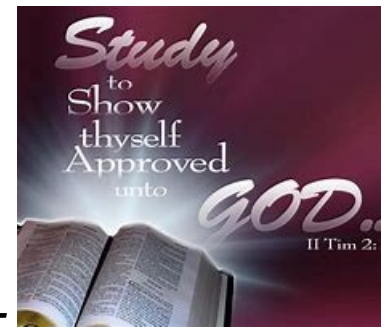




The Good News

Lake Gibson United Methodist Church



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

August 2018

Steve Polk, Pastor

424 West Daughtery Road, Lakeland Florida 33809

Phone (863) 858-5431

From the Pastor's Desk

The world today is full of outright lies, half-truths, twisted information and fake news. Unfortunately these have made their way into the main-stream media and it has become very difficult for the average person to obtain the unbiased truth. How many times have you heard or read about an event, made a judgement according to the information you had, and then learned the rest of the story . . . and when you heard the rest of the story, everything changed? Where can we go to get, as Joe Friday would say, "The facts, just give me the facts, sir."

Guess what? That scenario is played out in the church and religion every day. We are told things about God, the Bible and how we should act, perhaps by someone we truly trust, that are not true. We are told things that are not supported by the Word of God. It is vitally important for the Christian to know the truth that is contained in God's Word. To do this the Christian must be in the Scriptures on a regular basis. The Christian should check out the preacher's or teacher's interpretations with the Scripture – not just take it for the truth until you confirm it.

You say, "But I don't have their training". Maybe so, but you do have the Holy Spirit and Jesus promised that the Spirit would guide believers into the truth. The Spirit – which also guided the authors of Scripture – is willing to help you understand God's Word, but you have to immerse yourself in that Word regularly, both personally and in fellowship with others.

Are you regular in meeting with other Believers? Are you regularly in God's Word? **Do you have a set time and/or place to read, meditate, pray and perhaps journal your thoughts about God?** If not, I encourage you to do so. Penny journals when she spends time with God. Several months ago she got out some of her old journals from years ago and read through them. Looking back, she was utterly amazed at how God had worked in her and our family in certain situations and marveled at the "amazing grace" God has and is pouring out on us. Looking back, things had a new perspective and she could see how God had worked miracles in our lives.

You may think you cannot understand Scripture, but if you read it, think on it, and allow the Spirit time to work, like Penny's journals, one day you will look back and see how far God has led you and the importance of the Scriptures in your life. May God illuminate His Word as you read it and apply it in your life.

Pastor Steve

Help Wanted

Play with School-Age Children!

A Little Bit of Heaven Child Enrichment Center is looking for volunteers who enjoy being around elementary-school-age children who attend our School Age Program (after-school care and activities). It would be great to have volunteers to come in and help with art projects, group games, etc. If you are interested, please call the preschool office, 863-858-8400.

Volunteer Mission Opportunities

Please be sure to read the Mission Moments section of this newsletter and the report on a typical day at Hope House for ideas on how you can volunteer to improve lives of those in our community, as reflected in our church's vision: ***To be a joyful church family that is crucial to our community.***

Christmas in July

As the August issue of *The Good News* is being prepared, Christmas in July is almost over, but you still have a chance to contribute school supplies for Padgett Elementary School and the Florida United Methodist Children's Home (FUMCH). Please bring your gifts (or financial donations) to the church office if you can't attend the 5th Sunday (July 29th) church service.

Thank You's

A big thank you to Michael Moake for the lights he has changed to beautiful, bright LEDs and the ones he is going to change. Thank you also to Brad Fox for fixing the lift, kitchen cooler and several other repairs around the FLC.

