



The Good News

Lake Gibson United Methodist Church

Our Vision: To be a joyful church family that is crucial to our community



December 2016

Steve Polk, Pastor

424 West Daughtery Road, Lakeland Florida 33809

Phone (863) 858-5431

A Christmas Message From the Pastor

Can you believe the year is almost over? Much has happened this year; things that divide and polarize our communities, our churches and our world. There is a lot of anxiety in our nation; there are questions about what is going to happen with the new administration; there is doubt about the direction of our church and many other questions. This is all in addition to the personal struggles of people trying to pay the bills, raise children, take care of aged and sick love ones, deal with discrimination, please their bosses and handle the many other challenges of life. We have just celebrated Thanksgiving where we have been reminded of God's goodness this past year. The church is now in Advent – the time when we talk about the coming of Jesus. We need the message of Advent this year as much as we ever have.

Advent and its culmination in the birth of Christ remind us that a better day is coming. Just as Israel was awaiting the birth of a Messiah, we today await the second coming of Christ – *yet, he comes even now*. Jesus and the Holy Spirit are present in the world today and they will come and dwell with anyone who sincerely asks.

We desire to see that day Isaiah talks of when the lion and the lamb will lie down together and the child will play over the adder's den with no fear. We long for the Prince of Peace to come and spread his love over all the hatred in this world. We look for the day when there will be no more sorrow, no tears, no disease and no death. A day when life is celebrated and resurrection is an everyday occurrence. In the message of Advent there is a bending of the knee as we give God the glory for His vast, never-ending, all-encompassing love which surrounds us.

Perhaps we need to remember a line from that prayer we repeat every Sunday – ***Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*** Is it possible that God's will can be done here on earth? It is, if His people, the Church – you and I – will spread the love of God to our neighbors. It is if we allow God to be Emmanuel – God with us, in us and flowing out of us. This is the message and promise of Advent. God loves us – not for what we can do for Him, but he loves us unconditionally and shows us that love by coming to earth in the person of Jesus the Christ. He asks us to pass that love on to others.

This Christmas allow Jesus to come into your life afresh. Marvel in the wonder of God's love and know this baby in the manger we celebrate and worship is the King of the World, to whom every knee will bow and every tongue confess that He is Lord!

Merry Christmas,
Pastor Steve

Volunteers Needed in the Nursery for Music Rehearsals, Sunday School and Sunday Services

Jan Booker is developing monthly schedules for nursery workers to provide child care for LGUMC members and constituents. This service enables parents to participate in our Music Ministry (Praise Team and Choir rehearsals on Tuesday and Wednesday nights, respectively) and during Sunday school and both Sunday worship services.

If you are interested in volunteering and have not already attended the Child Protection Policy annual training, we will train you on it before you work in the nursery. (The church holds a formal training session in January; watch the bulletin for its announcement.)

Weeknight nursery requires one adult and is held at the back of the sanctuary. Sunday morning nursery is held in the Child Enrichment Center and requires two adults to be present, one of whom is a professional attendant, Ms. Danielle Cavas. Thus, we need one volunteer for each service and Sunday School (although if someone wants to cover all three, that would be wonderful!).

You can reach Jan at 863-858-6129 to sign up for a date and time.

December 1st is World AIDS Day

The United Methodist Global AIDS Fund invites people to participate in the Just Save One initiative, which aims to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV through an internal grant-making process. To learn more, go to the following web site: <https://umc-gbcs.org/faith-in-action/just-save-one-from-hiv-aids>.

Delay in Publication of the January 2017 Issue of *The Good News*

Due to Christmas travel plans, publication of the January issue of *The Good News* will be delayed. Instead of being available on or before January 1st, hard copies will be available in the narthex on or about Sunday, January 15th. The electronic version will be posted on the church web site as soon as it is finished, which may be prior to January 15th. Please refer to the Lake Gibson UMC web site, lakegibsonumc.com for up-to-date information, particularly calendar items.

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Church Calendar for December 2016

For the most up-to-date information, see the on-line calendar at www.lakegibsonumc.com.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
12/1	Thurs	World AIDS Day Food Pantry Bible Study with Pastor Steve ALBOH Board Meeting Youth - Christmas Parade	9:30 - 11:30 am 10:00 am 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Office FLC FLC Downtown Lakeland
12/2	Fri	Youth - Video/Game Night	7:00 pm - Midnight	FLC
12/3	Sat			
12/4	Sun	Second Sunday of Advent Traditional Service Sunday School Contemporary Service Memorial Service for Nola Osborn	8:00 am 9:15 am 10:30 am 2:00 pm	Sanctuary FLC Sanctuary Sanctuary & FLC
12/5	Mon	Intercessory Prayer Heart to Heart UMW Circle Trustees Meeting Boy Scouts	9:30 am 10:30 am 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	Sanctuary Off Campus FLC FLC
12/6	Tues	Bulletin Input Deadline Staff Meeting Praise Team Rehearsal Cub Scout Den Meeting	noon 9:30 am 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Office Sanctuary FLC
12/7	Wed	Mid-week Devotions Ruth Circle of Love UMW Ruth Circle Christmas Lunch Youth - Hang Out Time & Make Cookies?? Choir Practice Youth Ministry Bible Study with Pastor	8:00 am 9:30 am 12:30 pm 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm 6:30 pm 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm 7:00 pm	FLC FLC Off Campus FLC Sanctuary FLC FLC
12/8	Thurs	Food Pantry Bible Study with Pastor ALBOH Pot-Luck Dinner High School Volleyball Cub Scout Committee Meeting	9:30 am - 11:30 pm 10:00 am 5:30 pm 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm 7:00 pm	Office FLC FLC 1&2 FLC FLC Upstairs
12/9	Fri			

Continued on the next page . . .

Church Calendar for December 2016, Continued

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
12/10	Sat	United Methodist Men's (UMM) Breakfast Meeting Cantata Practice	8:30 am 10:00 am	FLC Sanctuary
12/11	Sun	Harvest Sunday - Food Pantry Donations Third Sunday of Advent Traditional Service Sunday School Contemporary Service Youth - Caroling and Cookies	8:00 am 9:15 am 10:30 am 5:00 - 8:30 pm	Sanctuary FLC Sanctuary FLC
12/12	Mon	Intercessory Prayer UMW Unit Meeting Staff/Pastor/Parish Meeting Boy Scouts Private Event - Choir Practice	9:30 am 10:30 am 7:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	Sanctuary FLC FLC FLC Sanctuary
12/13	Tues	Bulletin Deadline Praise Team Rehearsal Cub Scouts Pack Meeting	noon 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Sanctuary FLC
12/14	Wed	Mid-week Devotions Youth - Hang Out Time Youth Christmas Party Choir Rehearsal Bible Study with Pastor	8:00 am 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	FLC 1&2 FLC FLC Sanctuary FLC 1&2
12/15	Thurs	Food Pantry Bible Study with Pastor Polk High School Volleyball	9:30 am - 11:30 am 10:00 am 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Office FLC 1&2 FLC
12/16	Fri			
12/17	Sat	Cantata Practice Youth - Spud Lunch Prep Gift Wrapping	10:00 am Noon - 2:00 pm 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Sanctuary FLC FLC
12/18	Sun	Fourth Sunday in Advent - Single Service Sunday School Christmas Cantata & Service Youth - Prepare Spud Lunch Spud Lunch	9:15 am 10:30 am 8:30 am 11:45 am	FLC Sanctuary FLC FLC

Continued on the next page . . .


