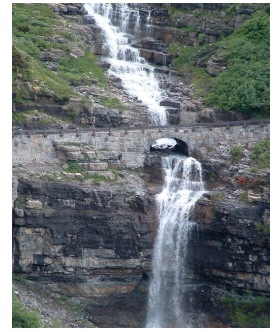




# The Good News

## Lake Gibson United Methodist Church



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

**September 2018**

Steve Polk, Pastor

424 West Daughtery Road, Lakeland Florida 33809

Phone (863) 858-5431

### *From the Pastor's Desk*

Penny and I had planned this vacation for 3 years. Lodging and transportation were arranged and paid for. We only had to leave church and get to the airport. On her way home Penny was in an accident – the car totaled. Praise God she was not severely hurt, but her wrist was sprained badly. Well – that means no white water rafting for her or me, I thought. Bummer! We were inside the cutoff window to cancel the arrangements and get our money returned; at this point we would forfeit most of it. Thankfully we were able to make our flight to Kalispell, Montana. We landed and arrived at our lodging. We do not like to pack and unpack, so we pick a place to lodge and explore the area using that as a home base. We had chosen to stay in Columbia Falls just outside the west entrance to Glacier National Park and explore the trails, glaciers and waterfalls from this vantage point by driving across the park on the famous Going-to-the-Sun Road.

Our lodging was a palace, but the first thing we saw on the news was about a lightning strike that occurred Sunday (about the same time as her accident) and sparked a wildfire in Glacier. The Park was shut down on the west side. The mountains we saw from our lodging disappeared in a haze of smoke. We only saw them twice while we were there because of the smoke. Air quality warnings were issued every day. Vacation ruined you think – yeah, Satan wanted me to think that, too. The drive to the east entrance of the park was 130 miles one way, but we were there to see God's handiwork in nature, so we made the drive 5 times. There was smoke in the air, but not as thick on the east side and the sights were absolutely fantastic!!! The 130-mile drive was awe-inspiring in itself as it wound through the mountains, across clear rushing streams and through the wilderness. I would not trade the experiences we had for anything. It was completely different than I expected, but well worth it. We had to travel 4 times farther than we had planned to, but what we saw, felt and experienced were God-inspiring.

Life is a lot like the above scenario – we have certain plans and agendas and things happen to upset our plans. Many people get angry and frustrated at this and let the disappointment eat at them. They become bitter, angry, grumpy, finger-pointing cynics. The smoke often causes us to forget the loving God that is near us. We forget that real beauty is just a short distance away through the smoke. Instead of blaming others, cursing God, and feeling sorry for yourself, look around for the opportunities present and ask God to bless those. I have often heard that when an unforeseen event happens in your life it can make you bitter or better. We all have those unwanted, unforeseen events in our life; as Christians we also have a God that loves us and if we will trust Him, He will show us the beauty that is around us. Isaiah says that God will do this for those in circumstances like above: He will bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. How will you handle the rough spots of life?

*Pastor Steve*

## Announcements

### Fundraiser for A Little Bit of Heaven Child Enrichment Center

Starting on August 27th for two weeks ALBOH will be selling gourmet popcorn, cookies and other treats from Little Lambs Fundraising. Please call ALBOH or stop in to place an order for this good cause. Their number is 863-858-8400.

### Looking for September Calendars?

Due to circumstances beyond our control, we have not been able to produce an updated September calendar. Please refer to the Sunday bulletin (pick up a hard copy at church or read the electronic version at lakegibsonumc.com). Editor

### FUMCH Requests Additional Donations

The Florida United Methodist Children's Home has requested additional school supplies. Donations were not sufficient to cover their extensive needs (which include children in foster care in addition to those living on the Enterprise and Madison campuses). School supplies are also needed throughout the year. If you would like to help, please bring your purchases into church on Sundays or drop them off at the church office. Our FUMCH Representatives, Jeff and Karen Acor, will see that they get delivered.

### Special Sundays in September

**United Methodist Women (UMW) Sunday is September 9th at 10:30 am.** We are having an outstanding speaker, Lenee Schroeder, who will bless you with her talents of speaking, singing, and playing the piano. Many of you know Lenee from the couple's retreats in Leesburg. A Love Offering will be taken. We will also be *announcing UMW Woman of the Year*. So come and celebrate with us. You will be blessed!

