



The Good News

Lake Gibson United Methodist Church



Sharing God's Love Through Action
One Person at a Time

June 2016

Steve Polk, Pastor

424 West Daughtery Road, Lakeland Florida 33809

Phone (863) 858-5431

Thoughts from the Pastor

Penny and I love redbirds. We love watching them flit about, hearing their tweets to one another, enjoying their bright colors, the way they teach their young; it all speaks to us. In order to attract redbirds to our yard we put up a bird feeder. The first one was on a pole, but the squirrels kept destroying both the seed and the feeder. After several failed remedies and a few partially successful ones, I hung a feeder from a tree limb with a wire the squirrels could not climb down. One problem solved: The squirrels now can only get to the seed spilled on the ground.

The next problem was that the doves, starlings, blue jays and rice birds attacked the feeder, especially in the winter when food is scarce. Normally a full feeder will last 10-14 days; in the winter it can be gone in 3 days. So I switched to the more expensive songbird feed thinking maybe the other birds wouldn't like it as much. Guess what? They all liked it better – it disappeared faster than the old food, but the redbirds did love it.

Now I fill the feeder up on Fridays so Penny can watch the birds over the weekend. Sometimes the feed makes it through the week and other times it doesn't, but the redbirds keep coming back to check it out on a regular basis. I think there are 3 families of redbirds now using our feeder and they bring us much joy as we observe them and listen to their songs. However, the other birds we could do without, plus there is a black snake, an owl and a red-shoulder hawk that visit because of the increase of prey in the area. In some ways I am frustrated that creatures other than redbirds are profiting from my feeder, yet they are God's creatures, too. I see a parallel in my feeder and the Christian life.

Many people can profit off my Christian actions -- people I may not know, like or agree with -- yet because others profit off my actions, can I stop trying to do the right thing? The church and diligent Christians strive for justice and mercy, we have compassion on the needy and try to help those in dire situations with food, shelter, support, encouragement and spiritual guidance. There are many people that have learned to prey on that goodness to benefit themselves without any thought of responsibility or thankfulness on their part. Like the blue jays that eat my bird seed, they take yet give nothing in return other than leave a mess. God told Abraham he would be a blessing to all nations and that did not change when the church came into existence.

The church is a blessing to all people because God's grace and mercy extend to all. Like Penny and I have learned with the bird feeder, in order to have the joy of the redbirds we have to feed some undesirable birds and deal with some creatures who seek to steal from or harm our beloved redbirds. Yet God has rewarded us with multiple families of redbirds eating at our feeder. Who knows – if we feed them songbird feed long enough maybe the others will learn a new song. Don't laugh -- with God all things are possible and *all people can become new creatures through faith in Jesus Christ.*

Pastor Steve

Scheduling the FLC or Sanctuary

Please contact Marina Garcia in the church office (863-858-5431) to book the FLC or Sanctuary at least 2 weeks in advance or earlier.

Outside Events

2016 Florida Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church
June 16—18, 2016

This year's Annual Conference will be held at the Buena Vista Palace Hotel in Orlando, FL. The theme is **Leading Like Jesus**. Many participants will carpool from the church to the hotel; if you are interested in joining them, please let Marina Garcia know. Registration begins on June 14th. To learn more about the AC, see the article in June Events. Please pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance of the attendees.

South West District's Beloved Community Luncheon
Noon, June 16th at St. Luke's UMC in Orlando

(see announcement in the June News section)

Corrections to the May 2016 Newsletter

We have been informed of an improper use of copyrighted material in the May newsletter (page 22). The article's author and the editor had assumed the material was available for public use; however, it was not, and we have been directed to take corrective action.

We removed the May TGN from the church's web site on May 23rd and have revised the article in accordance with guidelines provided by the poem's author. The revised May TGN has been reposted to the church's web site. If you still have a hard copy of the May TGN, please remove page 22 and destroy it. We will have hard copies (50) of the revised May pages available for pickup in the narthex along with the June issue of TGN. If you have kept an electronic copy of the original May newsletter, please delete it.

This has been a learning experience for me and should result in more careful editing in the future. Everyone who contributes regularly to *The Good News* is asked to read the article, **Understanding Fair Use**, by John Savage, Esq (1999) on the web site writing-world.com/rights/fair.shtml.

Phyllis Kitchens, Editor

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Church Calendar for June 2016

**One Service at 10:00 am for the summer.
No SPPRC, UMM, ALBOH Board meetings, Bible Study with Pastor
or Cub Scout meetings in June.
If any other group is suspending its regular meetings for the summer,
please let the office know.**

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Wed	6/1	Mid-week Devotions Youth Ministry Choir Practice	8:00 am 3:00 — 7:30 pm 6:30 pm	FLC FLC
Thurs	6/2	Food Pantry Day High-School Age Volleyball	9:30 — 11:30 am 7:00 — 9:00 pm	Office FLC
Fri	6/3			
Sat	6/4	Cub Scout Year-End Celebration	8:00 am — 3:00 pm	FLC
Sun	6/5	Sunday School Worship Svc — Graduation Sunday Youth Leadership Training	9:00 am 10:00 am 6:00 pm	S FLC
Mon	6/6	Last day to RSVP Carpenters Tour Intercessory Prayer Group Boy Scouts Trustees Meeting	9:30 am 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	Call for Location* FLC Office
Tue	6/7	Praise Team Rehearsal	7:00 pm	S
Wed	6/8	Mid-Week Devotions Tour of Carpenter's Estates w/Lunch (all invited, reservations required) Carpools depart church at 10:30 am No Youth Activities — Lakeland and Lake Gibson HS Graduation Choir Rehearsal	8:00 am 6:30 pm	FLC S
Thurs	6/9	Last Day of School High-School Age Volleyball	7:00 pm	FLC
Fri	6/10			
Sat	6/11			
Sun	6/12	HARVEST SUNDAY — Food Donations Please Sunday School Single Service Youth Ministry Bible Study	9:00 am 10:00 am 6:00 pm	FLC S FLC

Continued on the next page . . .