Church Calendar for December 2016, Continued

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
12/19	Mon	Polk County Schools Closed, 19 - 30 December 2016		
		Intercessory Prayer	9:30 am	Sanctuary
		Finance Committee Meeting	7:00 pm	FLC
		Worship Committee Meeting	7:00 pm	Sanctuary
12/20	Tues	Bulletin Input Deadline	noon	
		Praise Team Rehearsal	6:30 pm	Sanctuary
12/21	Wed	Mid-week Devotions	8:00 am	FLC
		Youth Hang Out Time	3:00 - 6:00 pm	FLC
		Youth Ministry	6:00 - 7:30 pm	FLC
		Choir Rehearsal	6:30 pm	Sanctuary
		Bible Study with Pastor	7:00 pm	FLC
12/22	Thurs	High School Volleyball ????	7:00 pm	FLC
12/23	Fri			
12/24	Sat	Christmas Eve Service and Cantata Reprise	6:00 pm	Sanctuary
12/25	Sun	Christmas Worship Service (No Sunday School)	10:00 am	Sanctuary
12/26	Mon	Office Closed		
		Intercessory Prayer	9:30 am	Sanctuary
12/27	Tues	UMW Board Meeting	9:00 am	FLC 1&2
		Staff Meeting	9:30 am	Office
		Bulletin Input Deadline	noon	
		Praise Team Rehearsal	6:30 pm	Sanctuary
12/28	Wed	Mid-week Devotions	8:00 am	FLC
		Youth Hang Out Time	3:00 - 6:00 pm	FLC
		Youth Ministry	6:00 - 7:30 pm	FLC
		Choir Rehearsal	6:30 pm	Sanctuary
		Bible Study with Pastor	7:00 pm	FLC
12/29	Thurs	High School Volleyball	7:00 pm	FLC
12/30	Fri			
12/31	Sat	New Year's Eve		

November News

Campus Revitalization thru 20 November

As you know, we are in the middle of raising funds for four major projects. The first project is the cleaning, sealing and repainting the exterior of the sanctuary and Family Life Center. Through 20 November we have raised \$17,161 towards our first objective of \$22,300. **Note that there have been three weeks in which NO DONATIONS WERE MADE!** Please help us reach our goal by the end of 2016!

		Total to date	Individual Contributions					
		Initial		\$10,000				
	5 June	\$10,000						
	12 June	\$10,500						
	19 June	\$11,350	\$500	\$300	\$50			
	26 June	\$11,450	\$100					
	3 July	\$12,550	\$1,000	\$100				
	10 July	\$13,850	\$1,000	\$100	\$100	\$100		
	17 July	\$13,970	\$100	\$20				
	24 July		\$1,000	\$100	\$20			
	31 July		\$200	\$100	\$75	\$50	\$25	
	7 August	\$15,576	\$25	\$10	\$1			
	14 August	\$16,031	\$150	\$140	\$100	\$25	\$25	\$20
	21 August		0					
	28 August	\$16,056	\$25					
	4 September	\$16,191	\$135					
	11 September	\$16,241	\$50					
	18 September	\$16,391	\$100	\$50				
	25 September	\$16,406	\$25					
	2 October	\$16,436	\$30					
	9 October		0					
	16 October	\$16,636	\$100	\$100				
	23 October	\$16,661	\$25					
	30 October	\$16,761	\$100					
	6 November	\$16,961	\$200					
	13 November	\$17,161	\$100	\$100				
	20 November		0					

November News, Continued

Craft Fair Report

On the weekend of November 4th and 5th a wonderful group of volunteers came together to set up and run the craft fair, a fundraiser for the Campus Revitalization Campaign, in the Family Life Center. I would like to let all the volunteers know how much I appreciated their efforts on this project.

Special thanks to **Gail Bishop** who manned the kitchen, **Marina Garcia** for all the office and set-up assistance, **Ann Fox** for her behind-the-scenes assistance, and **Ruth Zona** for running the bake sale. The **United Methodist Women** supplied hotdogs and hamburgers, while the **United Methodist Men** supplied chips, soda, and water for the event.

The total collected from vendor fees, bake sale, the church craft table, and the commissary sales was slightly over \$1,200 (I don't have the exact total as of this date). While we didn't have as many customers as we had hoped, everyone seemed to have a good time.

Barbara Allen-Coil

All Saints Sunday, November 6th

Remembering those who have entered The Church Triumphant

The year 2016 has been a tough one for many Lake Gibson families and for everyone else in the congregation. On Sunday, November 6th we honored the memories of 22 church members and constituents who passed away during the last 12 months.

While we rest assured that these Christians have joined God in glory, our hearts are heavy. We have lost so many people who played important roles in the life of this church. We need to pray for the comfort of their loved ones and show them our love and support, as well as pray for the Lord to send us new members to fill the large gaps left in our congregation.

Here are the names of the Saints Who Entered The Church Triumphant honored at this service:

George Aquino
Pastor Bob Bailey
Paul Wayne Barlow
Alvina Berscheid
Hugh Bristol
Bill Brito
Tammy Delong
Amos Denham

Ed Egolf
M. Yolanda Gamboa
Jean Gower
Edgar Hall
Lois Havel
Julie Heck-Garzotto
Barbara Landman
Carol Ringer

Rosanne Stafford
Don Stim
Betty Tomlinson
Gail Weaver
Gene Wileman
Shirley Yungk

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November News, Continued

Thrivent Estate Planning Workshops October 30th and November 10th

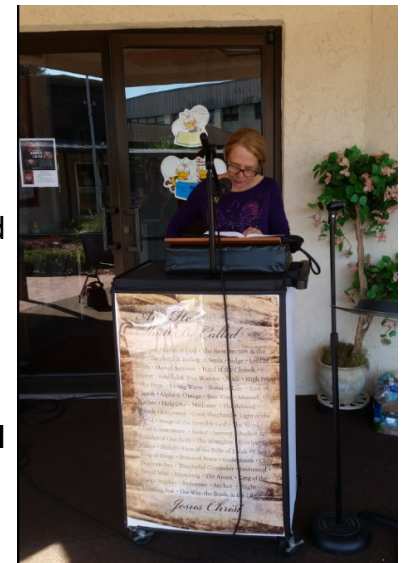
Fourteen members of LGUMC attended two sessions of Thrivent Financial's Estate Planning Workshops. Ten people stayed after the October 30th service and dinner: Glenda and Dave Hess, Ann and Dan Johnson, Frankie Hooks, Mary Friend, Marge Payne, Sarah Schiemann, Sandy Stanfield and Sylvia Barrett. Four attended the weekday session on November 10th: Bob Holmes, Paul Havel and Dwight and Phyllis Kitchens.

