



THE GOOD NEWS

Lake Gibson United Methodist Church

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



From the Pastor

Invest and Invite: Growth Takes Work!

Dear Friends,

I've yet to serve at a modern church that doesn't want to grow, but so often we fail to invest in the spiritual and communal sacrificial practices that produce and nurture effective ministry and growth. We spend all our time looking for quick and easy ways to jump ahead to the "growth" part, asking why God isn't 'adding to our number daily those being saved,' while we miss the ways we are called to cultivate a shared mission and vision in fellowship, in support of one another, in communal spiritual practices, and in loving service of our neighbors! We often want the numbers growth without the investment of our time, our money, and our work (at least, I know I can be guilty of this mistake)!

If we are willing to invest ourselves, our time, our resources, and our presence in these shared patterns of living and worshipping together...practices of teaching and learning together, proclaiming and living out the Gospel news, fellowshiping and caretaking, serving and loving others sacrificially as we worship and intercede with our God...well, then Acts promises us that God will use us to grow and expand his Kingdom in forms of growth and salvation far beyond anything we can imagine!

So, I invite you all to invest your time and resources in helping out with the food kitchen distribution and prep, or in our every other Wednesday 6:00am–9:00am coffee and donuts table for the kids, parents, and teachers who are a part of our child-enrichment center, or stop by and help us out with our Hope House ministry on Wednesday nights for dinner from 5:30pm–8:30pm and Saturday mornings for breakfast and lunch from 9:30am–1:00pm!

Growth takes work. Growth is an investment – we invest in others by building relationships grounded in love and by inviting them to meet the Jesus who transformed our very lives (because investment without an actual invitation to join us on a Sunday is like investing for retirement your whole life and then never touching the results)! Investments take time and sacrifice, invitation takes courage and risk, but Jesus promises us that the dividends will be rich beyond our wildest dreams as he "adds to our number daily with those who are saved by the good news that we preach and live out" (Acts 2:46-47)!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Anthony

October Events As of 9/29/2022

Abbreviations: FLC - Family Life Center; ZVC - Zoom Video Conference, O-Office, S-Sanctuary
(Entries marked with * repeat every week and are only listed on the first occurrence)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	
1	Saturday	Hope House Mobile* 9:30 am-1:00 pm, FLC;
2	Sunday	Sunday School classes* , 9:15 - 10:15 am, FLC; Worship Service* and Communion , 10:30 am; Publix bakery goods* in FLC for needy; Movimiento Misionero Mundial Pentecostal Church* , 10:30 am, FLC upstairs; New Testament Christian Church* , 1:30 pm, S
3	Monday	Boy Scouts* , 7:00 pm, FLC
4	Tuesday	Book Study* , 10:30 am , off campus; Cub Scouts* , 7:00 pm, FLC
5	Wednesday	A Little Bit of Heaven (ALBOH) Chapel* , 9:00 am, S; United Women in Faith (UWF) [formerly UMW] Combined Circle meeting , 10:00 am, FLC ; Hope House Mobile* 6:30pm-8:30pm, FLC; Choir Practice* , 6:30 pm, S
6	Thursday	ALBOH Board Meeting , 2:00pm, FLC
7	Friday	
8	Saturday	UMM Meeting and Breakfast , 9am, FLC;
9	Sunday	Harvest Sunday (canned and boxed foods for our food pantry)
10	Monday	
11	Tuesday	
12	Wednesday	Merry Matters craft group, 10:00 am - noon, FLC Classrooms; Columbus Day
13	Thursday	
14	Friday	
15	Saturday	
16	Sunday	
17	Monday	
18	Tuesday	
19	Wednesday	
20	Thursday	
21	Friday	
22	Saturday	
23	Sunday	
24	Monday	
25	Tuesday	
26	Wednesday	Merry Matters craft group, 10:00 am - noon, FLC Classrooms
27	Thursday	
28	Friday	
29	Saturday	
30	Sunday	

Guest Appearance

On September 18th we were given an opportunity to meet with the Rev. Chris Akers. He provided the audience with information concerning the Global Methodist Church and the possibilities for our church. We have heard from both sides of the issue, and now pray for guidance from our Lord for Lake Gibson UMC. A straw vote was taken at the presentation and we will be notified of the outcome. When the time comes for a final vote please remember that you must be a Member of LGUMC and that you must be Physically present at the vote to be counted. A luncheon of sandwiches, cookies, chips and drinks were provided by the Lake Gibson United Women of Faith.

