

## The Good News

## Lake Gibson United Methodist Church



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

July 2018

Steve Polk, Pastor

424 West Daughtery Road, Lakeland Florida 33809

Phone (863) 858-5431

From the Pastor's Desk

We will be celebrating the birth of our country this month. On that day, July 4<sup>th</sup>, millions of people will gather around our country and on military bases around the world to watch parades, share meals, and fellowship with family and friends, and most events will be capped off with a big fireworks display. As the crowds watch the explosions of color in the sky, as they ooh and aah at the brilliant bursts of colors and designs, as they experience the joy of the moment, the crowd is one and together they celebrate and appreciate the USA and the foundations on which it was built. During that time the animosity of political stances, race, sex, and anything else fade as we think about the values of liberty and justice for all in this great country.

This experience of oneness, the shared reflection of values, the common ground of acceptance, the compassion for others and the expressions of thankfulness are what the church should feel like every day. Brothers and Sisters in Christ – as the Church – we have much more in common than other Americans do, and we are made up of all nations – past, present and future – around the world. As the Church we have the same Lord and Savior, we are all covered with the grace of God, we are all sinners saved by the Amazing Grace of God. We are part of the Family of God; we all experience and share God's love, yet it seems as if we are as divided as the American political landscape. Perhaps this month as we come together to celebrate and reflect on what it means to be a citizen of America, we should also dig deep to answer the questions of what does it mean to be the Church, how are we to act as the church, and reflect upon this: Shouldn't the church be more important than America or any nation? America will disappear one day – but the Church will be with God forever.

Celebrate and enjoy the holiday and the summer, but don't forget you are a valuable part of God's Church – the ultimate creation of our Lord. I close by referring you to two Bible Scriptures:

Philippians 3:20 (NIV)

<sup>20</sup> But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 12:18 (NIV)

<sup>18</sup> If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Be thankful for God's grace and mercy,

Pastor Steve

#### For Your Information

## Emergency Preparedness for Natural Disasters and Extreme Weather A Handbook for Churches

United Methodist Insurance (UMI) has produced a free, 72-page handbook in .pdf format that can be downloaded from <a href="http://www.UMI-disaster-e-book-2018\_FINAL.pdf">http://www.UMI-disaster-e-book-2018\_FINAL.pdf</a>. The handbook includes a list of 10 ways a church can prepare for disaster, tips for assembling an emergency kit, how to avoid scams after a disaster and much more.

# Thonotosassa United Methodist Women Annual Pet/Craft Show Saturday, October 27th, 2018 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

The United Methodist Women of Thonotosassa UMC, 11905 Fort King Highway, Thonotosassa, FL 33592 will be holding their annual Pet/Craft Show on October 27th. Vendor pre-registration is available before October 10th with inside tables \$15.00 each and outside spaces (no table provided) for \$10.00. Point of contact is Judy Caminiti, 813-625-6336 (email Veronka1345@gmail.com).

#### Alzheimer's/Dementia Resource from UMC

The United Methodist Church has produced a free, downloadable, five-part study titled "Alzheimer's/Dementia: Ministry with the Forgotten" which includes videos and a leader's guide. Retired Bishop Ken Carder wrote this based on his experiences as his wife, Linda, dealt with dementia. To obtain a copy of this guide, go to <a href="http://www.umcom.org/learn/alzheimers-and-dementia-ministering-with-the-forgotten">http://www.umcom.org/learn/alzheimers-and-dementia-ministering-with-the-forgotten</a>.

## Video Resources from the Commission on a Way Forward

The Commission on a Way Forward is developing a series of videos on YouTube that document the experiences, hopes, concerns, etc. of the 32 members of the Commission. Four videos were released on June 20th; they range in length from 5 minutes to 54 minutes. You can view the initial videos on YouTube or download them by going to <a href="http://www.umc.org/who-we-are/commission-offers-video-resources-for-umc-delegates-to-2019-general-conference">http://www.umc.org/who-we-are/commission-offers-video-resources-for-umc-delegates-to-2019-general-conference</a>.

