



THE GOOD NEWS

Lake Gibson United Methodist Church

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

From the Pastor

The big religious holidays, Christmas and Easter, are past; we are now in what is called ordinary time. For us here at Lake Gibson our winter residents have returned to their summer homes, and many of us are planning vacations. This is the time of our lowest attendance for church services, and yet . . . the work of the church and the Kingdom never stops. Let's think through what Lake Gibson UMC means to this community.

First, just by the physical buildings being here and in good repair, **we are a silent testimony that there is a God and He is here for all people**. Our electronic sign invites the community to join us in our services and informs them of some of the opportunities they have here at LGUMC.

A Little Bit of Heaven Child Enrichment Center provides a safe place for concerned parents to leave their children while they have to work. In this environment those children are loved and cared for to the best of our ability. They are taught manners, basic skills, prepared for kindergarten and introduced to some of the major Bible stories and themes. This center also provides income for 17 workers in our community, thus enabling them to support their families and give back to the community at the same time.

Our Family Life Center is used by the scouts, both Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. Scouting now reaches out to both boys and girls and teaches them many of the skills necessary for adulthood. These scouts reflect the leadership they are taught as they become the leaders of the next generation of our society. We are a part of shaping the next generation.

We also use the FLC to hold community classes such as A Matter of Balance Class that just finished up. These classes give the community an opportunity to learn coping skills and assists to enhance their quality of life. Most of the classes we hold are free of charge or the charge is a bare minimum for the materials used.

Our United Methodist Women hold two rummage sales per year. These sales allow the community to purchase much-needed clothing and other items at a very reasonable price that they could not otherwise afford. All the monies collected from these events are put back into the community through LGUMC and other non-profit organizations such as Lighthouse Ministries, Parker Street Ministries, Lakeland Volunteers in Medicine and many more.

LGUMC will host several community events during the year such as the Easter egg hunt, Trunk or Treat and a Return to School event where the community is served to a good time and introduced to the church and God. Our Food Pantry, which is entirely supported by our church members, helps feed at least 100 families each year. When someone comes to LGUMC's food pantry they are not just another number like with most government agencies, but they are people with names. We try to make them feel welcome and reaffirm their worth and share the love of God. If possible we will refer them to other agencies for more specific help. Within each bag of food is a spiritual piece of some kind -- normally a copy of *The Upper Room* and a bulletin.

Continued on the next page . . .

From the Pastor, Continued

This church supports the Florida United Methodist Children's Home which provides a permanent residence for more than 100 children and foster care for another 400. We are asked to give \$12.00 per member, plus help with Christmas, birthdays and back-to-school. Jeff and Karen Acor lead this for us. In addition Dwight and Phyllis Kitchens have a bicycle ministry to the Children's Home where LGUMC donates new and refurbished bicycles and repair parts. Bikes are repaired on campus several times a year.

We support the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) which responds to disasters around the world, especially in the US. UMCOR is normally one of the first agencies on site at natural disasters like hurricanes, tornados, wildfires, earthquakes, floods and other things. Our special collection on UMCOR Sunday pays for the administrative costs of UMCOR so that 100% of donations given for the disasters go to the disaster relief support – no overhead. LGUMC also supports a sister church in Cuba.

In addition to all of this we provide spiritual help and discipleship through our worship services, Sunday Schools, small groups and midweek services. Our choir and praise team under the direction of Mrs. Glenda Hess provide music and special programs for our services and the community. We include plays, skits, dance and other artistic means of worship.

Ms. Debbie Moore oversees the children's ministry and "Kidtricity" which helps young children learn about God and how they should act in all situations. The love and support LGUMC shows these children is invaluable in today's society where many come from broken or impoverished homes and seldom hear about Jesus Christ.

LGUMC is a place that helps families celebrate and praise God for life events such as a marriage, a birth, a promotion or a retirement. It also provides a place of comfort for those who grieve the loss of a loved one, as well as a place to come to seek spiritual guidance and comfort in times of distress such as loss of a job, divorce and other traumatic life events.

There is much more that occurs in the community because of LGUMC – we have volunteers who participate in many of the local community outreach missions such as Hope House, Salvation Army, Wounded Warriors, Crop Walk, Wreaths Across America, VISTE, LVIM and many more. They do this at the encouragement of and with the support of LGUMC.

This church is invaluable to the community, but as you can imagine this all takes time, energy, volunteers and money. These ministries occur 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

While you're away from Lakeland, please, consider how you can help us be there for those in need -- even if you are on vacation or away enjoying yourself elsewhere. It is only through your generosity that we can help spread God's love and Word. You can give on-line or set up automatic giving, or just use the offering envelopes you receive in the mail.

Pastor Steve

Announcement: Pastor Steve is Staying!

Rev. Dr. Candace M. Lewis, District Superintendent of the Gulf Central District, has informed our Staff, Pastor, Parish Relations Committee that Pastor Steve Polk will be serving Lake Gibson UMC for another year! The announcement was made at both services on April 28th. Halleluiah!

