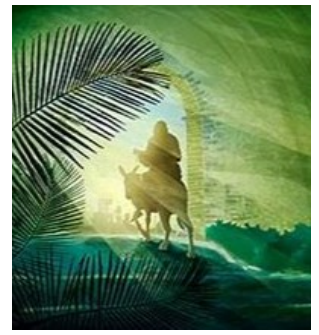




The Good News

Lake Gibson United Methodist Church



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

March 2018

Steve Polk, Pastor

424 West Daughtery Road, Lakeland Florida 33809

Phone (863) 858-5431

From the Pastor's Desk

Charles Dickens opened his classic *A Tale of Two Cities* with this: *"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us, we were all going direct to Heaven, we were all going direct the other way . . ."*

Dickens' book was published in 1859, over 150 years ago, but the quote sounds like the world we live in today. We have so much knowledge and technology available to us in the world today. Medical science can do miracles in treating human ailments; knowledge is available in the palm of our hands. So many things are good for us, yet evil comes out in politics, school violence, the lack of civility in our society, the displacement of the poor and many other things. In this age of wisdom, as in Dickens' novel, there is so much foolishness going on. In the midst of hope, it seems like much of the world is determined to "go to hell in a handbasket".

Where should the church and Christianity be in all of this? In the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5 - 7, go read it), Jesus tells us that we should be "the salt of society, the light of the world set on a hill for all to see", yet we are often silent in the craziness of the insanity of this world. In that Sermon on the Mount Jesus repeatedly challenged his followers to not fall into the ways of the world. He told them again and again, "You have heard . . . but I say to you . . ." and in each of those sayings he tells what the people of His kingdom should base their actions and values on. In each case Jesus turns the world and its thoughts and value systems upside down and shows they are an inadequate way in which to live.

When we begin to really act like the church of Jesus Christ, we will probably be called crazy ourselves, because the people of the world will not understand us; yet, the people of Jesus' time thought he was crazy, too. Maybe we worry too much about what other people think about us, instead of concentrating on what God wants of us – which is to help others and make the world a better place to live in, a place that is safe for all peoples and welcoming to all mankind. Perhaps our desire to be seen as normal and a part of society has led us down the wrong road. Maybe we need to get on our knees, repent of our collusion with the world and beg God to show us His kingdom and how to live in it. When we stop worrying about what others think, maybe we can hear the still, small voice of God and be led by his Spirit the way the cloud and fire led the Israelites for 40 years. Then we may be the Church of Jesus Christ. What do you think?

Pastor Steve

Opportunities for Service

Looking for Our Easter Bunny!

HELP! We have a costume, but NOOO bunny! Marina Hernandez, our usual bunny, will not be able to help this year, so we are searching for someone to fill her very large, fluffy shoes. If you can serve, please call Michael Moake.

Volunteers in the Church Office

While our Administrative Secretary is out, we need people to work in the office from March 5th until Marina returns in 2 to 4 weeks. Marina has prepared most of the documents needed for March, so we're looking for people who can **answer the telephone and take messages**. **During this period the office will be open only Monday through Thursday, from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm**. Please call the office if you would like to provide assistance, 863-858-5431. While Marina is out, the Food Pantry will continue to be open on Thursdays from 9:30 to 11:30 am. Yvonne Bower will pack the grocery bags.

Greeters for Both Services

If you like to smile and shake hands, we need you to be a greeter! We need greeters for both the 8:00 am and 10:30 am services. If you are interested, please contact Jackie Webb at 863-853-2775, or put your name and phone number in the collection plate stating which service and dates you will take.

2nd Annual Wonder Walk East, March 24th from 8:00 am to Noon, at College Heights UMC, 942 South Blvd, Lakeland, FL 33803

Please support the Wonder Walk East with your donations and your presence. If you can't walk around Lake Hollingsworth (any distance up to the whole 2.8 miles around), you can pack gallon bags of weekend food for children who attend the child care centers enrolled in the Cornerstone Family Ministries program. (Cornerstone Family Ministries is one of only two United Methodist Women National Mission Institutions in Florida.)

This is a fun event that includes fellowship with other UMW members and a silent auction of gift baskets during the free luncheon. Please come at 8 am to enjoy breakfast with praise and worship at check-in. Don't forget to buy lots of tickets for the silent auction -- three of the baskets were made by our own UMW circles. Everyone who attends gets a 2018 Wonder Walk T-shirt.

Donations can be by check made out to Lake Gibson UMC with an annotation for Wonder Walk, or by cash placed in an envelope marked Wonder Walk (envelopes are in the backs of the pews). If you can't walk, or if the 24th isn't a good day for you, how about holding a VIRTUAL Wonder Walk at a time and place of your choosing? Please call Phyllis Kitchens to register for a Virtual Wonder Walk.

Candy Donations and Volunteers Needed for Easter Egg Hunt, March 31st

The United Methodist Men will host an Easter Egg Hunt at noon on Saturday, March 31st. The kids will snack on popcorn and afterwards enjoy hot dogs and drinks from 1:00 to 2:00 pm. We're requesting donations of wrapped, non-chocolate (non-melting) candies to be placed in the plastic eggs. Please bring your donations to church or drop them by the office. The men are **seeking assistance with filling the eggs** with candy on Saturday, **March 17th, from 9:00 to 11:00 am** in the FLC. We will also need **help with hiding the eggs** on Saturday morning, March 31st, **between 9:00 and 10:00 am** prior to Cantata practice. Finally, we need volunteers, both men and women, to shepherd the children while they play. Thank you, Michael Moake, President, UMM, 863-816-3194

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Special Monthly Events Calendar for March

(Events that do not occur on a weekly basis, or the first occurrence of a *new* weekly event)