Thanks to Thrivent's Lauren Hutto, Eric Powell and Daniel Mitchell. Mr. Powell is based in Lakeland and welcomes your calls at 863-937-0890. The article located elsewhere in this newsletter concerning how to do the most good with your Individual Retirement Account's Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) is a result of this workshop. If you are, or are approaching, age 70 1/2 and have an IRA, please read this article which will show you how to avoid taxes on your RMD and donate it to the church.

Celebrating National Bible Week, November 13th through 19th

Thanks to Glenda Grant Hess for leading our observance of National Bible Week. Glenda was at the church from early morning to late afternoon, from Sunday through Saturday, while twenty-eight people read aloud from a large-print Bible in front of the church doors (and a twenty-ninth read at home). When no one was available, Glenda read the Bible herself or played a recorded version through the loud speakers when her voice needed a rest.

These Lake Gibson people **read the entire Old Testament and one-third of the New Testament!** Unfortunately, we didn't get the name of the teenager who participated. We thank all the volunteers who spread God's word to the world this week:



Barbara Allen-Coil
Sylvia Barrett
Yvonne Bower
Amy Cribbe
Bonnie Fuqua
Ken Fuqua
Sue Heishman
David Hess
Glenda Hess
Beverly Hines
Eric Hines

Phyllis Kitchens
Jeremy Kyser
Shirley Lux
Michael Moake
Pat Moon
Joe Moon
Debbie Moore
Fran Mudge
Lee Mueller
Pastor Steve Polk
Sarah Schiemann

Sue Shelton
Sandy Stanfield
Kristie Summers
Lois Teske
Barbara Towns
Judy Van Zile
A Member of the Youth Group
(sorry, missed your name)

(Photo of Debbie Moore by Phyllis Kitchens)

November News, Continued

Honoring America's Veterans November 13th

At the early service on November 13th, Cub Scout Pack 711's Color Guard presented the flag and led the congregation in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The Cubs presented the Pastor their letter from President Obama recognizing the Pack's service to the community. Everyone in the congregation was filled with pride as these serious young boys performed this service for us.

We also were treated with an original hymn written by Peggy Peppers, *I AM*, sung by Beverly and Eric Hines, with Bonnie Fuqua performing a sacred dance. Mrs. Peppers, her son and daughter-in-law attended the service.

(Sorry, camera and/or operator malfunction. Lost all the pictures. Phyllis Kitchens)

Volunteer Appreciation Sunday and Thanksgiving Dinner

On November 20th Lake Gibson honored all of its volunteers. Three couples were singled out for special recognition for the many services they provided to the church in the past year:

Brad and Ann Fox

Jay and Beverly Ellis

Dave and Glenda Hess

Without our dedicated volunteers, there would be no Lake Gibson UMC. Thank you all for everything you do!

Speaking of volunteers, did you know that Debbie Moore started cooking the turkeys at 4:00 am Sunday? Or that Gail Bishop labored mightily to cut up the four huge birds using a very dull carving knife from the kitchen? (Note to carver . . . Bring a sharp knife from home next time!)

Special thanks to Barbara Towns who donated two 25-lb turkeys for the dinner, and to Marina Garcia who cooked pork roasts for the table to make sure there was enough meat to go around, and to everyone who brought SO MANY tasty dishes! We had to keep adding tables to the buffet line to hold all the food.



The feast was followed by an hilarious Christian comedian, Juanita Lolita, who had the audience in stitches. What a funny woman! It was wonderful to spend our church Thanksgiving dinner with so many great people. Thanks to everyone who made it possible.



November News, Continued

“Reverse Advent” Starts November 27th

November 27th is the first Sunday in Advent this year. You may be familiar with the Advent calendars which are designed to count or celebrate the days in anticipation of Christmas. The ones designed for children have doors to open, inside of which is a treat, one for each day.

In celebrating a “Reverse Advent,” we are **giving** treats to others, instead of receiving them each day. Our Advent calendar will be based on performing RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS! Marina Garcia has provided the following information about stacks of cards that will be handed out in church:

Each day is numbered 1 - 28. For each day, you take that card and do what it says. If you're on Facebook, you can challenge your friends to go out and do the same random act of kindness. Imagine the dozens of people who might receive a random act of kindness from your Facebook friends!

As an example, if the card for a particular day says “Buy a bag of chips for someone”, you give a complete stranger a bag of chips. You may give them the card, and if they ask, let them know it's from your Random Acts of Kindness Reverse Advent calendar.

Our Day 1 card says “Buy Someone a Coffee”. Buy the drink of the person behind you in line on November 27th. These small acts are sure to brighten someone's day, and give you a sense of satisfaction by showing your love to a stranger.

Hanging of the Greens

We'd like to see a large turnout of Lake Gibson members and friends to help decorate the sanctuary for Christmas! This will occur on **Sunday, November 27th, at 3:00 pm**. Refreshments will be served in the FLC afterward. Please join us for a boost in Christmas spirit!

If you're wondering what the Hanging of the Greens is, United Methodist Communications offers this explanation: “Many churches hold a service of preparation for Christ's coming, which includes hanging greenery traditionally associated with everlasting life. Greens such as cedar for royalty, fir and pine boughs for everlasting life, holly symbolizing Jesus' death and ivy representing the resurrection are used.” (Source: <http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/what-is-the-hanging-of-the-greens>)



Barbara Allen-Coil and her mother Elsieann Lithgow during the Craft Fair. Photo courtesy of Sarah Schiemann.

December Events

Please see the calendar in this issue or on the church web site for a listing of the events during December.

Youth Ministry Fund-Raisers

Please support our Youth ministry by buying **Spud Lunch** tickets -- a delicious meal after the cantata of fully loaded baked potatoes and soups -- and by ordering **poinsettias**. Order forms for both will be in the Sunday bulletin, or you may use the copies included here:

- * *When: Sunday, December 18th after the Cantata (about noon)*
- * *Where: Family Life Center @ LGUMC*
- * *What: A fantastic lunch with baked potato bar full of goodies, chili, soup, dessert & a drink.*
- * *How Much: A bargain at \$7.00*
- * *Why: To help raise funds for youth programs and to have a little fellowship with your church family.*

Thanks so much for supporting our Youth!

Name: _____ Phone: _____

How Many: _____ Cash/Check: _____

Place your order today by calling the office at 863-858-5431 or placing in collection plate.

Purchase a poinsettia to display in the chapel this wonderful holiday season for the low price of \$10.00.

Please Check:

_____ *in memory of* _____

_____ *in honor of* _____

_____ *in the glory* _____

Your Name: _____

***Proceeds will help fund Youth programs,
Thanks so much for supporting our Youth!***

Paid: Yes _____ *No* _____ *Cash:* _____ *Check:* _____

Amount: _____ ***Have orders in no later than 12/12/16***

Please Make Check Payable To LGUMCYF

December Events, Continued

Decorate the Campus with Special Gifts -- Fill the Sox Box to Overflowing!



You can help decorate our grounds and provide much-needed, warm socks for children and adults in our community. Here's how:

Buy a new pair (or pairs) of socks and put them in the box that will be in the narthex starting November 27th. We will put them in Ziploc resealable plastic storage bags, labeled with sizes and hang them in the bushes around the church.