Church Calendar for June 2016, Continued

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Mon	6/13	Intercessory Prayer Group New UMW Circle Meeting Boy Scouts	9:30 am 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Call for Location* Off Campus FLC
Tues	6/14	Praise Team Rehearsal	7:00 pm	S
Wed	6/15	FL Annual Conference, Buena Vista Palace Hotel, Orlando Mid-Week Devotions Youth Ministry — Movie and Meal YM Study — Purpose Driven Life	8:00 am 3:00 — 6:00 pm 6:00 — 7:30 pm	FLC FLC FLC
Thurs	6/16	FL Annual Conference, Buena Vista Palace Hotel, Orlando High-School Age Volleyball	7:00 — 9:00 pm	FLC
Fri	6/17	FL Annual Conference, Buena Vista Palace Hotel, Orlando		
Sat	6/18	FL Annual Conference, Buena Vista Palace Hotel, Orlando		
Sun	6/19	Father's Day Sunday School Worship Service Youth Leadership Training	9:00 am 10:00 am 6:00 pm	FLC S FLC
Mon	6/20	Intercessory Prayer Group Boy Scouts Finance Committee Meeting	9:30 am 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	Call for Location* FLC FLC
Tue	6/21	Praise Team Rehearsal	7:00 pm	S
Wed	6/22	Mid-Week Devotions Youth Ministry Choir Practice	8:00 am 3:00 — 7:30 pm 6:30 pm	FLC FLC S
Thurs	6/23	High-school Age Volleyball	7:00 — 9:00 pm	FLC
Fri	6/24	Karaoke	7:00 pm	FLC
Sat	6/25	SCD UMW Planning Committee	9:30 am — 12:30 pm	FLC
Sun	6/26	Blood Drive Sunday School Worship Service Youth Bible Study	8:30 — 11:30 am 9:00 am 10:00 am 6:00 pm	FLC S FLC

Continued on the next page . . .

Church Calendar for June 2016, Continued

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Mon	6/27	Intercessory Prayer Worship Committee Boy Scouts	9:30 am 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	Call for Location* S S
Tues	6/28	UMW Board Meeting Praise Team Rehearsal	9:30 am 7:00 am	FLC S
Wed	6/29	Mid-Week Devotions Youth Ministry — Movie and Meal YM Study — Purpose Driven Life Choir Rehearsal	8:00 am 3:00 — 6:00 pm 6:00 — 7:30 pm 6:30 pm	FLC FLC FLC S
Thurs	6/30	High-School Age Volleyball	7:00 pm	FLC

*Monday's Intercessory Prayer Group meets at various locations during the summer. Please call Fran Mudge at 863-858-3935 or email her at gfmudge@yahoo.com for information.

Every effort has been made to create an all-inclusive calendar listing events of interest to every constituency within LGUMC. Last-minute changes do happen, so please confirm information with the event's organizer.

Marina Garcia, the Administrative Secretary, is responsible for the care and feeding of the church's Google calendar. If you change the schedule for a repeating activity that you lead, please let Marina know so she can update the electronic calendar.

The menu on the church web site, www.lakegibsonumc.com, contains a Calendar tab that displays the current or future months' calendars. You can read instructions for setting up your own, personal, Google calendar and for linking the church's calendar to your own, so you can effortlessly copy a church event onto your personal calendar.

Zika Virus Information for Travelers

The Florida Conference has provided churches with three informative posters courtesy of the Florida Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention about how to avoid contact with Zika-carrying mosquitoes this summer. These web sites are also linked to our church web site.

If you are reading this article on-line, you can view the "Safe Travels" poster ([Mosquito Bite Protection for Overseas Travel](http://florida-email.brtaapp.com/files/fileslibrary/kis/e-05-110-2016%20-%20safe%20travels.pdf)) on the web site: <http://florida-email.brtaapp.com/files/fileslibrary/kis/e-05-110-2016%20-%20safe%20travels.pdf>.

The second poster, [Mosquito Bite Prevention in Florida](http://florida-email.brtaapp.com/files/fileslibrary/kis/e-05-110-2016%20-20mosquito%20bite%20protection%20fl%20english.pdf), is located on the web site: <http://florida-email.brtaapp.com/files/fileslibrary/kis/e-05-110-2016%20-20mosquito%20bite%20protection%20fl%20english.pdf>.

The Spanish version of the above poster is at <http://florida-email.brtaapp.com/files/fileslibrary/kis/e-05-110-2016%20-%20mosquito%20bite%20protection%20fl%20spanish.pdf>.



A huge thank you goes out to Carol Troup for making and donating our new Pentecost Banner!

Come, Holy Spirit!

The colors and vibrancy of the fabrics Carol selected for her spectacular wall hanging give the image of heavenly flames descending on the Apostles as the Holy Spirit came down. Our Worship Committee decorated the Sanctuary with similar colors and alter decorations that greatly enhanced the worship experience. The bright colors provided the perfect backdrop for Pastor Steve's inspirational sermons on Pentecost and the Holy Spirit on two successive Sundays.

In the picture below the Let Go Praise Team performs during the second service on Pentecost.



Letter from the UM Council of Bishops on the 2016 General Conference

To the people of The United Methodist Church:

The Council of Bishops brings you greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who has called us to be servant leaders of the church. In 1812, Bishop Francis Asbury, Bishop William McKendree and General Conference Secretary Daniel Hitt sent the first letter to churches following General Conference. This letter seeks to revive that tradition. Many bishops will also be communicating individually in their own areas.

Hundreds of lay and clergy delegates from around the world gathered in Portland, Oregon, along with bishops and pastors, church members and staff, volunteers and visitors, to engage in Christian conferencing, to make decisions for our church's future, to affirm our global connection, to worship and to celebrate God's faithfulness.

We celebrated the success of our Imagine No Malaria initiative, which seeks to raise \$75 million in the fight against malaria, a disease that takes the life of a child in Africa every two minutes. We celebrated our ecumenical partnerships as we move into full Communion with the Uniting Church in Sweden and toward full Communion with the Moravian church. We celebrated our heritage: the 250th anniversary of our oldest church, John Street United Methodist Church, the 200th anniversary of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, the 150th anniversary of United Methodist Women, the 25th anniversary of Africa University and others.

We continued in our acts of repentance with a presentation from the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes about the Methodist involvement in the 1864 Sand Creek massacre. We shared in the consecration of deaconesses and home missionaries and the commissioning of missionaries. We moved toward a global Book of Discipline and global Social Principles. We voted to add five new bishops in Africa after 2020, and approved a churchwide study on our ecclesiology.