How Long, O Lord, How Long?

Statement on April 22nd from the Rev. Dr. Susan Henry-Crowe, General Secretary, General Board of Church and Society of the United Methodist Church, on the terrorist attacks in Sri Lanka on Easter Sunday 2019 [from UM News Service]

Even as we celebrate the resurrection, we ask: how long, O Lord, how long must violence and terrorism continue to wreak havoc in your global communities.

Our deepest condolences go to the Sri Lankan community, which yesterday suffered a terrorist attack of extraordinary magnitude as churches in Colombo, Negombo and Batticaloa, as well as hotels and a banquet hall were targeted by suicide bombers. We condemn these acts of hate, terror and violence, and we mourn for the more than hundreds of people killed or injured.

That these attacks occurred during Easter Sunday services in churches brings a particular pain to Christians around the world. Easter Sunday is a day of joy and life, a celebration of the victory of God's love as the fundamental ethic shaping the world. Churches, like all houses of worship, should never become sites of violence, death and destruction, and, in fact, should be sanctuaries of peace and healing.

We call on United Methodists to join us in praying for our siblings in Christ in Sri Lanka, the entire Sri Lankan community, and all who were affected by Sunday's horrific events. We also call on United Methodists to join us in advocating for peace and the freedom of religious expression and observation worldwide. The persecution of Christians, particularly in places where Christians are a religious minority, is an ongoing reality which highlights the lack of this essential freedom around the world.

We call on the international community to support the efforts of the United Nations, through its secretary-general and the Alliance of Civilizations, to draw an action plan to safeguard religious sites, ensuring that they are "safe havens and not sites of terror." We join with the U.N. in their April 3 resolution calling for all nations to promote the freedom of religion and to foster tolerance, peace and respect.

We stand in solidarity with the Sri Lankan community in the wake of yesterday's attacks and pray for their physical, emotional, civic, social, and spiritual healing. In doing so, we highlight an excerpt from the statement from the past leadership of the United Methodist Inter-Ethnic Development Strategy Group:

"Let us remember, in the Body of Christ, there is no 'us' and 'them.' There is only [a] 'we' and 'us.' May the bombs that broke the hearts of our sisters and brothers in Sri Lanka break our hearts too [and lead us] to stand in solidarity with one another, and work for freedom for all to worship and practice their faith without fear."



Memorial Service for Dorothy Spadafora

We honored long-time member Dorothy Spadafora with a memorial service on March 30th. Her sons David and Paul, David's wife and two children attended along with about 36 others. The memorial was supported by the UMW with help from members Maria Thomas, Kathy Rumohr and Sarah Schiemann, who set up the FLC and served refreshments. Thanks to the ladies who provided baked goods. The family gifted us with funds to maintain the Sam Spadafora Memorial Garden.

Church Council Report

The Lake Gibson UMC Church Council, often referred to as the Admin Council, is made up of representatives from most committees within the church. **Its purpose is to forge the direction the church takes to maintain and enhance a vibrant worship community.** The Discipline requires that it meet at least quarterly. The Church Council is to provide for planning and implementing a program of nurture, outreach, witness, and resources in the local church. It is to annually evaluate the mission and ministry of the church. It is also the administrative agency of the Charge Conference within the local church.

On 28 January 2019 the Church Council met to discuss means by which we might **enhance our visibility to the community and encourage participation in worship.** An ordered list of ideas was developed which could be further researched.

On 29 April 2019 the Church Council met to **discuss some new proposals and look at implementing certain ideas proposed in January.**

- A proposal to upgrade our kitchen for commercial purposes is being sent to the Board of Trustees for further investigation.
- A group of church and non-church representatives are going to investigate how we might make better use of our audio-visual equipment, coming back to the council with recommendations.

It was noted that **we need additional volunteers to assist with our A/V support** during rehearsals and services. We may need to discuss hiring an individual for this purpose.

The Church Council **approved a program to send welcoming postcards to people moving into our area.** We will finalize the card format and service area, attempting to start mailings as soon as possible. With each mailing we will receive a list of names and addresses for potential follow-up.

Continued . . .

Church Council Report, Continued

We had previously discussed **putting signs up directing people to Lake Gibson UMC.** Based on county sign requirements, we are looking at 24" by 30" signs for three intersections (W. Daughtery and Rt. 98, Socrum Loop and E. Daughtery Road, and Marcum Road and Old Polk City Road).

We also discussed **directional signs for our campus buildings.** We are envisioning signs for the sanctuary, ALBOH, the office, and three for the FLC (two on the front entrances and one on the walkway behind the building). Each will reflect the direction of each building on campus.

A number of items previously suggested were **rejected** for purchase. These included **bumper stickers and window stickers for use on vehicles.**

If you have suggestions you would like to make regarding our church, please, contact any member of our Church Council. We want to help move us forward.

Dwight Kitchens, Chairperson

Lake Gibson on Easter Sunday Worship Service



Summer Changes

Here's a list of activities that are continuing or will be suspended for the summer, loosely defined as May through September. Usually our small group studies resume in October as people return from their summer homes or adventures.