## **Gulf Central District (GCD) UMW Opportunities for Spiritual Growth**

Mission U is July 12 - 15th at Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach, FL. The UMW Spiritual Enrichment Retreat will be at the Life Enrichment Center (LEC), Fruitland Park, FL from September 7 - 9th. The GCD Mission Study will be September 22nd at Manhattan Avenue UMC in Tampa.

October 20th will be the GCD UMW's Annual Celebration at St. Andrew's UMC in Brandon. The Florida Conference UMW's Annual Meeting will be on November 3rd at First UMC Lakeland.

Volume 31 Number 7 July 2018 Page 2

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

From the Pastor's Desk	1
For You Information	2
Table of Contents	3
July Calendar	4
June News	
July Events	7
Christmas in July	7
Quilting/Crafting Workshops	7
5th Sunday, July 29th	7
Gulf Central District Charge Conferences	7
Editorial Policy	
Marina's Corner	8
Finance and Related Topics	8
Financial Update	8
Status of Church Property Improvements	9
Our Departments	10
The Administrative Council	
The Board of Trustees	
Music Department	
Lay Leader's Letter	
Children's Ministry	10
A Little Bit of Heaven CEC	10
	11
, in and a single of a single	11
Bible Studies	
Our Ministries	
	11
United Methodist Men (UMM)	
United Methodist Women (UMW)	
	14
Scouting Report	14
Florida United Methodist Children's Home	
Neighborhood Missions Ministry	
Celebrations	
Contact Information	17

## Special Monthly Events Calendar for July

(Events that do not occur every week. Be sure to check the latest Sunday bulletin, which is posted on the lakegibonumc.com web site, for calendar updates.)

2018 Christmas in July back-to-school drive! SUNDAY CALENDAR YEAR CALENDAR MONTH FIRST DAY OF WEEK Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Monday Ω7 Communion UMW Heart to Heart Independence Day Sunday; Vacation Office Closed luncheon, 11:30 Bible School am, The End Zone, Hwv 98N: Board of Trustees meeting, 2:00 pm, office UMW Evening Vacation Bible UMW Ruth Circle of ALBOH Board Boy Scout Troop Boy Scout Troop School Circle, 6:30 pm, off Love luncheon, meeting, 4:30 pm, 711 LOCK IN, 6:00 711 LOCK IN ends 11:30 am, Sonny's campus; Staff, FLC; Cub Scouts pm, FLC at noon Pastor, Parish BBQ, Hwy 98N Committee meeting Relations meeting, 7:00 pm, FLC 7:00 pm, FLC 15 17 20 21 Vacation Bible Finance Committee **Quilting and Crafts** meeting, 7:00 pm, Workshop, 10:00 School am, FLC FLC 26 27 28 Vacation Bible Input Due for Worship Committee | Cub Scouts Pack School meeting, 7:00 pm, meeting: 2infinity August Newsletter Sanctuary Jump Party, 7:00 pm, FLC 29 31 **UMW Leadership** 5th Sunday: FUMCH donations; Team meeting, Potluck after 1:00 pm. FLC: service (BBQ and Administrative hot dogs); Vacation | Council meeting,

## **July Weekly Recurring Events**

Bible School ends 7:00 pm, FLC

(Changes are announced in the Sunday Bulletin)