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

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Special Monthly Events Calendar for August

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

2018 AUGUST

CALENDAR YEAR CALENDAR MONTH

SUNDAY
RST DAY OF WEEK

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|--|--|---|--|
| 29 Single 10:30 am worship service all month | 30 | 31 | 01 UMW Ruth Circle, 11:30 am, Sonny's BBQ | 02 | 03 | 04 |
| 05 | 06 Board of Trustees mtg, 2:00 pm, office | 07 UMW Heart to Heart Circle, 11:30 am, Romeo's; Pack 711 mtg, Cub Olympics, 7:00 pm, FLC | 08 | 09 ALBOH Board mtg, 4:30 pm, FLC | 10 Last day of ALBOH Summer Care Program | 11 United Methodist Men (UMM) breakfast meeting, 9:00 am, FLC |
| 12 BLOOD DRIVE, 8:30 am, Sanctuary Parking Lot | 13 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL! Staff, Pastor, Parish Com mtg, 1:00 pm, FLC; UMW Evening Circle, 6:30 pm, off campus | 14 | 15 | 16 Quilting and Crafting, 10:00 am, FLC | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 Finance Committee mtg, 7:00 pm, FLC | 21 Pack 711 mtg, Lego Derby, 7:00 pm, FLC | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 UMW Leadership Team mtg, 1:00 pm, FLC; Worship Com mtg, 7:00 pm, Sanctuary | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 01 |

August Weekly Recurring Events

(Changes are announced in the Sunday Bulletin)

Single worship service, 10:30 am, August and September

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|--|
| Sunday | (TBA - To be announced) | Tuesday | |
| Nursery Available | 9:00 - noon | FLC | Deadline for Sunday Bulletin noon Office |
| Adult Sunday school classes | 9:15 - 10:15 am | FLC | Cub Scout Pack 711 7:00 pm FLC TBA |
| Kidtricity Children's Ministry | 9:15 - 10:15 am | FLC | Praise Team Rehearsal TBA |
| Children's Ministry continues | 10:30 - 11:45 am | Sanctuary | Wednesday |
| | & FLC | | Mid-week Devotions 8:00 am FLC- (on hold) |
| Worship Service | 10:30 am | Sanctuary | ALBOH Chapel 9:15 am Preschool |
| Asian Christian Service | 3:00 pm | Sanctuary | The Olive Tree Gathering 10:00 am Off-campus |
| Monday | | | Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm Sanctuary |
| ALBOH Summer Care (M-F thru 8/10/18) | 6:30 am - 6:00 pm | FLC | Thursday |
| Intercessory Prayer | 9:30 am | Off Campus | Food Pantry 9:30 - 11:30 am Office |
| Boy Scout Troop 711 | 7:00 pm | FLC TBA | |

July News

In Loving Memory of Vera Elizabeth Ridley



5/4/1925 - 7/16/2018

Vera Ridley, long-time member of the Lake Gibson UMC and formerly an active member of the United Methodist Women's Heart to Heart Circle, was remembered and honored at a memorial service on July 20th. We will miss her wit and smile.

Vacation Bible School Held Every Sunday in July

We had our Vacation Bible School (VBS) planning meeting on Monday night, June 25th, at 7:00 pm. The Worship Committee gave us their time slot, so we began decorating for VBS and Christmas in July, which included our school supply Christmas tree.

Thank you to the VBS helpers: Glenda Hess, Pat Moon, Sue Shelton, Cindy Webb, Penny Polk, Dani Cavas, Ellen Haltiwanger, Shirley Lux, Nancy Coggins, Sandy Stanfield, Janet Smith and the youth (Emma, Lexie and Hannah). We have several people who can attend one week or two, but not the whole month, so we are counting our blessings of having enough people to fill in when someone is absent.

We will begin with music. We are doing only one song, "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus". We have Boomwhackers and bells so everyone who wants to play will have an instrument. We have a story from the *Book of Mysteries*. We have memory verse, mission moment, video story, craft and a snack. We will move to the FLC for the craft and refreshments. Our prayers are that each child will want to follow Jesus all the days of their lives. We also have some really nice "Kidtricity" T-shirts on the way.