Sunday Worship Services will be held at 10:30 am only starting on May 5th. Two services (8:00 am and 10:30 am) will resume on October 6th.

The Good News church newsletter will suspend publication after this May issue and will resume in September. Look for current information on the church web site, www.lakegibsonumc.com, particularly the Calendar area. We will also post information on the church's Facebook page (Lake Gibson United Methodist Church). It will be up to you to check out these two sources, as well as the Sunday bulletin, for information about upcoming events and activities.

Pastor's Bible Study. Last meetings until fall will be Wednesday, 7:00 pm, May 29th, and Thursday, 10:00 am, May 30th. We are studying the Book of Mark.

Small Group Studies

The following groups have been suspended:

Pastor Joe Brady's Bible study at Foxwood Village, Wednesdays at 10:00 am

Ken Fuqua's study of *The Story* that met at Sue Shelton's home every Thursday at 7:00 pm has been disbanded.

The following groups will continue for the summer:

Debbie and Rick McLellan's group, Mondays at 2:00 pm, Lakeside Village, studying the Book of John.

Olive Tree Gathering, Tuesdays at 10:00 am at Maria and Rich Thomas's house in Foxwood Lake Estates will meet except in September.

Summer Changes, Continued

United Methodist Women

UMW Leadership Team will hold its last meeting until August on Monday, May 20th at 11:00 am.

Ruth Circle of Love will hold its last regular monthly meeting until fall on Wednesday, May 1st at 11:00 am. During the summer the ladies will get together intermittently for fellowship lunches.

Heart to Heart will hold its last meeting on Monday, May 5th at 10:30 am. They will also meet at local restaurants for fellowship luncheons, the first of which will be Monday, June 3rd at The End Zone. Regular meetings will resume in September.

Evening Circle will continue to meet on the second Monday of the month at 6:30 pm, usually at Debbie Moore's house.

United Methodist Men plan to continue to meet on the second Saturday of the month at 9:00 am in the FLC.

If you know of other functions that will change during the summer, please inform the editor.

Phyllis Kitchens
phyllis_kitchens@hotmail.com
863-984-4564/410-790-2662

Finance Committee

Quarterly contribution statements have been prepared and distributed. 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.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 20th at 7:00 pm in the FLC.

April News

Spring Rummage Sale, April 12th and 13th

The UMW Spring Rummage Sale was a resounding success, raising \$3,480.00 to support missions locally and around the world.

We thank everyone who donated treasures, picked up donations, moved them all into the FLC, sorted, priced and kept items looking neat. Thanks also to the ladies who served as cashiers and to the ladies and gentlemen who helped carry out purchases for our customers.

It takes SO MANY people and so much time to make this fund-raising event happen. THANK YOU to everyone who served, and to those who bought! This event brings people in the congregation together and strengthens our ties as we work for a common cause. Members of the United Methodist Women and United Methodist Men, as well as others from LGUMC and even family members and visiting friends participated in this effort to raise money for the missions we support.

Easter Egg Hunt at Lake Gibson

The United Methodist Men wish to express their heartfelt thanks to all those who supported the annual Easter Egg hunt on April 20th. We would especially like to recognize the Winstead family for their support going beyond the call to help others enjoy the hunt by giving and hiding eggs for those who arrived late and missed the hunt.

Easter isn't just about eggs, jelly beans, Tootsie Rolls or the Easter Bunny. It is about the new life we have in Christ, in which we are set to love, forgive and serve, and thereby find a sense of peace and joy in all that we do. We share in Jesus victory over sin, death and all that would destroy us.

The UMM would like to thank all who arrived early to hide the eggs: Pastor Steve,

Dale Gower, Leon Rumohr, Dwight Kitchens, Dick McPherson, Joe Moon, Ken Fuqua, Pat Moon, Betty and Tom Fisher, Sarah Schie-mann and James Beck.

We wish to give to our Easter Bunny (Debbie McPherson) a round of applause and praise for all she did to make the children feel welcome. It takes a special kind of person to be the Easter Bunny and Debbie met those challenges head-on with great enthusiasm.

We would also like to recognize and thank the UMW ladies, Ruth Zona, Cindy Webb, Carol Davis, Pat Moon, Sarah Schie-mann, Sharon Moake, Phyllis Kitchens and Dani Cavas, who helped serve in the kitchen, set up tables and clean up afterwards. Their help was an asset to the whole service and ensured things ran smoothly. The clean-up crew did an outstanding job, ensuring all trash was removed, tables cleaned and floors vacu-umed for the next morning's early service. Well done and much thanks!

We had a total of 37 children partici-pate in the egg hunt. There was a total of 41 children present. **We received over 5,600 pieces of candy and loaded about 2,000 eggs!** The remainder of the candy was used in gift bags or given as game prizes. We served over 65 hot dogs and assorted chips with juice drinks.

Thanks to Jan and Michael Booker, Ken Fuqua, Emma Faircloth, Lexie Otte, Han-nah Berry and Nathan Saunders, as well as Dani Cavas and any others who assisted in the games or supervised the children during the Easter event.