United Women in Faith (UWF)

On Wednesday, October 5th, the ladies will be having a tour of the Salvation Army Facility (Shelter For Families) at 3804 Kathleen Road (2nd right hand turn after Sleepy Hill Rd, road sign will say Jim Galloway Rd). The tour will begin at 10 a.m., if you are interested in carpooling please meet at the church at 9:00 a.m. and we will travel as a group. If you have any questions, call Pat Moon at 863-858-6883.

Ladies, if you have been attending the circle meetings this summer, you are aware that we have been collecting change in the little can for the World Thank Offering. At the November circle meeting, ladies who would like to add to their donations, or anyone who has not had the opportunity to donate can bring their change or donation to the meeting on November 2nd. If you want to donate by writing a check, please make it out to LGUMW with the annotation "Thank Offering". This collection is provided to the Gulf Central district every November. If you are not familiar with the World Thank Offering, this is quoted from the United Women of Faith website: <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/worldthank>. The World Thank Offering is one of United Methodist Women's five channels of undesignated Mission Giving. Traditionally, this offering is collected during a special service or program during the fall season. This channel of Mission Giving is an opportunity for individuals to respond to God's abundance and grace with spontaneous gifts of gratitude. The funds collected are used in the total program of mission and advocacy in the United States and around the world. The World Thank Offering, given freely and abundantly in response to God's goodness, has been the way of life for United Methodist Women for almost 150 years".

The November circle meeting will be at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, November 2nd, in the FLC. We will have a covered dish luncheon following a get-to-know-you session with Pastor Anthony and Emilie. We will also plan out our Christmas Party for the December circle meeting.

United Methodist Men (UMM)

The UMM held their first meeting since the summer break, with a prayer and continental breakfast. We discussed the up coming plans for the new year. It was decided to cancel the Car Show due to lack of man power. We will still have the Easter Egg Hunt on the 1st of April. We will need the support of the church to ensure a successful event. We will collect candy starting the First Sunday of March 2023 until the 29th of March. As usual, ensure all candies are individually wrapped so that we can put them into the eggs. You may drop them off at the church or the office during March. We will pick them up and start packing the plastic eggs.

It is hard for us to support the church needs with just a few but if you have a request please let us know. We will attempt to comply.

Once again, we meet on the second Saturday of the month at 9:00 am so anyone who wishes to attend are welcome. It has been a rough two years, hopefully things will improve and we can once again have structured meetings and events.

If you have any questions or concerns please call me at 863-816-3194 or 386-965-0170

Michael Moake
UMM President

Merry Matters

Talbot House was happy to receive the five completed mats, taken to them by Harriet Shapiro. We are excitedly waiting for the return of our leader, Lynn Meske from her Northern retreat. Our next meeting will be on October 12th at 10 a.m. in the FLC. Come join us (whether you are female or male), ALL ARE WELCOME. Meet members from other faiths, talk, have a good time in the effort to help our homeless.

HOPE HOUSE MOBILE

Greetings from Hope House Mobile! (HHM)

Since April 2022, when the Hope House building was sold, it has been a chaotic, challenging, blessed time. Hope House volunteers decided to continue the original mission of HH: spread the Word of God: feed our unhomed guests: clothe our folks: provide toiletries and other necessities to those in need. Hope House became Hope House Mobile. (HHM)

This month, HHM welcomed a new volunteer, Angie Overbey. Ms Angie has been a whirlwind. Serving on Mondays, Wednesdays, Friday and Saturdays. She and her daughter-in-law, Kira have taken Thursdays as their service day. Their first day was Sept 8th. HHM is blessed by their dedication.