The Episcopal address set the tone for the event, focusing on humility and lifting up our accomplishments. We heard from our laity an invitation to members to be more involved in making disciples and getting involved in ministries to bring the love of Christ to others. We heard our young people say they "are engaged in Christ's journey with energy and love." We also heard them say clearly that they do not want a divided church and urged us to "be in unity even if we do not have unanimity." They give us hope for our future.

The body had difficult and challenging work before it as we acknowledged our differences over human sexuality. Amidst those differences, the delegates affirmed they want their bishops to lead and we found ourselves with an opportunity for a holy moment. We spoke candidly about what divides us and what our church might look like in the future if we dared to consider new possibilities. We offered a way forward, postponing decisions about sexuality matters and committing to having a different kind of global conversation that allows all voices to be heard.

Our differences do not keep us from being the body of Christ. They do not keep us from doing good in the world. They do not keep us from making a difference – and so we set forth bold new goals: to make a million new disciples of Jesus Christ; to engage 3 million new people to make a difference in the world; to transform 400 communities for vital abundant living; to reach a million children with lifesaving health interventions; and to double the number of vital congregations.

Most importantly, we affirmed our commitment to stay united. We proved that we are more than debates and divisions, more than rules and resolutions. We stood together as the body of Christ. As we reflect on

Continued on the next page . . .

May News, Continued

Letter from the UM Council of Bishops on the 2016 General Conference

our time in Portland, our prayer is for unity in the church for the advancement of our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

As John Wesley reminded us, "Best of all, God is with us."

Signed on behalf of the Council of Bishops,
Bishop Bruce R. Ough, president of the Council

The End of an Era: Don Heishman Not Attending Annual Conference



[The information below was "borrowed" (with Don's permission) and slightly tweaked (because that's what editors do) from Don Heishman's Facebook posting. Anyone who has been involved with Lake Gibson UMC knows Don and the multitude of responsibilities he has held in the church and beyond our doors. We want to thank Don for all he has done for us over the years. Editor]

After 45 years attending Annual Conference starting in 1971, with some responsibility either while an employee of the Florida United Methodist Conference or with volunteer service with the Conference United Methodist Men, this year I will have no reason to participate in The Florida Annual Conference.

I resigned my position with the Conference Committee of United Methodist Men last October (2015) after working with the group for many years while still employed and then taking responsibility as a director on the board in 2002.

While those years were filled with the challenges and blessings, they are something I reflect on with affection. It will now be strange to be only a spectator. It has been a great Ride!

New and Improved (for Large and Small Devices) Church Web-Site

As of late May you can now carry Lake Gibson UMC in your pocket! Or at least access our church website on mobile devices and read it as easily as you can on your home computer monitor.

Want to check out happenings at church on a particular day? How about reading the current issue or a back issue of [*The Good News*](#)? You can do it now, if you have access to the Internet, without being tied to a desktop or laptop device. The website has been redesigned to display on smartphones, tablets, laptops and desktops. The website also has instructions on downloading the free **Adobe Acrobat Reader**® to view our documents which are posted in .pdf format.

This increased accessibility gives all of us the incentive to **update the information already on the web-site** that describes the ministries and organizations within LGUMC. Please check out your own area(s) of responsibility and **if they need to be updated**, do so by forwarding a **MS Word**® document to Dwight Kitchens.

June Events, Continued

The UMW Invites Everyone to Learn About The Estates at Carpenters on June 8th

The United Methodist Women are inviting the ladies and gentlemen of LGUMC to an informational talk, tour and buffet luncheon at The Estates at Carpenters on Wednesday, June 8th. They will provide helpful information on housing options, amenities, social activities and the costs involved.

We will meet at the church at 10:00 am and car pool to Carpenters at 10:30. Reservations are needed for the luncheon and must be made by June 6th. Please call Shirley Lux at 863-858-0576 or Pat Moon at 863-858-6883, or Marina at the church office, 863-858-5431.

Shirley J. Lux

We're Invited to Join the South West District

Celebrating Our Beloved Community Luncheon Noon, June 16th at St. Luke's UMC, Orlando



TIME IS RUNNING OUT TO REGISTER FOR THE CELEBRATING OUR BELOVED COMMUNITY LUNCHEON (formerly known as the Ethnic Pastors Luncheon).....

The Keynote Speaker this year will be Rev. Vidalis Lopez. Rev. Lopez is the associate pastor at First UMC in Coral Gables, Latina clergy woman and a leader in the Florida Conference of the UMC.

Join us as Rev. Lopez speaks on the vision for multi-cultural ministries in Florida for the 21st Century. We will also be blessed with a song from The Committee on Native American Ministry (CONAM).

Please note that all registrations must be completed online by June 3rd. Seating is limited. Here are the details:

- \$18 per person including buffet lunch, salad and dessert
- Thursday, June 16 from 12pm-1pm
- Location: St. Luke's UMC, 4851 S. Apopka-Vineland Road, Orlando, FL 32819
- To register [click here](#)
- Questions? Please email Sandy Voigt at flumc-sw@flumc.org

[Forward this email](#) [View in browser](#)

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Note: The links embedded in this announcement have not been enabled. Please copy and paste them into your browser to use.

June Events, Continued

2016 Florida Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church June 16 - 18, 2016

This year's Florida Annual Conference will be held at the Buena Vista Palace Hotel in Orlando, close enough that carpooling is feasible. You can read about the issues that will be discussed and voted on in the Conference Workbook, as well as see a list of the events and speakers scheduled at the following web site: www.flumc.org/annualconference2016.

The Workbook contains a wealth of information about Florida United Methodist churches, which are listed by district. If you want to see which churches have been closed, learn about new church starts, see which churches paid 100% of their 2015 apportionments (and which paid the highest dollar amounts) and more, it's all there.

Want to know how much money was contributed by Florida UM churches last year on each of the six Special Sundays with Offerings? Or contributed to the Florida United Methodist Children's Home (FUMCH)? Some of the information is pretty dry, but it does put Lake Gibson's finances into a broader context.

You can read reports from the Conference Lay Leader, Lay Servant Ministries, UMM and UMW. There's a list of all of the church properties administered under the Board of Trustees (closed churches and their parsonages). There are reports from Duke Divinity School and Florida Southern College, as well as from FUMCH.