2018		MARCH					SUNDAY	
CALENDAR YEAR		CALENDAR MONTH					FIRST DAY OF WEEK	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
25	26 Church Office closed every Friday in March	27	28	01	02 World Day of Prayer	03		
04	05 UMW Heart to Heart Circle, 10:30 am, FLC; Board of Trustees mtg, 2 pm, office	06	07 UMW Ruth Circle of Love, 11 am, FLC; How to Prepare for Disasters, 7 pm, The Hamptons, Auburndale 33823	08 ALBOH Board mtg, 4:30 pm, FLC; Cub Scout Committee mtg, 7 pm, FLC	09	10 United Methodist Men Breakfast mtg, 9 am, Golden Corral; Memorial Service, William Aust, 10 am, Sanctuary & FLC		
11 Daylight Savings Time Begins - Spring Forward! UMCOR Sunday (offering); Deadline to sign up for FUMCH Day on Campus trip	12 Staff, Pastor, Parish Com mtg, 1 pm, FLC; UMW Evening Circle, 6:30 pm, off campus	13	14	15	16	17 FUMCH Day on Campus, van departs 7:45 am; Fill Easter Eggs, 9 - 11 am; FLC		
18	19 UMW Leadership Team Mtg, 1:00 pm, FLC; Finance Com mtg, 7 pm, FLC	20	21	22	23	24 Wonder Walk East, 8 am-noon, College Hts UMC; Cantata Rehearsal, 10 am		
25 Palm Sunday	26 ALBOH School Camp, 6 am - 6 pm; Worship Com mtg, 7 pm, Sanc	27 ALBOH School Camp, 6 am - 6 pm	28 ALBOH School Camp, 6 am - 6 pm	29 ALBOH School Camp, 6 am - 6 pm	30 Good Friday; ALBOH School Camp, 6 am - 6 pm	31 Cantata Rehearsal, 10 am; Easter Egg Hunt, noon; Lunch 1 - 2 pm		
01 Easter Sunday; Sunrise Service, 7:30 am, Easter Cantata Service, 10:30 am	02	03	04	05	06	07		

Weekly Recurring Events on next page . . .

March Weekly Recurring Events

(See the Sunday bulletin for changes; the upcoming Sunday bulletin is posted on the web site.)

Sunday

Traditional Worship Service	8:00 am	Sanctuary
Adult Sunday school classes	9:15 - 10:15 am	FLC
Kidtricity Children's Ministry	9:15 - 10:15 am	FLC
Contemporary Worship Service	10:30 am	Sanctuary
Children's Ministry continues (nursery available)	10:30 - 11:45 am	Sanctuary & FLC
Asian Christian Service	3:00 pm	Sanctuary

Monday

Intercessory Prayer	9:30 am	Sanctuary
Boy Scout Troop 711	7:00 pm	FLC

Tuesday

Deadline for Bulletin Inserts	noon	Office
Praise Team Rehearsal	6:30 pm	Sanctuary
Cub Scout Pack 711	7:00 pm	FLC

Wednesday

Mid-week Devotions	8:00 am	FLC
ALBOH Chapel	9:15 am	Preschool
Book of Acts Messianic Study	10:00 am	Off-campus
<i>The Story</i> Small Group 1	10:00 am	Off-campus
Choir Rehearsal	6:30 pm	Sanctuary
Bible Study with Pastor	7:00 pm	FLC

Thursday

Food Pantry	9:30 - 11:30 am	Office
Bible Study with Pastor	10:00 am	FLC
<i>The Story</i> Small Group 2	7:00 pm	Off-campus

We Need Your E-mail Address!

In trying to provide the newsletter and/or the 2017 annual giving statements by e-mail, a number of them bounced back due to incorrect e-mail addresses. If your name is listed here, please send an e-mail to Dwight Kitchens (dwight@dwightkitchens.com) letting him know your correct (or preferred) e-mail for church correspondence: **Bob Atchley; Robert Beniston, Margaret Coppola, Juanita Davis, Ken Fuqua, Larry Gitt, Mary Hamilton, Dan Jackson, Gary Jones, Steve Jones, Karen Kerry, Wanda Lammey, Mike Lavare, Stephen Mann, Rick McLellan, Randy Moore, Stephen Osborn, Don Putnam, Jeri Spooner, Sharon Shepherd, Philip Webb, Donna Woodworth.** Thank you, Dwight (863-984-4564)

February News

Ash Wednesday, February 14th



Pastor Steve Polk, Glenda Hess and Debbie Moore were ready to serve commuters and students early on Ash Wednesday in spite of the fog. Photos by Debbie Moore

That evening Pastor Steve held a moving Ash Wednesday worship service which included prayers for the victims of the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL earlier in the day.

CROP Hunger Walk, February 25th



Bonnie Cochran organized Lake Gibson's 2018 Crop Hunger Walk Sunday afternoon, February 25th. *We had 6 walkers: Debbie Moore, Will and Bonnie Cochran, Dwight and Phyllis Kitchens and Sue Shelton.* It was a beautiful, but warm, afternoon with enthusiastic walkers from a number of area churches.

We'll report the amount of donations raised in the next newsletter. Thank you to everyone who supported this fund-raising effort for Church World Service and local homeless charities.

Helping unload gifts for a local food pantry before the walk started.



All Saints' Episcopal Church had the largest turnout of walkers, and were easily recognizable by their new t-shirts. How about some Lake Gibson UMC shirts for adults, youth and children's ministries?

Perhaps some of our talented artists could develop a logo that would represent our church to others? Up to a design challenge, anyone?

March Events

How to Prepare for Disasters, Wednesday, March 7th at 7:00 pm

DISASTERS

How to Prepare for

Train Wrecks - Hurricanes - Tornadoes - Chemical Spills



Bay News 9
Chief Meteorologist
Mike Clay

will present how disasters can
impact a MFG Home Community

A Polk County Sheriff Animal Control Officer

will discuss evacuating with your pet and

A Polk County Special Needs Coordinator

will discuss sheltering for those with special needs

Wednesday, March 7

7:00 pm

Clubhouse Ballroom

The Hamptons CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) is welcoming anyone interested to attend this program in their clubhouse ballroom on **Wednesday, March 7th at 7:00 pm**. You do not have to be a CERT member.

The Hamptons is located at 1094 US Hwy 92 W, Auburndale, FL 33823.

Wonder Walk East, March 24th, 8 am to noon

Please see the article on page 2. If you can't make it to this event at College Heights UMC, please make a donation to LGUMC with a notation that it is for Wonder Walk.

Easter Egg Hunt, Noon, March 31st

The United Methodist Men are sponsoring an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 31st, after Cantata Rehearsal. Please bring your kids and grandkids, and invite your neighbors' children to come. There will be snacks, hotdog and drinks.

Palm Sunday is March 25th and Easter Cantata is April 1st, 10:30 am

Please invite your friends, neighbors and family to join us for these special holy days.

Craft Fair Items Wanted for Church Table

Okay folks, I know it may seem a little early to ask this, but I am looking **for items for the church table during the Craft Fair**, which is scheduled for **November 17th**. This should give you enough time to work on projects, even if you travel over the summer. We appreciate your fiber crafts of all sorts -- knitted, crocheted, woven, sewn and quilted, but don't be limited to these crafts. Anything you can imagine and make will be appreciated.