If I missed anyone, please forgive me. It was pretty busy at first and there wasn't time to write down names. Maybe next year we will have a sign-in sheet to make sure every-one is giving proper recognition. Once again the UMM express their deepest thanks to the Lake Gibson congregation and friends for all they did to ensure we had a wonderful Easter Egg Hunt.

Michael Moake, UMM President

Helping Others Makes Us Happier, But It Matters How We Do It!

On April 26th, CBS News showed a segment featuring an abbreviated presentation by Elizabeth Dunn, a researcher from British Columbia. It discussed giving and its relationship to happiness. I found it both interesting and informative. Shown below is the link to the actual 14.29-minute TED talk presentation.

TED – Ideas worth spreading

[https://www.ted.com/talks/
elizabeth_dunn_helping_others_makes_us_happier_but_it_matters_how_we_do_it#t-10189](https://www.ted.com/talks/elizabeth_dunn_helping_others_makes_us_happier_but_it_matters_how_we_do_it#t-10189)

[If you need to type in the above link, remember to put underlines (shift-hyphen) wherever it looks like a blank space.]

To build a community of faith, you must have other people involved. As this talk implies, the more concrete ways you help others, the happier you are. Giving for a specific need often enhances your happiness, rather than merely giving to an umbrella organization. Your support of the food gift bag program for Polk County School District's homeless high school students, the Hope House ministry, the church's air conditioning replacement fund, and other local needs permits you to actually see the results. If you want to increase your happiness, consider specifically the things you can do for others.

Dwight Kitchens

Another Thank-You for Wonder Walk Support

Better late than never! **Thank you to Harriet and Harold Shapiro** who volunteered to take lots of heavy weekend food bags to the children at Kids Town Preschool, 333 Griffin Ave, Lakeland 33801. The food bags were prepared by volunteers during the Wonder Walk celebration at College Heights UMC on March 30th.

Offering Envelopes, Continued

We can put an entire packet of envelopes on hold. Just let the Administrative Secretary know of your departure date and expected month of return, and she will modify future deliveries. [As an alternative, you can "front-load" your donations or tithes, sending them in before you depart!]

Offering Envelopes

During 2019 we started having offering envelopes mailed to members and constituents every two months covering a two-month period. They are sent approximately two or three weeks prior to the first date within the envelope packet.

While funds are needed throughout the year to operate our church and its missions, we understand that some people may want to stop receiving these envelopes while they are away.

Help! Sewists Still Needed

The United Methodist Women are still looking for volunteers to sew together pre-cut 5-inch squares of donated material to make lap quilt tops. The finished quilts are 40 x 90 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 some or all of the donated squares, you may.

If you can help, please call Ruth Zona, 863-859-5967.

Calendar Enhancements

[We are continually working to make the Lake Gibson on-line calendar more useful and easier to understand. This article is updated from the April issue of *The Good News*.]

Your on-line church calendar has been enhanced for easier viewing. You may reach it through the LGUMC web-site, or go to it directly by clicking <http://www.lakegibsonumc.com/Calendar%20Display.html>. You might want to add this as a favorite in your preferred internet web browser (works on smartphones and computers). If you normally use your cell phone to check on your appointments or other dates, you can easily include church events, too, when you schedule appointments.

Most items are color coded, with call-outs where additional information may be helpful. We've defaulted to the current weekly view. Don't worry, you can easily click the "Month tab" to see all of a month's events. Of course, the directional arrows on the left of your screen let you move through the selected view. An immediate return to today's activities happens when you click the "Today" screen button. If you require a hard copy, the "Print" button should permit you to easily print one to paper.

Please, if the calendar includes an event for which you are responsible, check the call-out to see if it says what you want people to know about your event. If not, write up what you want said, and e-mail it to the Administrative Secretary at office@lakegibsonumc.com. It will receive prompt attention. The calendar screen shot on the next page shows an example of a call-out for ALBOH.

With many people already departed for their summer adventures, or about to do so, a number of Bible studies or group monthly meetings are being suspended from May/June through September/October or later. If you are a group leader, please check the article in this issue titled **Summer Changes** and let the editor know of any errors.

Please let the **Administrative Secretary** know, once your plans are made, **when and where you will resume meetings** to ensure your meeting place is reserved properly and put on the website calendar. You should also send her information to be posted on the **electronic sign** if you want your event announced there, and what information you want to be placed in the **Sunday bulletin** (bulletin form is on the web site).

An example of the latest version of the on-line calendar is shown on the next page. Dwight Kitchens is the web master. Please contact him if you have questions about the format of the calendar or how to use it.

Continued on the next page . . .

Native American Ministries Sunday, May 5th

NAMS is a **Special Sunday with offering**, one of 6 in the United Methodist Church. Look for the special envelope in the Sunday bulletin and help support this unique ministry.

