



The Good News

*Our Mission in making disciples for Jesus Christ is...
to instruct Heads to know God's Word
to nurture Hearts to grow in God's Love
to offer Hands to show God's Grace
in our community and church family.*

Lake Gibson United Methodist Church



Steve Polk, Pastor

424 West Daughtery Road, Lakeland Florida 33809

Phone (863) 858-5431

From the Pastor's Desk

Have you ever heard of the Christmas Truce of 1914? This verified event exemplifies the true miracle of Christmas. World War I, the war to end all wars, was being waged across Europe; it was beyond comprehension in its savagery and violence. On Christmas Eve and Christmas Day of 1914 the German troops begin to put out lights and trees along the top of their trenches. This was all unofficial; there were no orders or plans for this to occur and it took place over several hundred miles of the Western Front. The Germans invited the Allied soldiers to the middle of no man's land where they sang Christmas Carols and held church services. At several places friendly soccer matches were held and gifts from home shared with others. No shots were fired nor were any incidents of violence reported.

The next day when officers ordered the troops to fire at each other they refused. Officers eventually

threatened to shoot troops not firing at the enemy to which many replied, "But they are not the enemy they are our friends". For several days no one was injured as the men shot high over the heads of the troops in the opposing line; one Allied soldier wrote home saying nothing was in danger but the stars overhead for several days. Imagine – the peace of Christ stopping a war, preserving life and making friends of enemies. Oh that the peace of Christ would invade our world again this year causing reconciliation and healing. We sing in the song, Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me; but do we really mean it? If so, let's begin to act like it this Christmas Season and extend the peace of Christ to everyone throughout the coming year. The spirit of Christmas is to be lived each day of life not just for a few days or weeks. The Christmas Spirit is to transform the heart of men to mirror the heart of a God who gave up his throne in heaven so He could be with His people forever.

C Come, Oh please come
H Home my precious Child
R Run quickly straight
I Into my
S Strong arms of pure Love
T Tell others of the love and the
M Magnificent splendor of heaven and the awesome
A Angelic choruses celebrating in song the birth of the
S Savior of the world - Emmanuel – Jesus the Christ.



*Merry Christmas
Pastor Steve and Mrs. Penny*

The Choir is to be very happy this December as studies show:

Singing releases endorphins, the feel-good chemicals in the brain. Because the deep breathing needed to sing draws more oxygen into the blood and causes better circulation, it's also an aerobic activity and a natural stress-reducer. Plus, people who sing in choral groups might feel a lift from their social connection and working in unison. (Also we pray for each other and holy humor abounds)

So if you want to be happier this year come join us...we are joyful (just older youth fully unconditionally *the* LORD's)



This month of December we begin the extra activities on the 8th at 7 pm presenting our "Christmas Program" to Coffee Church (American Baptist behind Walmart) . All are invited to attend.

December 10th we are presenting the program to the Crystal Lake UMC church choir.

December 12th we are presenting the program to our own UMW and then we are off to Savanna Court Nursing Facility.

December 14th we are going to be so happy from singing we will have to party.



December 18th we will (Lord willing) sing our Cantata "Mary Did You Know," at the combined service here at Lake Gibson.

December 24th we have an anthem "One King".

Our wonderful choir director has been busy with proposals for a new instrument and has found time to order our Easter Cantata. (She loves happy faces J)



Our Praise Team is delighted to have Jay and Beverly Ellis back. They will be working harder than ever this year in our 10:30 service to continue to bring worshipful songs. Jay and Beverly are very dedicated in their heartfelt quest to bring God their very best every week.



We are also expecting great things from our new Youth Band!!



Our happy 3 year old *Cherubs* are learning their Christmas songs to present at the UMW program and on the 12th and 18th also.



We wish one and all a very **Merry Christmas**.



Rooted Student Ministries, Lake Gibson United Methodist Church

424 W. Daughtery Rd, Lakeland, FL 33809

863.858.5431

Lee Mueller, Director

Youth@LakeGibsonUMC.org



DECEMBER

Sun 4th-dinner, 5pm & movie "Soul Surfer" 6-8:30pm
 Wed 7th-potluck/youth, 6-8:30pm
 Thur 8th-Vball 7-9+pm, hi school & up
 Sun 11th-youth, 6-8:30pm
 Wed 14th-Church St nite! Service project/ youth gathering, 6-8:30pm
 Thur 15th Vball 7-9+pm, hi school & up
 Fri 16th-LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
 Sat 17th-Cantata practice & Spud lunch prep & pizza-- times TBA
 Sun 18th-Cantata 10am-SPUD LUNCH 11:30ish (acct \$)
 Mon 19th-CMAS youth party @ church 6-10pm (\$5 gift to exchange)
 Wed 21st-NO YOUTH
 Sat 24th-lumminaires @4:30pm
 Cmas eve service @ 6pm
 Sun 25th-Merry Christmas! Service @ 10am, NO YOUTH tonite

2012 DATES

Mon, Jan 2-play day 2-6pm
 Tue, Jan 3-back to school
 Sat. Jan 14-Winter Jam, noon-11:30pm, \$13
 Mon, Jan 16- no school- Webster or beach
 Mon, Jan 23-no school-
 Sat, Jan 28th-Youth Sun prac 10-noon?
 Sun, Jan 29th- Youth Sun. 7:15-noon
 Sun Feb 5th-Super Subs, 7:30am
 GAME TIME PARTY @ my house
 Sat Feb 11th-Love boat prep, 10am
 Sun Feb 12th-Love boat, movie @ 3pm & dinner @ 5-9+pm. (acct \$)
 Mon, Feb 20th-no school, ???
 Spring Break-March 12-16, TBA
 Good Friday, Easter April 6 & 8

Acquire the Fire April 20-21

COUPONS



Commissaries overseas accepts expired coupons up to six months past expiration.