I have a couple of simple projects that I could use some help with. I need someone to help paint or stain . . . no experience is necessary. I am also looking for someone who may know how to make fishing lures. Please call me if you can help with these projects.

Barbara Allen-Coil, 863-859-5902

2018 Lenten Message from the Council of Bishops

[Source: www.umc.org/news-and-media. This has been edited for space and format.]

Monday, February 12, 2018

Dear Friends,



On behalf of the entire Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church, I greet you as we enter the Lenten Season – a season of reflection and preparation for the celebration of Jesus’ triumphant resurrection on Easter.

The pattern of our Lenten journey was set by Jesus during his 40 days of solitude, fasting, prayer and testing in the Judean desert. This was an essential period of preparation for Jesus’ public ministry. But, the goal of our Lenten journey was revealed by Jesus when he first foretold his disciples of his death and resurrection. Mark’s Gospel has Jesus saying: “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.” (Mark 8:34-35)

What does it mean to lose one’s life for the sake of the gospel? It means to live the same purposeful life Jesus lived. It means to deny our preferences for the sake of Jesus’ kingdom purposes. It means to set aside our self-interest so that others may have a more abundant life. It means we are saved in order to participate in the salvation of others. It means our hearts will break for the very situations that break the heart of God.

Our beloved United Methodist Church is in a season of Lent. We are in an intense season of prayer, discernment and exploring what it means to lose one’s life for the sake of the gospel. The Commission on a Way Forward and the Council of Bishops have entered a critical time of reflection, prayer and fasting as we seek to listen deeply and expectantly to the Holy Spirit. We are confident God’s Spirit will guide the Commission and the Council in discerning where God is leading our church and how, through Christ’s grace, we will continue to do ministry and make disciples throughout the world.

We invite all United Methodists to join us in this Lenten reflection by focusing on the mission that Jesus Christ gave us at the end of his earthly ministry after he triumphantly overcame sin, hatred and death to give birth to a church grounded in the new covenant of love. Please join us in these Lenten disciplines of surrendering our lives to the way of the cross.

- Take at least 30 minutes every day in Lent to pray, offering God your requests, prayers, intercessions and thanksgiving. Pray for the members of the Commission on a Way Forward. Pray for your bishops. Pray for the church and pray for the whole world. 1 John 5:14-15 reminds that we should have bold confidence that “if we ask anything according to God’s will, God hears us. And if we know that God hears us - whatever we ask - we know that we have what we asked of God.”
- Take time to fast, whether it is from food or from some activity. Take the example of Jesus who withdrew to the desert to fast from food and pray for 40 days before starting his public ministry. Our fasting brings us closer to God and enhances our prayers. In whatever we decide to do, we must remember as Romans 14:17 tells us: “For the kingdom of God is not food and drink but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.”

Council of Bishops Lenten Message continued on the next page . . .

2018 Lenten Message from the Council of Bishops, Continued

- Take time to reflect on your spiritual gifts and resources that God has blessed you with and share them with others. Donate your time or money saved by fasting to your local church for missions and ministries that benefit your local community directly. Offer your service for acts of compassion and advocacy. Take the example of the first Christians who “were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need.” (Acts 2:44-45)

During this Lenten season, let us continue to live out our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Together, let us lose our lives for the sake of the Gospel. By doing so, we will honor the Lord’s Prayer that the kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven and thereby glorify God.

Bishop Bruce R. Ough, President
Council of Bishops
The United Methodist Church

Commission on a Way Forward Update

[Extracted from an article by Heather Hahn, Feb 12, 2018, published by the United Methodist News Service Daily Digest, and edited for spacing and format]

“An international group of United Methodist leaders heard more details on three possible models for how the church ministers with LGBTQ individuals. Three participants in the Commission on a Way Forward presented an update on their work to four denominational leadership bodies holding a joint meeting in this western African country.” . . .

“The 2016 General Conference authorized [the Council of Bishops to form the commission](#) after decades of intensifying debate around inclusion of LGBTQ individuals. The commission has the task of advising the bishops on possible ways through the impasse. In turn, the bishops will use that advice in determining what it submits to the special General Conference.”

“ . . .The commission has named the three options.”

“The Traditionalist Model

This possibility would affirm current church restrictions related to LGBTQ individuals and aim to add more accountability for enforcement of those restrictions.

The Book of Discipline, the church’s policy book, says the practice of homosexuality “is incompatible with Christian teaching” and lists officiating at a same-gender union or being a “self-avowed practicing” gay clergy member as chargeable offenses under church law.

“Accountability is the big headline on this model,” Wenner said [retired Bishop Rosemarie Wenner of Germany]. “And those who say this is not for us, as a group of people, as a conference, as a local church or whoever, would be asked to leave the connection.””

“The Centrist Model

This possibility would remove the Book of Discipline's restrictive language and allow more freedom for United Methodists to set policies around LGBTQ inclusion, according to their own contexts.

Continued on the next page . . .

Commission on a Way Forward Update, Continued

“The Centrist Model, Continued

Conferences individually could choose whether to ordain openly gay clergy, and local congregations could decide whether to allow same-gender weddings, Wenner said. The model also would specifically protect the rights of United Methodists whose conscience will not allow them to perform same-gender weddings or ordain LGBTQ people. “We think no one has to make any decision at all,” she said. “They can just continue the journey as they are now.””

“The Multi-branch Model

This possibility would create multiple branches of the denomination “operating under one roof,” Wenner said.

The branches would share one General Conference, which would have responsibility for overseeing shared services such as certain general agency functions. Under the denominational roof, there could be a branch that wants to maintain the current Book of Discipline’s language, a branch that favors a more local approach and a branch that wants full inclusion of LGBTQ individuals in all parts of their fellowship.

Wenner added that central conferences — church regions in Africa, Europe and the Philippines — could be their own branches under this plan.”

Heather Hahn is a multimedia news reporter for United Methodist News Service. Contact her at (615) 742-5470 or newsdesk@umcom.org. To read more United Methodist news, subscribe to the [free Daily or Weekly Digests](#).

[To read the additional paragraphs of this article, including a discussion of the three models by clergy, go to www.umc.org/news-and-media/daily-digest-february-12-2018.]

