

Bayshore CONNECTION

Winter
2023 -
2024



A Word from Pastor Scott

Dear faith family,

Between Mexico, Maine, and the Middle-East, I'm finding the news hard to watch. I feel like we're in another kind of pandemic – this one based on human and climate aggression. I so identify with that meme: “my desire to be well-informed is at battle with my need to be sane.”

This is partly why I've been ingesting my news with the paper (sometimes on actual paper). It's easier (at least for me) to digest the horrors in print, rather than with video and sound. But still I'm tempted to despair. Where is the hope?

But I love, and I identify, with these words of James Baldwin: “I never have been in despair about the world. Enraged. I've been enraged by the world, but never despair. I cannot afford despair... you can't tell the children that there is no hope.”

No, you cannot. And mostly because there is hope. Hope in that provi-

Pastor Scott con'd

WINTER 2023-2024

DECEMBER

3--Children's Advent
Party 2-4pm

3--Hyde Park ALF

Christmas Party 4-6pm

3--LOFT 1st Sunday

Worship 6-8pm

10--Women's Advent
Gathering 6-8pm

17--Choral Christmas
Service

24--Christmas Eve
Worship 6pm

JANUARY

7--Quarterly Business
Meeting

7--LOFT 1st Sunday
Worship 6-8pm

17--Wednesday
Activities resume

--VBS & PURSUIT
registration opens

FEBRUARY

4--LOFT 1st Sunday
Worship 6-8pm

13--Fat Tuesday

Pancake Dinner 6-8pm

14--Ash Wednesday



Bayshore Spotlight

LETTER FROM KATIE MCGILL'S DAUGHTER

In September, we were all shocked and saddened to learn of the death of Katie McGill, CEO of Mission Partner Dress for Success Tampa Bay and friend of Bayshore. We were honored to host the funeral for her family, as we grieved the loss of Katie along side them.

Dear Bayshore Baptist Church:

Words can't express the gratitude I have for you. I've visited the church on several occasions with Mom and have always felt welcomed here. The love, care and compassion you showed brought me to tears. It's not often churches are willing to open their doors to non-members, but you did and without reservation and for that I will be forever grateful.

You made an unfortunate occasion a memorable one. For that I want to say thank you.

Sincerely,
Twawanda Stukes



November 5, 12, 19, 26
Michael Costa:

"A Stroll Through Christmas"

Calling all Christmas music lovers! Michael Costa helps get us into the holiday spirit in November by hosting a chapel series all about Christmas music-- the history and stories behind the songs, how the music has evolved over the years, and delving into what makes the songs great. We'll listen to recordings of classic and newer songs, and we'll discuss what music you love the most - from 19th century choral hymns to Bing Crosby, to Michael Buble!

We welcome any adult or youth to join the conversation!

dential moral arc that bends towards justice. Hope that love will ultimately win. Hope that the progress many societies have made toward peace will be sustained. Hope that as the world gets smaller our love and understanding of each other will get larger.

There is hope in glimmers of light. Just today the US has announced new sanctions against the state-owned oil company of Burma (Myanmar). This is the junta that has been carpet bombing its own people. These are sanctions that coalitions I work with have been advocating for. It's step that will put pressure in the right place – a small but important victory in a very dark place.

Prayer after prayer, step by step, day by day, we walk in hope. It's not a linear walk, but it is what followers of Jesus do. And if you, like me, sometimes wonder how to pray, you could do a lot worse than these words of Irish poet John O'Donohue (from his "Benedictus").

For Peace

by John O'Donohue ("Benedictus")

As the fever of day calms towards twilight

May all that is strained in us come to ease.

We pray for all who suffered violence today,

May an unexpected serenity surprise them.

For those who risk their lives each day for peace,

May their hearts glimpse providence at the heart of history.

That those who make riches from violence and war -

Might hear in their dreams the cries of the lost.

That we might see through our fear of each other

A new vision to heal our fatal attraction to aggression.

That those who enjoy the privilege of peace

Might not forget their tormented brothers and sisters.

That the wolf might lie down with the lamb,

That our swords be beaten into ploughshares,

And no hurt or harm be done.