Women's and men's white socks, colored socks of all sizes and children's socks are needed by the homeless and disadvantaged people who live among us. Love in Action can be as simple as this.

"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news of good things."
Romans 10:15 (NIV)

Editorial Policy

The articles contained in *The Good News* express the opinions of their authors, and do not necessarily reflect policies of the United Methodist Church or of Lake Gibson United Methodist Church. All members of LGUMC are encouraged to write articles and share their thoughts with the congregation. The purpose of this newsletter is to foster better communication of ideas and opportunities for worship and service among LGUMC members and friends as we seek to share God's love and to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Phyllis Kitchens, Editor



So much to choose from at the Craft Fair.

Courtesy of Sarah Schiemann

Marina's Corner

Please contact me at the church office, 863-858-5431, if you need offering envelopes. If you have moved or changed your phone number(s) or e-mail address, please update that information on your Connection Card at a church service (or call or e-mail me at office@lakegibsonumc.com).

Through the end of November 2016, the LGUMC Food Pantry has given out 593 bags of groceries and 725 bags of Publix baked goods. Thanks to everyone who makes this possible!

Marina Garcia, Administrative Secretary

Food Pantry Needs

The 2nd Sunday of Every Month Is Harvest Sunday

Please place your donation at the altar rail or take it to the office during the week.

FOODSTUFFS

Spaghetti Sauce
Pastas – Spaghetti, Noodles, etc.
Hamburger Helper or Tuna Helper
Dry Soups – Ramen Noodles
Canned Soups
Canned Ravioli or Spaghetti
Boxed Macaroni and Cheese
Canned Vegetables
Peanut Butter
Jelly or Preserves
Canned Tuna, Salmon or Chicken
Canned Meats (Ham, Spam, Potted Meat, Vienna Sausages)
Canned Fruits
Frozen Ground Beef (1 lb pkgs)

PERSONAL HYGIENE

Toilet Paper
Diapers (All Sizes)
Baby Wipes
Toothbrushes
Travel-sized Toothpaste, Soap, Shampoo, Deodorant



Items Available

These items have been donated to the church as a love offering and are for church members or anyone who may need them. NO MONEY may exchange hands! The items must not be returned to the church; they are to be passed along as a love offering once you are done with them. Please contact Tom Burns, 863-670-5233 or Marina Garcia at the church office, 863-858-5431 if you're interested.

Walker with seat and brakes

Hospital bed

Potty chair

Lift that will assist in moving an individual from a wheel chair to a bed.

Building Our 2017 Budget and Programs

The Lake Gibson Finance Committee and Administrative Council are working on the church's 2017 budget. Do we propose ambitious programs to expand this church's membership and its reach into the community, and then figure out what we think it will cost, regardless of past income? Or do you base the 2017 budget on what we've been able to raise in the past and perhaps shift program emphasis to only those initiatives we are sure we can fund and remain essentially status quo?

Here are three proposals for your consideration. We welcome your ideas, so don't be limited to what is contained in these articles. Grab the Pastor, Sarah Schiemann or another Administrative Council member, or Dwight Kitchens (or any member of the Finance Committee) in December or early January to express your ideas for the future of LGUMC. You can e-mail your comments, concerns and ideas to Dwight at Dwight@dwrightkitchens.com or call him at 863-984-4564 (home) or 410-790-4422 (cell).

A Full-Service Ministry

While visiting with numerous churches a six-week period, I've come to wonder whether we are welcoming to all generations. On the road, we've seen programs for children, youth, young adults, middle-aged adults, and those like myself (not-so-middle-aged). Unfortunately, when you look at Lake Gibson UMC you don't see the same gamut of opportunities. We seem to be missing the children, young adults and middle-aged adults. Why?

For children, it may be that we have not taken efforts to build a children's program, possibly hiring a part-time children's program coordinator/children's minister. If we have programs for children, we may also be more inviting to the young adults leading their family. Yes, I guess it could be a chicken and the egg problem. Possibly we should take the first step and invest in an eighteen-month trial hire of a knowledgeable person and market the new opportunity.

For young middle-aged adults, possibly we should consider finding more programs which might be of interest to their demographic. "Estate Planning" may be of interest to many current members, but cooking, budgeting, home maintenance, and other subjects may be something to draw in this age group. They may not necessarily attend our worship services, but they will be exposed to our open minds and open hearts.

Dwight Kitchens

Missions Support

Back in May of 2014, the Administrative Council stated that Lake Gibson United Methodist Church was committed to spending a minimum of 10% of our resources on God's work in our world, country, and community. Our Missions Committee is constantly looking for places where we can do the most good. We stated that LGUMC will accept designated missions gifts from individuals in the church that can be passed along to any Christian 501(c)3 non-profit organization. This has permitted us to see much of the generosity our members extend to organizations which the LGUMC Missions Committee might not collectively consider.

Now, it may be time to consider what categories we include within missions outside our church family. Doesn't most of the monies going to our apportionments support the mission of the United Methodist Church? Doesn't the United Methodist Women contribute their earnings towards missions? Shouldn't each of these count towards LGUMC's minimum 10% contributed towards missions? I ask this as it is part of the fundamental question regarding the distribution of our resources across multiple claimants.

Continued on the next page . . .

Building Our 2017 Budget and Programs, Continued

Missions Support, Continued

Some would argue that mission contributions should be made first and local needs second. If the pledges from members reflected a revenue surplus for the following year, this would be a wonderful priority. Alternatively, if pledges cover less than our proposed budget, are we being foolish to expend significant funds outside the church prior to meeting our own internal obligations? What would happen if there was no money available to pay the Pastor and other staff, or our electric or water bills?

This past year we have chosen to delay making mission contributions outside the church, with the exception of both those designated by an individual and our apportionments. The question is whether this same policy should be continued in the future. Let us know your thoughts.

Dwight Kitchens

Enhancing Fellowship during Mid-week Activities

This past year the church stopped offering mid-week meals prior to the youth devotional, choir rehearsal and the adult Bible study. While this meal was partially a pot-luck affair, it always required Lee Mueller to prepare something of substance for the youth. **They** always showed up, yet the adults' attendance and quantity of food varied tremendously.

Recently, while visiting multiple churches, one common thread we noted was an evening meal in conjunction with their mid-week Bible studies. What was different was that most churches **published the menu within their bulletin**. They also **took reservations** from the church members in advance and charged a **fixed cost** per adult participant. One or more **teams**, not an individual, were **responsible for the preparation and clean-up** (either after the meal or after their evening activity). While attendance varied from week to week, the planners had a pretty good idea of the numbers for whom they were buying food and cooking.

Yes, this would require that the church subsidize youths' meals as a "cost of doing business". Are not we attempting to draw more youth into the program?

Having a nourishing, hot meal and sharing it with all who come each week may enhance participation within our youth group, our Bible study, and our choir, especially if these activities all started at the same time. Sharing a meal together might also strengthen our ties within the Lake Gibson church family. Our Mission Statement starts with "To be a joyful church family . . ." Resuming mid-week meals would strengthen our family ties and follow in the footsteps of countless generations of Christians.

What do you think?