Thanks to David and Glenda Hess for additional new buckets for our growing children's church.

Our 5th Sunday dinner on July 29th will be BBQ pork and hot dogs, so bring side dishes.

The staff had lunch at "Ford's Garage" recently and enjoyed the novelty of the old cars and car parts; the food was good also. A quote from Mr. Ford was displayed on the wall which was "*If I had asked them what they wanted, they would have said faster horses*". The changes we often do not like are the ones that become a blessing to future generations.

July News, Continued



Above: Boomwhackers ready!

Left: The School Supply Christmas Tree filled for kids at FUMCH and Padgett Elementary School. Thanks to all who made the project a success! Photo by Cindy Webb



Some of the recent altar decorations.

(Altar and Boomwhacker photos by Dave Hess)

July News, Continued

Vacation Bible School 2018



Sandy Stanfield and Janet Smith, a few of the VBS Helpers.



VBS photos provided by Dave Hess.



Kidtricity tee shirt photos provided by Debbie Moore.



July News, Continued Christmas in July Donations

Thank you to everyone who provided the supplies listed below to help needy children be ready for school. The supplies will be divided between Padgett Elementary School and FUMCH.

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Copy paper | 6 packs |
| Colored Copy Paper | 2 packs |
| Loose Leaf wide-ruled paper | 20 packs |
| Loose leaf college-ruled paper | 12 packs |
| Spiral wide-ruled notebooks | 34 |
| Spiral college-ruled notebooks | 26 |
| Composition books wide-ruled | 26 |
| Composition books college-ruled | 12 |
| Planners | 7 |
| Folders | 102 |
| Construction paper | 2 packs |
| 1-inch ring binders | 18 |
| Rulers | 8 |
| Dividers | 7 packs |
| Pencil pouches | 6 |
| 50 count sandwich bags | 2 boxes |
| Document protectors | 2 |
| Pencil sharpeners | 6 |
| 10-count markers | 8 packs |
| 8-count markers | 6 packs |
| Permanent markers | 2 |
| Assorted markers | 8 |
| Peep-squeak markers | 8 |
| 4-count dry-erase markers | 2 packs |
| 10-ct colored pencils | 6 packs |
| 12-ct colored pencils | 30 packs |
| 8-count crayons | 14 packs |
| 24-count crayons | 44 packs |
| 36-count crayons | 6 packs |
| 48-count crayons | 2 packs |
| 64-ct crayons | 2 packs |
| 6-count travel tissues | 2 packs |
| Hand sanitizer | 12 bottles |
| Large bottle hand sanitizer | 1 |
| Antibacterial wipes | 3 packs |
| Elmer's glue | 10 bottles |
| Adult coloring books | 16 |
| Child coloring books | 10 |
| Pens (individual) | 194 |
| Glue sticks (individual) | 156 |
| Pink erasers (individual) | 38 |
| Pencils (individual) | 520 |
| Pencil top erasers (individual) | 184 |
| Scissors | 11 |
| Highlighters (individual) | 12 |
| Calculators | 9 |
| Mechanical pencils (individual) | 34 |

Marina's Corner

All I have seen teaches me to trust the Creator for all I have not seen.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Food Pantry Report

Our Food Pantry is running low as the number of families in need is growing. We have a lot of newcomers, and most of them learn about us by word-of-mouth from their friends and neighbors who do come here. Unfortunately, we have to turn away many of these individuals because they do not live in our area of distribution. On a good note, these individuals are not going away empty-handed thanks to the baked goods from Publix. They are given a couple of bags of baked goods and pastries.

Thank-you's to the people who make this ministry possible: A HUGE, warm, heart-felt thank you goes to Publix, and to Ms. Shirley Lux and her bingo group at Cypress Lakes. On July 11th Ms. Shirley's bingo group donated a large amount of groceries to the pantry.