As we journey on ...
Scott



Shore KIDS Christmas Party



December 3rd 2-4pm

RSVP to Melissa
mscarle@bayshorebaptistchurch.com

Follow the Star!

Everyone is invited to Hyde Park ALF for
caroling, gift distribution & dinner immediately following the party!



SHORE KIDS MISSION MARKET

SUNDAYS & WEDNESDAYS
NOVEMBER 12 TO DECEMBER 3

COME TO THE SHORE KIDS CHRISTMAS MISSION MARKET!
BUY ITEMS TO FILL CHRISTMAS BACKPACKS
TO GIVE TO OUR FRIENDS AT
THE HYDE PARK ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY (ALF)



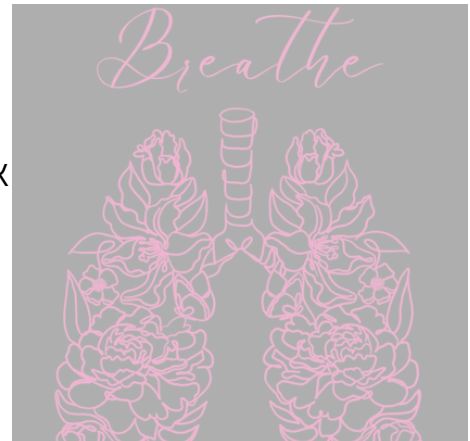
Hello LOFT Families!

As you may already know, our 2023-2024 LOFT theme is "Breathe" as we take a look at our theme verse, Matthew 11:28-30

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

Together we will be considering how God can renew and sustain us each day when we remember God is as close as the very breath that fills our lungs. Throughout the year we will learning about the practice of breath prayers, when you repeat a phrase as a prayer over and over. Example: (Inhale) "The Lord is my Shepherd" (Exhale) "I have all that I need." The beauty of breath prayer is that you can do it anytime and anywhere. While you are walking your dog, or sitting at your desk before a test, you can quiet your mind and draw your attention to God through your breath.

I am also excited to learn more about the practice of breathwork together. Studies have found that intentional and focused breathing can positively impact your mind and



"JUST BREATHE"

DURATION: A FEW SECONDS OR MORE



THE PRACTICE

1. Sit, lie down, or stand exactly where you are.
2. Pick a number between five and ten.
3. Use the number you picked to breathe in through your mouth or nose for that number of seconds, keeping count in your mind.
4. Exhale out the same way for that number of seconds.
5. Repeat for at least ten rounds of breathing.

REFLECTION

- What do you notice about the way you are breathing right now?
- How can you give yourself a few extra reminders throughout the day to breathe this way?

Exercise found in "Breathe: 33 Simple Breathwork Practices" by Shanila Satter

physical body as well. Here's an example of a breathwork practice that you can try at home! It comes from the book called "Breathe: 33 Simple Breathwork Practices" by Shanila Satter.

Happy Breathing,
Pastor Sara

SAVE THE DATE

Women's Advent Gathering

December 10th 6-8pm



This
December,
pick up a
CBF bank
in the
lobby and
fill with
loose
change.
Return
bank to
the Altar
Table in
Sanctuary.

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GLOBAL MISSIONS

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BUDGET NUMBERS AS OF 10/31/2023

Budget Year to Date: \$678.601

Giving Year to Date: \$568,608

Amount Under Budget: **\$109,993**

*Expenses as of 10/31/2023 \$552,401

FOOD BARRELS

NOW THROUGH NOVEMBER 28TH



WHAT WE NEED?

STUFFING
CRANBERRY SAUCE
CEREAL
BAG/CAN BEANS
SOUP
BAG/BOX RICE
BOXED POTATOES
GRAVY PACKETS
DESSERT MIXES
CANNED FRUIT
CANNED VEGGIES
MAC & CHEESE

#sharehope

Mission



Bayshore's

CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
KINGDOM KIDS TAMPA BAY!

NOW THROUGH DECEMBER 15TH

- Barbie dolls
- action figures
- basketballs
- jewelry kits
- footballs
- Legos
- Hot Wheel cars
- GIFT CARDS

We are collecting toys for Mission Partner Kingdom Kids! They serve the 700 children at Robles Elementary School in Temple Terrace.



Please contact Laura Jones
with any questions:

+813-787-4631



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