Dwight Kitchens

Finance and Related Topics

Financial Report

As we approach the end of our fiscal year, you may note that we are still approximately 10% behind in meeting all the requirements of our 2016 budget. As November and December are usually months where more generous contributions are received, we would hope that we might make up this shortage. We anticipate being able to fund all our apportionments by the end of the year. Unfortunately, we have funded neither our maintenance reserves nor most of our missions external to the church walls.

Last year we received approximately \$60,000 in the last two months. If we did the same this year, we would have raised approximately \$297,000 in 2016. This approximate \$32,000 shortfall would significantly impact our ability to fund both our missions and our reserves. If you are thinking of making charitable contributions this season, consider helping us insure that we are able to spend 10% of our general budget towards mission opportunities.

Summaries:

2016 - Month	Sundays	Revenue	Expenditures	Budgeted	Rev-Exp
January	5	29,299	22,204	30,957	7,094
February	4	29,218	38,824	24,766	(9,606)
March	4	21,386	20,262	24,766	1,123
April	4	24,069	19,971	24,766	4,098
May	5	28,167	27,401	30,957	766
June	4	17,395	23,708	24,766	(6,313)
July	5	23,318	22,259	30,957	789
August	4	15,985	23,452	24,766	(7,467)
September	4	23,646	23,006	24,766	641
October	5	24,737	22,843	30,957	1,894
November	4			24,766	
December	4			24,766	

Continued on the next page . . .

Finance and Related Topics, Continued Financial Report, Continued

Three-year Congregational Giving Profile (CGP) Template: Monthly Version

Data Entry

Current Year **2016**

Current Budget **\$328,821**

Month	Actual 2013	Actual 2014	Actual 2015	3-Yr Total	3-Yr \$ Avg Monthly	3-Yr \$ Avg Cumulative	Actual 2016
January	\$19,259	\$19,500	\$22,306	\$61,065	\$20,355	\$20,355	\$29,299
February	\$18,886	\$22,240	\$26,282	\$67,408	\$22,469	\$42,824	\$29,218
March	\$22,891	\$25,371	\$31,316	\$79,578	\$26,526	\$69,350	\$21,386
April	\$18,495	\$17,766	\$22,325	\$58,586	\$19,529	\$88,879	\$24,069
May	\$16,299	\$17,040	\$26,498	\$59,837	\$19,946	\$108,825	\$28,167
June	\$19,238	\$22,282	\$18,538	\$60,058	\$20,019	\$128,844	\$17,395
July	\$18,339	\$18,388	\$17,763	\$54,490	\$18,163	\$147,007	\$23,318
August	\$15,918	\$17,351	\$18,641	\$51,910	\$17,303	\$164,311	\$15,985
September	\$21,026	\$15,861	\$16,310	\$53,197	\$17,732	\$182,043	\$23,646
October	\$18,241	\$18,541	\$18,372	\$55,154	\$18,385	\$200,428	\$24,737
November	\$19,000	\$19,077	\$32,022	\$70,099	\$23,366	\$223,794	
December	\$23,478	\$23,415	\$28,664	\$75,557	\$25,186	\$248,980	
Total	\$231,070	\$236,832	\$279,037	\$746,939	\$248,980	\$248,980	\$237,220

Monthly Budget Monitoring Based on CGP Goals

Current Year **2016**

Current Budget **\$328,821**

Month	% Needed Monthly	\$ Needed Monthly	Received Monthly	% Needed Cumulative	\$ Needed Cumulative	Received Cumulative	Status Ahead or (Behind)	% Ahead or (Behind)
January	8.18%	\$26,882	\$29,299	8.18%	\$26,882	\$29,299	\$2,417	8.99%
February	9.02%	\$29,675	\$29,218	17.20%	\$56,557	\$58,517	\$1,960	3.47%
March	10.65%	\$35,032	\$21,386	27.85%	\$91,589	\$79,903	(\$11,686)	-12.76%
April	7.84%	\$25,791	\$24,069	35.70%	\$117,380	\$103,972	(\$13,408)	-11.42%
May	8.01%	\$26,342	\$28,167	43.71%	\$143,722	\$132,139	(\$11,583)	-8.06%
June	8.04%	\$26,439	\$17,395	51.75%	\$170,161	\$149,534	(\$20,627)	-12.12%
July	7.30%	\$23,988	\$23,318	59.04%	\$194,149	\$172,852	(\$21,297)	-10.97%
August	6.95%	\$22,852	\$15,985	65.99%	\$217,001	\$188,837	(\$28,164)	-12.98%
September	7.12%	\$23,419	\$23,646	73.12%	\$240,420	\$212,483	(\$27,937)	-11.62%
October	7.38%	\$24,280	\$24,737	80.50%	\$264,700	\$237,220	(\$27,480)	-10.38%
November	9.38%	\$30,859	\$0	89.88%	\$295,559	\$237,220	(\$58,339)	
December	10.12%	\$33,262	\$0	100.00%	\$328,821	\$237,220	(\$91,601)	
Totals		\$328,821						

Finance and Related Topics, Continued

Honoring Our Deceased through Memorial Donations

Undesignated Memorials through November 20, 2016

\$1,930.00

Tomlinson, Betty: \$275.00
Wileman, Gene: \$300.00
Hall, Edgar: \$100.00
Stafford, Rosanne: \$650.00
Bailey, Rev. Robert: \$100.00
Gower, Jean: \$355.00
Osborn, Nola: \$50.00
Bristol, Hugh: \$100.00

Designated Memorials through November 23, 2016

\$580.00

Stafford, Rosanne: Total Designated Memorials \$115.00

Hospice Donation: \$50.00
Any Apportionment: \$25.00
Campus Renewal: \$25.00
United Methodist Women: \$15.00

Payne, Harrison: Total Designated Memorial \$50.00

Campus Renewal: \$50.00

Osborn, Nola: Total Designated Memorial \$40.00

Campus Renewal \$40.00

Gower, Jean: Total Designated Memorials \$350.00

Hospice Donation: \$100.00
Apportionment Donation: \$250.00

Knight, Richard: Total Designated Memorials \$25.00

Apportionment Donation: \$25.00

Through November 23rd, all designated memorials have been paid or transferred to the proper funds.

Sue Heishman

Continued on the next page . . .

Finance and Related Topics, Continued



Photo from USF Wesley Foundation web site.

How Did Apportionments Change for 2017?

This is a 'Good News – Bad News' situation. LGUMC's apportionments went up minimally from 2016 to 2017. The increase was only \$63. That's the 'Good News'.