,	TBA - To be annound	ced)	Tuesday		
Sunday			ALBOH Summer Care Deadline for Sunday Bulletin	6:30 am - 6:00 pm	FLC Office
Adult Sunday school classes  Vacation Bible School	9:15 - 10:15 am	FLC	Cub Scout Pack 711 Praise Team Rehearsal	7:00 pm	FLC TBA TBA
(Kidtricity Children's Ministry)	9:15 - 10:15 am	FLC	Traise realification		TBA
(Children's Ministry continues) (nursery available)	10:30 - 11:45 am	Sanctuary & FLC	Wednesday		
Worship Service	10:30 am	Sanctuary	ALBOH Summer Care	6:30 am - 6:00 pm	
Asian Christian Service	3:00 pm	Sanctuary	Mid-week Devotions	8:00 am	FLC (on hold)
	•	•	ALBOH Chapel	9:15 am	Preschool
Monday			Acts/Israel Messianic Study (The Olive Tree Gathering)	10:00 am	Off-campus
ALBOH Summer Care	6:30 am - 6:00 pm	FLC	Choir Rehearsal	6:30 pm	Sanctuary
Intercessory Prayer	9:30 am	Sanctuary	Thursday		
Boy Scout Troop 711	7:00 pm	FLC TBA			
			ALBOH Summer Care	6:30 am - 6:00 pm	
			Food Pantry	9:30 - 11:30 am	Office
			Friday		
			ALBOH Summer Care	6:30 am - 6:00 pm	FLC

## June News

## Summary of the Florida Annual Conference, June 6 - 9 at Florida Southern College

Source: United Methodist News Service Daily Digest, June 21st, 2018, article by Gretchen Hastings, Director, Connectional Relations, Florida Conference (used with permission and quoted verbatim; explanatory material added is enclosed in brackets [Ed.])

June 7-9, Florida Southern College, Lakeland, Florida

Officiating bishop: Bishop Ken Carter

Guest speakers and memorable points or quotes by speakers:

Bishop Sue Haupert-Johnson, who was the preacher and celebrant for Thursday evening's communion service. Paul Chilcote, professor of theology at the Dunnam Campus of Asbury Theological Seminary in Orlando, spoke Friday morning. He is an author of many books that underscore the need to remember who we are: "John and Charles Wesley, Making Disciples in a World Parish," "Praying in the Wesleyan Spirit," "Early Methodist Spirituality and Recapturing the Wesleys' Vision." Bishop Gregory Palmer of the West Ohio Conference was the Friday evening speaker. He is a "child of the church," son of the Rev. and Mrs. Herbert and Charlotte Sue Hewitt Palmer. He served as the president of the Council of Bishops from 2008-10. The Rev. Geraldine McClellan, senior pastor at Mt. Pleasant, Gainesville, preached at the service of remembrance, and Bishop Ken Carter delivered the sermon for Saturday's ordination service.

#### **Pre-Conference Workshops**

Pre-conference workshops were held June 6, at First United Methodist Church Lakeland. They included presentations on Board of Ordained Ministry preparation, the ZOE [Zimbabwe Orphan Endeavor] project (how to design a mission with sustainable results), stewardship and faith (Spanish and English), lay members for the Now in Church, first time local pastor session, Our Kids ministry training, disaster response, Fresh Expressions/church vitality and justice conversations about hearing the female story and racial reconciliation.

Main actions enacted by the conference: Re-voted on the constitutional amendment; adopted a new vision, **On Mission Together**; approved a budget for 2019 that is 1.16 percent less than 2018; chartered three new churches.

Resolutions adopted by the conference: N/A

Number of people ordained, commissioned or received into associate membership, and average age: 39

Number of people retired: 33

Membership stands at 228,700, down 4.3 percent from the previous year.

Worship attendance stayed flat.

Church school attendance stands at 35,533, up 11 percent.

Professions or reaffirmations of faith for 2017 5,604, down from 2016, four percent. Summary continued on the next page . . .

Volume 31 Number 7 July 2018 Page 5

## June News, Continued

## Summary of the Florida Annual Conference, June 6 - 9 at Florida Southern College, Continued

Adults and young adults in small groups for 2017 70,003, down from 2016, two percent.

Worshippers engaged in mission for 2017 69,613, up from 2016, eight percent.

What did your annual conference do to reinforce the Four Areas of Focus, and what commitments has the conference made for the coming year?

The bishop's offering will support:

#### ZOE [Zimbabwe Orphans Endeavor] Ministries

According to global research, 385 million children are living in extreme poverty throughout the world. The debilitating results are disease, hunger, exploitation, abuse, illiteracy, and hopelessness. ZOE's approach has proven that children living in poverty also hold the greatest capacity to create lasting solutions for themselves, their families, and their communities.

