



THE GOOD NEWS

Lake Gibson United Methodist Church

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



From the Pastor's Heart

I know we are in the middle of Lent, yet I think this is important enough to reiterate. Lent is a time of penance as we remember our sin and our Lord's sacrifice to free us from that bondage. The common practice in Lent is to give something up – the most common thing people give up is food. People give up sweets, caffeine, sugar, sodas, ice cream, rich foods and much more. Our United Methodist church is in the midst of turmoil over the LGBTQ issue. **I am suggesting for Lent and the rest of this year we think a little differently and instead of giving up things, we give up the following:**

Give up all your negative thoughts, and instead of thinking negatively, focus on the hope we are all offered as we serve God and the wonderful things He can do for us. See possibilities, not obstacles.

Give up gossip and talking about others in a bad light. Instead, only say things that lift up others, repeat only good and let the negative things stop by not repeating them. Brag on the good in others knowing they are loved by God just as you are.

Give up hatred and fear of other people and/or groups. Exchange that hatred with the love of God and begin to see others as sacred individuals God loves.

Give up judging others based on looks or hearsay. Give others the benefit of the doubt and build bridges to make friends with people who are not like you. See them for the individuals they are and value their contribution to society.

Give up the prejudices and pre-conceived ideas we all have and instead be open-minded and accepting of one another. Get to really know someone before leaping to conclusions.

Give up name calling and replace it with affirmation and exhortation. Encourage others to rise to a higher level with encouragement.

Give up indifference and become one who cares about a person or situation.

Give up apathy and become actively involved.

Give up grumbling and only allow thanksgiving and praise to be spoken.

Give up the worries and anxieties we have in life and trust that God is with you and will make a way for you.

Give up loneliness and begin to fellowship with others in the love of the Lord.

Have a GLORIOUS RESURRECTION CELEBRATION!!!

Pastor Steve

Introducing a New Church Calendar!

The LGUMC online calendar, accessed from our church web site at www.lakegibsonumc.com, has been refreshed to reflect activity categories. Items have been assigned to a category and each **category is color-coded** to help you more easily find items of interest. Categories include Sunday Services, Small Group Gatherings, Special Events, Church Leadership, ALBOH, and National Holidays. Here's an example:

Lake Gibson U.M.C. Events Calendar

Color Codes: Purple = Services / Yellow = Small Groups / Teal = Special Events / Tan = Church Leadership / Brown = A Little Bit of Heaven / Red = Holidays

Sunday Services

Today | Mar 31 - Apr 6, 2019 | Print | Week | Month | Agenda

Time	Sun 3/31	Mon 4/1	Tue 4/2	Wed 4/3	Thu 4/4	Fri 4/5	Sat 4/6
8am						8 - 12p ALBOH - Picture Day 424 W Daughtery Rd, Lakeland, FL 33809, USA --- FLC	
9am	9 - 10 Sunday School 424 W Daughtery						
10am		9:30 - 10:30 Intercessory Prayer (Fran)	10 - 12p Olive Tree Gathering 400 Vineyard Dr, Lakeland, FL 33809, USA	10 - 11:30 Small Small Groups Fox W Fox W Lakeland, FL	10 - 11 Bible Study FLC		10 - 12p Cantata Practice
11am		10:30 - 1p Heart 2 Heart - FLC 1&2		11 - 1 Ruth Circle of Luv - FLC			
12pm			12p - 1p Bulletin Church Office				
1pm							
2pm		2p - 6p ALBOH - Trustee After Care FLC	2p - 6p ALBOH - After Care FLC	2p - 6p ALBOH - After Care FLC	2p - 6p ALBOH - After Care FLC	2p - 6p ALBOH - After Care FLC	
3pm							
4pm							
5pm							
6pm		6:30p - 8:30p Boy Scouts	6:30p 6:30p 6:30p Cub Prais Prais Scout Troops	6:30p - 8p Choir (S)	6:30p - 7:30p Bible Study		
7pm				7p - 8p	7p - 8:30p		

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time - New York

By default, the calendar is now set at a **weekly view**, rather than a monthly view. You may still click either the Monthly tab or the Agenda tab to see a slightly different perspective.

If you click on an item, additional detail may be available. **Should you be responsible for one of the entries, you can give Marina that additional information and ask her to add it under "more details"** for your event. This is a great way to let casual viewers of our calendar get a more in-depth understanding about what will occur during that event or time period. *If you wrote about your event for the church newsletter, you might want to condense your comments and provide them to the office for the calendar as well.*

Please note: If you use a Google Calendar for your personal planning, you may open any event on the LGUMC calendar and click on "*copy to my calendar*" to duplicate that event on your own personal calendar. This should make it easier to schedule your time and to remember church activities.