**United Methodist Men (UMM) Sunday is September 30th at 10:30 am.** Plans are being made for the guest speaker and the 5th Sunday dinner (ham with pot-luck side dishes) which will follow.

### 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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## 9 Books That Will Expand Your Mind

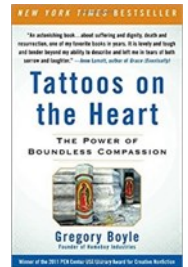
This article was republished as “9 Books to Read This Summer” by RethinkChurch.org on their web site on July 26, 2018. RethinkChurch.org is a ministry of United Methodist Communications. It is reprinted with permission of the UMC Board of Church and Society. RethinkChurch.org states: “Our friends at [UMCJustice.org](http://UMCJustice.org) pulled together a list of books that are sure to challenge readers to take some fresh points of view towards their neighbors and will motivate us towards action. The staff provides some compelling synopses below on why these books matter. You can read the post on their site:

<https://www.umcjustice.org/news-and-stories/nine-books-to-read-this-summer-712>

### **TATTOOS ON THE HEART**

Father Gregory Boyle

Boyle, a Jesuit priest, has spent decades in Los Angeles where he founded Homeboy Industries. Homeboy Industries is a sort of one-stop-shop for the restoration of former gang members. Homeboy Industries provides an opportunity for people living in poverty who have turned to gangs a place and community where they can regain their self-worth. This book broadened my perspective on our call to be in ministry with the poor; it also undeniably strengthened my faith. Father Boyle provides an example of the deep compassion, unwavering commitment to the poor, and the no-strings-attached love of Christ. — Tricia Bruckbauer



### **THE NEW CREATION: JOHN WESLEY'S THEOLOGY FOR TODAY**

Theodore Runyon

Runyon's book is an outstanding study drawing heavily from the sermons and writings of John Wesley, founder of the Methodist movement. Runyon links Wesley's engaging positions on a host of social concerns to the issues we face. This book speaks with hope and conviction. — Clayton Childers

### **MY LIFE ON THE ROAD**

Gloria Steinem

What Steinem lovingly calls her “Life on the Road” is less about traveling open highways and more precisely a collection of stories from her time as a journalist, activist and organizer. She paints a vivid picture that illustrates the power and importance of relationships and collaboration as tools for justice across a variety of issues. Steinem's work on women's equity, civil rights, peace and indigenous representation are reflected in her memoir and reminds readers of the intersectional nature of social justice. — Amber Feezor

### **GOD'S WELCOME: HOSPITALITY FOR A GOSPEL-HUNGRY WORLD**

Rev. Dr. Amy Oden

An inspiring book about the importance and understanding of God's radical welcome, and how, as God's beloved people, we are called to welcome others. Oden's book invites the reader to encounter welcome through a biblical, theological, and practical lens that will challenge the reader's understanding and practice of welcome in the church and community. In addition to the reading, there is a Bible study that makes this a perfect text for a summer Bible study or small group. — Laura James

Article continued on the next page . . .

## 9 Books That Will Expand Your Mind, Continued

### **THE BLOOD OF EMMETT TILL**

Timothy Tyson

*The Blood of Emmett Till* is a powerful window into a pivotal moment in the civil rights movement: the lynching of Emmett Till. Tyson has recently won the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award in 2018. — Susan Henry-Crowe

### **EARTH DEMOCRACY: JUSTICE, SUSTAINABILITY, AND PEACE**

Vandana Shiva

I first encountered Shiva's writing in a college course on environmentalism. I was blown away by her ability to draw deep connections between so many issues I care about, particularly the intersection of planetary sustainability and gender justice. Her works helped shape my understanding of many of the issues we strive to address at the United Nations and International Affairs office, and I'm thankful to have them on hand in our little library. You might suspect an excavation on the ways capitalistic greed, institutionalized sexism and (white) nationalism work together to exacerbate climate change and its disproportionate consequences for women and poor communities of color to be a bit of a downer, but Shiva also reminds us of the real power we have to incite change. — Quinn Wonderling

### **JUST MERCY**

Brian Stevenson

Just Mercy is one of the many works exposing the enormous injustice and racial inequity in our justice system. Written as a memoir, the book offers a unique and personal account of Stevenson's life and work as an activist lawyer, addressing injustice through his defense of individuals on death row. Stevenson offers real-life stories that are expressions of love, profound suffering, transformative relationships, and the potential for mercy to redeem us. If you want to learn about God's grace and redemption, this is a must-read. — Rebecca Cole