#### Training Laity and Clergy

Churches across the conference engage with their communities in new and exciting forms of evangelism. The conference is committed to training our laity and clergy in creative and contextual ways of reaching out in order to create sustaining, vital churches in the future and in reaching new people with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Continue a major commitment to Hurricane Irma disaster recovery for the survivors of the September 2017 storm.

Continue to grow the number of school-church partnerships throughout the conference.

Continue to grow the number of viable Fresh Expressions across the conference.

--Gretchen Hastings, director, connectional relations, Florida Conference



# Children's Ministry Provides Special Gifts for Father's Day, June 17th



The Lake Gibson kids made sure it was a sweet Father's Day with these cute candy bar holders for the dads in church.

Thanks to Debbie Moore for the photos.

## July Events

## **Christmas in July All Month!**

Be on the lookout (BOLO) for back-to-school bargains this month. It seems like school only just closed, and the 2018 -2019 year will start in mid-August. Once again, Lake Gibson UMC will support our local school, Padgett Elementary School (PES), and the Florida United Methodist Children's Home (FUMCH) with useful items for the students. The church will provide lists of the specific items that are needed. Jeff and Karen Acor will deliver the items for FUMCH at the beginning of August; the Missions Ministry will do the same for the PES gifts.

Last year we went all-out to decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas in July. This year, with so many of our regulars away, we will do less decorating, but our devotion to this worthy cause is no less.

If you are away from Lakeland in July, please consider sending a special monetary donation to the church. Make out checks to Lake Gibson UMC with a notation that the money is for "Xmas in July" or something similar. Address checks to Lake Gibson UMC, 424 W. Daughtery Rd, Lakeland, FL 33809.

## **Quilting/Crafting Workshops**

If you are a crafter, or just want to learn a craft, please join us in a series of workshops to plan and create gifts to give to the Lake Gibson shut-ins and nursing home residents at Christmas. The first workshop in June was devoted to planning the projects. Unfortunately, the second one scheduled for **July 21st has been cancelled**. The **next workshop** will be held at 10:00 am in the FLC, classrooms 1 and 2, on **Thursday, August 16th**. All LGUMC members and friends are invited to participate in this group.

## July 29th is a 5th Sunday

In keeping with our tradition, every 5th Sunday is a celebration that includes a Special Collection for FUMCH and a potluck dinner after the worship service. (You could also throw in some money for the Children's Ministry, too.) This will be a child-friendly meal with the church providing barbecue, hot dogs and drinks. Please bring side dishes or desserts that you'd like to share with the congregation.

Don't forget to volunteer for the kitchen crew -- people to receive the potluck food and store it until lunch; put out the food; keep the drink dispensers filled; and clean up afterward.

# Gulf Central District (GCD) Announces 2018 Charge Conference Schedule

This year the GCD will hold six Ministry Team Charge Conferences instead of individual church charge conferences. Ours will be Wednesday, November 7th at 6:30 pm at College Heights UMC in Lakeland. Twelve churches will participate in this conference. A wrap-up for all district churches will be held on Sunday, November 11th, at 5:00 pm as part of the GCD Whole District Celebration that will take place at First UMC Lakeland.

## **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

## Marina's Corner

The essence of all beautiful art, all great art, is gratitude.

#### Friedrich Nietzsche

#### Food Pantry:

A warm heart-felt thank you goes out to Ms. Shirley Lux's Bingo group at Cypress Lakes. They have been donating canned goods to our food pantry and it has been a great help. Ms. Shirley has been collecting and delivering the canned goods.

Thank you also to Lake Gibson friends and family for your continued support to our pantry.

In addition, Ms. Pat Moon has contacted Kids Pack in the past and they have also assisted in donating boxes of groceries for our pantry.