Dwight Kitchens

Out of Area Special Event

REASONS for HOPE

 St. Paul United Methodist Church
Largo, FL | April 5 & 6, 2019

Reasons For Hope | April 5-6, 2019

Friday: 7 to 9:30 PM

Saturday: 9 AM to Noon

Join us for this two day conference, featuring world-class speakers on topics that will help us tackle tough questions of faith and grow our confidence in the objective truth of Christianity. Whether you're a dedicated Christian, or you're still looking for answers, this is a place for you to learn, grow and find Reasons for Hope.

OUR TOPICS

Truth: Is it True for You but Not for Me?

Why God Allows Evil?

In Defense of the Gospels: The Case for Reliability

Is the Bible Sexist?

Apologetics: The New Bad Word and Why You Need It

To see the guest speakers and learn more about this conference, go to the web site www.stpaulumc.org/adults/reasons-for-hope/. Registration is required; fees range from \$30 at the door or \$50 for a married couple and \$15 for a non-believer. Although they would like to have registrations by April 4th, you are welcome to walk in and pay at the door on April 5th.

[Reprinted with permission of St. Paul UMC.]

April Events

Guest Speaker April 3rd

Lloyd M. Ignacio, Physical Therapist, will be the guest speaker at A Matter of Balance Class, Wednesday, April 3rd, between 1 and 3 pm. You are invited to hear Mr. Ignacio's presentation which is on improving balance and reducing the likelihood of falling.

If you use a cane or walker, be sure to bring it and Mr. Ignacio will determine if it is adjusted properly.

Spring Rummage Sale, April 12th and 13th

There is still time to empty your closets and storage sheds or get rid of old, working appliances and furniture to make way for the new. **We are accepting donations for the Spring Rummage Sale up to April 11th.**

Please call the office (863-858-5431) by April 10th to arrange for pickup of larger items if you need help.

The sale is open to the public on **Friday, April 12th at 8:00 am until 3:00 pm** and on **Saturday, April 13th, from 8:00 am until noon**. Sales are cash-only. We are not offering delivery of purchases this year.

Preparation for the sale begins on **Wednesday, April 10th**, with United Methodist Women (UMW) members and other ladies asked to arrive between 8:00 am and 8:30 am to set up sales tables and signage. We are rearranging the locations of some items this year to improve the flow of shoppers and make it easier to see and touch the items.

At 9:00 am members of the United Methodist Men (UMM) and other gentlemen are requested to arrive to start unloading the storage sheds and bringing in the goodies. Continued . . .

We plan to have a "traffic director" guiding each load to its proper place to eliminate the need for moving items multiple times around the Family Life Center (FLC).

On **Thursday, from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm**, the sales items will be priced and further arranged, if necessary, to make shopping easier. **Gentlemen are also requested to check out the electronics and electrical items to ensure all are in working order.**

Proceeds from the spring and fall rummage sales are used to support missions locally and around the world. You do not have to be a member of LGUMC or of the UMW or UMM to help out. All volunteers are appreciated; you may work as many hours as you like.



Preparations for Easter Egg Hunt April 20th

The United Methodist Men are asking for donations of individually wrapped, non-melting candy (*no chocolate* except Tootsie Roll miniatures) to be placed in plastic Easter eggs. **Please, no jelly beans unless they are individually wrapped or packaged.**

Please bring your candy donations to the church office or give them to Michael Moake.

We need volunteers to stuff the eggs with candy on Sunday, April 14th (Palm Sunday) after the second service. Please plan to stay and help us if you can.

April Events, Continued

Easter Egg Hunt April 20th, 10 am

The Easter Egg Hunt will be held on **Saturday, April 20th. The hunt will start at 10:00 am.** UMM members are requested to come to the FLC at 9:30 to help hide eggs and set up the games.

If you have grandchildren (or greats) visiting, be sure to bring them to our hunt!

We are asking for volunteers to help supervise the games: checkers, ring-toss and sock-toss.

Chef Michael Moake will prepare the hotdogs for lunch. We need two UMW members to provide kitchen help.

In addition to hotdogs we'll be offering self-serve sodas and potato chips.

Sewists Needed, Continued



Sewists Needed

The United Methodist Women are looking for volunteers to sew together pre-cut 5-inch squares of donated material to make lap quilts for our shut-ins. The UMW usually makes presents to be given out at Christmas for Lake Gibson members who are unable to attend services.

The finished quilts are 40 x 50 inches and will be layered and quilted by other volunteers. It takes 99 squares to make one quilt; if you want to substitute your own material for the donated squares, you may.

We have two samples completed, which are shown in the next column. The top one was pieced by Elsieann Lithgow and quilted by Ruth Zona. The bottom was pieced and quilted by Phyllis Kitchens.

Continued

Florida United Methodist Children's Home

Dwight and Phyllis Kitchens, along with Mount Olive Shores North neighbors Hank and Inez Rogerson, are spending the first week in April at FUMCH.

