroups	2 7pm Candlelight Communion Service 7pm Personnel	3 10am Staff 6:30pm Bible 101	4 3pm Finance	5 10:30am Gentle Yoga	6	7 9:30am Selfies with Santa
8 12:30pm Trustees 6pm MOPS	9 1pm Food Pantry 7pm Bible Bus	10 6:30pm Bible 101 6:30pm Community Ambassadors	11 1pm CRP	12 10:30am Gentle Yoga 10:30am Galindo Grp. 7pm Stieler Team	13	14 8am Cops for Kids 10am Breakfast Bunch 2pm Christmas Concert/Pageant 6pm Youth Caroling & Overnighter
15 6pm SNS NO YouthGroups	16 11am CLM 7pm Session/ Deacons/Trustees	17 10am Trad. Mtg.	18 5pm Food Pantry	19 6pm Mod. Mtg.	20	21
22 Gift Sunday Christmas Joy Offering NO YouthGroups	23 1pm Food Pantry 7pm Bible Bus	24 Christmas Eve 4pm Family Worship 10:30pm Candlelight Worship Office Closed	25 Merry Christmas  Office Closed	26 8am-6pm Office Open	27	28 10am Breakfast Bunch
29 10am Unity Service NO YouthGroups	30	31 New Year's Eve  Office Closed				



Thursdays, from 10:30-11:30am, there is a Gentle Yoga Class here at the church. This class is designed for those who have trouble getting up and down off the floor. The fee for this class is \$12 for a drop in or \$10 per class if you prepay for the five week session, due at first session. The current session ends 12/12 ~ stop in and check it out!

## The Lake Shore Church Community Ambassadors

Are once again accepting your donations of Blankets, hat, gloves, (all new or gently used), & new socks. There is a collection box in the coat room.

Thank you





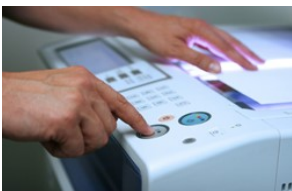
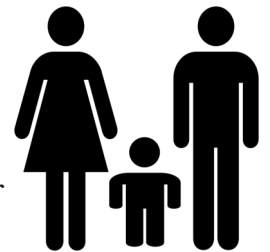
## Interested in traveling to the Holy Land? Do you want to walk where Jesus walked?



You are invited on a trip of a lifetime with your Lake Shore Church family! Pastor Adam and Pastor Julie Delezenne of First Presbyterian Church of Warren will be leading a trip to the Holy Land, **February 5-15, 2021**. We will be traveling with Good Shepherd Travel, who Pastor Julie traveled with this past January. Travel (air and ground), lodging, all meals, and tour are included in the cost (\$3,490). A generous donor has offered significant scholarship funds to those who are interested, but who need help financially. For all those wishing to learn more, there will be an **informational meeting on Tuesday, January 7, at 7:30pm**. We hope to meet throughout 2020 with those going on the trip to get to know one another and to study the places where we will be traveling.

## A Poverty Simulation

On October 24th, April Shields and Ginny Stieler attended a Poverty Simulation at the Vintage House. It was set up to demonstrate what the poor and underprivileged experience when attempting to apply for benefits, get a job, or any number of things that involve the “system”. April portrayed Heidi, a 19 year old single mother of a three year old and Ginny was her 22 year old live-in boyfriend, Ted. Heidi didn’t work and Ted had a job in a cafeteria. Their biggest problem was transportation. Tickets had to be purchased and used every time you went anywhere: shopping, the bank, job-hunting, etc. Ted had a car, Heidi didn’t. The person selling the tickets was less than honest and cheated the couple by overcharging. At the end of the simulation, Heidi and Ted were doing fairly well because Heidi had found a job. Others in the simulation didn’t fare as well. Some even ended up homeless, in jail or with no money at the end of the “week”. It was fun (for April and Ginny), as well as an eye opening experience.



This could be you!! The office is asking for your help-just a little help ...

If you need copies - for any church related activity - the office is requesting that you place your original and the form in the newly appointed “Copy Bin”. The staff will fulfill your request as soon as possible. If this is a copy you need immediately, the office staff will be happy to show you how to use the copier.

Thank you so much for your cooperation in this matter.

## Homestyle Devotions

If you’re looking for a mid-week dose of devotions, why don’t you join us for our Homestyle Devotions? It’s our Wednesday evening, potluck style dinner at 6 p.m., followed by Devotions at 7pm. All are welcome, we just ask that you sign up on the form in the Atrium. There is more information available near that sign up sheet or you can check with Lynne Henry for details.

**POTLUCK**  
A LITTLE BIT OF EVERYTHING