There are 4 resolutions presented near the end of the Workbook:

1. Resolution to Support Equality of Love and Value for both Born and Unborn Children.
2. Resolution Requesting the Re-establishment of the Office of Director of Hispanic Ministries for the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church.
3. Resolution: Drivers' Licenses for All Florida Drivers.
4. Resolution: Florida Conference [Form an] Immigrant and Refugee Task Force.

The hard copy Workbook is 185 pages long; the electronic version and annexes contain additional information that arrived too late to be printed. So far I'm on page 18. This will be my first Annual Conference (attending as the LGUMC Lay Delegate). If I ever finish this newsletter, I'll be able to resume reading it.

I hope this article has whetted your appetite to learn more about the state-wide UMC and how our beloved church fits into the overall picture.

Phyllis Kitchens

Coming Events

Constitution Alive!

Classes Starting in August

Have you had enough already?! The GOP and Democratic parties have spoken and given us six of one and a half-dozen of the other. In other words, neither is worth having! Our hope lies in the fact that our Sovereign God gave us, through the righteous Founders, a magnificent document second only to the Bible in truth, the United States Constitution! And it is this document that will see us through the next eight years just as it has through the past 240 years since its inception. For it does allow us, we the people, the rightful power to reform a corrupt government that [many believe, including the authors of this program -- Editor] has taken us down the wrong path.

The Constitution gave the ultimate power to the people through the Congress who are the elected representatives of the people, and who have the power over the Executive and Judicial branches of government. If you want to know more about this Constitution and what the founders were thinking when they instituted this government with limited powers, join us for **10 sessions running from August to October.**

You can reserve a place by calling the office (863-858-5431) and signing up for an **afternoon** or **evening** session. (The level of interest will determine whether the afternoon session will be held.) The class will be conducted by viewing a DVD presentation with David Barton and Rick Green. A workbook that includes a copy of the Constitution in the original wording with corresponding explanation in updated English is available. The workbook costs \$15 and is optional, but necessary to fully comprehend what will be talked about in the DVD.

If you need more information please contact John Bernat (863-816-1671) or Ken Fuqua (863-858-2828).

Preparing for the Fall Rummage Sale

Our Fall Rummage Sale will be **October 21st and 22nd.** If you have any items for the sale and need to bring them to the church, please contact the Office or the Trustees Chair, Mr. Tom Burns. Items may be left at the Office. If you need assistance carrying boxes, please contact the church office and someone will assist you. Due to the limited storage space available on campus, we're asking that you go through the church office for assistance. Office hours are 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Monday through Friday.

If you need help after office hours, please contact Mr. Burns or me and one of us will be here to assist you. Because of limited floor space, we will not be accepting any large items or furniture until October 14th through October 20th. I thank you in advance for your time and attention on this matter.

Marina Garcia, Administrative Secretary
863-858-5431

Marina's Corner

I do not paint a portrait to look like the subject, rather does the person grow to look like his portrait.

Salvador Dali



Food Pantry Report

Friends and Family,

Once again we have blessed many more families with our Food Pantry and the Baked Goods from Publix. We have had several new families come in for both the groceries and the baked goods. Our pantry need is growing. We are seeing more and more new families. Since the beginning of the year up to April 28th, we have handed out **226** bags of groceries and **270** bags of baked goods.

We thank you for your continuous donations to the pantry. A huge THANK YOU goes out to the individuals who go to Publix and pick up the baked goods. Another huge THANK YOU goes out to Dan and Ann Johnson and the UMW — Ruth Zona, JoAnn Mickle and Sue Shelton — who come in on Thursdays and help hand out and carry out groceries to the families in need.

And a huuuge THANK YOU to Mr. and Mrs. Bower who pick up and deliver the ground beef and purchase additional items for the pantry when we are running low. Yvonne gets her 10,000 steps every Thursday shifting our stored goods around the office. We would also like to welcome Phyllis Kitchens, who is our new volunteer for food pantry (carrying bags to the cars) on the first Thursday of the month. (It takes the rest of the month for her to recover.)

You can be proud of Lake Gibson for filling the needs of many here in Lakeland. Lake Gibson is also delivering bread to Troxel Family Life Center/Lighthouse Ministries (for women and children), Talbot House, Salvation Army and Zoe's Journey (A HUGE warm and heart-felt Thank You to Mr. and Mrs. Hines for delivering to them). If you're not familiar with Zoe's Journey, you can check them out on their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Zoes-Journey/238768016171614>

You ladies are a huge blessing; once again, THANK YOU!!!

If you would like to volunteer with the Food Pantry on a Thursday between 9:30 and 11:30 am, please contact the office so I may schedule a date for you. Please contact Marina at (863) 858-5431.

Marina Garcia
Administrative Secretary

The 2nd Sunday of Every Month Is Harvest Sunday

Food Pantry Needs

FOODSTUFFS

Spaghetti Sauce
Pastas – Spaghetti, Noodles, etc.
Hamburger Helper or Tuna Helper
Dry Soups – Ramen Noodles
Canned Soups
Canned Ravioli or Spaghetti
Boxed Macaroni and Cheese
Canned Vegetables
Peanut Butter
Jelly or Preserves
Canned Tuna, Salmon or Chicken
Canned Meats (Ham, Spam, Potted Meat, Vienna Sausages)
Canned Fruits
Frozen Ground Beef