### **BULLETS INTO BELLS: POETS AND CITIZENS RESPOND TO GUN VIOLENCE**

Edited by Brian Clements, Alexandra Teague, and Dean Rader, with Foreword by Gabrielle Giffords and Mark Kelly and Introduction by Colum McCann

This book of 54 poems on gun violence is one of the most impactful encounters I have had with gun violence. A response from an impacted individual accompanies each poem — gun violence survivors, family members, politicians, activists, experts and others. The over 100 voices featured include: Samaria Rice, the mother of Tamir Rice; U.S. Senator Chris Murphy; Amber Goodwin, founder of Community Justice Reform Coalition; Lucy McBath, the mother of Jordan Davis; pastor-activist the Rev. Michael Pfleger; and poets Rita Dove, Jimmy Santiago Baca, Natasha Trethewey, Reginald Dwayne Betts, Christopher Soto, Patricia Smith, Matthew Olzmann and many others. Art is one of the ways we are most human, and you feel the human implications of gun violence profoundly in this book. — Jencia Ree Moore

### **EVICTED: POVERTY AND PROFIT IN THE AMERICAN CITY**

Matthew Desmond

Evictions in the U.S. were once rare. They're now relatively common; there were more than 2 million evictions in 2016 alone. Desmond tells the story of eight families (and their landlords) in the poorest neighborhoods of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and shows the heartbreaking consequences of our country's growing income inequality. — Warren Gill

## August News

### **School Supplies Delivered to FUMCH And Padgett Elementary School (PES)**

Thank you to all who donated money or supplies to the Florida United Methodist Children's Home and Padgett Elementary School. Jeff and Karen Acor took supplies to FUMCH on August 8th; read more under the FUMCH section. On August 6th Charlie and Linda Alvarez and Cindy Webb delivered supplies to PES. Please see the article and photo under Mission Moments.

### **Contract Signed for Sanctuary Roof Replacement**

After requesting multiple quotes, the Board of Trustees chose to accept a quote of slightly less than \$30,000 to repair our sanctuary's roof within the next six months. Thankfully, this is less than our initial estimate. A contract has been awarded and we are now awaiting the start of work as schedules permit.

### **Thank You for Stepping In!**

Thank you to everyone who stepped forward to fill in at the office while Pastor Steve and Penny Polk were on vacation and Marina Hernandez was in the hospital. Great appreciation goes to Pastor Rob Atchley for doing hospital visitation. (From Debbie Moore and echoed by us all!)

### **Farewell to Lisa Bacon**

It is with mixed emotions that we say farewell to Ms. Lisa Bacon, who has been an outstanding director of our child enrichment center. Lisa has done so much to improve the standing of ALBOH in the central Florida Christian child development community, introduced new programs and made ALBOH financially self-sufficient. We are sad to see her leave, but are so happy to have been able to witness her reinvigorate this mission of Lake Gibson UMC. We wish her the best in the future. (Some pictures of Lisa in action are on page 8.)

### **UMW Visit to Noah's Landing**

Lake Gibson UMW were doubly blessed on August 14th when we went on a tour of Noah's Landing. We enjoyed seeing and visiting the facility, meeting some of the residents, and hearing how they are providing a remarkable home for these 136 residents.



The ladies then went to lunch at the End Zone Restaurant and had fun talking and visiting with one another. As we were starting to leave, our waitress informed us that a customer had paid for all 18 meals. What a double blessing, and it is good to know that paying it forward is moving through our community! (Photo from Debbie Moore's phone)

August News continued on the next page . . .

## August News, Continued

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

Pastor Steve sent a letter to Lake Gibson UMC committee chairs informing them of the turnover in the director's position at ALBOH.

Please see the article and photo of Ms. Cook in the ALBOH section.



Steve B. Polk  
Pastor

### Lake Gibson United Methodist Church

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Email: [office@lakegibsonumc.org](mailto:office@lakegibsonumc.org)

August 07, 2018

I am sorry to inform you that Ms. Lisa Bacon, our ALBOH Child Enrichment Center Director has resigned. Her last official day is August 17, 2018. Lisa has performed wonders at ALBOH; the center has made become accredited, raised wages, increased staff training and recently started after-school care. She will be greatly missed.

