

# Soundings

February 2025 - 3509

Dear Friends,

Our building is a hidden resource! I say "hidden," not because we are unaware of the blessing our sacred space is, but because of the opportunities that arise when we remain open to new and creative ways of sharing it. For years, we have welcomed community groups, nonprofits, members, and even businesses to use our building. Currently, four support groups meet here weekly, alongside the Lakeshore Ukulele Strummers and a local neighborhood association. We host overnight mission teams that come in from out of state. And both church members and the wider community can rent our building for special events. Sometimes we even provide it for free, like for Cops for Kids!

The newest group using our space is called "Strictly God's Business Ministries." They are a church that was searching for a new worship space when they began cold-calling churches in Saint Clair Shores. I don't know how many churches they contacted, but I do know we were the only ones to respond. From that initial connection, a kingdom-minded partnership was born.

This partnership works well for us because they meet on Sunday afternoons at 1pm, a time when our building isn't in use. It's funny—when I think of Sundays, I think it's prime time for church activities. Yet, hidden in plain sight, was the reality that every Sunday afternoon, between worship and youth group, our building went quiet. Not anymore! Now, praises to God fill our building for the entire Sabbath.

This partnership has been a blessing. Not only does it provide an additional revenue stream, but it's also fostering new relationships. One of their leaders, Ozie, heard about our Food Pantry and offered to help. She now volunteers with our Clothes Closet. Their pastor, Rev. Kirby, is a wonderful leader, and if you linger after worship on Sundays, you might run into him or other members of their church. If you do, please say hi!

As we've embraced this partnership, I can't help but wonder about other opportunities God might lead us into—both with this church and through our building. While our building is used at least six days a week, there is still capacity for more. What else might God have in store for us? May God lead and guide us as we continue to steward all the gifts God has provided.

Yours in Christ,



Pastor Adam

Lake Shore  
C H U R C H



## Church Contact Information

### Address

27801 Jefferson Ave  
St. Clair Shores  
MI, 48081

### Phone

586-777-8533

### Socials

Website: lakeshorechurch.com

Facebook: "Lake Shore Presbyterian Church"

Instagram: "lakeshore\_church\_"

### Staff

Senior Pastor	Adam Grosch
Associate Pastor	Brendan Ashley
Office Manager	Stacey King
Bookkeeper	Michelle Decker
Communications Coordinator & Worship Leader	Jenna Dell
Organist	Michael Brooks
Choir Director	Ginny Stieler
Custodian	Beverly Wainio
IT	Kevin Saunders

# Worship Schedule

Traditional at 9am  
Modern at 10:45am

## BLUE BOX FOR FEEDBACK

If you have any compliments or concerns about the church, we invite you to share them by dropping a note in the blue box on the atrium shelf. Your feedback is valuable to us, and Session ensures that all notes are reviewed at their meetings. Please remember to sign your note so that Session can respond to you directly. Thank you for helping us improve at Lake Shore Church!

## 2025 Flower Signup Sheet

There are still plenty of open slots to purchase flowers for our sanctuary on Sunday mornings!

It's a wonderful way to surprise a loved one for a birthday, anniversary, or special celebration. To sign up, simply visit the flower signup on the bulletin board in front of the office, choose your preferred slot, and fill out a flower order form. Then, return the form to Stacey in the office.

### FRESH FEEDBACK

We value your feedback and want to hear both your positive experiences and concerns about our church staff. To give your feedback, join the Personnel Team 15 minutes before each meeting and help us grow together!

Next Meeting:  
February 5th @7pm

## February sermon series

### Heart Check:

### What's Really Driving You?

What's driving your life? Anger, pride, greed, envy - these are powerful forces that can steer us off course and disrupt our relationship with God and others. In this four-week series, we'll take a closer look at these hidden motivations, asking tough questions and seeking God's guidance to realign our hearts. We'll discover together how to let God take the wheel, so that you can navigate life with grace, humility, trust, and freedom.

Thanks to your generous contributions, we were able to install these beautiful shutters in our sanctuary. A special thank you to our trustees for all their hard work in making this installation possible.



## CELEBRATING WHAT GOD IS DOING AT LAKE SHORE CHURCH: A Celebration of God's Work

On December 19th, our entire basement was transformed for Dinner with Santa, an event filled with joy, generosity, and the true meaning of Christmas. The highlight of the evening was when Pastor Adam shared the Christmas story with children who might otherwise never have had the chance to hear it. Yet, this was just one part of a much larger story.

In total, 96 people attended, representing 18 family units. Additionally, nearly three dozen volunteers joined together to make the night possible. Families were invited because of their financial need, with many experiencing housing insecurity. One family was living in a shelter, and others were staying in motels. While homelessness is often associated with individuals on the side of the road, this event highlighted the hidden reality of families impacted by housing instability. Nationwide, homelessness has increased by 18% due to rising costs of living and housing. Locally, the Motor City Mitten Mission has observed a rise in families living in cars, storage units, and abandoned buildings. Faced with this reality, we remember how Jesus commanded us to care for "the least of these" (Matthew 25: 31-46). This is why, when the Motor City Mitten Mission approached us to partner for what became Dinner with Santa, we eagerly agreed.