Thank you to Dan and Ann Johnson who have been very helpful and have assisted me with lifting and putting groceries away. And thank you to Todd and Yvonne Bower for ordering and delivering the ground beef to the church, and for picking up any additional groceries we may need.

Publix baked goods have been a great blessing to many of our individuals who come in for groceries. Many of the families that come for groceries have children, and with summer vacation and no school, the baked goods are a great blessing to them. People can pick up a bag of Publix baked goods every week, but can only receive a bag of groceries once a month. The Publix donations ensure no one who is qualified for our help walks away empty-handed. This means a lot.

Marina G. Hernandez, Administrative Secretary 863-858-5431, Office hours: 9 am - 2 pm, Mon-Fri.

## Finance and Related Topics

## **Financial Update**

May was a rather slow month for LUGMC's General Account financially. Maybe vacations will result in delayed contributions. Normally, our slow months are June – August each year.

2018 -	Sundays	Revenue	Expenditures	Budgeted	Rev-Exp
Month					
January	4	\$23,610	\$18.082	\$25,256	\$5,528
February	4	\$29,950	\$36,746	\$25,256	(\$6,796)
March	4	\$29,201	\$25,465	\$25,256	\$3,736
April	5	\$26,066	\$21,129	\$31,571	\$4,937
May	4	\$19,712	\$23,095	\$25,256	(\$3,382)
June	4			\$25,256	
July	5			\$31,571	
August	4			\$25,256	
September	5			\$31,571	
October	4			\$25,256	
November	4			\$25,256	
December	5			\$31,571	

Continued on the next page . . .

## Finance and Related Topics, Continued

## **Financial Update, Continued**

	2015	2016	2017		Monthly	Cumulative		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	]	\$29,950
March	\$31,316	\$21,386	\$26,501	\$79,203	\$26,401	\$80,623	]	\$29,201
April	\$22,325	\$24,069	\$28,612	\$75,006	\$25,002	\$105,625	]	\$26,066
May	\$26,498	\$28,167	\$21,816	\$76,481	\$25,494	\$131,119	1	\$19,712
June	\$18,538	\$17,395	\$17,272	\$53,205	\$17,735	\$148,854	1	
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	1	
October	\$18,372	\$24,737	\$20,835	\$63,944	\$21,315	\$229,018	1	
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	]	\$128,539

For the three designated accounts we are concerned about, we are making slow but steady progress.

Account	Total Contributions	Total Needed	Over
#2325 Insurance Deductible Reserve Fund	\$4,951	\$181,170	5 years
#2342 Sanctuary Roof Rese	rve \$11,176	\$ 60,000	2 years
#2343 Air Conditioner Reser	ve \$17,916*	\$105,000	3 years

<sup>\*\$13,902</sup> of this amount was carried over from the end of December 2017, meaning that we have actually contributed \$4,012 of new funds during 2018 for air conditioner replacements.

Dwight Kitchens, Finance Co-chair

## **Status of Church Property Improvements**

[At the June 18th Finance Committee meeting a number of property improvements were discussed. The information below is taken from the New Business section of the minutes of this meeting provided by Sue Heishman, with some information deleted that is still being resolved.]

"The church received quotes from three different contractors on the replacement of the Sanctuary roof. All three contract proposals were within the range of \$26,000.00 to \$28,000.00. The bid accepted was from Double "J" Roofing in the amount of \$26,100.00. Double "J" Roofing has done work for LGUMC in the past. They replaced the Sanctuary roof in 1998 using shingles with a 20-year guarantee. They also did work on the FLC roof in 2005 or 2006 after hurricane Charlie. The waiting list for new roofs is approximately 6-9 months at the present time. However, we need to get the contract signed and in force so that we can get on the waiting list for repairs. The 6-9 months wait will possibly get us through the end of the hurricane season. Double "J" Roofing will give us a 10% discount if we sign up now.

"The same company also gave us a bid for [a portion of] the FLC roof at a cost of \$1,400.00. (This area of the FLC roof is only the shingle roof over the fork lift [storage area]). There are more specifics on

Financial Update continued on the next page . . .