In consultation with Sarah Schiemann (ALBOH Board Chair) and Roy Bodemer (SPPR Chair) I am glad to announce the hiring of Ms. Latisha Cook as our new Director. Latisha has recently earned a BS in Psychology and has a background in pre-schools. She will begin on August 15, 2018. Latisha has her Director's Credential and VPK certification. She will be the lead teacher of VPK and the Director of ALBOH (just as Lisa was last year).

We will start VPK with the school year on August 13, 2018 and hopefully stay on the school calendar. Lisa has assured me we can start with her as VPK lead and transfer to Latisha with no problem. Latisha will be meeting with the appropriate boards in the coming days. Please pray for a smooth transition.

Pastor Steve B. Polk  
Pastor, Lake Gibson UMC

## September Events

Lake Gibson UMC's September events are covered in other areas of this newsletter (e.g., UMW and UMM Sundays).

### Lisa Bacon in Action

Lisa, former Director, A Little Bit of Heaven Child Enrichment Center, avoided being photographed for the most part, but here are a few shots we were able to get. Lisa epitomized involved leadership, whether spreading mulch in the playground or selling fund-raising greeting cards after service, painting the interior of the building or moving every-last-thing out and then back into the building after the flood caused by a burst pipe.



### Marina's Corner

Marina was not available to prepare her monthly column or Food Pantry report for September. Look for her to resume these in the October edition, with God's help. Her contact information is Marina G. Hernandez, Administrative Secretary, 863-858-5431. Office hours are 9 am - 2 pm, Mon-Fri.



## Finance and Related Topics

### Financial Update

With our financial reporting generally delayed a month, here are figures through the end of July, 2018:

| 2018 - Month | # of Sundays | Revenue \$ | Expenditures \$ | Budgeted (Straight Line) | Rev-Exp \$ |
|--------------|--------------|------------|-----------------|--------------------------|------------|
| January      | 5            | 29,299     | 22,204          | 30,957                   | 7,094      |
| February     | 4            | 29,218     | 38,824          | 24,766                   | (9,606)    |
| March        | 4            | 21,386     | 20,262          | 24,766                   | 1,123      |
| April        | 4            | 24,069     | 19,971          | 24,766                   | 4,098      |
| May          | 5            | 28,167     | 27,401          | 30,957                   | 766        |
| June         | 4            | \$20,390   | 21,104          | 24,766                   | (715)      |
| July         | 5            | \$23,856   | \$26,221        | 30,957                   | (2,365)    |
| August       | 4            |            |                 | 24,766                   |            |
| September    | 4            |            |                 | 24,766                   |            |
| October      | 5            |            |                 | 30,957                   |            |
| November     | 4            |            |                 | 24,766                   |            |
| December     | 4            |            |                 | 24,766                   |            |

As you know, last fall we completed the first three of four proposed projects for Campus Revitalization. The repainting of the sanctuary and Family Life Center, replacing much of our landscaping, and refurbishing the circle in front of the sanctuary were completed. Our intent to install a lighted electronic sign has funds raised, but has been delayed primarily due to lack of permitting. Hopefully, permitting will be completed and a sign installed this fall.

As you are aware, in January 2018, we identified three projects which we thought needed to be addressed in the long-term. These included replacing the roof on the sanctuary (estimated cost of \$60,000) in two years, replacing the air conditioning units throughout the campus (estimated cost of \$120,000) in three years, and putting aside 5% of the value of our property to cover our insurance deductible in case of catastrophic loss (\$181,170) in five years.

Based on new input from the Board of Trustees, it was determined that we needed to work on our roof immediately. Therefore, after requesting multiple quotes, we chose to accept a quote of slightly less than \$30,000 to repair our sanctuary's roof within the next six months. Thankfully, this is less than our initial estimate. A contract has been awarded and we are now awaiting the start of work as schedules permit.

As an update, the following funds have been raised through 31 July 2018 for these three new projects:

|                               |            |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Air conditioning replacements | - \$19,220 |
| Sanctuary roof replacement    | - \$16,493 |
| Insurance Deductible Reserve  | - \$ 5,878 |

Dwight Kitchens, Finance Committee Co-Chair

## Our Departments

### **The Administrative Council**

No report.

### **The Board of Trustees**

No report.

### **Music Department**

No report.

### **Lay Leader's Letter**

No report.