Thank you to Ms. Yvonne and Mr. Todd Bower for ordering the ground beef, picking it up and delivering it to the church. In addition, Mr. and Ms. Bower purchased the much-needed canned and dry goods to try to replenish the pantry. I will be purchasing any other dry goods and canned vegetables to keep our pantry in stock.

We are looking forward to the return of our vacationing members, constituents and Snow Birds who donate food to the pantry regularly. If you are here, please remember HARVEST SUNDAY is the second Sunday of each month; bring your food pantry donations into the sanctuary, or drop them off at the office.

We understand times are hard and we are all on a budget, but we thank you all for your continuous donations and dedication to our food pantry mission.

Food Pantry Numbers, First Half of 2018

| Month | # Bags of Groceries | # Bags of Bread |
|----------|---------------------|-----------------|
| January | 55 | 66 |
| February | 52 | 59 |
| March | 53 | 60 |
| April | 50 | 59 |
| May | 58 | 67 |
| June | 86 | 77 |
| Total | 354 | 388 |

Marina G. Hernandez
Administrative Secretary
863-858-5431
Office hours: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm, Mon-Fri.

Finance and Related Topics

Financial Update

Due to events beyond our control, we are not able to provide a financial update at this time.

Lake Gibson Members Helping Others: Hope House

[Debbie and Rick McLellan serve Tuesdays at Hope House and afterwards send a summary of the day to others who are involved in this charity which is a mission of Kathleen Baptist Church that helps the homeless in north Lakeland. The message below summarizes a typical day of service and worship, and is reprinted here with the McLellan's permission. If you are interested in learning how you can help out at Hope House, talk to Debbie and Rick.]

"T U E S D A Y July 17, 2018 at HOPE HOUSE, email from Deborah McLellan (debbienrickhope@gmail.com)

"Rick Nelson opened for Breakfast today, offering our guests a variety of cereals, and Danish pastry and other pastries and donuts. The drink options were fresh hot coffee, cold milk, fruit juice and bottled water.

"At Lunchtime, Rick McLellan led our guests in prayer. Debbie gave the devotion from Psalm 91, OUR SAFE PLACE. Then, Debbie and Rick served 28 guests beans and rice, green beans and fresh baked corn muffins. To quench thirst was coffee, iced tea, milk and bottled water. We also had about a dozen take-out plates.

"The ice machine worked well all day, and the shower, washers and dryers were busy. We issued a number of clothing, toiletry and pantry items, and thanks to a wonderful Methodist friend, we gave out socks as well.

"Even though we were given a number of pop-top cans to give out, we gave them all out and all that were in the pantry. We are, however, having more summer-month guests than we usually expect.

"It was a busy day and we were praying about the bareness of the pantry near the end of the day and a lady stopped in and gave us a donation of \$100 to buy food for the bare pantry. She said she was donating in memory of Binh Cao Nguyen who went to be with the Lord July 9, 2018. Please join our hearts in prayer for peace and blessings for his family. The Lord Jesus never ceases to be amazing!

"God's Richest Blessings to You All,

"Debbie and Rick McLellan"

Our Departments

The Administrative Council

The Administrative Council meeting was scheduled for Monday, July 30th. We'll try to have a report on it in the September newsletter.

The Board of Trustees

No report.

Music Department

Thank you to our Music Director, Glenda Hess, for all she did to make Vacation Bible School a success!

Lay Leader's Letter

No report.

Worship Committee

No report.

Children's Ministry

Please see the article on Vacation Bible School in July News.

A Little Bit of Heaven (ALBOH) Child Enrichment Center

The preschool is growing and has recently added a new staff member. Her name is Andrea Rivera. We are excited to welcome her to our preschool family.

Summer Camp has been going really well. We have currently 10 children enrolled for weekday care and education from 6:30 am to 6:00 pm. We have gone to Lake Parker Park, bowling and recently went to the movies. It has been a great learning experience for myself and the staff. Summer Camp ends on August 10th.