The other side of the equation is that four apportionments were **dropped** from the list. These were:

New Church Development	\$1,094
Wesley Foundation at University of South Florida	\$ 421
Cornerstone Family Ministries, Inc.	\$ 421
Congregational Excellence	\$ 337

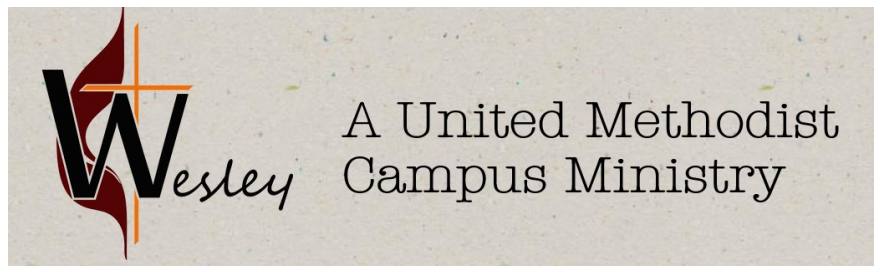
We are very disturbed by the loss of apportionment funding for the USF Wesley Foundation. The Wesley Foundation at Virginia Tech was critical to Phyllis' and my development as adults and as Christians. For Dwight, the Virginia Tech Wesley Foundation provided a much-needed respite from the hazing and pressures of being a freshman cadet (a rat). For Phyl it was a place to learn about Christ and Methodism, and to explore free-flowing ideas in a supportive, caring environment. We met in front of the Wesley Foundation building my freshman year and were married in their chapel our senior year. Most of our college friends were Wesley members, too.

For many people in Florida, I'm sure their college's Wesley Foundation had a significant impact upon their college experience, and the rest of their adult lives. The South Central District Office has requested that all churches within the district **continue to provide support of the Wesley Foundation at USF at their 2016 level**, which is shown above.

This is one area **we may want to add to our 2017 budget projects**, similar to the voluntary contribution of \$12 per year per member to the Florida United Methodist Children's Home. For the Wesley Foundation the amount of money requested is much less, but the need for our support is just as great. I hope you will agree to funding the USF Wesley Foundation.

Dwight and Phyllis Kitchens

Wesley Foundation at Virginia Tech
logo courtesy of vtwesley.com



Continued on the next page . . .

Planned Giving and Your IRA's Required Minimum Distribution (RMD)

Some of us have used Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA) as a means of saving for the future. The U. S. Government has determined that in the year in which we reach seventy and one-half (70 ½) years of age, we must start taking a required minimum distribution (RMD) from our IRAs. If we are older, we may already be receiving some portion of our IRA each year.

When we take possession of these withdrawn funds, they are considered **taxable** income. If any of these funds are in excess to our current needs, we might consider donating the excess to some good cause, such as the support of Lake Gibson UMC. **How we take this distribution** might have an impact upon our personal tax liability.

If we consistently itemize our Federal taxes, we can always deduct our charitable deductions. Alternatively, if we use the **standard deduction**, accepting an RMD directly would increase our income, as we can't claim the gift (because we've already accepted the standard deduction).

For 2016, standard deductions are:

Head of household	= \$9,300
Single & married filing separate returns	= \$6,300
Married couples filing jointly	= \$12,600

One way to continue to take advantage of the standard deduction and avoid taxes on your IRA distribution is to have your excess sent directly to a charity. Whether you donate all or a portion of your RMD, the portion donated is not taxed.

The important point for those who don't itemize is that **you** do not take possession of the RMD (or the portion you want to donate). **If the money passes through your hands, you must pay taxes on it.** If it goes from the financial institution directly to the church, it is not taxed.

If you want to use this tool to donate tax-free funds to your church's mission, notify the firm holding your IRA to send any amount you specify to "Lake Gibson United Methodist Church, 424 W. Daughtery Road, Lakeland, FL 33809". It goes out tax-free from you to the support of God's work here on earth.

Dwight Kitchens

How Generous Is Our Church Family?

It's that time of the year. December brings a flood of mailings asking us to donate to good causes. Some we have previously supported, others are new and you may find yourself wondering how they got your address. We applaud your generosity in following in John Wesley's footsteps by earning all you can, saving all you can, and giving all you can.

We often wonder how well we follow this image of a faithful Methodist. One way in which we, as a church, can quantify this is if all our charitable donations are made through LGUMC. These become designated funds which can only be sent to your designated recipient. By donating through the church we can build a more complete picture of LGUMC's generosity and impact on the local community, the country and the world. Be assured that your wishes will be followed, and there is no "service charge" taken by the church. Be assured that your privacy will be protected; only the dollar amount and receiving charity will be recorded.

Continued on the next page . . .

Finance and Related Topics, Continued

How Generous Is Our Church Family?, Continued

Therefore, we ask as you decide to make contributions to organizations this year, **please make your check out the LGUMC with the organization's name on the memo line.** *Better yet, paper clip that check, the organization's appeal with the amount of your donation annotated, and their postage pre-paid envelope together.*

You only need write one check even if you have dozens of donations you desire to make. Drop this envelope off either in the collection plate on Sunday or deliver it to the church office. We'll write the appropriate checks and aggregate the data so that our church family has a better idea of how we support missions outside of LGUMC.

Dwight Kitchens



Two of the many volunteers who helped out with the Craft Fair (Bonnie Fuqua and Yvonne Bower).

Photo courtesy of Sarah Schiemann

Our Departments

The Administrative Council

The next meeting will be Monday, January 30th at 7:00 pm.

Continued on the next page . . .

Our Departments, Continued

The Board of Trustees

No report

Rooted Student Ministry

Please see the Youth Ministry activities listed on the December calendar. We hope you will support us in our traditional fund-raiser, the Spud Lunch after the Cantata and the poinsettia sale.

Lee Mueller, Youth Director

Music Department



We hope you'll join us at the Cantata on December 18th (repeated on Christmas Eve). We're thrilled to have our snowbird members rejoin us for the winter season! As always, we're looking for more voices and musicians to join the choir and Let Go praise team.

Be sure to pick up copies of our pocket-sized **2016 - 2017 Concert Calendar** in the narthex. Pass them on to your friends, relatives and co-workers. Our first big event in the new year is a Popcorn Gospel Concert on **Saturday, January 14th at 5:00 pm.** Three superb groups will energize you with their harmonies and Christian messages in a free-will-offering concert. There will be a delicious dinner, too.

Glenda Grant Hess, Music Director



*For A Donation ...
Enjoy a delicious dinner
Free Will Offering Concert*



Lay Leader's Litany

No report.

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Our Departments, Continued

A Little Bit of Heaven Child Enrichment Center

Thank you, church family, for the generous support of our greeting card sales! If you haven't already picked up the cards you ordered, please call us at 863-858-8400 to make arrangements.

Lisa Bacon, Director

Adult Sunday School Classes

9:15 to 10:15 am in the FLC

Friendship Sunday School Class — Mike Stafford, Leader

We cover a wide range of Biblical subjects and share interesting insights. Please join us in the FLC.

The Seekers Sunday School Class

(FLC Class Rooms 1 and 2)

This class is using *The New International Lesson Annual, September 2016 — August 2017*, published by Abingdon Press, Nashville, TN.

Second Quarter

Creation -- A Divine Cycle

December 4, 2016 - February 26, 2017

Unit 1: THE SAVIOR HAS BEEN BORN (December 4 - December 25)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lesson</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Lesson Scripture</u>
12/4	1	God Promises a Savior	Luke 1:26 - 38
12/11	2	The Affirmation of the Promise	Luke 1:39 - 56
12/18	3	God Promised Zechariah a Son	Luke 1:8 - 20
12/25	4	God's Promised Savior is Born	Luke 2:8 - 20

Continued on the next page . . .

Our Departments, Continued

Worship Committee

Thank you to everyone who participated in our National Bible Week program. Please see the article in the November News section for details.