### **Children's Ministry**

A big **thank you** to Harriet Shapiro, Fay Wright, Ann Fox, Pat Moon and Sandy Stanfield for craft items donations for the children. We do appreciate all your help. Whoever anonymously put scissors in the kitchen and whoever put the fish in our tank, we want to thank you, too.

We are learning the books of the Bible in Children's Church time. Sunday school is crafts, singing and life lessons of Bible characters until we begin *The Story* again in September. We are looking into Fall Bible Festival plans . . . coming soon . . . pray for us. We welcome and look forward to working with our new preschool director, Latisha Cook.

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



We have a new Director. She is Latisha Cook, a native of Florida, born and raised in Port St. Lucie, who moved to Lakeland in 2014. Latisha received her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Ashford University, and has completed requirements for her Master's Degree. She has served 3 years as an assistant director in a large preschool environment, taught Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) and Preschool children and has worked with troubled teenage girls.

Thank you, God, for sending us this talented and well-educated lady.

Sarah Schiemann, Chair  
ALBOH Board of Directors

### **Worship Committee**

No report.

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!** All classes will resume using *The Story* on September 16th (Chapter 19). During the summer each class determined its own topics of study, and will do so on September 2nd, 9th (United Methodist Women's) and 30th (United Methodist Men's Sundays).

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.

If you need a copy of *The Story*, let your Sunday School class leader know.

## Our Ministries

### Mission Moments

On August 6th Cindy Webb, Charlie and Linda Alvarez delivered three big cartons of school supplies to Padgett Elementary School. Antionette Kirby, the principal, was so happy to receive the crayons, paper, scissors and many other items. The whole list of items given was in the August newsletter. (Photo courtesy of Charlie Alvarez.)

Thank you to all who donated them or money. You truly make a difference in our church's neighborhood. This is Love in Action carried out. I told Ms. Kirby to let us know anytime there is another need in the school and she said that she knows that she can count on us.



I have been hearing about the caring actions of our members to those who have been sick or going through tough times. You are taking care of each other.

As Jesus said in Matthew 25:40, "Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me." (NASB)

Linda Alvarez  
Missions Coordinator

Our Ministries continued on the next page . . .

## Our Ministries, Continued

### United Methodist Men (UMM)



At the August UMM meeting, the men discussed the plans for the 5th Sunday Dinner on September 30th. We also talked about the needs for the special UMM Sunday service prior to the dinner. It was decided that we would have picnic ham with pot-luck sides which we hope all will support. We will need servers, cooks, set-up, and clean-up volunteers in these areas. If you wish to assist in any way, please contact me.

The next UMM meeting will be on the September 8th at 9:00 am in the FLC. This will be a breakfast meeting, and it will be the last one before our UMM Men's Sunday service and dinner. I encourage all to attend so that we can finalize the plans for both events.

We intend to finish the air conditioner fence enclosure in October, if the weather permits. We will be planning any other projects to help maintain and keep up the church grounds, such as filling cracks in the sidewalk. If you have a concern or would like to propose a project that we can perform, please feel free to contact us. We will then determine if your suggestions are within our capability.

The UMM are here for the church's needs and to help, when possible. We, although small in number, do desire to assist all members of the church.

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

Michael Moake, President

### United Methodist Women (UMW)



United  
Methodist  
Women

The next meeting of the **UMW Leadership Team** is scheduled to be Monday, September 24th, at 1:00 pm in the FLC.

#### Upcoming UMW Events:

**UMW Sunday is September 9th at 10:30 am.** We are having an outstanding speaker, Lenee Schroeder, who will bless you with her talents of speaking, singing, and playing the piano. Many of you know Lenee from the couple's retreats in Leesburg. A Love Offering will be taken. We will also be *announcing UMW Woman of the Year*. So come and celebrate with us. You will be blessed!

**Fall Rummage Sale is October 19th and 20th.** This twice-a-year event is the primary fund-raiser for Lake Gibson UMW's missions. As you are doing your fall housecleaning (HA!), be on the lookout for items you no longer need. Bring smaller items to the church office for storage; hold on to large ones like appliances or furniture until closer to the sale. Look for more details in the October issue.

**General UMW Meeting at First UMC.** [The announcement below is reprinted from an email from First UMC in Lakeland because we have an opportunity to support Padgett Elementary School by reading to their students. We are welcome to attend.]