Both couples will be repairing bicycles and the Kitchens, who are certified helmet fitters, will be distributing free helmets donated by the state of Florida.

They will also be taking up donated, used bicycles to be given to the children and/or house parents.



Come to the Garden During Holy Week

Learn “What Jesus Dared to Do” every day during Holy Week, from Palm Sunday on April 14th through Easter, April 21st. Between these two worship services, **drive around the Spadafora Memorial Garden, between 4:00 and 6:00 pm, Monday through Friday and receive a free gift of remembrance each day.** If you’re picking up a child at A Little Bit of Heaven Child Enrichment Center, please take a moment to stop by.

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Learn About What Jesus Dared to Do</u>
Palm Sunday	4/14	How dare Jesus allow people to escort him into Jerusalem like a king?
Monday	4/15	How dare Jesus curse a perfectly good fig tree?
Tuesday	4/16	How dare Jesus selfishly allow the waste of expensive perfume to be poured on himself?
Wednesday	4/17	How dare Jesus chase lawful businesses and temple revenues out of the house of prayer?
Thursday	4/18	How dare Jesus willingly accept a disciple’s betrayal to the hand of religious enemies, without resistance?
Friday	4/19	How dare Jesus not defend himself? Let a murderer go free? Forgive a dying thief? Die on a cross as a cursed person in shame and dishonor?
Saturday	4/20	How dare Jesus not have planned for his own death arrangement? Who gave Jesus permission to lie buried in a borrowed tomb?
Easter Sunday	4/21	JOIN US FOR THE ONE WHO DARED TO DEFEAT DEATH FOR US.

Easter Sunday

We will begin our Easter celebrations with a Sunrise Service at 7:30 am in the Sanctuary. This will be followed by a pot-luck breakfast in the FLC. Please bring your favorite breakfast casserole to share. The church will provide coffee, hot tea and juices.

Following Sunday School from 9:15 to 10:15, we will have one worship service in the

Sanctuary at 10:30 am. This will include our Easter Cantata, *The Day He Wore My Crown*.

Don’t forget to take home the Easter lilies you ordered! **Last day for ordering Easter lilies is April 7th; cost is \$10.00 each. Call the office to place your order and specify a dedication (Given in memory of; Given in honor of, or To the Glory of Our Lord).**

Pedaling Parsons Visit Again

Lake Gibson had an opportunity to show Christian hospitality in February when the Pedaling Parsons (PP's) once again visited our bike hostel (otherwise known as the Family Life Center). There were 13 people on this tour, 12 riders and 1 support (SAG) person.

The PP's posted their trip on the web site <http://www.crazyguyonabike.com/doc/PedalingParsonsFlorida2019>. Dave Cardarella was the tour's journalist. The PP's 2019 journal makes interesting reading about the areas they visited.

The PP's are raising funds to help fight the opioid drug addiction and the overdose epidemic in Ohio. Overnight accommodations and meals are provided by United Methodist churches along the route. Trip segments averaged 50 to 60 miles a day. The PP's rode the Withlacoochee and General James A. Van Fleet rail trails to get to Lakeland.

The Pedaling Parsons stopped for the night in the following towns: Hernando (start and end point), Groveland, Lakeland (arrived at LGUMC the afternoon of February 6th and departed the morning of the 7th), Wauchula, Punta Gorda, Venice, Bradenton, Tampa and Spring Hill.



Thank You Marina for preparing Chicken Cacciatore and rice for dinner.

Thanks to Marina Hernandez for the delicious dinner and Debbie Moore for making breakfast for the 13 hungry visitors.

The PPs also thanked Pastor Steve Polk for hosting them again (photo shows leader Pastor Don Richards and Pastor Steve).

Continued . . .



Debbie arrived early at Lake Gibson UMC. This is our third visit, where she has cooked breakfast for us. Eggs, bacon, sausage patties, waffles, fresh blueberries and yogurt. Thank You Debbie.



Signs, Signs Everywhere

You may have noticed some new pictorial signs around the campus. People who are new to the church may not know where to find everything. These signs are designed to help with that need.

The signs are overhead shots of the campus with superimposed annotations. These are not permanent, but are paper tests of what could become permanent aluminum signs.

Please let the Church Council members know whether you like or dislike this type of signage.

Dwight Kitchens



Sample of pictorial signs that have been posted around campus.

Got Children's Stuff?

Grandchildren outgrow their toys, books and clothing. When they come to visit, you might not supply their clothing, but often you have toys and books sitting around the house. As the kids grow, you may find that you have more and more clutter as you continue to buy age-appropriate things to keep them busy when they visit. Maybe you're getting tired of hitting those large plastic toys in the back yard with your lawn mower.