For the 2018 - 2019 school year we are currently accepting enrollment for our School-Age Program, which provides after-school care and enrichment. We will be picking up children from Wendell Watson and Padgett Elementary Schools.

A Little Bit of Heaven's school year begins on Monday, August 13th. We are expecting a near-capacity enrollment!

The preschool is looking for volunteers who enjoy being around school-age children. It would be great to have volunteers to come in and help with art projects, group games, etc. If interested, please call the preschool office.

Lisa Bacon, Director, 863-858-8400

Our Departments continued on the next page . . .

Our Departments, Continued

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!** Throughout August and on September 2nd, each class is determining its own topics of study.

All classes will resume *The Story* on September 16th (Chapter 19, Ezra) followed by Chapter 20 (Esther) on September 23rd. Two of the five Sundays in September will have special services: September 9th is United Methodist Women Sunday and September 30th is United Methodist Men Sunday with lunch afterward. These events may require assistance from Sunday School members to help out in preparation.

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.

Olive Tree Gathering

This is the Bible study group which meets at Debbie Moore’s home (400 Vineyard Dr. in Lakeland) on Wednesdays at 10:00 am and is led by Maria and Rich Thomas. On July 18th we had 12 people in attendance and started a new phase of study. For the next six weeks we will be watching the video series **“Against All Odds”**, which explores how God did miraculous things to help Israel become a nation. Please join us and stay for lunch afterward. For information, call Maria (302-750-1676) or Debbie (863-614-7193).

Our Ministries

Mission Moments

Christmas in July is almost over, but you still have a chance to contribute school supplies for Padgett Elementary School and the Florida United Methodist Children’s Home (FUMCH).

The Mission bulletin board in the Family Life Center has other suggestions on how you can help others through financial contributions and volunteering. I personally know volunteers are needed for Reading Pals and Lakeland Volunteers in Medicine (LVIM). You can give one hour or more to help those in need right here in our community.

The United Methodist Women are very generous in giving and their reach extends from right here in our church to the community and far beyond. Ladies, consider joining one of the three UMW circles. We enjoy fellowship, going to lunch, etc., but do so much more.

Linda Alvarez, Missions Coordinator

Our Ministries continued on the next page . . .

Our Ministries, Continued

United Methodist Men (UMM)



There was no UMM meeting in July. Our next UMM meeting will be Saturday, August 11th, at 9:00 am in the FLC. This will be a breakfast 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: setup, cooking, serving and cleanup.

At the August meeting we will also discuss any other projects we can undertake for the remainder of this year. 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. I wish to thank all those who have supported past UMM projects this year, which could not have been accomplished without your assistance.

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.

Men's Fall Conference: Mark your calendars for the new Men's Fall Weekend Conference, October 19 - 20 at the Life Enrichment Center in Fruitland Park. The theme is "Manhood is a Team Sport." Men need a "team" to help us through challenging times and celebrate the good times. For more information, contact Warren Pattison, 863-686-3163 x227.

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

Michael Moake
President



United Methodist Women (UMW)

UMW Sunday is September 9th

Lake Gibson's UMW Sunday is September 9th. Our guest speaker will be Lenee Schroeder. We hope you will show your support for UMW and its mission work by attending. Bring a friend!

Gulf Central District UMW Spiritual Enrichment Retreat, September 7 - 9, 2018

This year's Florida Conference UMW Spiritual Enrichment Retreat will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 7th through 9th, at the Life Enrichment Center, 4991 Picciola Road, Fruitland Park, Florida. **The deadline for registration is August 19th.**

The title of the retreat is Sacred Spaces; Rev. Vidalis Lopez, Associate Pastor of First UMC, Coral Gables, is the Retreat Leader. Kenya Moore is the youth leader. You can find the Spiritual Retreat registration form on the web site www.flconfumw.org/home (on the left side of the home page under the topic Navigation, click on Retreat Registration).