## Finance and Related Topics, Continued

## Status of Church Property Improvements, Continued

what the contract states they will supply and what we may need to supply if necessary after the old shingles are torn off. The contract is in the church office if anyone needs to read it for further information.

"Through June 17, 2018 we have \$12,998.10 in reserve to be applied toward the new sanctuary roof.

"Todd Bower gave a brief report on the new electronic sign. At the present time he is still waiting on the permit. The permit will also include the electrical wiring. [Remainder of paragraph deleted. Ed.]

"At the present time the balance in #2393 Campus Renewal Fund is \$16,085.11. We have paid a \$2,500.00 deposit to Davidson Sign Services from Safety Harbor to install the new church sign. We have made a 2nd payment of \$11,984.00 to Steward Signs from Sarasota as deposit on the new sign."

## Our Departments

#### **The Administrative Council**

The next meeting of the Administrative Council is scheduled for Monday, July 30th at 7:00 pm in the FLC.

#### The Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is scheduled to meet on Monday, July 2nd, at 2:00 pm in the church office.

## **Music Department**

No report

## Lay Leader's Letter

No report

## **Children's Ministry**

Vacation Bible School will take place every Sunday in July during the Children's Ministry times.

## A Little Bit of Heaven (ALBOH) Child Enrichment Center

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!** During the summer each class will determine its own topics of study. All classes will resume using *The Story* on September 16th (Chapter 19).

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 leader.

The **Upstairs** class meets next door to Kidtricity with Michael Moake as the leader.

#### **Bible Studies**

The Wednesday morning off-campus group that has been studying the Book of Acts from a Messianic Jewish perspective has adopted a name, *The Olive Tree Gathering*. We will finish the last chapter of Acts on July 11th. Maria and Rich Thomas are the leaders, and will start a video series on Israel on Wednesday, July 18th. Everyone is welcome to join us at Debbie Moore's house, 400 Vineyard Drive, Lakeland, at 10:00 am. We enjoy a light lunch and fellowship afterward, so please plan to stay.

The Wednesday and Thursday Bible studies based on *The Story* are suspended for the summer and will resume in September.

#### **Our Ministries**

#### **Mission Moments**

No report

Our Ministries continued on the next page . . .



#### **United Methodist Men (UMM)**

**There will be no UMM meeting in July**. The next UMM meeting is scheduled for Saturday, August 11th, at 9:00 am in the FLC. This will be a breakfast meeting.

The UMM were unable to complete the air conditioner fencing enclosure project due to bad weather, but will, as weather permits, finish the remaining enclosures.

At the August 11th meeting we will discuss the upcoming **United Methodist Men's Sunday**, a 5th Sunday service, on September 30th, as well as plans for the dinner which will follow in the FLC. We will need help in all areas for the dinner: cooking, serving, setup and cleanup.

At the August meeting we will also discuss any other projects we can undertake for the remainder of this year. As a reminder to all UMM, please ensure that your dues are paid up so we can support the cost of the guest speaker and anything else we may want to fund.

I wish to thank all those who have supported past UMM projects this year, which could not have been accomplished without your assistance.

Feel free to contact me at home (863-816-3194) or by cell phone (386-965-0170)

Michael Moake President



#### **United Methodist Women (UMW)**

The next meeting of the **UMW Leadership Team** is scheduled for Monday, July 30th, at 1:00 pm in the FLC.



Ruth Circle of Love's June luncheon meeting at Olive Garden in Lakeland.

Photo by Pat Moon

UMW Continued on the next page . . .

#### **UMW**, Continued

#### **UMW News**

If any member did not get to cast her vote for **UMW Woman of the Year** at the May Unit meeting, please contact your circle leader because she has ballots. We are looking forward to UMW Sunday on September 9th, with a special quest speaker. Don't miss it!