Approximately every two months, I will send collected coupons to a collection site for mailing overseas. Please turn in your trimmed unused manufacture coupons to Sarah Schiemann or put into the designated box in the narthex. Remember it will take 2 to 3 months to collect and get to the troops so give only recently expired or non-expired coupons.

Our first mailing will be at the end of December.

Trimmed Printed internet manufacture coupons also accepted.

NO store or restaurant coupons please.

In His Service:

We need 4 important persons to fill these positions before our December 18th Cantata and thru the year..

Lighting Tech: help coordinate Sanctuary lighting and spotlight for effects.

VideoTaping tech: attend rehearsals to best plan taping sites and know program.

Wardrobe manager: organize costumes, noting repairs, replacement, additions and cleaning needs (Help with design ideas and props).

Drama Coach: help encourage "character presence and movements" for best dramatic portrayals.

Help select volunteers needed

Church Council Called Meeting

November 20, 2011

Council Chair, Ken Fuqua, called a church council meeting during our combined, 10:AM Thanksgiving service, to approve the 2012 budget being presented by Randy & Karen Moore and Wayne Wesley.

The 2012 budget voted on is:

Ministries	\$	8,770
Finance		37,853
Trustees		81,215
Staff Parish Relations		<u>173,286</u>
Total		301,124

This budget was moved to pass and 2nd. We had no further discussion and the 2012 budget was approved with no opposition.

Respectfully,

Lee Mueller

UMW MEETING will be December 12th @ 11:00 AM

Christmas time is here. Come and Listen to the Pre-School Cherubs and the adult choir sing our favorite Christmas songs. We will also be discussing different ministries and missions to share our monies with at the end of the year. Men & women are invited.

Merry Christmas

Jo Ann Mickle, UMW President



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Steve B. Polk
Pastor

November 28, 2011

RE: E S P

Greetings,

Evangelism, **S**tewardship, and **P**romises is the theme for the Lake Gibson United Methodist Church's 2012 stewardship program. Karen and I have been speaking each Sunday on the subject of giving your financial gifts and talents to the church to carry out God's work. Matthew 28: 16-20 tells us how Jesus directed his people and the church to evangelize; Go, and make disciples of everyone.

We are unveiling the 2012 budget, which will display the cost of operating our church at \$301,124. However, only 3% or \$8,770 is set aside for evangelism and missions. We need to seek God's guidance to increase our evangelism budget along with our financial gifts for 2012.

We each need to pray that the Holy Spirit guides our hearts to joyfully give of our financial gifts and talents to Lake Gibson United Methodist Church in order to carry out God's mission. Our pledge goal for 2012 is \$301,124, with final giving to exceed that number. This will provide Lake Gibson United Methodist Church the opportunity to meet our financial obligation and the command from Jesus to evangelize our neighborhood, community, nation, and the world.

We proclaim faith in Jesus Christ our Savior; we now need to step out in faith, believing that God will supply our needs and allow us to support our church and our mission of evangelism. Jesus promises in Luke 6: 38 that what we give to the Lord will be given back to us in full measure.

December 4th, we will have an opportunity to bring our pledge cards to the church in preparation to meet our budget in 2012. You will be blessed many times over for what you return to the Lord.

In His service,

Karen and Randy Moore
Stewardship Co-Chairs

NOTICE

The monthly activities calendar can be viewed by click on the [calendar](#) link button on www.lakegibsonumc.com website

Thank You !

I would like to say a Special Thank You to the person who found my earring.
It was greatly appreciated.

Thank You –*Lonnie Brady*

12/4 John and Gail Travis

12/10 Rusty and Linda Collins

12/10 Dwight and Phyllis Kitchens



12/15 Wayne and Jean Wesley

12/22 Steve and Tammie Schertzer

12/22 Paul and Louise Twyman



Birthdays

2/2 Bud Davis

12/2 Kaye Fields

12/3 Sue Shelton

12/3 Paul Twyman

12/9 Lisa Curtis

12/9 Jan Booker

12/11 Henry Zona

12/12 Bert Fortin

12/14 Bob Bailey

12/14 Linda Smucker

12/15 Marian Schroeder

12/17 Joan Frederich

12/17 Beverly Hines

12/19 Don Heishman

12/20 Bill McKinney

12/22 Midge Plath

12/22 Ginger Fredrikson

12/23 Betty Tomlinson

12/25 Elisa Vividor

12/26 Rick Mueller

12/26 Gene Mosholder

12/27 Kevin Patterson

12/28 Glenda Grant

12/28 Phyllis Kitchens

12/29 Judy VanZlle

12/29 Bob Gunter

12/29 Roy Bodemer

12/30 Dottie Gabor

12/30 Justin Oliva

12/31 Matthew Rogers

12/31 Marion Cope



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

The Good News

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 and comments. Please send to :

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Office Hours: 8:30 am. till 3:00 pm. (Monday thru Friday)

Web Page - www.lakegibsonumc.com

Rosita M. Stafford, Administrative Secretary;

Lee Mueller—Youth Director

Sue Heishman, Bookkeeper,

Glenda Grant, Director of Music/Organist

Burt Fortin, Custodian

A Little Bit of Heaven Child Enrichment Center

Interim Director - Phone: 858-8400

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