May 5th Offering for Children and Youth

In your current package of offering envelopes you will find **two dated May 05, 2019**. The first is for your regular, weekly offering and the second is for the support of our programs for children and youth, including Vacation Bible School and other activities. None of these programs is included in our General budget.

Calendar Enhancements, Continued

[Sample]

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

office@lakegibsonumc.org

Today | Apr 21 – 27, 2019 | Print Week Month Agenda

Sun 4/21 Mon 4/22 Tue 4/23 Wed 4/24 Thu 4/25 Fri 4/26 Sat 4/27

Easter Sunday Easter Monday

7:30 – 8:30 Son Rise Service

9 – 10 Sunday School 424 W Daughtery

9:30 – 10:30 Intercessions 6247 Peak

10 – 11:30 UMW Leadership

10:30 – 11:30 Easter Cantata 424 W Daughtery

10 – 12p Olive Tree Gathering 400 Vineyard Dr, Lakeland, FL 33809, USA

12p – Bulletin Deal

2p – 6p ALBOH - After Care FLC

2p – 6p ALBOH - After Care FLC

2p – 6p ALBOH - After Care FLC

6p – 8p Boy Scouts

6p – 8p Scouts

ALBOH - After Care

When Fri, April 26, 2pm – 6pm

Where FLC ([map](#))

Description Let ALBOH keep your child after school. We pick-up from Wendel Watson, Edgar L. Padgett, and N. E. Roberts elementary schools.

Contact A Little Bit of Heaven
Latisha Cook – Preschool Director
(863) 858-8400
alboh@lakegibsonumc.com

[more details](#) [copy to my calendar](#)

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time - New York

Please note: If you use Google Calendar for your personal planning, you may open any event on the LGUMC calendar and click **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.

Prayer Breakfast, May 2nd

Thursday, May 2nd, is the **National Day of Prayer**. To support this, we are holding a free **breakfast at 8:00 am** in the FLC.

After breakfast we will pray for the Lord's help with a wide range of concerns for 30 to 40 minutes. Invite your friends and neighbors, too. Let's have lots of voices raised in praise and supplication.

Y'all Come!

A Matter of Balance Class Scheduled, Oct 21 - Nov 14

Having a problem with balance or falls? You might want to consider taking the free, twice-a-week class, A Matter of Balance. Our own Lynn Meske is one of the facilitators. Limited to 12 participants.

Class will meet Mondays and Thursdays, 1:00 - 3:00 pm, in the FLC. Call Phyllis Kitchens, 863-984-4564 to sign up.

Prayer Ministry

May 2nd is the 2019 National Day of Prayer. We are called on this day to turn to God in prayer and meditation. God reminds us that we should always be alert and take time to pray for others.

“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.

God is good. We have a group of dedicated prayer warriors at Lake Gibson who are at hand to do just that. We are thankful for the freedom of prayer and to be able to follow God’s Word.

Being one of our prayer warriors allows us a gracious way to be a blessing to others in need of prayer, and to fulfill God’s call for us to serve him. Please mark “Becoming a Prayer Warrior” on the connection card and put it in the offering plate on Sunday. You will be richly blessed by becoming a prayer warrior for our Lake Gibson Church Family.

Prayer Ministry



Graduation Photo for A Matter of Balance Class

Lynn Meske, co-facilitator, shown on the left, poses with 11 of the class graduates on April 17th. (Ann Johnson was away; Bonnie Fuqua was a guest.)

Photo by co-facilitator Leslie Jamesson

CPR/AED + First Aid Training Course

On **June 6th, 2019, at 5:30 pm**, ALBOH plans to hold a class on cardiopulmonary resuscitation, automated emergency defibrillator and, if time permits, first aid. It should last between 2 and 3 hours.

The class will cost \$40 per person, which is comparable to those offered by Citizen CPR in other parts of the county. The preschool is opening this class to members and constituents of our church.

Continued . . .

CPR/AED + First Aid Training, Continued

Whether you are taking it for the first time, or as a refresher, knowing what to do in an emergency may pay huge dividends.

If interested, or you have questions, please contact A Little Bit of Heaven, Latisha Cook – Preschool Director. Either phone (863) 858-8400 or e-mail her at alboh@lakegibsonumc.com.

UMW Mission U at Florida Southern College,
July 11th - 14th

RADICAL DISCIPLESHIP—THEN AND NOW

Join United Methodist Women
at Mission u 2019!

Take a deep dive into the Gospel of Mark, the topic of money,
and the inspiring story of women organized for mission.



THIS YEAR, OUR STUDIES ARE:

- Practicing Resurrection: The Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship by Janet Wolf
- Women United for Change: 150 Years in Mission by Ellen Blue
- What About Our Money? A Faith Response by Susan K. Taylor
- Additional studies on Gospel of Mark for children and youth

Be inspired! Be challenged! Respond to God's call! Continue the powerful legacy of compassionate service and passionate advocacy!

LOCATION: Florida Southern College, Lakeland, FL 33801

DATE: July 11-14, 2019

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Discounted registration opens February 1 and closes May 31, 2019. To register, go to <https://flconfumw.org> (new FL Conference United Methodist Women website) for registration forms for adults, children and youth.