What to do with those items no longer wanted? Well, **A Little Bit of Heaven** (ALBOH), our Child Enrichment Center, can often use **books and toys for infants through pre-kindergarten-aged children**. Why not consider letting ALBOH take a look to see what might meet their needs? If they can't use the items, they can pass your gifts along to the United Methodist Women's Rummage Sale whose profits support missions. Your house becomes more manageable and you help others at the same time.

Of course, if you really love those books, and can't part with them permanently, why not volunteer to be a reader in one of ALBOH's classrooms? Latisha Cook, ALBOH's Director, will be more than happy to discuss how you might serve as a one-time or recurring reader in the classroom. Give her a call at (863) 858-8400.

Who Writes These Articles?

Each month, a newsletter appears with information of both upcoming and past events. Where does this come from?

Well, hopefully, from you! Each Lake Gibson person has an opportunity to report what is happening in their own piece of the church. Anticipating that someone else will tell others about it is just short-sighted. If you attend an event, why not provide your impressions? No one else knows what you got out of the event unless you tell them.

Continued . . .

If you are on a committee, why not let others know about your deliberations?

We often hear the term *transparency* being bandied about. The church leadership attempts to keep everyone informed. But, sometimes, others know more about a subject. Please, consider writing short articles for the newsletter to share your information and impressions with others. Most of us would rather know more than be in the dark.

We accept typed or legibly handwritten articles, but if you send them by email (either in the body of the message or as a Word attachment), it is easier to edit. While MS Word is preferred, we have the ability to convert documents from other formats. Send articles to phylis_kitchens@hotmail.com.

Marina's Corner

*Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love . . .*
St. Francis of Assisi

Thank you all for the continued blessings to our food pantry. Currently we are in need of the following items:

Spaghetti sauce
Mac & cheese
Tuna
P'nut butter
Jelly
Hamburger Helper
Canned meats (Vienna sausage,
ham, Spam, etc.)
Pastas

In February we gave out 53 bags of groceries and 63 bags of Publix baked goods. For the first two months of **2019, we have provided 131 bags of groceries and 134 bags of baked goods.**

Marina Hernandez, Admin Secretary
863-858-5431
office@lakegibsonumc.com

Polk County School Board's (PCSB) Homeless Graduating Seniors

We are collecting food for food bags for PCSB homeless graduating high school seniors. These are students who live in cars, shelters, etc. They are to be commended for graduating school under such adverse conditions. We are limited to 2-gallon Ziploc freezer bags this year.

We will also be filling quart-size Ziploc freezer bags with napkins, heavy duty forks and spoons and individually wrapped chocolate and Sour Patch candies. All food items must be **individually wrapped and single-serving sized**. At this time we are preparing for **128 students**, which might increase.

All items are due to me by April 13th. Please contact Cindy Webb at 863-221-5253 with any questions. Below is a list of suggestions:

Chicken salad snack with crackers, box only
Tuna salad snack with crackers, box only
(available from Dollar Tree)

Pop Tarts

Granola bars

Nutri-Grain bars

Vienna sausage and potted meat

Breakfast biscuits

Snyder's of Hanover (100 Calorie On the Go Pack) Mini Pretzels (60 per pack (pk) from Sam's Club)

Kar's sweet and salty mix (Sam's)

Lance snack crackers: cheese, peanut butter and Nekot

Gummy fruit snacks

Nabisco cookies (60 pk) (Sam's)

Keebler M&M cookies (30 pk, Sam's)

Handi-Snack Ritz 30-count Crackers 'N Cheesy Dip (Sam's)

Original Slim Jim sticks (120/pk, Sam's)

Planters salted peanuts (48/pk, Sam's)

Heavy-duty forks and spoons

2-gallon Ziploc (or generic) freezer bags

1-quart freezer bags

Thank you for any donations you can make!

Cindy Webb

Welcome, New Members!

We are so pleased that the following five people joined Lake Gibson UMC in March. Please take an opportunity to tell each of them how much we appreciate their joining our congregation.

Lynda Gibbs

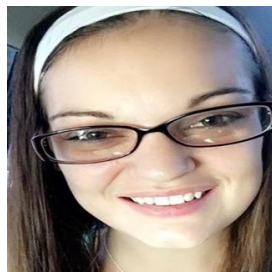
Ethel Somers

Lynn Meske

Joe Wallin

Mary Wallin

Jennifer Hill is Employee of the Month!



Latisha Cook, director of A Little Bit of Heaven Child Enrichment Center, announced that Jennifer Hill was selected as Employee of the Month for February.

Congratulations, Jennifer!

New Suggestion Box

Got an idea you want the church to consider? If you don't want to discuss it with the appropriate committee head, Lay Leader (Sue Shelton) or Pastor Steve, you now have another avenue.