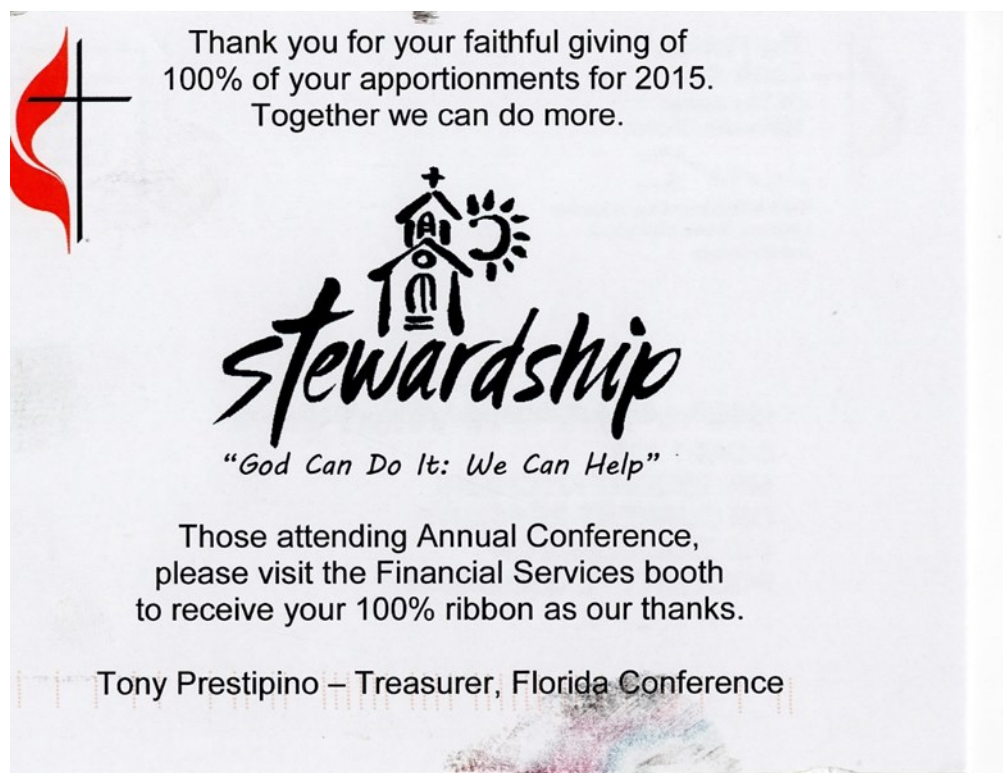
PERSONAL HYGIENE

Toilet Paper
Diapers (All Sizes)
Baby Wipes
Toothbrushes
Travel-sized: Toothpaste,
Soaps, Shampoos, Deodorants



Finance and Related Topics

Congratulations to LGUMC! The Florida Conference has recognized that we paid all of our apportionments for 2015. This accomplishment is not inconsequential -- not every church can say the same. As approximately 90% of our apportionments go toward the greater mission of the United Methodist Church, we can know that we are helping to spread the gospel outside of our church walls.



Financial Summaries:

As shown below, the first chart reflects that we have spent less in the first quarter than we have received. But this does **not** give a true picture. We are expensing (spending) below our budget level, not from desire, but from necessity. We have no excess funds from which we can draw when contributions are less than actual expenses.

2016 - Month	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			30,957	
June	4			24,766	
July	5			30,957	
August	4			24,766	
September	4			24,766	
October	5			30,957	
November	4			24,766	
December	4			24,766	

Finance and Related Topics, Continued

Three-year Congregational Giving Profile (CGP) Template: Monthly Version

Data Entry

Current Year **2016**

Current Budget **\$328,821**

Month	Actual 2013	Actual 2014	Actual 2015	3-Yr Total	3-Yr \$ Avg Monthly	3-Yr \$ Avg Cumulative	Actual 2016
January	\$19,259	\$19,500	\$22,306	\$61,065	\$20,355	\$20,355	\$29,299
February	\$18,886	\$22,240	\$26,282	\$67,408	\$22,469	\$42,824	\$29,218
March	\$22,891	\$25,371	\$31,316	\$79,578	\$26,526	\$69,350	\$21,386
April	\$18,495	\$17,766	\$22,325	\$58,586	\$19,529	\$88,879	\$24,069
May	\$16,299	\$17,040	\$26,498	\$59,837	\$19,946	\$108,825	
June	\$19,238	\$22,282	\$18,538	\$60,058	\$20,019	\$128,844	
July	\$18,339	\$18,388	\$17,763	\$54,490	\$18,163	\$147,007	
August	\$15,918	\$17,351	\$18,641	\$51,910	\$17,303	\$164,311	
September	\$21,026	\$15,861	\$16,310	\$53,197	\$17,732	\$182,043	
October	\$18,241	\$18,541	\$18,372	\$55,154	\$18,385	\$200,428	
November	\$19,000	\$19,077	\$32,022	\$70,099	\$23,366	\$223,794	
December	\$23,478	\$23,415	\$28,664	\$75,557	\$25,186	\$248,980	
Total	\$231,070	\$236,832	\$279,037	\$746,939	\$248,980	\$248,980	\$103,972

Monthly Budget Monitoring Based on CGP Goals

Current Year **2016**

Current Budget **\$328,821**

Month	% Needed Monthly	\$ Needed Monthly	Received Monthly	% Needed Cumulative	\$ Needed Cumulative	Received Cumulative	Status Ahead or (Behind)	% Ahead or (Behind)
January	8.18%	\$26,882	\$29,299	8.18%	\$26,882	\$29,299	\$2,417	8.99%
February	9.02%	\$29,675	\$29,218	17.20%	\$56,557	\$58,517	\$1,960	3.47%
March	10.65%	\$35,032	\$21,386	27.85%	\$91,589	\$79,903	(\$11,686)	-12.76%
April	7.84%	\$25,791	\$24,069	35.70%	\$117,380	\$103,972	(\$13,408)	-11.42%
May	8.01%	\$26,342	\$0	43.71%	\$143,722	\$103,972	(\$39,750)	
June	8.04%	\$26,439	\$0	51.75%	\$170,161	\$103,972	(\$66,189)	
July	7.30%	\$23,988	\$0	59.04%	\$194,149	\$103,972	(\$90,177)	
August	6.95%	\$22,852	\$0	65.99%	\$217,001	\$103,972	(\$113,029)	
September	7.12%	\$23,419	\$0	73.12%	\$240,420	\$103,972	(\$136,448)	
October	7.38%	\$24,280	\$0	80.50%	\$264,700	\$103,972	(\$160,728)	
November	9.38%	\$30,859	\$0	89.88%	\$295,559	\$103,972	(\$191,587)	
December	10.12%	\$33,262	\$0	100.00%	\$328,821	\$103,972	(\$224,849)	
Totals		\$328,821						

Continued on the next page . . .

Finance and Related Topics, Continued

Church Directory Options

We need your input! Do YOU want an updated, hard copy church directory?