The cost for a commuter student is \$50.00 if your registration is postmarked by May 31st and \$70.00 if postmarked after May 31st.

If you would like to stay on campus, the cost for room and meals is \$200.00 (by May 31st) or \$220.00 (later registration).

To download a registration form, go to [www.https://flconfumw.org/mission-u-registrations](https://flconfumw.org/mission-u-registrations). Print the form, fill it out and mail it to Judi Frameli at the address on the form.

Online Church Forms

To put announcements in the Sunday bulletin, place a notice in the newsletter, reserve the FLC, change the LGUMC calendar, or request a reimbursement, you need to complete a form. To do this, you may drive to the church office when it is open and pick up a form, or go to the church web-site at www.LakeGibsonUMC.com and fill one out online. Which is easier for you?

Each of these forms is available online as an Adobe Acrobat form (.pdf). So long as you use the free copy of [Adobe Acrobat Reader DC](#) (not the Windows 10 built-in .pdf reader), you get fillable blanks which you fill out on your computer.

Of course, you could just print out the form, fill it in by hand (be sure to print because cursive writing hasn't been taught for many years!), and then return it to the office.

Personally, I would rather fill a form out online, save a copy to my computer's desktop, then send an e-mail to Office@LakeGibsonUMC.com with the form attached. Your form is readable, quickly sent, and easy for the church staff to copy for their own needs. Everybody wins!

Dwight Kitchens

United Methodist Men

Please join us for the monthly breakfast meeting on **Saturday, May 11th at 9:00 am** in the FLC.

There are so many men sitting in the pews on Sunday morning -- we need you to join us one Saturday morning a month.

The UMM is a worship, fellowship and service organization, and WE NEED YOU!

Michael Moake, President
863-816-3194

Food Pantry

As Pastor Steve mentioned in his article, Lake Gibson's food pantry is entirely supported by church members and constituents who make donations of food or money to purchase it, and by volunteers who pack the bags, perform administrative duties and help carry heavy bags out to cars (or sometimes bicycles).

It's a small pantry compared to others in the area, giving out only one pound of hamburger meat in the single monthly grocery bag, but it has a large impact on the hungry individuals and families we serve.

Currently, we are in need of the following items:

Spaghetti sauce
Macaroni and cheese
Tuna
Peanut butter
Jelly
Hamburger Helper
Canned meats (Vienna sausage, ham, Spam, etc.)
Pastas

UMW Unit Meeting, May 13th

All three circles of the Lake Gibson United Methodist Women will meet together on **Monday, May 13th, at 10:30 am** in the FLC. After a short business meeting, we will listen to **Cathy Capo Stone, Executive Director of Cornerstone Family Ministries** talk about CFM's missions and the recently completed Wonder Walk-fund raisers that we supported.

Cathy will also talk about the work of Alice Garrick, Executive Director of the Women Development Service Society, who is a missionary in Pakistan. Alice will address us via a pre-recorded message. **Cathy is bringing some items for sale from Alice's ministry to raise money to support it.**

Come hungry and bring your friends! Bring your checkbook, too.

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

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU! We received enough food donations to fill the **148 bags** we needed and to have enough left over to use as prizes during the special graduation ceremony on April 30th. Once again, thanks to Cindy Webb who lead this mission.

Here are some pictures of the frenetic bag-packing assembly line we had in the FLC on April 22nd.



(Left) Ruth Zona, Dwight Kitchens and Bev Henrich.



(Right) Sharon Coddington, Linda Alvarez, Ruth Zona, Bev Henrich, Pat Moon, Debbie Moore, Cindy Webb and Jackie Webb. (Phyllis Kitchens was behind the camera.)
At this point, all the boxes of snacks were still to be unpacked.

(Below left) The end is in sight -- part of the completed bags.



(Left) Cindy Webb holds up a bag with napkins and utensils to be added to the duffel bags for each graduate. Mom, Jackie, was in charge of breaking down the empty boxes.

Easter Egg Hunt Pictures

Thanks to Pat Moon for pictures of the members who “hid” Easter eggs for the smaller kids in the playground of A Little Bit of Heaven on April 20th. Top left: Pastor Steve Polk; top right: Joe Moon figuring out how to keep eggs from rolling off the slide. Bottom left: Leon Rumohr; bottom right: Debbie McPherson (AKA Easter Bunny).



Rummage Sale Pictures



Just a few of the ladies who worked hard during the spring rummage sale. Top left: Sharon Coddington and Nancy Coggin (Nancy's husband, Howard, helped carry out purchases and provided moral support).

Top right: Barbara Allen-Coil.

Left: Marge Payne (ignore the finger in the upper left!)



Above: Setting up for the rummage sale -- see how neat and orderly everything was! Thanks to Lynn Meske's organization skills and work in the shed long before sale week.



Left: Sue Shelton, Rowena Betz, Maria Thomas and Barbara Allen-Coil.