There is a new suggestion box attached to the bulletin board in the Sanctuary's narthex.

Let's feed the hungry box with ideas!

Are You Podcast Qualified?

What is a podcast and how does it work? Why should you care?

Podcasting is a free service that allows Internet users to pull **audio** files (typically MP3's) from a podcasting Web site to listen to on their computers or personal digital **audio** players. The term comes from a combination of the words iPod (a personal digital **audio** player made by Apple) and broadcasting.

If you have an iPad, iPod, Smartphone or computer, you might listen to music during your day. Podcasts permit you to play audio files in lieu of your music. These may be interesting, educational, and enjoyable. Most subscriptions are free.

With newer cars, your audio system may permit you to connect your device with your car's speaker system thru Bluetooth technology. This permits you to play your podcasts thru the car's speakers as you drive.

Each podcast player operates slightly differently. You can subscribe to a podcast of interest and get new downloads as they occur. A perfect example are podcasts from <http://www.umc.org/topics/podcasts>.

Additionally, after Pastor Rob Atchley's recent Sunday school series, you might find [Small Groups in the Wesleyan Way](#) of special interest.

If you've not listened to these before, check out [Get Your Spirit In Shape](#). If you can't use the hyperlinks included in this article, you can search on the titles in your Internet browser. You should be able to easily find the link.

The Apple Store or Android's Play Store offer various podcast players, both free and paid versions. For Windows 10 a recommendation is [Grover Pro](#), at a one-time cost of \$2.99.

Dwight Kitchens

A Month of Tuesdays at Hope Center

As many of you know, Lake Gibson members Rick and Debbie McLellan have a heart for service to the homeless men and women in north Lakeland. Every Tuesday they provide food, fellowship and scripture at Hope House (also referred to as Hope Center), a small house on US 98 not far from our church. The information below was taken from the McLellan's weekly reports [due to space limitations, breakfast service is not included].

As you will see, many in Lake Gibson UMC have responded to Rick and Debbie's requests for support by providing donations during March. If there were more volunteers to serve as the McLellans do, Hope House could be open one or two more days a week than it is now.

March 5th: At Lunchtime, Rick McLellan led our guests in prayer and a devotion from John, chapter 13, AS I HAVE LOVED YOU. Then Debbie and Rick served 21 guests roasted turkey breast, mashed potatoes with gravy, and green beans. We also sent out about a dozen to-go plates. To quench thirst was coffee, milk and iced tea.

The ice machine is not working. Our homeless guests were tired today; many said they were kept awake by the storms. Some had tents that leaked in heavy rain and there were more than the usual wet blankets and sheets to be washed. We had trouble with the center dryer heating, but finally found it worked on the permanent press setting.

One of our young lady guests tripped a breaker in the bathroom with her hair dryer and it took a while to figure out it was the breaker labeled FIRE ALARM. With the light back on, the shower was busy. We gave out many canned goods, and many toiletry items. We especially need socks right now and could use pop-top cans (Chef Boy R Dee, etc.) which our guests rely on like supper in a can. (We are closed at suppertime.)

Continued . . .

March 5th: Continued

We are getting some cooler nights and requests are coming for blankets. We gave out the last one in the back room and one that we had in our trunk. We had a good day and left feeling that hearts and lives were touched and that Hope Center is making a difference!

March 12th: At Lunchtime, Rick McLellan led our guests in prayer and a devotion from John, Chapter 13, LEANING ON JESUS. Then Debbie and Rick served 23 guests sloppy joes, macaroni and cheese, jalapeno poppers, and lemon meringue pie for dessert. We also sent out about a dozen to-go plates.

It was a hot day for March and the ice machine worked great all day. We had some back-up in the laundry due to 2 broken washers, but Brent is working to get that resolved. The shower was busy all day. We brought in a number items for the pantry and are grateful to all (especially to Ray and Bonnie Strait, Phyllis Kitchens [Sarah Schiemann, Linda Alvarez] and Lilia Harbaugh) who gave us food and other items, but we could more use pop-top cans. [Donors' names corrected. Ed.]

We also are grateful to Leon and Kathy Rumohr, who won \$20 from Love in Action at Lake Gibson United Methodist Church and donated it, which enabled us to buy socks which are desperately needed right now.

March 19th: At Lunchtime, Rick McLellan led our guests in prayer and a devotion from John, chapter 5, HOPE RESTORED. Then Debbie and Rick served 19 guests pinto beans with sausage over rice, whole kernel corn, and fresh baked cornbread. We also sent out about ten to-go plates.

It was a cool, wet day. The ice machine worked great all day. The shower was busy all day. We brought in 40 pop-top cans, a Blessing from Love in Action at Lake Gibson United Methodist Church, but gave almost all of them out today. We also gave out many health and toiletry items.