Tell Them We Are Rising: The Story of Black Colleges and Universities

[Extracted from press release by the United Methodist Board of Higher Education and Ministry published in the United Methodist News Service Daily Digest, February 14, 2018]

“Tell Them We Are Rising: The Story of Black Colleges and Universities” is a documentary that examines the impact of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) on U.S. history, culture and identity. The work of The Black College Fund (BCF) at the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM) supports the **11 United Methodist-related historically Black colleges and universities** and is included within the documentary.

“Tell Them We Are Rising” will premiere on Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) February 19, at 9 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. **[WEDU channel 3 will repeat the program at 1:00 pm on Sunday, March 4th.]** In addition, Cynthia Bond Hopson, Ph.D., assistant general secretary, Black College Fund and Ethnic Concerns, Division of Higher Education, GBHEM, is participating in local screenings (Nashville, Tennessee) and panel discussions of the documentary. [You may order the DVD at www.shoppbs.org. Ed.]

“Historically Black Colleges and Universities are still very relevant and needed, and are still producing leaders for The United Methodist Church and the world,” said Bond Hopson. “We are extremely proud and honored to be a part of the ongoing work at our 11 HBCUs. This documentary does an outstanding job in sharing the story of these schools and other HBCUs across the country. We are thrilled about the release and hope that it helps to educate and create greater awareness around the impact and legacy of black colleges in the U.S.”

Church Forms on Web Site

Ever need to complete a form for the church office? Well, rather than going to the office to complete your form, why not go online? We now have **electronically fillable, printable and emailable forms** online at www.lakegibsonumc.com under Congregational Information/Forms. These include:

- 2018 Pledge Card to be sent to financesecretary@lakegibsonumc.com
- Bulletin Insert to be sent to office@lakegibsonumc.com
- Calendar Item to be sent to office@lakegibsonumc.com
- Newsletter Item to be sent to newsletter@lakegibsonumc.com
- Reimbursement Form to be sent to office@lakegibsonumc.com (**Must include receipt.** You can scan the receipt and forward it with the reimbursement form to the office or print both and bring in or mail to the office. No receipt = No reimbursement.)

If you are using the free Adobe Acrobat DC, you can complete the form online and then either print out the completed copy or email it using the desktop MS Office's Outlook program, or a web-based mail server such as Gmail, Yahoo, etc. (You may have to do a one-time setup for sending forms by your web-mail provider.)

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 and constituents 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

Marina's Corner

Observe good faith and justice toward all nations. Cultivate peace and harmony with all.

George Washington

Sunday Bulletin Announcements: Due to Marina's impending absence from March 5th for 2 to 4 weeks, she made up the Sunday bulletins for the entire month. If you have late-breaking news or announcements, they will have to be put into the bulletin as inserts.

Change in Office Schedule: While Marina is out the office will only be open Mondays through Thursdays, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Volunteers are needed to answer the phones.

Food Pantry: Thank you all for your dedication not only to our church, but to the Food Pantry. These are the **items that we need the most: Pastas, Hamburger Helper, spaghetti sauce, baked beans, canned carrots, canned potatoes, tuna, peanut butter and jelly.** Don't forget to bring your donations on **Harvest Sunday, March 11th.** All donations are greatly appreciated. We thank you in advance.

Marina G. Hernandez, Administrative Secretary, 863-858-5431.

Finance and Related Topics

Financial Update

Thank you, Lord! LGUMC has once again had sufficient funds during the beginning of February to pay our total Property and Liability Insurance in time to benefit from a 2% discount. Now, as a connectional church, we will start to pay our 2018 apportionments over the next ten months. As you know, we paid all of our 2017 apportionments.

During January we established three new designated accounts to cover long-term maintenance and repair needs of the church. First, we anticipate needing \$60,000 within the next two years to re-roof the sanctuary. Second, after years of concern, we are planning to raise \$105,000 over three years to replace all the air conditioners within the Sanctuary and Family Life Center with newer, more energy-efficient units. Third, we want to insure that we have a reserve account to cover the insurance deductible on our properties. Should the next hurricane damage all four of our properties, we would need \$181,170 up front before the Florida Conference's insurance kicked in for the buildings. This is a five-year fund-raising project, praying that we don't need it sooner.

Funding all of these additional items would add approximately \$15 per adult per week to what we currently receive as our general offering. We hope that you can see why these items are needed and contribute as you are able.

The figures below represent data from the end of January 2018.

2018 - Month	Sundays	Straight-Line Budgeted Revenue	Actual Revenue	Expenditures	Budgeted	Rev-Exp
January	4	\$25,256	\$23,610	\$18,082	\$25,256	\$5,528
February	4	\$25,256			\$25,256	
March	4	\$25,256			\$25,256	
April	5	\$31,570			\$31,571	
May	4	\$25,256			\$25,256	
June	4	\$25,256			\$25,256	
July	5	\$31,570			\$31,571	
August	4	\$25,256			\$25,256	
September	5	\$31,570			\$31,571	
October	4	\$25,256			\$25,256	
November	4	\$25,256			\$25,256	
December	5	\$31,570			\$31,571	

Financial Update continued on the next page . . .

Finance and Related Topics, Continued

Financial Update, Continued

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

Data Entry

Current Year **2018**

Current Budget **\$328,334**

Month	Actual 2015	Actual 2016	Actual 2017	3-Yr Total	3-Yr \$ Avg Monthly	3-Yr \$ Avg Cumulative	Actual 2018
January	\$22,306	\$29,299	\$28,306	\$79,911	\$26,637	\$26,637	\$23,610
February	\$26,282	\$29,218	\$27,256	\$82,756	\$27,585	\$54,222	
March	\$31,316	\$21,386	\$26,501	\$79,203	\$26,401	\$80,623	
April	\$22,325	\$24,069	\$28,612	\$75,006	\$25,002	\$105,625	
May	\$26,498	\$28,167	\$21,816	\$76,481	\$25,494	\$131,119	
June	\$18,538	\$17,395	\$17,272	\$53,205	\$17,735	\$148,854	
July	\$17,763	\$23,318	\$23,381	\$64,462	\$21,487	\$170,341	
August	\$18,641	\$15,985	\$16,366	\$50,992	\$16,997	\$187,339	
September	\$16,310	\$23,646	\$21,139	\$61,095	\$20,365	\$207,704	
October	\$18,372	\$24,737	\$20,835	\$63,944	\$21,315	\$229,018	
November	\$32,022	\$22,606	\$21,926	\$76,554	\$25,518	\$254,536	
December	\$28,664	\$23,214	\$27,446	\$79,324	\$26,441	\$280,978	
Total	\$279,037	\$283,040	\$280,856	\$842,933	\$280,978	\$280,978	\$23,610