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

Our Ministries, Continued

United Methodist Women (UMW), Continued

Visit Planned to Noah's Landing August 14, 10:00 am

The United Methodist Women are taking a field trip to the Villages of Noah's Landing on Tuesday, August 14th, at 10:00 am. All women are invited to join us. If you are interested in going and would like to carpool, please call Pat Moon at 863-858-6883. We will be going to lunch after the tour, so be sure to come and join in the fun.

Quoting from their mission statement on the Noah's Ark website, <http://noahsarkflorida.org/>, "Noah's Ark is committed to empowering individuals who have developmental disabilities by advocating on their behalf and by providing or facilitating choices of meaningful employment, recreational and social opportunities and affordable housing in an inclusive community of their choice."

The web site is easy to use and packed with photographs of the facilities and information on the founding of Noah's Ark and its growth. If you can't join us on this tour, please take a look at the web site to learn about the origin of this much-needed facility which provides a safe and nurturing living environment for people with intellectual disabilities.

The Lake Gibson unit of the United Methodist Women has been supporting Noah's Ark for several years using earnings from our rummage sales. UMW field trips to charitable organizations inform and energize us to find the best places to support with our contributions. You don't have to be a member of the UMW to participate in this trip.

Quilting and Craft Day, Wednesday, August 16th, 10:00 am in the FLC. The UMW invites anyone to come if you are interested in making hand-crafted gifts for shut-ins to brighten their holidays and let them know we are thinking about and praying for them. This is a great way to show our love in action!

UMW Leadership Team meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 27th, at 1:00 pm in the FLC.

Fall Rummage Sale:

Please start cleaning out your closets and storage areas! Our next Rummage Sale is scheduled for **Friday, October 19th, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm and Saturday, October 20th, 8:00 am to noon.** This is where you can find new homes for your excess fall and holiday decorations.

You can start bringing smaller items into the office now, but larger items like furniture or appliances should be held until closer to the sale. We will announce the procedure for pickup of large items at your home, if needed, in the September issue.

If baking is your forte, we could use more cakes and candies for sale, too. These usually sell out as soon as they're seen.

As usual, we need as many volunteers as possible starting Wednesday, October 17th, to empty the sheds, set up and stock the sales tables, price the goods, act as "sales consultants" and general helpers during the sale, collect the money, etc. After noon on Saturday we will load most of the unsold items onto the Salvation Army truck or trailer.

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

Our Ministries, Continued

United Methodist Women (UMW), Continued

Unit Meeting: Mark your calendars now for our last Unit Meeting of 2018, on Monday, November 12th. As usual, we will have a short business meeting followed by a potluck lunch and an informative guest speaker. You don't have to be a UMW member to attend. Gentlemen are also welcome. More information will be in the October newsletter.


Circle News



Ruth Circle of Love will meet on **Wednesday, August 1st at 11:30 am** at Sonny's Barbeque. All ladies are invited to attend. Contact Pat Moon, 863-858-6883 if you will attend.

Heart to Heart will meet on **Tuesday, August 7th, 11:30 am** at Romeo's for lunch. Please contact Ruth Zona at 863-859-5967 if you will attend.



 **Evening Circle** will meet on **Monday, August 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 27, Sapphira, 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. Please bring some small, useful and/or religious items to put into the bags. Call Debbie Moore, 863-614-7193 for information.

Prayer Ministry



"I love your sanctuary, Lord, the place where your glory shines."
Psalm 26:8 (NLT)

Jesus' house is a house of prayer and Lake Gibson's prayer warriors are dedicated to staying in prayer for one another. Prayer brings us closer together as a church family, and praying brings us in steady closeness to God.

Is God calling you to be a Lake Gibson Prayer Warrior?

Consider this invitation to join Lake Gibson church family in praying for others by checking the Connection Card "Becoming a Prayer Warrior".