March 19th, Continued

We also are grateful to Julio and Elba Santana (of Bread of Life Christian Mission) who donated a number of items, including the pinto beans used for lunch today. One of the End Zone Restaurant Managers brought in a number of large pans of cooked corned beef brisket which really looked great. Some are in the refrigerator and some are in the freezer. What a Blessing!

March 26th: At Lunchtime, Rick McLellan led our guests in prayer and a devotion from John, chapter 15, REAL FRIENDSHIP. Then Debbie and Rick served 26 guests rotini with meat sauce, a fresh garden salad with sliced tomatoes and cucumbers and a choice of dressings, along with Cuban bread with garlic butter. We also sent out about ten to-go plates.

It was a hot day today. The ice machine was broken, we brought a bag of ice. The shower was busy all day. We want to thank the members of Lake Gibson United Methodist Church who provided so many needed supplies, pop-top canned goods, and many health and toiletry items. It was a very busy day, and the Lord met the needs of many people today at the Hope House.

Children's Ministry Makes a Prayer Wall

Each participant at Wonder Walk receives a **Prayer Tag** to wear during the walk and to take home. The colorful tag includes a **photo and the first name of a child** enrolled in the Rosa Valdez Center. Instructions on the back of the tag read "**Please pray for this child and the 177 Center and nearly 20,000 other children who are served each year by Cornerstone Family Ministries.**"

Our prayer wall in the FLC will display these tags, and perhaps, in the future, tags for the children enrolled in ALBOH and in our Children's Ministry. Please TAKE A TAG HOME WITH YOU, and post it where you are reminded to pray for that child daily. Share the love of God!

Children's Ministry

It has been a busy month for us in Kidtricity. The zooming control car got some thinking going about how we are powered. We sprouted seed on green sponges. We watched pepper flakes scatter in one of our projects, like sin runs from the Holy Spirit.

We had a great time on St. Patrick's day with not only green eggs and ham but also green toys at Children's Church time. We have made some lovely sun catchers for our windows. We have talked some about Holy Week but will continue to explore what Easter is really all about. We are thankful for the United Methodist Men taking care of the Easter egg hunt!!
Debbie Moore, Children's Director

Finance Committee

Quarterly contribution statements will be prepared and distributed soon. If anyone has questions about, or would like to talk about, church finances, please call Finance Chair, Dick McPherson at 863-221-9653.

The Finance Committee meets on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 pm. Meetings are open to anyone interested.

Mission Moments

Lake Gibson United Methodist Church members are involved in missions in so many ways. I try to keep you informed and as up-to-date as possible. Our members have been supporting Hope House with donations of sox and food. The UMW ladies have collected dozens of pairs of underwear for the children of Padgett Elementary School. And the biggest and best is yet to come – THE SPRING RUMMAGE SALE! Please read about details and schedule in the April News section.

At the end of the rummage sale there is still work to be done. Everything left must
Continued . . .

be packed up and loaded into the Salvation

Army truck or trailer. As you can imagine, this all takes lots of helping hands. All volunteers are welcome!

There are many blessings that come with this event. While we are working we enjoy the fellowship of new and old friends. The best thing of all is that ALL proceeds go to missions.

We hope you will all join us to work, shop and enjoy God working in and through our lives.

Linda Alvarez, Missions Coordinator

Lakeland Volunteers in Medicine: Moving, Expanding and Needing More Volunteers!

Linda and Charlie Alvarez are long-time volunteers at Lakeland Volunteers in Medicine (LVIM) and would like more people at our church to be involved in helping others in this critically important medical and dental service mission. LVIM serves the working uninsured -- people who are working to support themselves and their families, but who do not make enough money to buy insurance.

As many of you know, LVIM is about to move into its new, larger building near the Florida United Methodist Conference headquarters on Lake Wire. With a 50% increase in clinical space, there is a need for more support volunteers.

Typical jobs that need to be filled include: Patient schedulers; Receptionists; Greeters; Intake Screeners; Patient Escorts; Medical Records Clerks; Clerical Assistants; Referral Services Support; Interpreters; Facilities, Grounds, and Equipment Maintenance; Information Systems Support; Housekeeping Services; Event Planning and Fundraising; and Marketing Support.

Interested? Call Volunteer Coordinator Kathy Guin (863-688.5846, ext 116) to learn more. The web site www.lvim.net contains information about LVIM to help you decide if you would be a good fit.

Phyllis Kitchens

United Methodist Men

As we approach Easter and the spring Lake Gibson rummage sale, we need to put forth our support. It will be a little hectic with both rummage sale and Easter Sunday being so close together, but a little patience will get us through it all.

We have completed three major projects, not counting the work we did at the last UMM meeting on Saturday, March 9th. We had beautiful weather, lots of water, and yet no beach in sight.