As of the end of January, the total contributions to our three long-term designated funds are as follows:

Fund	Re-Roofing	Air Conditioners	Insurance Deductible
Total Required	\$60,000	\$105,000	\$181,170
Wanted by end of 2018	\$30,000	\$35,000	\$36,234
Raised thru Jan 2018	\$3,395	\$14,556	\$2,890
% of Total Raised	5.6%	13.8%	1.6%

Campus Revitalization

Congratulations! LGUMC has finally raised sufficient funds to go from **conception to permitting, purchase and installation of an electronic sign!** It will permit us to tell our neighbors what happens here each week and to invite them in. We do so much which is only known within the church community. The sign will permit us to reach out and hopefully grab the interest of those who pass by our facility each day.

Thank you to everyone who gave generously to make the new sign possible!



Pastor Steve Polk, Trustees Chair Bob Gilmore and Finance Chair Dwight Kitchens discussing possible sign locations.

Easter Every Sunday declares this altar decoration from the Worship Committee.

Photo by
Dwight Kitchens



Our Departments

The Administrative Council

All age groups are working hard to improve and grow our church. We just need to continue working hard and praying. Thank you.

Tom Burns, Chair

The Board of Trustees

The Trustees are working on getting the required permits to install the new electronic sign. We have signed the contract and paid half of the sign's cost as of the end of February.

Bob Gilmore, Chair

Music Department

We are practicing for the Easter Cantata which will be on April 1st. Additional rehearsals are scheduled for the last two Saturdays in March, the 17th and 24th, from 10:00 am to noon.

Children's Ministry

Thank you to the wonderful ladies who volunteer to help with Kidtricity! Men are welcome and encouraged to volunteer also. Volunteers mostly help with games and snacks. We are having fun learning from the children's version of *The Story* and other books. It is a joy to have our very little ones.

Thank you to the Oliva family for donations to our Treasure Chest (gifts for the children) and to the Berry family for donations of snacks. These treats reward good behavior and learning during Children's Sunday School.

Our ALBOH preschoolers are top-notch and great singers. They are eager to participate and listen well. [Debbie leads the ALBOH chapel service on Wednesdays as an extension of the Children's Ministry. She also reads to the preschool children, and is a Reading Pal at Padgett Elementary School. Editor]

Debbie Moore

A Little Bit of Heaven (ALBOH) Child Enrichment Center

No report.

ALBOH Board News

The regular meeting date for the ALBOH Board will be on the **second Thursday of the month, effective March 8th**. The board meets in the FLC at 4:30 pm. Sarah Schiemann continues as the Board chair.

Lay Leader's Letter

No report.

Our Departments continued on the next page . . .

Our Departments, Continued

Worship Committee

No report.

Adult Sunday School Classes

All three Adult Sunday School classes meet in the FLC from 9:15 to 10:15 am. **Each class welcomes new members. Please join us!**

The **Friendship** Sunday School class is led by Mike Stafford and meets downstairs in the multipurpose room.

The **Seekers** Sunday School class meets in FLC Classrooms 1 and 2. Sue Heishman is the facilitator.

The **Upper Room** Sunday School class meets upstairs next door to Kidtricity with Michael Moake as the leader.

As you know by now, the church is united in the study of *The Story, The Bible As One Continuing Story of God and His People*. The Pastor's sermons will be based on that week's chapter and the Sunday School classes will discuss the Pastor's sermon and that chapter. The March syllabus is as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Title</u>
Mar 4	8	A Few Good Men . . . And Women [Judges]
Mar 11	9	The Faith of a Foreign Woman [Ruth]
Mar 18	10	Standing Tall, Falling Hard [Saul]
Mar 25	26	The Hour of Darkness [Palm Sunday]

If you need a book and study guide, let the Sunday School class leader know.

Acts from a Messianic Jewish Perspective

The Book of Acts is the beginning of our story as the Church. It starts with Jewish believers who were called Nazarenes or People of The Way. It progresses to the Samaritans (half-Jews) being graciously added to the people of God, and finally gets to you and me, the pagan Gentiles, the wild Olive branches being grafted into the Community of those who are born again and call Jesus Savior and Lord.

And now here we are, in Lakeland, FL living out our part of His Story. We would love to have you join us on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am the home of Debbie Moore, 400 Vineyard Ave as we learn and grow in Him and as a result grow closer to one another.

Shalom,
Rich and Maria Thomas

Our Ministries continued on the next page . . .

Our Ministries

Mission Moments

I was living south of Miami in August of 1992 when Hurricane Andrew blew through. My house was damaged, but not as bad as many of my neighbors. After two weeks of cleaning up and living without electricity, some friends and I decided to get away. We drove to the Ft. Lauderdale area for dinner and shopping. The check-out girl at Publix noticed the odd assortment of items I was buying. I explained that I lived in the hurricane area. She looked at me and said, "But that was TWO weeks ago!" I was speechless.

It has now been six months since Hurricane Irma hit the Caribbean Islands, south Florida and even went over Lakeland. We do not think about it much anymore, but a recent call to friends in the Keys reminded us that they are still recovering.

March 11th is UMCOR Sunday. We have an opportunity to help those still rebuilding their homes and their lives. UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) and UMVIM (United Methodist Volunteers in Mission) are not first responders; they come in as soon as needs are assessed and areas identified. They are involved in clean-up and debris removal, providing information and referrals, spiritual care and, eventually, long-term recovery. The best news is that 100% of what we donate to a specific relief effort goes to those who have been affected because the operating and administrative costs of UMCOR have been paid by donations to UMCOR Sunday and other undesignated gifts.

Hurricane Irma was a major hurricane for over a week. I like the statement I found on the UMCOR website: "Hurricane Irma was a really big storm. Together, with God, we are bigger."

Linda Alvarez, Missions Coordinator

[UMCOR Sunday is one of six Special Sundays with Offering in the United Methodist Church. Please consider making a donation to UMCOR on March 11th. Editor]

United Methodist Men (UMM)



On February 10, 2018 the Lake Gibson UMM held their monthly meeting. Several projects were discussed and approved by the men present. The approved projects are repairs to A Little Bit of Heaven's air conditioner unit fence enclosure and the Family Life Center fence enclosure.