The first Quilting/Crafting Workshop was held on June 21st and consisted of a lot of planning. We will need a lot of help! The July workshop has been cancelled, so please try to make it to the August 16th work session, which will start at 10:00 am in the FLC. If you have questions, please call Pat Moon, 863-858-6883.

Get your tummies ready -- we will be taking orders for our nut sale soon (in August)!

Our next Rummage Sale is October 19th and 20th, with set-up starting on the Oct 17th. Start cleaning out your items to donate and call Pat Moon to make arrangements to put them in our shed. We will not be collecting larger items until closer to the sale.

Thank you, Pat Moon

#### **Circle News**



Heart to Heart will meet for lunch on Monday, July 2nd at 11:30 am for lunch at The

Ruth Circle of Love will meet on Wednesday, July 11th, at 11:30 am at Sonny's BBQ on Highway 98N. All ladies are invited to attend. Contact Pat Moon, 863-858-6883 if you have any questions.



**Evening Circle** will meet on **Monday**, **July 9th**, **at 6:30 pm** at Debbie Moore's home, 400 Vineyard Drive, Lakeland. We start with dinner and dessert, so come hungry and enjoy the fellowship. We will discuss Chapter 26, Mary Magdalene, from Women of the Bible by Frances Vander Velde. We also have lively discussions and perform tasks like filling welcome bags for first-time visitors. 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.

## **Prayer Ministry**

In Luke 11 we are reminded to "ask", "seek" and "knock". God never tires of hearing our prayer requests and asks us to be persistent in our prayers, staying in communication with God.



#### **Requesting Prayer**

Have you ever wondered what transpires after you fill out a prayer card during Sunday Services?

- 1. Pastor Steve shares your prayer request with the congregation. If you wish to keep your prayer request private, place it in the offering plate or hand it to one of the prayer warriors, or place it on the alter after church service.
- 2. After church service the prayer cards are united with Prayer Ministry. Prayer requests are prayed over during Monday's Intercessory Prayer Gathering.
  - 3. *Current* prayer requests are sent to our Prayer Warriors by email for additional prayers.

*Non-long-term* illnesses are prayed over for one month. After *one* month a new prayer card should be submitted during Service for that prayer concern to continue.

Those who need long-term prayers will be placed on the Prayer Journal and will remain in prayer for *six* months. If prayer concerns still exist after six months, a new prayer card must be received for those prayers to be continued on the Prayer Journal.

We currently have 70 long-term prayer requests on the Prayer Journal, 16 in living facilities other than their own homes, 13 in the U.S. military service and many other needs to pray over: Special Needs, Special Concerns and Ongoing Concerns. We also average 40 prayer needs on our non-long-term prayer list that extends for a month.

Lake Gibson is very blessed to have Prayer Warriors who are dedicated to praying for others.

If you would like to become a prayer warrior, please check the connection card and place it in the offering plate.

Have a blessed summer and if you are traveling, stay safe. Prayers and God's blessings,

**Prayer Ministry** 

## **Scouting Report**

As is typical of the summer, weekly meetings of the Boy Scout Troop and Cub Scout Pack are suspended. On Tuesday, July 24th, the Cubs will hold a 2infinity Jump Party at 7:00 pm in the FLC. The Boy Scouts are having a Lock In starting at 6:00 pm on Friday, July 13th and ending by noon on Saturday.

Boy Scout Dakota Nipper is working on his Eagle Scout rank. His projects will be to redo the bridge in the Paul Spadafora Memorial Garden and to make a sign to show where the buildings are. Please pray for Boy Scout Joey Beck who is undergoing medical treatment. Tom Burns, Scouting Representative

Our Ministries continued on the next page . . .

## Florida United Methodist Children's Home (FUMCH)

On June 1st the kids at the Children's Home celebrated the end of the school year and the beginning of summer vacation with a pool party and cookout. The summer program at the Children's Home is well under way. We want to thank everyone who donated to the Coins for Camp. We collected \$490.65 to help with the cost of the summer program!