"Join our women for the **September 10** United Methodist Women's meeting, 10:30 am in the Fellowship Center. **"The Sacred Space of Reading with Children"** will be presented by Sylvia Palmer, Reading Pals Manager, United Way Central Florida. Full lunch is \$4.00 per person. Email your lunch reservations by September 5th to [UMWreservations@firstumc.org](mailto:UMWreservations@firstumc.org)".

Our Ministries continued on the next page . . .

# Our Ministries

## United Methodist Women (UMW), Continued

**Gulf Central District UMW Mission Study, September 22nd**, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at Manhattan Avenue UMC, 5411 S. Manhattan Ave, Tampa, FL 33611. To sign up go to the GCD's Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/Gcdflumw](http://www.facebook.com/Gcdflumw).

### Circle News



After a hot summer, Ruth Circle of Love will meet **Wednesday, September 5, 2018, at 11:00 am** in the FLC, rooms 1 and 2. We will be studying Rachel (chapter 6) in our *Women of the Bible* book by Frances Vander Velde. Don't forget to bring a sandwich and drink. Dessert will be provided. It is our last meeting to plan UMW Sunday, so please make every effort to attend.

Heart to Heart will meet on **Monday, September 10th, at 10:30 am** in the FLC, rooms 1 and 2. We will be studying the July lesson on page 117 of the *2017 - 2018 UMW Program Book*. Be sure to bring a sandwich and drink; Jackie Webb will bring the dessert. Bring a friend, too!



Evening Circle will meet on **Monday, September 10th, at 6:30 pm** at Debbie Moore's home, 400 Vineyard Drive in Lakeland. We'll share a meal before discussing chapter 28, Dorcas, of *Women of the Bible*. Our Evening Circle is joyfully learning and supporting each other in faith in Jesus. (If you can, please bring a few items to put into the visitor bags.)

### Prayer Ministry

*"The Lord gives his people strength. The Lord blesses them with peace."*  
Psalm 29:11 (NLT)



God is ready with infinite love to give you a true blessing by becoming a prayer warrior for Lake Gibson's Prayer Ministry and joining us in praying for others. Your prayers will not only be a blessing to others, but in turn you will feel greatly blessed to honor God in intercession with one another and with Him.

Please check the list in the narthex of those who are currently Prayer Warriors for our Prayer Ministry. We recently added two more and now have a total of 32 Prayer Warriors. The majority of those are on the prayer-by-email team. Intercessory prayer meets once a week, currently with three members.

We give thanks to the Prayer Warriors and welcome new members. Our prayers may be the only gift someone receives so they may receive the blessings of our Lord.

If you choose to become a Prayer Warrior, please mark the box on the Connection Card and place it in the offering plate on Sunday.

In Christian love for one another,  
Prayer Ministry

Our Ministries continued on the next page . . .

## Our Ministries, Continued

### Scouting Report

Boy Scouts Troop 711 has resumed their regular Monday night meetings at 7:00 pm in the FLC. Their Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/troop-711-of-Lakeland-FL](http://www.facebook.com/troop-711-of-Lakeland-FL)) contains photos of their activities.

Cub Scout Pack 711 meets on Tuesday nights at 7:00 pm in the FLC. The Cubs have updated their web site ([www.pack711lakeland.org](http://www.pack711lakeland.org)) with an entire year of events. On September 4th the pack will hold their open house; on September 28th and 29th they will have their starter campout at Christ the King Episcopal Church. Keep an eye out for their popcorn sales on October 6 and 13.

Lake Gibson UMC's Scouting Representative is Tom Burns.

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

We want to thank everyone who donated school supplies during the month of July. We packed up nine copy paper boxes full of supplies and delivered them to the Children's Home on August 8th. As always, they were much appreciated. Several other churches also had school supply drives and delivered the supplies to the Children's Home in time for the first day of school. The kids started back to school the same time as Polk County did this year on August 13th.

The new Lamar Louise Curry Early Childhood Education Development Center is on track to open next month at the Children's Home. Take a look at the video that is posted on FUMCH Facebook page showing the progress to date.

The chapel at the Madison Ranch has two new stained glass windows. These are the first of six that will be installed.

On May 12th Run 4 Life 5k was held to help raise money for the Children's Home. The proceeds of the run were presented to the Children's Home on August 7th in the amount of \$7,500. This year they had the largest turnout with over 300 runners.