HHM now serves 6 days a week:

Hunt Fountain Park 2020 Duff Road, Lakeland, FL 33810

Monday through Friday, 11:30am to 1pm

Main volunteers:

Monday-Laura Webb, Fuel Baptist Church

Tuesday - Dick McPherson, LGUMC

Wednesday- Laura Webb, Fuel & Geri Mayo

Thursday - Angie Overbey & Kira, Kathleen Baptist

Friday -Geri Mayo

Lake Gibson United Methodist Church (LGUMC)

424 W. Daughtery Road, Lakeland, FL 33810

Wednesday nights, 6:30pm to 8:30pm

Saturdays, 9:30am to 1pm

Showers will be available on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

MEDIA: HHM is working on streamlining newsletters and social media posts. • At this time, volunteers are posting on their Facebook pages or on the North Lakeland Homeless Outreach FB page. We are working on a dedicated HHM page via Geraldine Mayo's FB page. • The email newsletter will be edited and sent on a weekly basis.

NEEDS: • men's shorts/jeans, especially size medium • men's thin button down, short sleeve shirts (xl and 2xl) • men's underwear, new and dark colors greatly appreciated.

WELCOME KATRINA SCHELL

On October 1, LGUMC Music Department welcomes our new Assistant Worship Director, Katrina Schell. As a senior at Florida Southern College, she will intern with us for 10 hours per week in both Praise Band and Choir. Katrina plays piano, keyboard, guitar and saxophone, and also sings. She comes to us from Grace Community UMC in Lithia, FL, where she ministered as Worship Director. Before transferring to FSC in 2020, Katrina attended Lexington Christian Academy in Lexington, MA. There she wrote and directed plays for Boston University New Noises Festival and the Massachusetts Thespian Festival. We are grateful that she will share her gifts for Worship and Community Outreach here at LGUMC!

Prayer Ministry-Hope in Christ



‘So, I pray that God, who gives you hope, will keep you happy and full of peace as you believe in Him. May you overflow with hope through the power of the Holy Spirit’. Romans 15:13

The pages of the Bible are filled with hope, His word is secured through the cross and His resurrection. Our hope is secured by God’s promise that He is with us always through our trials, and brings us joy, light, and peace if we cling to Him. Hope through our Lord cannot be destroyed by anything in the world.



Faithful God, scripture says to pray continually. Help us to be persistent in prayer and enable us to be faithful partners in prayer with others, and bring hope to the world. Amen.

Lean on Christ for hope.

Prayer Ministry-Fran

Christmas Poinsettias

Purchase a Poinsettia to display in the chapel this wonderful holiday season for the low price of \$10.00.

Please Check:

___ *in memory of* _____

___ *in honor of* _____

___ *in the glory* _____

Your Name: _____

Proceeds will help fund LGUMC,

Thanks so much for supporting our Church!

Paid: Yes _____ *No* _____ *Cash:* _____ *Check:* _____



Creating Positive Connections: Engaging with Those Living with Dementia

When: Thursday, October 20, 2022

Time: 10:00am - 11:30am

Where: 204 C

Holiday Celebrations and Traditions: Reducing Stress and Increasing Joy for those Living with Dementia

When: Wednesday, November 9, 2022

Time: 2:00pm - 3:30pm

Where: 204 C

Read our Weekly Article

Read Article

If you, a friend, or a family member living with memory loss would be interested in learning more about our Memory Ministry, please contact Vicky Pitner at vpitner@firstumc.org

Florida United Methodist Children's Home (FUMCH) Christmas Gift Card Drive

Ever see the smiles on children's faces when the Christmas season rolls around? It's a joy to behold.

When we first came to Lake Gibson UMC, we were asked around Christmas-time to consider purchasing gifts for either boys or girls within certain age groups. Unfortunately, there was no match to a particular child. We never knew if the gift was appropriate (right size, color, style, etc.).