The Lake Gibson United Methodist Men scrubbed and pressure-washed the play equipment in **A Little Bit of Heaven's playground**. They also replaced a broken board in the aging playground fence.



Thanks go out to John Bernat, Tom Burns, Leon Rumohr, Michael Moake and Dwight Kitchens, and to Ken Fuqua who provided moral support.



We still have two remaining projects to complete this season: LGUMC sidewalk sealing/painting and paint the air conditioner enclosures.

Continued . . .

Regarding the Easter Egg Hunt: **Debbie McPherson** has said she would be our Easter Bunny this year. I would like to load the eggs on the week before Easter. Anyone who would care to help, contact me and we will work out a plan. It was suggested that we load on the 14th of April after church service that Sunday.

Jan Booker provided some games to use indoors after the Easter Egg hunt. Carol Davis, president of the UMW, said they would help and asked if we could help them at 9:00 am on Wednesday, April 10th, with the rummage sale setup. We also will be needed to provide assistance with some things on Friday and Saturday during the sale.

We still do not have a guest speaker for the UMM Sunday, which is a 5th Sunday service on September 29th. I realize that it is a little way off, but sometimes it is hard to find one. If anyone has a suggestion, please call and let me know.

As always, thanks for your help and support.
Michael Moake, 386-965-0170 cell
863-816-3194 home

United Methodist Women

The UMW Leadership Team met on March 5th and 25th with preparations for the rummage sale the primary business. We will try a more efficient layout of the sales floor and the checkout area.

New business included investigation into buying a larger storage shed to better handle donations for the rummage sale. Debbie Moore will take the lead in developing information about cost and legal requirements for an approximately 20 x 24-ft shed.

We intend to keep the current UMW shed and use it to sort donations before moving them to the storage shed.

The next LT meeting is April 22nd at 10:00 am.

UMW Circles

Heart to Heart

Heart to Heart will meet on Monday, April 1st, at 10:30 am in the FLC. Sue Shelton will present the program. Please bring lunch and a drink; dessert will be provided. If you have questions please call Ruth Zona at 863-859-5967.

Ruth Circle of Love

Ruth's Circle will meet on Wednesday, April 3rd, at 11:00 am in the FLC. We will be studying the chapter on Ruth in our book. After the meeting we will go to a local restaurant. If you have questions, please call Pat Moon at 863-398-9936.

Evening Circle

The Evening Circle will meet on Monday, April 8th at 6:30 pm at Debbie Moore's house, 400 Vineyard Dr. in Lakeland. We start with dinner (ordering out) before worship and study. We are on chapter 4, Meeting Myself Next Door, in our book by Lois Tverberg. We welcome all ladies to come!

At the March 11th meeting we had 11 in attendance and prepared 30 visitor bags. We enjoyed good food, much laughter and heart-felt testimonies, and still managed to study our lesson. Questions? Call Debbie Moore, 863-614-7193.

Prayer Ministry



"Pray at all times and on every occasion in the power of the Holy Spirit. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all Christians everywhere."
Ephesians 6:18 (NLT, 1996)

"Before the Passover celebration, Jesus knew that his hour had come to leave this world and return to his Father. He now showed the disciples the full extent of his love." John 13:1 (NLT 1996)

By praying for others, we can fulfill God's will with Christian love and prayer for one another.

Please join Lake Gibson's Prayer Ministry in prayer and love for one another. You may sign the Connection Card (Becoming a Prayer Warrior) in the bulletin to join our ministry and place it in the offering plate.

Also, take the Prayer Journal home with you and use it as your guide to prayer during the week for those in need. Becoming a Prayer Warrior on our email notification list will also keep you in touch with those in need of prayer during the week.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all,

Prayer Ministry

March Madness Gourmet Snack Basket for Wonder Walk

UMW Secretary Linda Alvarez prepared our unit's donation for the Wonder Walk silent auction on March 31st. Proceeds will be used to support Cornerstone Family Ministries, a National Mission Institution of the UMW.



Worship Committee

The Worship Committee met on Monday, March 25th, to work on the handouts (gifts and scripture) for Holy Week.

This committee meets in the Sanctuary at 7:00 pm, usually on the last Monday (or the next-to-last Monday if there is a Church Council meeting on the last Monday). Glenda Hess is the leader. Everyone is welcome to attend and bring your ideas for creative ways to worship the Lord.