The next Worship Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 19th at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary. Please join us.

Glenda Grant Hess

Kitchen Committee

No report

Our Ministries

Mission Moments

Please see the article about the Sox Box under December Events and help us warm the toes of needy children and adults when the weather turns cold.

Linda Alvarez, Missions Coordinator



Our Ministries, Continued

United Methodist Men (UMM)



There was a very busy flurry of activity at the end of October and the first part of November for UMM. Of course, you heard about October 30th being United Methodist Men's Sunday. Ed Diaz of the 71:17 Ministry, based on Psalm 71:17-18, was the guest speaker. For those who were not able to make it, you missed a truly inspiring message, "How In the

Name of Holiness," based on the book of Habakkuk. We have sent him a thank-you card for being our guest speaker.

Dwight Kitchens was presented with the United Methodist Man of the Year Award, a very much deserved recognition considering his tireless efforts during the year. A pot-luck luncheon followed which was warmly received and consumed. And again, a BIG Thank You goes out to all the men who participated in the event. It was great success because of all of you.

On November 7th, six copies of the military version of "Strength for Service", a daily devotional, were mailed out via USPS Priority Mail to the following service members: ET3 Sean Roth, Jarrod Hebert, Raawban Broussard, Major Jason Babcock, Tre Davidson, and Kyle O'Connell. A seventh copy was given to Lisa Bacon, Director of ALBOH, who personally delivered it to her son, Ian, before his deployment.

UMM purchased cases of drinks and boxes of snacks as a contribution to the Craft Fair to raise funds for the campus revitalization project. The final meeting of the year will be on Saturday, December 10th at 8:30 am in the Family Life Center. We hope for a good turnout; if you haven't participated in the UMM before, please consider joining us.

Mike Booker, President
mrbooker413@tampabay.rr.com

United Methodist Women (UMW)

UMW is winding down 2016 pretty quietly. Each circle is planning Christmas celebrations and projects as described below. Our November Unit Meeting did not go quite as planned, but turned out very nicely anyway! Our guest speaker called in sick that morning, so graciously and thankfully, Pastor Steve filled in on short notice and conducted a question and answer session on all things biblical. Thank you, Pastor Steve!



Then our own, very special Lauren Rodriguez gave us her very touching testimony and treated us with her beautiful voice in song. Her testimony was powerful, thought provoking and pointed so directly to Christ as our Lord and Savior. Lauren and her boys are such a blessing to this church family. Thank you, Lauren.

We hold Unit Meetings three times a year; the next one is in February. A Unit Meeting is where members of all the UMW circles meet together for an educational program and to conduct organization business.

Continued on the next page . . .

Our Ministries, Continued

United Methodist Women (UMW)

If you're not familiar with the workings of UMW, here's some information: Monthly meetings are held in small groups, called circles. At present we have three circles, two which meet during daytime and one that meets at night. Each circle has a leader who opens the meetings and keeps everyone on track. Some leaders present the day's program, others encourage members of the group to present the program.

Each circle is free to choose what they will study and what, if any, other activities they will perform (crafting for various charities?) as a group. Everyone is free to move about from circle to circle if you see something another group is doing that is more interesting to you, or if the meeting date or time suit you better.

United Methodist Women are a supportive group of friends linked through their Christian love and dedication to mission work everywhere and anywhere in the world. There is room for a lot more Lake Gibson women within our UMW. Won't you consider joining us in 2017?

Sue Shelton

UMW Circle News



Heart to Heart's December meeting will be our famous Finger Food Fellowship luncheon at 11:00 am on Monday, December 5th, at the home of Pat Gilmore (directions will be provided). Please bring a finger food to share, \$10.00 to buy meat for the Food Pantry, and a recycled gift for the grab bag. (Do not buy a gift to exchange; choose one that you have loved enough to pass on to someone else!) If you have any questions please call Ruth Zona at 863-859-5967.

Ruth Circle of Love will meet in Rooms 1 & 2 of the FLC at 9:30 am on Wednesday, December 7th to make Christmas gift bags for the people on our visitation list. If you have not already given Pat Moon the items to place in the bags, please bring them with you. Afterward we will meet at Lou Webb's home at 12:30 pm for a Christmas celebration. Please bring a lunch treat to share. Directions will be provided. Please call Pat Moon at 863-858-6883 if you have any questions.



The **evening UMW circle** will meet on its regular second-Monday date, 12 December, at 6:30 pm at the home of Debbie Moore, 400 Vineyard Drive in Lakeland. Everyone is invited to join us. Circle leader is Debbie Moore, 863-614-7193.

Thanks to Marina Garcia who designed the Circle logos!

Continued on the next page . . .

Our Ministries, Continued

News from Prayer Ministry

Prayer Warriors are a wonderful reflection of God's love. You are one of those who keep the spirit of Christmas glowing brightly through the year. Every day you show what Christian love is really about through your prayers, compassion, concern, warmth and kindness for others. The caring things you say and do bring Christ's peace, hope and joy to everyone around you. God has blessed Lake Gibson's Prayer Warriors in bringing us together in prayer and service to him. May you be blessed with everything good and that God's love will always light your way.

May your heart be filled with the wonder of this blessed season. In Christ we give thanks.

“Keep on praying. No matter what happens, always be thankful, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.” | Thessalonians 5:17-18 (NLB)

Prayer Ministry Advocate - Fran Mudge

Visitation Ministry

Imagine being confined to bed or house-bound during this Holy season. Sometimes it feels like you've been forgotten as the days crawl by. Then imagine what it would feel like to have a smiling friend come through your door. Church friends and family make such a difference in the lives of those who can no longer get out to join us at Lake Gibson UMC. It has been a couple of years since the Visitation List has been updated and quite a bit has changed concerning those on it. We hope to have an updated visitation list in late January which will be in the narthex.

You may know that Herb Allen (one of our homeless constituents) was in a horrific hit-and-run accident while biking across US Highway 98 North in Lakeland on September 25th. Herb received two broken legs (one with multiple fractures), deep abrasions and a concussion among other injuries. Although the accident took place during daylight, no one saw anything and most disturbingly, no one called 911 for help. Herb was able to place the call himself on his cell phone. Later, he developed life-threatening blood clots and was hospitalized again.

Throughout this ordeal, Herb has remained upbeat and he doesn't hate the person who injured him. Pat and Bob Gilmore, Shirley Lux and several others have visited Herb regularly. He's lost about 50 pounds and really appreciates the tasty meals brought to him from church. (He's on blood-thinners, so cannot eat some things.) Unfortunately, being confined to bed is boring and he's often alone for long periods of time. If someone would like to give him a craft he could do in bed, or could bring a few magazines to read, he'd probably appreciate them.

Herb is scheduled to have the hard cast on his right leg removed on December 6th. If the breaks have healed enough, he will receive a soft, removable cast which should improve his mobility. He has a long way to go through recovery and physical rehabilitation. Right now he says his bicycling days are over (his beloved bike was found about 26 feet down the road from where he landed; it isn't repairable). If you would like to drop in on him and visit a few minutes, Herb is in Room 205, Wedgewood Healthcare Center, 1010 Carpenters Way, Lakeland 33809. If you can't visit, how about sending a card?