UMM will be holding the annual **Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 31, 2018 between noon and 2:00 pm**. The men are **seeking assistance with filling the eggs** with candy on Saturday, **March 17th from 9:00 to 11:00 am** in the FLC. We will also need **help with hiding the eggs** on Saturday morning, March 31st, **between 9:00 and 10:00 am** prior to the Cantata practice.

The next UMM meeting will be on **March 10th at 9:00 am, at the Golden Corral** (pay-as-you-go). We will schedule the fence repairs and identify the tools and supplies needed and the work to be done. If you have any questions, please contact Michael Moake at 863-816-3194.

Michael Moake, President

Our Ministries continued on the next page . . .



Our Ministries, Continued

United Methodist Women (UMW)

UMW Leadership Team Meeting

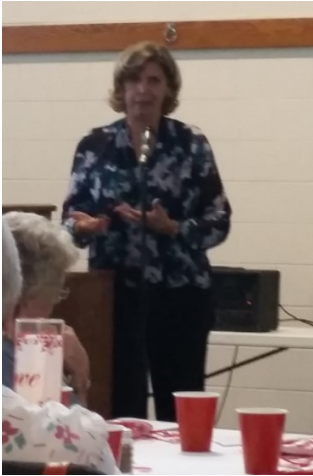
The UMW Leadership Team met on Monday, February 26th and selected the charitable organizations to receive mission funds. We have already paid our unit's 2018 Pledge to Mission of \$1200, which goes to the Gulf Central District UMW and then, with all the district's unit pledges, is sent to the national UMW. In January the UMW contributed \$600 to the church's property and liability insurance bill, and will continue to donate to the church 10% of the money raised at each of our two rummage sales. Local church UMW units determine how much money they give in three focus areas: Pledge to Mission; local mission projects involving women, children and youth; and administration and membership development.

Questions were raised about the difference between the annual UMW Pledge to Mission and the World Thank Offering (WTO). Each of our circles takes a different approach to the WTO. Heart to Heart passes around a can for loose change at each meeting. Ruth Circle of Love collects specific items each month to be placed in the Christmas gift bags for our shut-ins, and then collects a Thanksgiving offering in November. The Evening Circle collects useful and/or religious items for the visitor bags, but does not collect money.

A summary of the **five channels of mission giving**, which include the Pledge to Mission and World Thank Offering, is at the end of this section.

The next Leadership Team meeting will be **Monday, March 19th, at 1:00 pm** in the FLC (rescheduled from our usual last-Monday date due to member availability).

Unit Meeting on February 10th



Our first of three annual Unit Meetings was held on **Saturday, February 10th at 10:30 am**. This meeting was scheduled on a Saturday so the ladies who work during the week could attend. The guest speaker, Diane Schmelz, told us about the critical relationship volunteers with Guardian ad Litem (GAL) have with their assigned children -- they are usually the only adult consistently in that child's life. Quoting from the GAL brochure, "While my life was so uncertain, always switching houses and never knowing who my social worker would be from one week to the next, one factor remained constant - *my Guardian ad Litem.*"

A Guardian ad Litem (Latin for guardian at law) is appointed by a judge; their job is to gather information by visiting the child once a month, talking to teachers, school counselors and others who interact with that child. Training requires 30 hours: 10 hours of video instruction; 10 hours in a classroom and 10 hours working with a coordinator/mentor. (The training is free.) The GAL works between 6 and 8 hours per month and is a part of a team including the Department of Children and Families (DCF) case manager. Diane's photo is above.

Diane described the danger of kidnapping, drugging and sex trafficking that girls in Central Florida face, describing a ring that worked out of a local mall. The girls who have been rescued from sex trafficking receive 18 months of therapy and live in a safe house. Each is assigned a GAL.

Diane is a full-time recruiter for GAL. For more information, call her at 863-534-2547 or email her at Diane.Schmelz@gal.fl.gov. The web site for GAL is www.BecomeAGuardian.com.

Our Ministries/UMW Unit Meeting continued on next page . . .

Our Ministries, UMW Continued

Unit Meeting February 10th at 10:30 am, Continued

During the business meeting Phyllis Kitchens described the 2018 UMW Reading Program and announced that two members, **Debbie Moore and Maria Thomas**, completed Plan 1 (reading one book in each of the five mission emphasis areas) of the 2017 reading program. They will receive acknowledgement at the Gulf Central District's annual celebration on October 20 in Brandon.



The meeting included a potluck luncheon enhanced by Shirley Schmidt's beautiful table decorations. Shirley's orange gelatin salad was such a hit that she was asked to publish it in this newsletter.

UMW Circle News



Heart to Heart met Monday, February 5th. We reviewed the list of charitable organizations that our unit has supported in the past, and agreed that we should make larger donations to a smaller number of charities to make a greater impact. Phyllis Michael volunteered to take over sending birthday cards to members from Rowena Betz. Ruth Zona conducted our annual **Pledge to Mission ceremony** during which members decided how much they will give this year (or paid some or all of that amount). (If you forgot your checkbook in February, remember to bring it to the March meeting.)

The next Heart to Heart circle meeting will be **Monday, March 5th at 10:30 am**. Phyllis Kitchens will lead the program and provide handouts from the UMW 2017 - 2018 Program Book's March 2018 chapter titled *The Sacred Space of Legacy/Inheritance*. On March 23rd, 2019, the UMW will celebrate 150 years as a United Methodist membership organization serving women, children and youth. This presentation will include a page to be colored during the program, so please bring your colored pencils. Also bring your lunch and a drink; Ruth will have the dessert. Call Ruth with any questions 859-5967.



Ruth Circle of Love will meet on **Wednesday, March 7th, at 11:00 am** in the FLC. We will be studying chapter 3, Lot's Wife, from *Women of the Bible* by Frances Vander Velde. If you forgot to bring your pledge last month, remember to do so. Please bring a sandwich and a drink; dessert will be provided. All ladies of the church are invited to attend. You don't have to be a member of Lake Gibson UMC. Contact Pat Moon, 863-858-6883 if you have any questions.



Evening Circle will meet on **Monday, March 13th, at 6:30 pm** at Debbie Moore's home, 400 Vineyard Drive, Lakeland. We start with dinner and dessert, so come hungry and enjoy our fellowship. We will study Chapter 22, Herodias and Her Daughter, from *Women of the Bible* by Frances Vander Velde. We also have lively discussions and prepare visitor bags to welcome first-time visitors to Lake Gibson. If you can, please bring some small, useful and/or religious items to put into the bags. Call Debbie Moore, 863-614-7193 for information.