UMW

Please read the article titled **Summer Changes** on page 5 to learn about the May meetings of Ruth's Circle of Love, Heart to Heart, Evening Circle and Leadership Team. See the article on page 12 about **May 13th's Unit meeting**, too.

Easter at Lake Gibson UMC

During **Holy Week** we were invited to **Come to the Garden** (the Spadafora Memorial Garden in front of the Sanctuary) Monday through Friday from 4:00 to 6:00 pm to receive a thoughtful gift and tract that reflected what Jesus dared to do. On **Good Friday** Pastor Steve preached a truly moving sermon; unfortunately, it was not recorded.

You can hear Pastor Steve's Easter Sunrise Service message on the church's web site (www.lakegibsonumc.com). The Easter Cantata, ***The Day He Wore My Crown***, was presented by the Lake Gibson Music Department. Created and arranged by David T. Clydesdale and directed by Glenda Hess, the following singers gifted us with their talents:

Bill Anderson, Dorothy Burns, Beverly Ellis, Jay Ellis, Lynda Gibbs, Bob Herrick, David Hess, Beverly Hines, Dwight Kitchens, Cyndi Kuhlman, Rochelle McBride, Michelle McCaslin, Bob Siegel, Diane Siegel, Ethel Somers, Brenda Hess-Werner, Bob Willome and Fay Wright. Cathy Jones was the narrator.

Thanks to David Hess for creating the special effects that rolled the stone away from Christ's grave.



Making this exciting worship experience possible were the technical crew: Debbie Moore, Laine Grimes and Kristie Summers who did yeoman work with the sound and video systems.

Our sanctuary was beautifully decorated with Easter lilies donated by members of the congregation. (Thanks to the United Methodist Men who brought the lilies into the sanctuary.)

The congregation welcomed its newest member on Easter Sunday, Carol Hanna.



Children's Prayer Wall

Wonder what's going on with the white bulletin board in the FLC behind the bread table? Members of our Children's Ministry helped pin up colorful prayer badges last month. Each badge features a first name and photo of a tiny child who is enrolled at Cornerstone Family Ministry's (CFM) Rosa Valdez Center in Tampa.

Instructions are on the back of each badge; take one home and pray for the child who is pictured, as well as for the 177 other children at Rosa Valdez Center. You can post the badge on the front of your refrigerator, or on your home bulletin board or message center, or on a mirror -- wherever you'll see it each day as a reminder to pray for this

child.

In the future, we would like to add badges and photos of the children Lake Gibson UMC comes into contact with: our Children's Ministry, those enrolled at A Little Bit of Heaven, Cub Scouts, or your own children or grandchildren.

What's missing? We need a crafty person to make a sign to put on the top of the bulletin board saying LGUMC Children's Prayer Wall. We'll be adding a smaller sign shortly that says "Please pray for this child, and the 177 Rosa Valdez Center and nearly 20,000 other children who are served each year by Cornerstone Family Ministries." Everyone can participate in this unique prayer ministry.

Phyllis Kitchens



Michael Moake explaining the game plan to the troops before the Easter egg hunt started. (Carol Davis, Linda Alvarez, Pat Moon, Sarah Schiemann, Ruth Zona (hidden) and Cindy Webb)



Cantata rehearsal on April 20th. Cathy Stone, left, narrator. Glenda Hess, director, center and members of the adult choir waiting for an audio problem to be resolved. Thank you, ladies, in the A/V booth -- you worked miracles!



Getting ready to pass out gifts during Holy Week's Come to the Garden to learn what Jesus dared to do.

Children's Ministry

Thank you to all who donated to the children . . . We have received books, stickers, toys, craft supplies and snacks.

It is such a joy to see the children's faces "light up" when they have a deeper understanding of Jesus. We are continuing to do science projects in addition to our lessons and songs. I am learning that science can be lots of fun!

We are working on gifts for Mom (don't tell her, it's a secret!) and have some sons who are very proud of this special woman in their lives.

Please continue to pray for us and we will continue to see Jesus by understanding the Bible.

Debbie Moore, Director of Children's Ministry

Worship Committee

During Holy Week we gave out unique and informative gifts Monday through Friday in the Spadafora Garden, mostly to the parents of children at A Little Bit of Heaven. The gifts were prepared by the Worship Committee and the ladies of the UMW Evening Circle. Thank you to Glenda Hess for leading this first-time initiative.

Thanks to Sandy Stanfield, Ken Fuqua, Debbie Moore and Glenda Hess for giving out the gifts.

Scouting News

Boy Scout Troop 711 sold snacks on April 6th at Tractor Supply to raise money for a trip this summer to Washington, DC.

Cub Scout Pack 711 camped out and attended the Splash-o-Ree April 26 - 28th at Flaming Arrow Scout Reservation in lake Wales.

Easter at Hope Center

Lake Gibson members Rick and Debbie McLellan, as well as Grover Fowler, serve 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 98N not far from our church.