Birthdays in April

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
4/1	Gail Bishop
4/1	Cindy Heishman
4/7	Sean Broecker
4/8	Stanley Retter
4/9	Tyler Jacoby
4/9	Richard Kneeland
4/10	Bonnie Fuqua
4/12	Bryan Mowell
4/14	Susan Chambers
4/14	Mary Mason
4/14	Marita Willey
4/15	Kyle Fox
4/15	Alison Oftedal
4/16	Sarah Schiemann
4/17	Marina Hernandez
4/17	Sharon Ruth
4/18	Jacob McKnight
4/19	Dave Hess
4/20	Will Cochran
4/21	Nora Kocsis
4/25	Judy Sadwick
4/26	Juanita Davis
4/27	Lynne Ruching
4/29	Ray Welch
4/30	Gage Mueller



Anniversaries in April

<u>Date</u>	<u>Names</u>
4/4	Linda and Larry Smucker
4/29	Kathy and Leon Rumohr

Contact Information

Pastor Steve Polk, 863-858-5431; fax 863-853-1625; pastor@lakegibsonumc.com

Marina Hernandez, Admin Secretary, 863-858-5431, office@lakegibsonumc.com

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

Sue Heishman, Bookkeeper

Debbie Moore, Children's Director and Custodian

Glenda Grant Hess, Music Director

Debbie Moore, Laine Grimes, Kristie Summers and James Beck, Audio/Visual Team

Latisha Cook, Director, A Little Bit of Heaven Child Enrichment Center, 863-858-8400, alboh@lakegibsonumc.com

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 make disciples of Jesus Christ. Phyllis Kitchens, Editor (phyllis_kitchens@hotmail.com).

April Special Events

2019 APRIL
CALENDAR YEAR CALENDAR MONTH

SUNDAY
FST DAY OF WEEK

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 March 31st: UMCOP Sunday & 5th Sunday with Special Collections for FUMCH & UMCOP; Single Service at 10:30 am with pot-luck lunch	01 UMW Heart to Heart Circle, 10:30 am, FLC; Bd of Trustees mtg, 2 pm, office	02	03 UMW Ruth Circle, 11 am, FLC; Choir & Cantata Practice, 6 pm, Sanctuary	04	05 ALBOH Picture Day, 8 am - noon; Reasons for Hope Conference , St. Paul UMC, Largo, 7 pm - 9:30 pm	06 Reasons for Hope Conference , St. Paul UMC, Largo, 9 am - noon
07 Last day to order Easter lilies!	08 UMW Evening Circle, 6:30 pm, off campus; Staff, Pastor, Parish Com mtg, 7 pm, FLC	09	10 Empty Sheds for Rummage Sale, 9 am - 3 pm; Choir & Cantata Practice, 6 pm, Sanctuary	11 Set up for Rummage Sale and Price Items, 9 am - 3 pm, FLC	12 RUMMAGE SALE, 8 am - 3 pm, FLC	13 RUMMAGE SALE, 8 am - noon, FLC; Cantata Rehearsal, 10 am - noon
14 Palm Sunday HOLY WEEK STARTS	15 <i>Come to the Garden, 4 - 6 pm</i> ; Finance Com mtg, 7 pm, FLC	16 <i>Come to the Garden, 4 - 6 pm</i>	17 <i>Come to the Garden, 4 - 6 pm</i> ; Choir & Cantata Practice, 6 pm, Sanctuary	18 <i>Come to the Garden, 4 - 6 pm</i>	19 Good Friday ; Office Closed; <i>Come to the Garden, 4 - 6 pm</i>	20 EASTER EGG HUNT, 10 am, with games and lunch afterward; Cantata Rehearsal, 10 am - noon
21 Easter Sunrise Service, 7:30 am, Sanctuary; followed by Pot-Luck breakfast, FLC; Worship Service, 10:30 am with Cantata	22 UMW Leadership Team mtg, 10 am, FLC; Worship Com mtg, 7 pm, Sanctuary	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Church Council mtg, 7 pm, FLC	30	01	02	03	04

April Weekly Recurring Events

Sunday

Traditional Worship Service	8:00 am	Sanctuary
Adult Sunday School	9:15 - 10:15 am	FLC
Children's Sunday School	9:15 - 10:15 am	FLC
Contemporary Worship Service (Nursery available both services)	10:30 am	Sanctuary
Kidtricity Children's Ministry	10:30 - 11:45 am	Sanctuary & FLC

Monday

Intercessory Prayer Group	9:30 am	Off Campus
Boy Scout Troop 711	7:00 pm	FLC

Tuesday

Olive Tree Gathering	10:00 am	Off Campus
Deadline for Sunday Bulletin	noon	Office
Revelation/John Bible Study	2:00 pm	Lakeside Hills
Praise Team Rehearsal	6:30 pm	Sanctuary
Cub Scout Pack 711	7:00 pm	FLC

Wednesday

ALBOH Chapel	9:00 am	Sanctuary
A Matter of Balance Class	1:00 - 3:00 pm	FLC
Choir Rehearsal	6:30 pm	Sanctuary
Bible Study with Pastor	7:00 pm	FLC

Thursday

Food Pantry	9:30 - 11:30 am	Office
Bible Study with Pastor	10:00 am	FLC