Planning began in earnest two months prior. The event was an expansion of our 2023 partnership with the Shorewood Kiwanis, where we hosted a Family Christmas Dinner event at Leo's Coney Island. Our purpose for being there was to reach kids and families who may otherwise not hear the story of Christmas. That year, Pastor Adam was struck by one boy in particular who was unaware of the connection between Christmas and Jesus. All the kids had heard of Jesus, and they knew plenty about Santa and presents, but seeing the surprise in a child when they first learned the connection was both a shock and a blessing.

This year, with the involvement of Gail Marrow and the Motor City Mitten Mission, we knew the event was going to be bigger and better. And so we moved it to Lake Shore Church. When families registered, they submitted gift requests, and with the help of the St. Clair Shores Cops for Kids program, we wrapped one toy for each child. We also gathered additional toys to create a "Santa Shop" where kids could choose a couple of smaller toys based on their preferences. In addition, we gave away winter coats, gloves, hats, food boxes, home essentials, and opened our Clothes Closet.

One of Lake Shore Church's key contributions was once again sharing the Christmas story. Pastor Adam read from *The Characters of Christmas*, but he didn't do it alone. Several parents from the church volunteered to help, and their children reprised their roles from the Christmas Pageant to act out the story. With just one quick rehearsal, the children brought the story to life as "*The Characters of Christmas*"—a heartwarming opening act for the evening.

Dinner was provided by partners including Encore Catering, Chicken Shack, Food Not Waste, and Vets Returning Home. Families arrived tentatively, unsure of what to expect, but by the time dinner was over and Santa made his entrance, the evening's surprises were just beginning. The overwhelming generosity and joy of the event blessed not only the recipients but also everyone who helped make it possible.

# LEGACY

*Circle*

## TESTIMONIES

### BOB STARNES

We give thanks for the life of Bob Starnes, who joyfully entered the church triumphant at the end of last year. Bob, a devoted widower, joined the Lake Shore Church with his wife Mary Jane, back in 1960. Together, they shared a deep love for this church community, faithfully serving and building friendships that enriched their lives and the lives of others. To honor their legacy, the church was blessed to receive a generous end-of-life donation from their estate. In recognition of this remarkable act of faith and generosity, Bob and Mary Jane's names have been added to our Legacy Circle, a testament to their enduring impact on Lake Shore Church's mission and ministry.

Have you considered creating your own lasting legacy? The Legacy Circle is a special society for those who have included Lake Shore Church in their end-of-life plans. Becoming a member is a meaningful way to express gratitude for the blessings you've received and ensure that Lake Shore Church continues to thrive for generations to come.

The amount of your gift is entirely up to you. Legacy gifts are invested in Lake Shore Church's Growing Tomorrow Permanent Endowment, creating a foundation for ministry that will bless future generations.

To learn more about joining the Legacy Circle and leaving your own mark on the future of Lake Shore Church, please contact Pastor Adam or the church office.

# MISSION

# NEWS

### **Christmas Gift Tree**

Thank you again to my church family for your generosity and kindness in supporting the Christmas Gift Tree. We received a big thank you note signed by all the Second Mile kids who were on our tree. It is hanging on the bulletin board. Go check it out!

### **Food Pantry/ clothes closet**

During the month of December we gave free food and clothing to 220 families, 775 persons. Included was a \$20.00 food gift card for Christmas. Thank for your continuing support of this mission outreach.

We are always in need of canned pasta, chicken soup, tomato soup, tuna, peanut butter jelly, canned veggies. We currently receive about 60% of our food from the Community Food Program. The rest we purchase from your donations and commitments. Thank you for making it possible for us to serve those in need in our community.

The clothes closet is accepting, clean, gently used, current season, smacked free clothing.

### **Mission Project**

On January 28th, we will be partnering with the Jefferson Middle School National Jr. Honor Society to make 300 sandwiches and pack treat bags for the MCWARM program at St Margaret Church, SCS. A great opportunity for all involved to help those who are in need in this area. St Margaret Church through the MCWARM program three times a week provides breakfast, hot lunch, and brown bag dinner for those in need. They also provide shower facilities and clothes. Their program runs from November 1 until April 1. They are currently having at least 100 guests each day. They are doing a wonderful job!