Our Ministries/UMW continued on the next page . . .

Our Ministries, UMW Continued

The Five Channels of UMW Mission Giving

The **Pledge to Mission** makes up the largest amount of money the UMW raise for missions. The other four channels which also raise money for missions are the **World Thank Offering**, the **Gift to Mission Card** (minimum of \$5.00 per card, sent by an individual or a unit to an honoree as notification that a gift to mission has been made in their honor); the **Gift in Memory Card** (which is a special greeting card purchased for \$5.00 to honor a deceased loved one); and the **Special Mission Recognition Pin** (\$40.00) that honors a woman or man working in mission. (These two cards and pin are ordered from the District UMW Treasurer.) Proceeds from purchase of the cards and pins, as well as the Pledge to Mission and the World Thank Offering, fund UMW missions that benefit women, children and youth.

World Thank Offering

[Information Provided by the Gulf Central District UMW Treasurer]

Quoting from the United Methodist Women website: "The World Thank Offering is one of United Methodist Women's five channels of undesignated Mission Giving. Traditionally this offering is collected during a special service or program during the fall season. This channel of Mission Giving is an opportunity for individuals to **respond to God's abundance and grace with spontaneous gifts of gratitude**. The funds collected are used in the total program of mission and advocacy in the United States and around the world. The World Thank Offering, giving freely and abundantly in response to God's goodness, has been the way of life for United Methodist Women".

There are examples of services on the United Methodist Women website. Some units collect offerings monthly; some once a year. My unit is doing **Thankful Jars** this year. In the month of October the participants follow the instructions and designated giving on a calendar given to them and fill their Thankful Jar with coins. We have a Harvest Luncheon the first Sunday of November and collect the jars.

Lyn Sears, Treasurer, Gulf Central District UMW

Orange Pineapple Salad

Shirley Schmidt provided this recipe for her delicious tart, sweet gelatin salad. If you're using the Lake Gibson UMC Cookbook and the software that was included with it, you can add this to your personal collection of recipes.

Ingredients

2 small or 1 large box of orange JELL-O
2 cups of boiling water
1 6 oz. can frozen orange juice, thawed
1 #2 can (about 20 oz. or 2 ½ cups) crushed pineapple with juice
1 can of mandarin oranges, with liquid.

Add the boiling water to the JELL-O and stir until gelatin is dissolved. Add the thawed orange juice and stir until mixed. Then add the crushed pineapple and mandarin oranges. Stir again.

Pour into an 8" x 8" square pan (or 9" x 11" pan for a thinner salad) and chill until set.

Our Ministries continued on the next page . . .

Our Ministries, Continued

Prayer Ministry

During Lenten season we seek to share, with Jesus, his journey on the way to the cross. One way we can participate is to be steadfast in prayer as Jesus showed us his dedication to prayer, especially during this time of his life. Let us see the example Jesus set for us to be our guide in prayer, during Lenten season and the rest of the year. The best connection to God is through our prayers and a gracious combination to follow God and love one another.



“Keep on praying no matter what happens, always be thankful, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus”. 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18 (NLT)

Please take the Prayer Journal home with you and use it as your guide to prayer during the week for those in need. Please sign the “Connection Card” (Becoming a Prayer Warrior) in the Bulletin if you would care to join the Prayer Ministry team and place it in the offering plate. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Prayer Ministry

Scouting Report

Cub Scout Pack 711 held its 2018 Blue and Gold Banquet on Saturday, February 24th with 166 attendees! Five Tigers stepped up to the Wolf Den; eight Wolfs stepped up to Bear; four Bears advanced to Webelos 1 and **fifteen Webelos 2 received the Arrow of Light and stepped up to Boy Scouts!** Two of the guests attending were Eagle Scouts, and one guest was a high-ranking officer from the district.

Tom Burns, Scouting Representative

Florida United Methodist Children’s Home (FUMCH)

This year the **Day on Campus will be on Saturday, March 17, 2018.** This is your chance to tour the campus, tour the cottages and talk to the residents, meet and talk with the house parents and various staff members. You will be given a box lunch along with drinks and snacks all day long.

If you are interested in going, please contact us at 863-858-0400 no later than **March 11th.** We will be taking the church van and leaving from the church at 7:45 am the 17th and will be returning approximately 3:00 pm.

Karen and Jeff Acor, FUMCH Representatives

Thanks from FUMCH and LGUMC for your bicycle donations. Joyce Scott provided a single-speed bike with new tires, and David Hess gave two multi-speed bikes. These have been checked out, serviced and will be delivered to FUMCH in March. We’re confident that they will be welcome additions to the collection of bikes currently on campus. Dwight Kitchens

Neighborhood Missions Ministry

No report.

Our Ministries continued on the next page . . .

Our Ministries, Continued

Introducing Junaid Saqib and the Asian Christian Service at LGUMC

[This is the first of a two-part article; the second will be in the April issue of *The Good News*. I have tried to capture Junaid's lilting English by limiting the amount of editing. Editor]

My Name is Junaid Saqib, and I have just turned 34 on February 17th. I belong to a Pakistani Christian family from Peshawar, Pakistan. Peshawar is only few miles away from the Afghanistan border. As Christians in Pakistan we are called minorities; being a minority in a Muslim country, Christians have a lot of problems. They don't have equal rights as others.



When I came to America last year in March [2017], I was struggling. I sought help from Jim and Jan Plumb, who have provided me shelter in their home, food and friendship. A Christian businessman from Syria, Paul Jallo, helped me with an immigration lawyer. These are very kind acts by Brother Paul and Jim and Jan. These people enable me to survive in the US. But as a Christian representative, my heart is still with my poor countrymen and the persecuted people. These people are being persecuted because of their faith, so I tried to find churches here to make them aware of the suffering of their Christian brothers and sisters, because nobody will raise their voices for Pakistani Christians.

As Chairman of the Pakistan Minority Rights Commission (PMRC) and as a political Christian leader, I serve a lot for my nation in Pakistan and have helped persecuted Christians through my organization. PMRC is trying its best to solve community problems, but we can't solve all these problems. As much as we can, we are trying to lift up Christians in Pakistan.