It's been nearly 4 years since we published our last hard-cover church directory. Recently we were approached by *Remember Church Directories* to see if we might want to use their commercial services. They schedule a one-half-hour session per family to take photos, then put these into a free directory. They offer one 8" by 10" photo for free, as well as an opportunity to purchase more. Generally, they would schedule one-week sessions (Monday - Friday from 10 am to 5 pm), and then again on Saturday (10 am - 2 pm). In addition, they can offer an online directory if we desire.

Recently, the company that produced our 2012 directory, *LifeTouch*, has proposed they come back and take pictures to produce an updated directory providing similar services as described above.

Of concern is whether members will feel pressured to purchase additional photos from a commercial service. If so, we do have an alternative already available:

Our church database contains the tools to fabricate a directory in real-time. If you have already created a free *ServantKeeper* account, you can view a church directory online, save it (as a .pdf) to your computer's desktop, or print it out.

Since our last commercial directory is now nearly 4 years old, a lot of information has changed. Although we have worked hard to keep the *ServantKeeper* database up to date, it would be very useful to have everyone view their data and update it as well as add a new photo or use an existing one in an online directory.

So, here are the choices for an updated directory:

Do we want to dedicate a week to a commercial company scheduling sessions and taking photos?

Would we want to take our own photos (or use old ones) and enter them into our own church database? (Note that this will require action on everyone's part to enter/verify their data.)

We'll make a decision shortly on how to proceed, and your opinion would be helpful. **Please call me or email me with your thoughts on the updated directory.**

Dwight Kitchens
863-984-4564
dwight@dwightkitchens.com

Our Departments

The Administrative Council

The Administrative Council met on Monday, May 23, 2016 and made a couple of important decisions that affect our church.

1. We now have a Vision Statement: To be a Joyful Church Family that is Crucial to our Community. This is what we will strive to be within 5 years. How do we achieve this? By enhancing our current missions and activities. So to repeat:

Mission Statement: Sharing God's Love Through Action

Vision Statement: To be a Joyful Church Family that is Crucial to our Community

2. Both the Sanctuary and the Family Life Center are showing their ages. We want to improve the appearance of our church complex and let others know we care about our church. The list below is in priority order for funding and execution, along with preliminary cost estimates. None of these projects is included in the current budget, so a financial campaign is being planned, led by Tom Burns and Dwight Kitchens. The goal of the **Campus Revitalization Campaign** is to raise \$65,000 within one year.

Work on each project will begin as money is acquired to complete it. Right now we are anticipating the total cost to be around \$60,200.00. We have a good start with \$20,000 that has already been contributed for two of these tasks. The prioritized projects and our initial cost estimates are:

1. Sealing and painting the Sanctuary and Family Life Center (\$22,700)
2. Landscaping (\$3,000)
3. Redoing the pavement between the Preschool and Sanctuary (\$4,500)
4. Buying and installing a new electronic sign (\$30,000)

The Council voted that funds be solicited for the entire **Campus Revitalization Campaign** at one time, rather than piece-meal fund requests for each of the four projects. Donors are requested **not to designate** (ear-mark) **funds for a specific project, but to designate them for "Campus Revitalization"**.

Each project will be started in the order approved, when sufficient funds to complete it are on-hand. Any money left over will be applied to the next project on the list until all the approved work is completed. Any money remaining will be applied to the Reserve Fund for Maintenance and Repair (which is currently unfinanced in the 2016 budget).

Sarah Schiemann
Chair, Administrative Council

Dwight Kitchens
Chair, Finance Committee

Continued on the next page . . .

Our Departments, Continued

The Trustees

Thanks to Our Members for Campus Improvements!

We owe a huge **Thank You!** to Bob Gilmore for making a new cross to replace the deteriorating one on the front of the church. Thanks also to Fred Fredrikson and Jim Plumb who helped Bob put it up. In his spare time, Bob also power washed the Sanctuary roof (and inspected it). We will probably need to re-shingle the Sanctuary within the next three years.

Brad Fox cut down the two overly tall palm trees and graded the driveway in front of the Sanctuary and the parking area in front of the FLC to smooth out some of the potholes.

Please say thanks to these people who've contributed their efforts to making the church campus more attractive.

Improved Lights on Walkway

Eight new lights (LEDs) have been donated to replace the old ones illuminating the walkway between the Family Life Center and A Little Bit of Heaven Child Enrichment Center. Tom and Dorothy Burns provided six and Lisa Bacon, ALBOH Director, provided two. Installation is on-going.

Unwanted Visitors in the Sanctuary

Two small termite infestations were discovered recently in the Sanctuary and have been treated. One was in a cabinet in the Choir Room; the cabinet has been removed. Since then the Sanctuary has been inspected and shown to be clear of further termite infestation. Inspections and treatment of other buildings on campus are on-going.

If You Can't Take the Heat . . .

As we go to press, the air conditioner that cools the FLC kitchen hasn't for several weeks. In addition, one of the large FLC air conditioners is broken. We are waiting for Brad Fox to return to the area to diagnose the problems and possibly make the repairs.

Tom Burns, Chair

Rooted Student Ministry

The Youth Ministry has been studying The Purpose Driven Life by Rick Warren on Wednesday nights. Each week the group covers one or two days from the book. When this study is completed, we plan to study The Story (web site <http://www.thestory.com/sample-resources/youth-ministries/>).

Every other Wednesday during the summer we will show a movie at 3:00 pm, enjoy a meal and then resume the week's study.

Our two new Youth Interns who are job-sharing have completed their 90-day provisional employment period and were interviewed on May 25th by members of the Staff, Pastor, Parish Relations Committee (SPPRC) and the pastor. Both gentlemen were hired.

Lee Mueller, Youth Director

Continued on the next page . . .

Our Departments, Continued

A Little Bit of Heaven Child Enrichment Center

We are operating at near-capacity!

The Music Department

For the summer we will have members of the Choir and the Let Go Praise Team performing together in most of the services, rather than alternate between the two groups as we have in the past. Expect sort of a pot-luck musical worship: Whoever comes, plays or sings. (Hopefully, they will have attended the rehearsals.)

Wonderful news! Three talented musicians/vocalists have joined our Praise Team's ranks. Some of you may remember Bob and Diane Siegel who were members a long time ago (Bob's name is on the plaque at the entry to the FLC). They brought with them a friend, Janet Smith. Their voices and musical talent have already enriched our worship experience.