"I love the Lord, because he hears and answers my prayers"
Psalm 116:1 (NLT)

In Christian love for one another through prayer,

Prayer Ministry

Our Ministries continued on the next page . . .

Our Ministries, Continued

Scouting Report

The Cub Scouts of Pack 711 will meet twice in August. On August 7th they will hold the Cub Scout Olympics; on August 21st they will have Lego car races. Boy Scout Troop 711 and Cub Scout Pack 711 will resume regularly scheduled weekly meetings in September.

Tom Burns, Scouting Representative

Florida United Methodist Children's Home (FUMCH)

No report this month. Karen and Jeff Acor are our FUMCH Representatives

Neighborhood Missions Ministry

No report.

How Can I Learn About the Way Forward?

On July 26, 2018 Bishop Ken Carter provided a wide range of information on the development of the Commission on a Way Forward's recommendation regarding the church's direction on LGBTQ issues. You can read the Bishop's letter on-line at the Florida Conference web site, <https://www.flumc.org/a-way-forward-umc>.

Bishop Carter will hold four regional gatherings in September in Tallahassee, Winter Park, Boca Raton and Bradenton at which he will reflect on the future of the church and answer questions that have been submitted in advance. You can register for one of these gatherings or submit a question by clicking on the appropriate lines in the above referenced letter.

To read the Commission on a Way Forward's report to the Special Session of the General Conference (which will be February 23 - 26, 2019 in St. Louis, MO), go to the web site, www.flumc.org/wayforward. This web site also contains videos, testimonies and links to the Annual Conference presentations by a number of our leaders. Be sure to watch Bishop Carter's video "Seven Reasons the United Methodist Church Will Remain United" at this web site.

Celebrations



Birthdays in August

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Name</u> |
|-------------|------------------------|
| 8/1 | George Band |
| 8/1 | Thomas Mitchell |
| 8/6 | Graham Pillow |
| 8/8 | Daniel Johnson |
| 8/10 | Rosita Stafford |
| 8/11 | Linda Hudson |
| 8/12 | Danny Hughes |
| 8/13 | Donna Woodworth |
| 8/14 | Claude Hatchett |
| 8/14 | Junaid Saqib |
| 8/15 | Philip Webb |
| 8/16 | Wealthy Brown |
| 8/18 | Mike Stafford |
| 8/19 | Betty Pillow |
| 8/20 | Joyce Webb |
| 8/23 | Lauren Rodriguez |
| 8/26 | Jared Arnett |
| 8/26 | Marjorie Ford Brisbane |
| 8/28 | Gladys Bryce |
| 8/28 | Sandy Stanfield |
| 8/30 | Donald Stirn |
| 8/31 | Carol Campbell |
| 8/31 | Lou Webb |

Anniversaries in August

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Names</u> |
|-------------|----------------------------|
| 8/5 | Lynn and Alan Grier |
| 8/6 | Shirley and Jack Patterson |
| 8/8 | Bonnie and Ken Fuqua |
| 8/14 | Faye and Claude Hatchett |
| 8/15 | Martina and Bob Willome |
| 8/19 | Abba and Robert Schmidt |
| 8/21 | Anne and John Bernat |
| 8/21 | Rosita and Mike Stafford |
| 8/27 | Jan and Mike Booker |

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: 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, Monday thru Friday

Contact Information

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

Support Staff

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| Marina Hernandez | Administrative Secretary 863-858-5431 office@lakegibsonumc.com |
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| Sue Heishman | Bookkeeper |
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|--------------|---------------------|
| Debbie Moore | Children's Director |
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Youth Director

Youth Intern

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|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Glenda Grant Hess | Director of Music/Organist |
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| Don Heishman, Michael Moake, Fay Wright, and Kristie Summers | Audio/Visual Support |
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| Debbie Moore | Custodian |
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A Little Bit of Heaven Child Enrichment Center

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| 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.