Over the past four years FUMCH has asked that we provide gift cards. The intent is to provide approximately \$150 in value for each child. House parents use a portion to purchase appropriate gifts to be wrapped and placed under their cottage's Christmas tree. The remainder is available to the children for shopping sprees where they select their own gifts. Additionally, some gift cards are used to take the cottage's children to celebration meals off campus. If excess cards are provided, they are used to purchase needed items for the children throughout the year.

It is most helpful for gift cards to be in increments of \$10 to \$100 to major chain stores and restaurants. Especially useful and flexible gift cards for our children include Amazon, Visa, Kohl's, Wal-Mart, Epic Theater, and GameStop gift cards. Popular restaurants our staff like to treat the children to over Christmas break include Darden Brands (Olive Garden, Longhorn Steakhouse & Cheddar's Scratch Kitchen), Papa John's Pizza, Applebee's, and Chili's restaurants.

Once again, we ask that donated cards be placed within an envelope or bundled together with your name included. These gifts will be considered as "designated contributions" for accounting purposes. Either deliver them to the office or place within offering plates within the sanctuary. **Please include a gift card receipt and write the denomination on each gift card.** Should you desire to give either cash or check, we ask that you annotate "FUMCH Christmas Gift Card Drive" with your donation. We will convert these to the appropriate gift cards.

In order to distribute cards and make purchases, we have been asked to have all cards delivered to FUMCH before 3 December. **We envision delivering them on Thursday, 1 December to the Enterprise campus.** This will provide time for distribution to cottage house parents for purchase and wrapping of appropriate gifts.

Should you have questions, please, contact either Phyllis or Dwight Kitchens at 863-984-4564.

FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED

Boxes of pasta, Jelly in plastic container, Canned Beans

Thank you to all who are able to help.

Sunday School Classes

The Seekers Sunday School class will be studying from the book of James. I have not selected a particular guide at this moment but have a couple in mind. I hope to start when some of our winter visitors get home and that is usually sometime in October. At the present we are finishing up 2 Corinthians.

The Friendship class doesn't have any plans for activities right now, I have been informed they will be working their way through Proverbs this month.

For October 2022 newsletter (revised figures)

Financial Update

As usual, our financial information is a month behind due to our newsletter being completed before we close out our financial data for the previous month.

August was an interesting month for LGUMC. We had four significant expenses.

1. We received the bill for the July repair of our refrigerated display case within the FLC's kitchen. Thankfully, the bill was slightly under \$400. A discussed new unit would have cost us closer to \$5,000.
2. We replaced one FLC classroom air conditioner. Thankfully, a member chose to contribute to pay that complete bill. We still have one which is in need of replacement as funds become available (approximately \$5,000 needed).
3. We also purchased a new audio sound board + 4 year warranty for approximately \$2,500. We were having problems with our previous sound board and bought a duplicate. The first is now repaired and available for emergency use. This should preclude us from having future problems.
4. Additionally, our electricity expenses were significantly above our projections due to both hot weather and increases in per kilowatt hour costs.

While we expended more than we took in during August, the reverse was true for July. Overall, our contributions are slightly ahead of where we were last year at this time. While we planned for a lower budget in 2022 than in 2021, we still require approximately \$81,000 between now and the end of this year to meet our projections. Your continued financial assistance will help us meet all of our missional objectives.

Details are reflected below:

Three-year Congregational Giving Profile (CGP) Template: Monthly Version								
Data Entry								
Current Year	2022							
Current Budget	\$295,275							
Month	Actual 2019	Actual 2020	Actual 2021	3-Yr Total	3-Yr \$ Avg Monthly	3-Yr \$ Avg Cumulative	Actual 2022	
January	\$32,120	\$19,250	\$41,469	\$92,839	\$30,946	\$30,946	\$45,644	
February	\$23,134	\$26,344	\$26,633	\$76,111	\$25,370	\$56,317	\$26,373	
March	\$34,381	\$31,430	\$23,181	\$88,992	\$29,664	\$85,981	\$39,981	
April	\$29,060	\$48,131	\$24,073	\$101,264	\$33,755	\$119,735	\$23,275	
May	\$22,029	\$25,816	\$26,093	\$73,938	\$24,646	\$144,381	\$18,433	
June	\$27,031	\$25,894	\$15,866	\$68,791	\$22,930	\$167,312	\$18,293	
July	\$23,569	\$20,865	\$23,104	\$67,538	\$22,513	\$189,824	\$22,512	
August	\$21,790	\$22,494	\$20,877	\$65,161	\$21,720	\$211,545	\$19,894	
September	\$22,385	\$25,185	\$21,208	\$68,778	\$22,926	\$234,471		
October	\$22,386	\$20,998	\$20,238	\$63,622	\$21,207	\$255,678		
November	\$28,024	\$25,284	\$18,325	\$71,633	\$23,878	\$279,556		
December	\$52,968	\$26,088	\$25,183	\$104,239	\$34,746	\$314,302		
< > Instructions Monthly Data Entry Monthly Results +								
Month	% Needed Monthly	\$ Needed Monthly	Received Monthly	% Needed Cumulative	\$ Needed Cumulative	Received Cumulative	Status Ahead or (Behind)	% Ahead or (Behind)
January	9.85%	\$29,073	\$45,644	9.85%	\$29,073	\$45,644	\$16,571	57.00%
February	8.07%	\$23,834	\$26,373	17.92%	\$52,907	\$72,017	\$19,110	36.12%
March	9.44%	\$27,868	\$39,981	27.36%	\$80,776	\$111,998	\$31,222	38.65%
April	10.74%	\$31,711	\$23,275	38.10%	\$112,487	\$135,273	\$22,786	20.26%
May	7.84%	\$23,154	\$18,433	45.94%	\$135,641	\$153,706	\$18,065	13.32%
June	7.30%	\$21,542	\$18,293	53.23%	\$157,183	\$171,999	\$14,816	9.43%
July	7.16%	\$21,150	\$22,512	60.40%	\$178,333	\$194,511	\$16,178	9.07%
August	6.91%	\$20,405	\$19,894	67.31%	\$198,738	\$214,405	\$15,667	7.88%
September	7.29%	\$21,538	\$0	74.60%	\$220,276	\$214,405	(\$5,871)	
October	6.75%	\$19,923	\$0	81.35%	\$240,200	\$214,405	(\$25,795)	
November	7.60%	\$22,432	\$0	88.94%	\$262,632	\$214,405	(\$48,227)	
December	11.06%	\$32,643	\$0	100.00%	\$295,275	\$214,405	(\$80,870)	
Totals		\$295,275						

IT'S TIME TO THINK OF CRAFTS

Lynn Meske states she will be back soon and is asking for suggestions for our Thanksgiving and Christmas crafts. These will include items for The Senior Orphans and other groups we helped last year. Lynn states we have a lot of cards in stock, so put on your thinking caps and think with your hearts. Thank you.

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.

The purpose of the 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. All members and constituents are encouraged to write articles and share their thoughts and photos with the congregation.

Barb Allen-Coil, Editor

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Kristie Otte, Dave McPherson, Bob Siegel and Bailey Taylor, Audio/Visual Team



Birthdays in October

<u>Date</u>	<u>Names</u>
10/1	Sharon Coddington
10/7	Franki Bailey
10/8	Ken Hawthorne
10/10	Phyllis Michael
10/10	Steve Osborn
10/11	Betty Fischer
10/12	Karen Acor
10/12	Penny Polk
10/14	Fran Mudge
10/18	Marge Payne
10/20	Sylvia Barrett
10/20	Gail Travis
10/26	Sue Hawthorne
10/26	Paul Schiemann
10/31	Cathy D'Amato
10/31	Mary Friend



Anniversaries in October

<u>Date</u>	<u>Names</u>
10/2	Larry & Barbara Gitt
10/4	Charles & Linda Alvarez
10/6	David & Glenda Hess