Now with July here already, it is time to start getting ready for the 2018-2019 school year. We will be doing Christmas In July again where we will be collecting school supplies for the Children's Home and Padgett Elementary. Please look for deals in the stores starting after the 4th of July and bring them on Sunday throughout the month of July. We will be taking them up to the Children's Home in early August so they can start preparing for school's start in mid-August.

The *Legacy Scholars Academy* held its third graduation. A total of twelve students graduated, ten from the Legacy Scholars Academy and two who are part of the *Independent Living* program and attended local Volusia County schools. This year the graduation was held at First United Methodist Church of Sanford. Each graduate received a personalized, handmade quilt from a quilting group at First United Methodist Church of Boca Raton, and a check for \$125 from Silver Palm United Methodist Church. Each graduate was also gifted with a laptop computer. Also each student received a personalized Bible from the Spiritual Life Department at the Children's Home.

Five graduates will be attending Daytona State College; three will be attending Seminole State College; two will be joining the Army; one will be pursuing her education in technical engineering in Atlanta, and one will be joining the Police Academy. This is quite an accomplishment since they have beaten the odds to become graduates. They have originally come from abusive or neglectful homes and some had to catch up to their appropriate grade level. An example is one student who came to the Children's Home with a 0.7 GPA and graduated with a 3.9 GPA!

The Independent Living program hosted its first ever "Taste of the Towers" luncheon in the Garden of Life on the Enterprise campus. It was a celebration of the produce and other crops grown in the garden featuring lunch in the garden. The meal consisted of a variety of salads made with produce grown in hydroponic towers, as well as chicken, lettuce wraps, fruits and dessert. The guests had a tour of the garden that included an in-depth look at the various horticultural methods being used. The garden has been in existence for many years, but has grown in its utilization across the campus, as well as in the variety of plants grown. They have been learning to grow vegetables in a variety of ways. This includes the utilization of raised garden beds, pots and 17 hydroponic towers. The towers are producing clean and green vegetables on a daily basis (two of the towers were donated by LGUMC members). The produce grown in the garden is served in the school lunches at Legacy Scholars Academy and also given to the cottages on campus, Independent Living and the early childhood education program.

On May 5th over 300 guests attended Dedication Day at the Madison Youth Ranch. This was a celebration of the opening of the Chapel and the Counseling and Support Services Center.

Thank you for your support of the Children's Home throughout the year. With your support the Children's Home is able to provide the education, therapy and daily needs of the children who are living there. You make a difference!

Karen and Jeff Acor, FUMCH Representatives

## **Neighborhood Missions Ministry**

No report

## 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 July

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
7/1 7/2 7/2 7/3 7/4 7/4 7/6 7/7 7/8 7/8 7/9 7/11 7/11 7/13 7/15 7/15 7/15 7/15 7/15 7/15 7/16 7/17 7/18 7/22 7/22 7/23 7/24	Adam Schertzer Jim Keller Mimi Meyer Lynn Grier Mary Bristol Gary Mudge Joyce Holleran Robert Hawksby Dottie Beckum Jessica Cogswell Bonnie Cochran Shirley Schmidt Jeff Acor Dennis Greenwood Lisa Evans Laura Welch Patti Jackson Dorothy McGehean Mollie Oliva Junaid Saqib Joy Walters John Bernat Shelby Knox Debbie Moore Dave Knox Allison Wesley Larry Smucker Matthew Collins
7/24 7/24 7/25	Sonya Jackson Raymond Merritt Cayden Collins
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## Birthdays in July, Continued

Name

Date

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7/26	Diane Birdwell
7/26	Eric Hines
7/29	Vanesa Van Zile
7/30	JoAn Beebe
7/30	Mike Fitzgerald
7/30	Ed Haney
7/30	Lynn Meske
7/30	Jeanne Shull
7/30	Martina Willome



## Anniversaries in July

<u>Date</u>	<u>Names</u>
7/11	Merry and Dennis Greenwood
7/26	Judy and Bill Sadwick
7/30	Fran and Gary Mudge

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

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Don Heishman, Michael Moake,

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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.