*Thank you for always supporting Mission,  
Cheryl Smark*



# FLOCK OF BELIEVERS

Social Group for People ages 30-50

# CORNHOLE

Cost is \$8 per person payable to Michele



**SATURDAY, FEB 8TH, 2025**

6:30pm-8:30pm

Great Shots in Clinton Township  
36901 Garfield Rd, Clinton Twp, MI 48035

TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT

TEXT MICHELE AT 586-246-3921

# YOUTH SUPER BOWL TAILGATE AND BOARD GAMES

SUN 2/9



12PM-2PM

JOIN US FOR FUN BOARD GAMES AND SOME AWESOME TAILGATING FOOD

EVERYONE WILL BE HOME IN TIME FOR THE SUPER BOWL WITH THEIR FAMILIES



**KANSAS CITY CHIEFS**



**PHILADELPHIA EAGLES**



**Join us!**

March 1st @12pm

# Chili-Cook-Off

**AND KARAOKE CONTEST**

ONE PRIZE WILL BE AWARDED TO THE CHILI COOK-OFF CHAMPION AND ANOTHER TO THE KARAOKE STAR!

TO COMPETE IN THE CHILI COMPETITION, SIGNUP IN THE ATRIUM OR ONLINE THROUGH OUR WEBSITE OR WEEKLY EBLAST.



# Middle and High School Bible Study

Sundays from 10:00-10:45am  
in the Underground

Taught by Brian and Sheryl Mieczkowski



DID YOU KNOW THAT LAKE SHORE CHURCH IS ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM? GIVE US A FOLLOW ON FACEBOOK AT LAKE SHORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AND ON INSTAGRAM AT LAKESHORE\_CHURCH\_

HAVE SOMETHING TO PROMOTE?

# ADD IT TO THE SOUNDINGS!

Send your promotional material to Jenna by the 17th of each month for her to add it to next month's soundings.

[jenna@lakeshorechurch.com](mailto:jenna@lakeshorechurch.com)

# CHURCH CLOSURE

This is a reminder as winter is in full swing, the church will be closed when Lake Shore, Lakeview or South Lake schools are closed due to inclement weather.



# FEBRUARY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
Communion Sunday 2	3	4	Staff Meeting @9am 5 Personnel @7pm	6	7	Breakfast Bunch @10am 8 New Officer Training 8am-2pm
Superbowl Sunday 9 Youth Board Game Tailgate @12pm Momco 6pm	Food Pantry @1pm 10	11	Bayview Bunch @2:30pm 12	13	Youth leaves for Spring Hill 14 	18
Youth returns from Spring Hill - No Youth Group 16	President's Day Church Closed 17	18	Staff Meeting @9am 19 Food Pantry @5pm	New officer Training 6pm-8pm 20	21	Breakfast Bunch @10am 22
23 Momco 6pm	Food Pantry @1pm 24 Session 7pm Deacons and Trustees 7pm	Last Day of Mourner's Path 7:30pm 25	Bayview Bunch @2:30pm 26	27	28	

- Sunday Services**
- Traditional @ 9am
  - Modern @ 10:45am
- Child Care**
- Sunday School (10:45am): ages three through grade five
  - Nursery: infants through age three
- ♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥
- Weekly Events**
- Sunday:**
- Youth Group @ 6-8pm
- Tuesday:**
- Band and Tech Team Rehearsal @ 6pm
  - Mourner's Path @ 7:30pm
- Wednesday:**
- Lake Shore Ukulele Strummers @ 1:30pm
  - Men's AA @ 7pm
- Thursday:**
- Girl Friend's in Christ (Small Group) @ 10am
  - Choir @ 7pm
  - AA @ 7:30pm
  - Al Anon @ 7:30pm
- Friday:**
- Office Closed
- Saturday:**
- NA @ 7:30pm

## February Birthdays

- |                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 2/1 Lee Esterling    | 2/16 Joshua Daniels    |
| 2/2 Karen Battjes    | 2/17 Jeff Flanigan     |
| Judie Steele         | 2/18 Evie Freeman      |
| 2/4 Susan Huhn       | 2/19 Jacob Opperman    |
| 2/7 Cheryl Smark     | 2/20 Steve Smark       |
| Anna Thomas          | 2/21 Kathleen Maude    |
| Tara Aldea           | 2/22 Edith Johnson     |
| 2/8 Stephen Hooper   | Carolyn Hammons        |
| Rick Skerkowski      | 2/25 Laura Backer      |
| 2/10 Beverley Wall   | 2/27 Margaret Fantucci |
| 2/11 Carl Rohde Jr.  | Crystal Jenken         |
| 2/13 Leigh Hovis     | 2/28 Makenna Michels   |
| 2/14 Stephany Hepner | Susan Goeddeke         |
| 2/15 Vivan Parker    |                        |
| Bennett Hunter       |                        |

## February Anniversaries

- |      |                       |
|------|-----------------------|
| 2/7  | Frank & Sara Welch    |
| 2/2  | Cheryl & Michael Zito |
| 2/28 | Ken & Anna Be         |

Spring  
save the dates



**Chili Cookoff**

March 1st @12pm  
Sign up online or in the atrium

**Comedy Night**

April 5th @7pm  
Tickets are live online on the church website