TUESDAY, April 23, 2019 at HOPE CENTER

Rick Nelson and Grover Fowler opened for breakfast today, offering our guests scrambled eggs, skillet potatoes, fresh link sausages, a variety of cereals with milk, and pastries, turnovers and donuts. The drink options were fresh hot coffee, orange juice, and cold milk.

At lunchtime, Rick McLellan led our guests in prayer and a message from Matthew 27, THE REAL EASTER STORY. Then Debbie and Rick served 24 guests an Easter lunch, with turkey, dressing, ham, mashed potatoes, gravy and peas. There were various pastries for dessert. We also brought 3 dozen deviled eggs. To quench thirst, was milk, hot coffee, juice and iced tea. We also had about a dozen take-out plates.

The ice machine was DOWN, but Brent brought a giant cooler of ice so we had plenty! The shower, washers and dryers were busy and the machines performed well. Dick McPherson from Lake Gibson United Methodist Church stopped in and brought some wonderful things including new socks and pop-top canned foods (including Chef Boy R Dee).

We also gave out a big box of nice T-shirts (our guests loved these) from Laine Grimes, also from Lake Gibson UMC. Lilia Harbaugh provided the money for many items needed by our tent camper guests, and another member provided HeaterMeal MREs which are also popular with our guests. We also want to thank all of the members of

Continued . . .

April 23, 2019 at HOPE CENTER, Cont'd

Lake Gibson UMC who stepped up to donate, give us a word of encouragement and prayed for us this week.

We also want to thank the members of Kathleen Baptist Church for their continual provision, maintenance to the Hope House, its washers and equipment and other things to keep this building open so all 5 churches which support it can continue to minister to those less fortunate.

Please pray for peace and comfort for one of our guests, [name removed], who lost her 43-year-old son this week due to cancer.

We had a great day and left feeling that hearts and lives were touched and that Hope Center is making a real difference in some lives.

God's Richest Blessings to You All,
Debbie and Rick McLellan

Contact Information

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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



Birthdays in May

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
5/1	Fay Wright
5/2	Dale Gower
5/4	Debbie McLellan
5/5	James Beck
5/5	Robert Holmes
5/7	Etmonia Davis
5/7	Steve Schertzer
5/8	Bill Sadwick
5/9	Steven Schertzer
5/12	Dena Brinkman
5/12	Barbara Gitt
5/12	Jean Welch
5/14	Dorothy Burns
5/14	Bob Herrick
5/14	Robert Kendall
5/18	Kim Watson
5/19	Irene Herzog
5/19	Karen Moore
5/19	Sharon Vojtko
5/23	Brian Stafford
5/24	Brayden Gullege
5/25	Jerry Bishop
5/28	Merry Greenwood
5/30	Jay Ellis
5/30	Steve Polk



Anniversaries in May

<u>Date</u>	<u>Names</u>
5/2	Sharon and Dick Shepherd
5/4	Sue and Roy Bodemer
5/4	Ann and Dan Johnson
5/5	Wanda and Dick Lammey
5/6	Yvonne and Todd Bower
5/14	Sandy and Gerry Stanfield

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
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May Special Events

2019 **MAY**
CALENDAR YEAR CALENDAR MONTH

SUNDAY
 FIRST DAY OF WEEK

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 One worship service, 10:30 am, May - Sep.	29	30	01 UMW Ruth Circle of Love, 11 am, FLC	02 National Day of Prayer Prayer Breakfast, 8 am, FLC	03	04
05 Native American Sunday w/offering Cinco de Mayo	06 UMW Heart to Heart, 10:30 am, FLC; Trustees mtg, 2 pm, Office	07 ALBOH Teacher Appreciation Day, 5:30 pm, FLC	08	09 ALBOH Board mtg, 4:30 pm, FLC; Scouts Committee mtg, 7 pm, FLC	10	11 United Methodist Men mtg/breakfast, 9 am, FLC
12 Mother's Day; Harvest Sunday (food pantry donations)	13 UMW Unit Meeting, 10:30 am, FLC, guest speaker, Staff, Pastor, Parish mtg, 1 pm, Office; UMW Evening Circle, 6:30 pm, off campus	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 UMW Leadership Tm mtg, 11 am, FLC; Finance Com mtg, 7 pm, FLC	21	22	23 ALBOH Graduation, 6 pm, FLC	24	25
26	27 Memorial Day, Worship Com mtg, 7 pm, Sanctuary	28	29	30 Last Day of School for Students	31	01 Scouts Splash Day

May Weekly Recurring Events

Sunday

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

Monday

Intercessory Prayer Group 9:30 am Off Campus
 Bible Study (Book of John) 2:00 pm Lakeside Hills
 Boy Scout Troop 711 7:00 pm FLC

Tuesday

Olive Tree Gathering 10:00 am Off Campus
 Deadline for Sunday Bulletin noon Office
 Praise Team Rehearsal 6:30 pm Sanctuary
 Cub Scout Pack 711 7:00 pm FLC

Wednesday

ALBOH Chapel 9:20 am Sanctuary
 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

After-school care by ALBOH is offered
 Mon - Fri, 2 to 6 pm