Phyllis Kitchens

Adult Sunday School Classes

Classes meet in the FLC at 9:00 am

The Seekers Adult Sunday School Class — Eric Hines, Leader

THE NEW INTERNATIONAL LESSON

The June syllabus was not available for printing.

Please join us in FLC Classrooms 1 and 2 at 9:00 am.

Friendship Sunday School Class — Mike Stafford, Leader

We just completed a study on Pentecost. We learned about the Old Testament Feast of Weeks also called The Feast of Pentecost and how that related to the "Day of Pentecost" discussed in the New Testament. We studied how the example of Peter's boldness as he preached his message on the "Day of Pentecost" is an example to us as Christians today. Peter had gone from denying Christ three times, to boldly standing in front of the very people that were involved in the death of Jesus and proclaiming the Gospel. Peter knew that this audience could very easily put him to death just as they did Jesus. However, Peter knew it was what he had been called to do.

We are continuing to build on the boldness of Peter's example as we embark on a new study titled "Counter Culture". This study is designed to help Christians learn how to stand up for our beliefs in a culture that is completely counter to what we believe. We are learning how to keep our focus on God as we interact with our culture today. How do we disagree, in a loving way, with those we come across regarding issues which are completely counter to what we are taught in the Bible? If you would like to learn the answer to that question, I invite you to join us every Sunday morning in the FLC at 9:00 am.

Continued on the next page . . .

Our Departments, Continued

Custodian, Kitchen and Audio/Visual Areas

Mark your calendars for our 5th Sunday pot-luck lunches! Starting on May 29th with our Memorial Day celebration, the Kitchen Crew will prepare the meat courses and everyone else is asked to bring side dishes and/or desserts to share with the congregation and friends after Sunday services.

So, **highlight July 31st and October 30th**, and think about what tasty, nourishing specialties you can bring. If you or a family member have special dietary restrictions (for example, diabetes or lactose intolerance), how about making a dish that conforms to these needs to share with others? The Kitchen Crew will make signs indicating the special character of these dishes.

We are considering ways to attract our Food Pantry participants and their families and friends to join us for these services and the Sunday meal. We can encourage them on their walk with the Lord by sharing a meal with these ladies and gentlemen who are already in our sphere of influence.

We are in need for Kitchen Crew for the July and October luncheons. Please contact Debbie Moore to volunteer (863-221-1092).

LAY LEADER'S LITANY

No report this month.

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 service and worship among LGUMC members and friends as we seek to share God's love and to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Phyllis Kitchens, Editor

Our Ministries

Mission Moments

What can I do? How often do we say that in so many diverse situations?

Not long ago several of us, LGUMC members, attended a dinner and presentation at Parker Street Ministries. We are amazed by individuals like Tim Mitchell who have changed whole neighborhoods.

Not many of us could or would devote their lives to helping others like Tim has. **However, many of our church friends change the lives of others in smaller, yet significant, ways.** It may be as simple as raking someone's yard as our Neighborhood Missions crew has done.

Jesus' simple commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves is really easy once you give it a try. We take care of our neighbors' cat so they can go away for a weekend or longer and not have to worry about their pet. They do the same for us. Nothing, no act of kindness, is too small if it meets someone's need. Share your H.O.P.E. with others.

Make a list of what ways you can serve others and let me know what you come up with.

HOPE

H-Hospitality O-Opportunity P-Purpose E-Engagement

Linda Alvarez, Missions Coordinator



United Methodist Men (UMM)

Nine men attended the May meeting of Lake Gibson UMM on Saturday, May 14th. A total of ten items were donated to the food pantry.

I informed those attending that we have received a case of the devotional "Strength For Service for God and Community". I will be taking a census of the first responder locations in our community, i.e., north of Interstate 4. We can then plan for a method or methods to distribute the devotionals.

There will not be any scheduled meetings for June, July, and August, but there may be special called meetings during the summer. Our next scheduled meeting is for Saturday, September 10th; time and location have yet to be determined.

Have a safe and happy summer and may God bless.

Mike Booker, President
863-858-6129

Our Ministries

United Methodist Women (UMW)

The “new circle” will meet at 6:30 pm on June 13th at Linda Hudson’s house. Please join us!

For those who can sew, we still need 10 school bags to complete the 100 we volunteered for the UMCOR project. We have the material, samples and directions. Please contact Phyllis Kitchens (863-984-4564) if you can help. (Otherwise, she will continue to muddle through after she finishes the last 3 of her 10 assigned bags. **How on earth did Ruth Zona and Ann Johnson make 70????**)

All UMCOR contributions will need to be turned in **no later than September 24th**. On September 24th the South Central District Meeting will be held at our church; at that time, they will take our UMCOR bags, health kits, and monetary donations for toothpaste and shipping. A pre-planning meeting with District UMW representatives will be held on June 25th at 9:30 am in the Family Life Center classrooms 1 and 2.

Jack Kosik, Executive Director of Noah’s Ark spoke at our May 19th Unit Meeting. [A Unit Meeting is a bi-monthly gathering of members of all UMW Circles and any interested folks, members or not.] Noah’s Ark is a not-for-profit organization that provides affordable housing and a supportive community for individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities, ages 18 and over. Jack spoke from the heart and with experience as he and his wife have raised a daughter with special needs.

He addressed the sometimes desperate **need of aging parents to find a loving, Christian environment for their adult child**. There are 2,200 people with developmental disabilities **on a waiting list** for critically needed support services with **little or no funding available**.

Noah’s Ark currently has two small facilities and this summer they are opening ***The Villages of Noah’s Landing***. The Villages is relatively near Lake Gibson UMC, at the end of Melody Lane (off SR 33). They could definitely use monetary donations, but Jack emphasized that **what he was really looking for was volunteers**. I absolutely believe you would find this to be a meaningful and wonderful experience. If you are possibly interested in volunteering, please see me (Sue Shelton. 853-9212) for additional information and/or a volunteer packet. To learn more about The Villages and the work of Noah’s Ark, please visit their web site, <http://www.noahsarkflorida.org>.

We have discussed the possibility of touring the new Villages this summer, so keep your eyes open for that opportunity, which we will offer to the entire congregation and friends.