After having to evacuate the Enterprise Campus last year for hurricane Irma, the Children's Home held a surprise evacuation drill for all the children and the staff. Afterwards Dr. Kitwana McTyer, President and CEO, talked with the staff to fine-tune what is needed, just in case of another evacuation.

The kids had lots of fun during the summer at Warren Willis Camp along with the summer camp on campus. Some of the activities included their annual 4th of July pool party and picnic on campus. They also had Summer Fun Insomnia Cookie Night, where they ate ice cream sandwiches made with real homemade cookies. Over 200 cookies were made from scratch.

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 September

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Name</u>             |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| 9/1         | Gloria Laube            |
| 9/2         | Mike Booker             |
| 9/3         | Paula Drummond          |
| 9/3         | Michelle McCaslin       |
| 9/4         | Harold Burness          |
| 9/4         | Juan Cortes             |
| 9/6         | Charles Alvarez         |
| 9/6         | Creon "Fred" Fredrikson |
| 9/6         | Ken Fuqua, Sr.          |
| 9/6         | Robert Wenger           |
| 9/7         | Joe Brady               |
| 9/8         | Don Eshelman            |
| 9/9         | Travis Watson           |
| 9/10        | Joyce Scott             |
| 9/11        | Nancy Fitzgerald        |
| 9/13        | Diane Eshelman          |
| 9/13        | George Gribble          |
| 9/13        | Lois Teske              |
| 9/14        | Martha "Sue" Heishman   |
| 9/14        | Claudia Moore           |
| 9/15        | Danielle Woodworth      |
| 9/16        | James Armentrout        |
| 9/16        | Greg Hall               |
| 9/16        | Helen Vandervort        |
| 9/17        | Blanche Lennon          |
| 9/17        | Jocelyn Patterson       |
| 9/18        | Grace Foster            |
| 9/18        | Rick McLellan           |
| 9/18        | Shirley Patterson       |
| 9/19        | Jarica Arnett           |

## Birthdays in September, Continued

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Name</u>             |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| 9/20        | Clayton Loggins         |
| 9/20        | Gail Patterson          |
| 9/21        | Charlie Rich            |
| 9/23        | Vivian Hiller           |
| 9/24        | Carol Davis             |
| 9/24        | Ethel Somers            |
| 9/27        | Creon "C.B." Fredrikson |
| 9/27        | Jack Patterson          |
| 9/27        | Larry Smith             |
| 9/28        | Helen Weissman          |



### Anniversaries in September

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Names</u>             |
|-------------|--------------------------|
| 9/7         | Debbie and Rick McLellan |
| 9/16        | Dorothy and Tom Burns    |
| 9/16        | Penny and Steve Polk     |
| 9/21        | Pati and Bob Gilmore     |
| 9/28        | Olga and Bill Anderson   |

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](http://www.lakegibsonumc.com)

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

### Contact Information

|                    |         |  |
|--------------------|---------|--|
| Steve Polk, Pastor | Phone:  | 863-858-5431   |
|                    | FAX:    | 863-853-1625   |
|                    | E-mail: | <a href="mailto:pastor@lakegibsonumc.com">pastor@lakegibsonumc.com</a> |

### Support Staff

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Marina Hernandez | Administrative Secretary<br>863-858-5431<br><a href="mailto:office@lakegibsonumc.com">office@lakegibsonumc.com</a> |
|------------------|--|

|              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| Sue Heishman | Bookkeeper |
|--------------|------------|

|              |                     |
|--------------|---------------------|
| Debbie Moore | Children's Director |
|--------------|---------------------|

Youth Director

Youth Intern

|                   |                            |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Glenda Grant Hess | Director of Music/Organist |
|-------------------|----------------------------|

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Don Heishman,<br>Michael Moake,<br>Fay Wright, and<br>Kristie Summers | Audio/Visual Support |
|---|----------------------|

|              |           |
|--------------|-----------|
| Debbie Moore | Custodian |
|--------------|-----------|

### A Little Bit of Heaven Child Enrichment Center

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Latisha Cook | Director   |
| Office       | 863-858-8400   |
| Cell         | 863-255-8619   |
| E-mail       | <a href="mailto:alboh@lakegibsonumc.com">alboh@lakegibsonumc.com</a> |

*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](mailto:phylis_kitchens@hotmail.com).