In the United States I went to a lot of churches and I met with church leadership, but, unfortunately, they were only willing to pray for me. I didn't find single church which has the potential to stand for the persecuted and help them as a nation. All I saw was that they were only interested in their denominational events. The rest of the nation is not their concern, because the rest of the nation are not their church members.

I am not a pastor and I am not an evangelist, or even a church leader, but I still want to wake up America, and churches can play a big role in that. Last year I met with Pastor Steve Polk, such a wonderful person. He is such a great man of God. He welcomed me in LGUMC and he listened to me very carefully. I didn't demand anything for myself or for my nation, but he won my heart with his humbleness, so I decided to join LGUMC in May 2017. It is such a wonderful congregation. This church embraced me a lot and they have a heart for others. I can see it is not a very big church, not very large in building, but it is enough to worship and praise God.

One day Pastor Steve talked to me about starting an ASIAN SERVICE in church, and we planned to start this special service for our persecuted Christians. Last month we started this service, which is held every Sunday at 3:00 pm at LGUMC where people from different countries are joining us. The service is not only for Asians; it's for everyone. All American people are most welcome to come. We invite different speakers and we listen to words of God and describe recent incidents that have happened to Christians, so everybody can understand what's going on outside of the United States.

I am trying to make a church alliance through my organization, PMRC, so we can spread our peace mission. PMRC is honored to host this service and the speakers as well. This service is purely for mission work; all offerings go to different mission works through the church.

Our Ministries continued on the next page . . .

Our Ministries, Continued

Introducing Junaid Saqib and the Asian Christian Service at LGUMC, Continued

LGUMC is the only church that has developed this idea and given the opportunity for persecuted people to come and worship, and also share their problems as a church family. We will try our best to resolve those problems. I am proud to be part of LGUMC and am looking forward to working together with the congregation, and hope we can wake up some sleeping Giants so they can practice their faith, too.

On behalf of my church, I am inviting churches, organizations, individuals, companies, businesses: Please come and join us and listen more about mission work. Then you have free will to decide, but My Heart and LGUMC Doors are always open for you to come in and share your ideas.

Our Goal is to build a platform for kind-hearted Christians where they can speak about their brothers and sisters, and can be a part of our World Peace Mission and as much as we can, help our nation and by trying a little bit if it's possible, so we can fulfill their needs. Christians should wake up for Generations. LGUMC is providing an opportunity to listen about real persecution. LGUMC is standing with PMRC and its Mission for World Peace and helping persecuted Christians.

God Bless,

Junaid Saqib

Food Bags for Polk County School Board Homeless Graduating Seniors

At this time there are approximately 122 homeless graduating students in the Polk County school system. You have to admire these students who graduate in spite of the adverse conditions they face every day. Homeless means exactly that. They sleep on park benches, in cars, shelters or maybe a home that is deemed to be uninhabitable. Some are fortunate to sleep at different friends' houses on a rotating basis. Two years ago one of the boys was blind. What a heart-wrenching position for him to be in.

The community generously provides very basic supplies for them to take with them when they graduate. What they don't get is food. I provide food bags for each student, and they are really excited to receive them. Last year one boy asked if there were any left over. The food provides them with something to eat and drink when they are on the street.

If you would like to donate cash (or a check made out to LGUMC) please add a note that it is for Cindy Webb. To donate food, please contact Cindy at 863-221-5253 to get a food list. The list is very specific so they get food items they can use. Bottled water, Capri Sun and Yoo-hoo in 6.5-oz. boxes are on the list. Other drinks would be acceptable, but we would need enough for everyone.

Please make your donations not later than March 26th. I can take some foods later if they come in, but need to count and sort everything so I can buy the additional things we need after seeing what food items are donated. Their graduation luncheon will be on Thursday, April 19th.

Thank you for considering this project. The students are very needy and appreciative.

Homeless = Hungry = We can help!

Cindy Webb

Celebrations

[Please let the editor know if there are errors in these lists so we can correct the data base. We print both members' and constituents' celebrations.]



Birthdays in March

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
3/1	Bob Willome
3/2	Roy Lorent
3/2	Leon Rumohr
3/4	Anne Bernat
3/7	Dick Shepherd
3/8	Lilia Harbaugh
3/8	Lila Wilde
3/9	Balee Marsh
3/9	Terri Palmer
3/10	Chuck Bryce
3/10	Ann Johnson
3/12	Betty Seabo
3/12	Sharon Shepherd
3/13	Frankie Hooks
3/13	Dwight Kitchens
3/14	Robert Evans
3/16	Sumner Hillsgrove
3/19	Audrey Jenks
3/19	Wanda Lammey
3/19	Wanda Stowe
3/21	Ann Phinney
3/22	Cyndee Arnett

Birthdays in March, Continued

3/24	Faye Hatchett
3/26	Danielle Cavas
3/27	Stephen Mann
3/31	Sue Bodemer



Anniversaries in March

<u>Date</u>	<u>Names</u>
3/1	Mollie and Justin Oliva
3/5	Marina and Lucio Hernandez
3/11	Beverly and Eric Hines
3/14	Lila and Anthony Wilde
3/23	Ann and Brad Fox
3/25	Shirley and Bob Addems
3/31	Jackie and Bill Webb

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

Lake Gibson United Methodist Church
424 West Daughtery Road
Lakeland, FL 33809

Web Page: www.lakegibsonumc.com

Office Hours in March 2018: 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, Monday thru Thursday

Contact Information

Steve Polk, Pastor	Phone:	863-858-5431
	FAX:	863-853-1625
	E-mail:	pastor@lakegibsonumc.com

Support Staff

Marina Hernandez	Administrative Secretary 863-858-5431 office@lakegibsonumc.com
Sue Heishman	Bookkeeper
Debbie Moore	Children's Director Youth Director Youth Intern
Glenda Grant Hess	Director of Music/Organist
Don Heishman, Michael Moake, Fay Wright, and Kristie Summers	Audio/Visual Support
Debbie Moore	Custodian

A Little Bit of Heaven Child Enrichment Center

Lisa Bacon	Director
Office	863-858-8400
Cell	863-255-8619
E-mail	alboh@lakegibsonumc.com

The Good News is a monthly church newsletter that supports Lake Gibson UMC's vision *to be a joyful church family that is crucial to our community*. We welcome your suggestions, comments and articles. Please contact the editor at 863-984-4564 (home) or 410-790-2662 (cell), or by e-mail her at phylis_kitchens@hotmail.com.