Sue Shelton, President

Our Ministries, Continued

Prayer Ministry

Amidst the multiple colors of spring and the beautiful sights that unfold, we give thanks for God's creations. Psalms 136:26: "Give thanks to the God of heaven."

God also reminds us we should be alert and take the time to pray for others. Ephesians 6:18: "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." (New Living Translation (NLT))

We welcome new Prayer Warriors. This past month we had a new Prayer Warrior who joined the ministry by email. This is a way of praying for others during the week who may have an emergency or chronic health concern and at times you will receive an update on a past prayer request via email.

We also have two prayer groups who meet during the week. You are always welcome to join in.

Taking the Prayer Journal home with you and praying for each individual and need is another way to be a Prayer Warrior from your own home. The Prayer Journal is updated and distributed in the Sunday bulletin every two weeks.

Being a Prayer Warrior is a gracious way to be a blessing to others in need of prayer and fulfilling God's call for us to serve him. Please mark the "Becoming a Prayer Warrior" box on the connection card and put it in the offering plate on Sunday if you would like to become a Lake Gibson Prayer Warrior. You will feel blessed by praying for others.

Fran Mudge for the Prayer Ministry

Visitation Ministry

No report.

We still need someone to become the Visitation Ministry's newsletter correspondent. Please let Phyllis Kitchens know if you are willing to perform this service (863-984-4564 or e-mail phyllis_kitchens@hotmail.com).

The intention is to let the congregation know what's going on with this important ministry in a way that preserves the privacy and dignity of our ill or infirm members. If you visit people regularly, why not write about it to encourage others to do as you are doing — sharing God's love with someone who can't attend church in person.

Our Ministries, Continued

Florida United Methodist Children's Home

This year we are trying something different for the Children's Home. We are going to collect **Coins for Camp** through the month of June. We would like to collect enough coins to send a child to Warren W. Willis United Methodist Camp for a week in August. It costs \$425 for the registration fee. During the week the kids are involved in many different activities such as canoeing, sailing, zip lining, tubing, crafts, swimming, archery and much more. Along with the activities their day also includes time for devotions, worship and discussion groups.

Please help send a child or two to camp this year. It is a great way for them to relax, have fun and connect with God in new ways. It is one of the most anticipated times of the year for the kids. Those that go absolutely love it. Our own youth director, Lee Mueller, takes a group of our youth each year to camp. You can ask her or any one who has gone to Warren W. Willis Camp what a great week this is. **Please drop your extra change into the jar in the Narthex and help give a child memories they will have a lifetime.**

This year for the Day on Campus there were over 1,200 visitors who toured the campus. If you are interested in going please mark your calendars for next year on **April 1, 2017**. Please plan on joining us to see for yourself what a great place the Children's Home is. Meet the staff, house parents and, most importantly, meet some of the residents that you help support.

For the last three years Becky Dotson has been the Children's Home President. Ms. Dotson has decided to follow God's calling in a different direction and she will be leaving the Children's Home. During Ms. Dotson's tenure the Madison Youth Ranch has opened with the equine therapy program. The Legacy Scholars Academy at the Enterprise campus has opened. An off-campus thrift store, Heart to Heart, has been opened for one year and is now profitable. In July the Broward County Foster Care office will open. Please pray for Ms. Dotson's success as she and her family begin a new chapter in life and ministry.

Karen and Jeff Acor
FUMCH Representatives

More Bikes Delivered to FUMCH

Thanks to LGUMC's efforts, another 6 bicycles of varying sizes were delivered to the Florida United Methodist Children's Home in Enterprise. This makes a total of 13 which have been refurbished and delivered during 2016. There are two used bike frames sitting in our garage waiting for replacement wheels and the time and energy to restore them.

Should you know of a bicycle sitting idle in someone's garage, don't hesitate to ask if they would like to donate it to LGUMC for FUMCH. All are appreciated and eventually put to good use.

Dwight Kitchens

Celebrations

(If there are errors in these lists, you can correct them using the online church directory, or let the editor know so we can correct the data base.)



Birthdays in June

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
6/1	Tom Burns
6/1	Joe Moon
6/5	Reginald Jenkins
6/7	Shirley Addems
6/7	Pat Gilmore
6/7	Scott Shelton
6/10	Rusty Collins
6/11	Tom Fischer
6/11	Tyler McKnight
6/17	Linda Osborn
6/18	James Miller
6/19	Carolyn Brant
6/19	Joshua Byroads
6/19	Jerry McKeever
6/19	Dave Meyer
6/21	Megyn Miller
6/24	Meghan Maxon
6/30	C.B. Fredrikson
6/30	Barbara Gunter

Anniversaries in June

<u>Date</u>	<u>Names</u>
6/24	Dave and Maureen Meyer
6/26	Tom and Betty Fischer
6/30	Don and Sue Heishman

Apologies to Todd and Yvonne Bower who were left off the May Anniversary List. We learned that the Servant Keeper database needs names, wedding date AND to have the field "Married" checked in order to produce a correct anniversary list. In the Bowers' case, that field had not been checked when the record was entered into Servant Keeper. (They didn't complain; I realized the error when they donated altar flowers in celebration of their anniversary!)

I'm sure there are others whose records are in the same boat. Please let Dwight or Phyllis Kitchens know if your anniversary date (or birthday) is incorrect or missing from the newsletter.

Phyllis Kitchens

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

Lake Gibson United Methodist Church
424 West Daughtery Road
Lakeland, FL 33809

Web Page: www.lakegibsonumc.com

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

Contact Information

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

Support Staff

Marina Garcia	Administrative Secretary 863-858-5431 office@lakegibsonumc.com
Lee Mueller	Youth Director muellrcg@verizon.net
Jeremy Kyser Dean Benson	Youth Interns
Glenda Grant Hess	Director of Music/Organist northstarnutrition@verizon.net
Debbie Moore	Custodian

A Little Bit of Heaven Child Enrichment Center

Lisa Bacon	Director
Office	863-858-8400
Cell	863-255-8619
E-mail	alboh@lakegibsonumc.com

The Good News is a monthly church newsletter bringing the "Good News" to members and friends of Lake Gibson United Methodist Church. We welcome your suggestions, comments and articles. You may reach the editor, Phyllis Kitchens, by calling 863-984-4564 (home) or 410-790-2662 (cell), or by e-mailing her at phyllis_kitchens@hotmail.com.