Phyllis Kitchens

Continued on the next page . . .

Our Ministries, Continued

Neighborhood Missions Ministry

No report

Boy Scouts

No report. The Boy Scouts could really use a volunteer web-master to set up a web site for them. They (Troop 711) currently have a Facebook account, but very little information is on it. Let Tom Burns, our scouting representative, know if you'd like to help out.

Cub Scouts

Pack 711 was the lead group in the Lakeland Veterans Day Parade, quite an honor for these guys.

There will be no weekly scout meetings while Polk County schools are out, 19 - 30 December.

Florida United Methodist Children's Home

The deadline for providing Angel Tree gift cards and cottage supplies is Sunday, December 2nd so we can take them to FUMCH to meet their schedule. Thank you so much for your support!

Karen and Jeff Acor
FUMCH Representatives

Celebrations

(If there are errors in these lists, you can correct them using the on-line church directory, or let the editor know so we can correct the data base. We print both members and constituents' birthdays.)



Birthdays in December

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
12/2	Bud Davis
12/2	Kaye Fields
12/3	Sue Shelton
12/5	Kris Welch
12/9	Jan Booker
12/11	Henry Zona
12/13	Holly Berry
12/13	Bob Gilmore
12/15	Marion Schroeder
12/16	Fred Berry
12/16	Debra Berry
12/17	Paul Havel
12/17	Beverly Hines
12/19	Marilyn Conger
12/19	Don Heishman
12/20	Kristie Summers
12/22	Ginger Fredrikson
12/26	Ann Kneeland
12/26	Rick Mueller
12/26	Richard Thomas
12/27	Theodore Butterfield
12/27	Kayla Freeman
12/27	Kevin Patterson
12/28	Glenda Hess
12/28	Phyllis Kitchens
12/29	Roy Bodemer

Birthdays in December, Continued

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
12/29	Virginia Collins
12/29	Bob Gunter
12/29	Judy Van Zile
12/30	Dottie Gabor
12/30	Justin Oliva
12/30	Matthew Rogers
12/31	Marion Cope



Anniversaries in December

<u>Date</u>	<u>Names</u>
12/10	Phyllis and Dwight Kitchens
12/12	Sue and Bob Holmes

We Still Need Your Help Updating Our Database, Continued

(Part 4 of 4)

We have been publishing one-fourth the anniversaries and birthdays currently in our Servant Keeper database in *The Good News* for your review and correction. **These lists include both Members and Constituents.** If your name(s) are missing, or if the dates are wrong, please call Dwight at 410-790-4422 or e-mail him at dwright@dwrightkitchens.com so we can correct the information and make sure the Celebrations section of *TGN* is correct.

Thank you to everyone who had already informed us of errors and their corrections!

Anniversaries July - September

July

- 7/11 Mary and Dennis Greenwood
- 7/26 Judy and Bill Sadwick
- 7/30 Fran and Gary Mudge

August

- 8/6 Shirley and Jack Patterson
- 8/14 Claude and Faye Hatchett
- 8/15 Martina and Bob Willome
- 8/21 Anne and John Bernat
- 8/21 Rosita and Mike Stafford

September

- 9/16 Dorothy and Tom Burns

Continued on the next page . . .

We Still Need Your Help Updating Our Database,
Continued (Part 4 of 4)

(List includes Members and Constituents)

Birthdays in July

7/1 Adam Schertzer
7/2 Jim Keller
7/2 Maureen Meyer
7/3 Lynn Grier
7/4 Kim Birkby
7/4 Mary Bristol
7/4 Gary Mudge
7/6 Joyce Holleran
7/7 Bob Hawksby
7/8 Dottie Beckum
7/8 Jessica Cogswell
7/9 Casey Wiley
7/11 Jeff Acor
7/11 Dennis Greenwood
7/13 Lisa Evans
7/14 Laura Welch
7/15 Patti Jackson
7/15 Dorothy McGehean
7/15 Mollie Oliva
7/15 Joy Walters
7/16 John Bernat
7/17 Shelby Knox
7/18 Debbie Moore
7/18 Glenn Worthington
7/22 Jim Brooks
7/22 David Knox
7/22 Allison Wesley
7/23 Linda Smucker
7/23 Larry Smucker
7/24 Matthew Collins
7/24 Sonya Jackson
7/24 Raymond Merritt
7/25 Cayden Collins
7/26 Diane Birdwell
7/26 Eric Hines
7/29 Vanessa Van Zile
7/30 Jo An Beebe
7/30 Ed Haney
7/30 Lynn Meske
7/30 Jeanne Shull
7/30 Martina Willome
7/31 Phyllis Birchler

Birthdays in August

8/1 George Band
8/1 Thomas Mitchell
8/4 Deanna Jaroszeski
8/6 Graham Pillow
8/8 Dan Johnson
8/10 Rosita Stafford
8/11 Linda Hudson
8/12 Betty Burness
8/12 Danny Hughes
8/13 Donna Woodworth

8/14 Claude Hatchett
8/15 Philip Webb
8/16 Wealthy Brown
8/17 Tesla Golan
8/18 Mike Stafford
8/19 Betty Pillow
8/20 Joyce Webb
8/23 Lauren Rodriguez
8/26 Jared Arnett
8/26 Marjorie Ford
8/27 Alexander Cabanas
8/28 Gladys Bryce
8/28 Jan Roberson
8/28 Sue Russo
8/28 Sandy Stanfield
8/30 Deborah Meyer
8/30 Don Stim
8/31 Carol Campbell
8/30 Lou Webb

Birthdays in September

9/1 Gloria Laube
9/2 Mike Booker
9/3 Paula Drummond
9/4 Harold Burness
9/6 Charles Alvarez
9/6 Fred Fredrikson
9/6 Ken Fuqua
9/6 Bob Wenger
9/7 Joe Brady
9/8 Don Eshelman
9/9 Travis Watson
9/10 Joyce Scott
9/13 Diane Eshelman
9/13 George Gribble
9/13 Lois Teske
9/14 Sue Heishman
9/14 Claudia Moore
9/15 Danielle Woodworth
9/16 James Armentrout
9/16 Gregg Hall
9/16 Helen Vandervort
9/17 Jocelyn Escobar
9/17 Blanche Lennon
9/18 Rick McLellan
9/18 Shirley Patterson
9/18 Don Shedd
9/19 Jarica Arnett
9/20 Clayton Loggins
9/20 Gail Patterson
9/22 Jean Crider
9/23 Vivian Hiller
9/24 Carol Davis
9/24 Daniel McCarty
9/27 Creon Fredrikson
9/27 Jack Patterson
9/27 Larry Smith
9/28 Chris Lowery
9/30 Lyla Jane Winstead

Lake Gibson United Methodist Church shares and supports the love of Jesus Christ.

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The Good News is a monthly church newsletter bringing the "Good News" to members and friends of Lake Gibson United Methodist Church. We welcome your suggestions, comments and articles. You may reach the editor, Phyllis Kitchens, by calling 863-984-4564 (home) or 410-790-2662 (cell), or by e-mailing her at phyllis_kitchens@hotmail.com.