



The Good News

*Our Mission in making disciples for Jesus Christ is...
to instruct Heads to know God's Word
to nurture Hearts to grow in God's Love
to offer Hands to show God's Grace
in our community and church family.*



Lake Gibson United Methodist Church

April 2013

Steve Polk, Pastor

424 West Daughtery Road, Lakeland Florida 33809

Phone (863) 858-5431

From the Pastor's Desk

What a month of excitement March was with our Jubilee celebration, the Living Last Supper, Holy Week activities, joint Good Friday Service and the Easter Sunrise capped off by the Choir's Cantata – WOW!!! March ended on Easter Sunday – the day we rejoice in the empty tomb of Christ and recall His resurrection. The question this month is, "What difference, if any, does the empty tomb make in your life?"

The stone was rolled away from the tomb to show us Jesus was not there. He appeared to the Disciples and others eating fish with them and allowing them to touch His nail pierced hands and feet as well as the gash in His side to prove He was alive and not in a tomb somewhere. Mankind has built churches and religious shrines over the places believed to be the tomb of Christ, the stable in Bethlehem, the site of the crucifixion and other Biblical places. While I agree that these are historically notable places and can inspire a meaningful spiritual encounter as we remember the depth of God's love and magnitude of Jesus' suffering and death for mankind; we must remember Jesus has left those places and moved on with his ministry. Too often we as Christians look for God where he has

been rather than where He is working today. Even within the Easter narratives of the Gospels of Matthew and Mark, Jesus tells Mary that He is going ahead of the Disciples and they should meet Him in Galilee. As Disciples of Jesus we are to be in the place where God's work is occurring, not where it was. We are to be carrying out God's command to love others as we love ourselves and we are encouraged do this as we realize that Jesus is going before us, we are not alone. God is loving others even as we try to grasp the idea that we are to "Love All and Serve All". Jesus invites us to move forward with Him. Are you looking for signs of where God is working today or are you still standing where God was? If you are looking for God today look among the poor, sick, disheartened and downtrodden; among the immigrants, felons and homeless; among all the marginalized peoples of our society and world; not in the high and mighty places of importance. Then join God where He is working and transforming lives. The love of God reaches to "Who-so-ever Will" regardless of stature within the community.

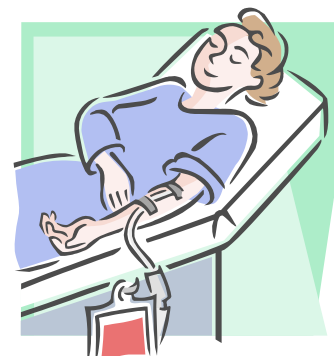
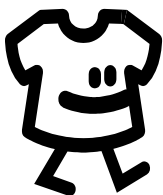
Pastor Steve

Blood Drive - Give Blood - Give Life

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sunday, April 14, 2013 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

All blood donors will receive a free t-shirt.



LGUMC Homecoming Celebration

Well it is finished. March 9th and 10th has come and gone. On Saturday night we celebrated 50 years of Music with a packed FLC for United Methodist Men's BBQ and a packed Sanctuary for a wonderful evening of Music and sharing memories. On Sunday morning, the Sanctuary was again packed for our Jubilee Worship Service. Rev Mark Myers told his amazing story of a young couple with 2 small children whose lives were at the bottom, but they walked into Lake Gibson United Methodist Church looking for meaning and purpose for their lives. They walked out that day and kept coming back and found God and eventually a calling to Ministry. Following this service we packed again the FLC for a good old fashioned pot luck dinner. Each of these four events were attended by over 200 people. At least 50 of those people were directly involved in the planning, preparation and carrying out of the four events. Thanks to each and everyone of you. Special thanks go to Bonnie Fuqua, George Band, Bob Bleem, Pastor Steve, Secretary Marina, Glenda Hess and Eric and Bev Hines. Very special thanks to Rev Mark Myers, Rev Ken Cocker and wife Rosie, Pastor Vic Johnson, and Builder Dean Tilton for coming home and participating in this event. Just a reminder, LGUMC's 50th Anniversary isn't over. It will not be over until March 2014. So keep celebrating and more importantly, commit your self to re dedicating your church to another 50 years of service and ministry to Lakeland. This should be the most important aspect of our 50th Jubilee.

Thanks again to each of you and Thanks be to God.

Your Lake Gibson United Methodist Church 50th Jubilee Committee

MISSION MOMENTS by Linda Alvarez

We are all partners in God's mission to spread the good news of Jesus Christ. As God sent Jesus into the world, so Jesus sends us (John 17:18).

As Mission Coordinator, I am going to try to identify needs in our community, country and the world. There are many who are sick, fearful, lonely and needy. Then we as a congregation can support God's mission to reach these people through prayers, concern, time, financial gifts and service.

Many of our church friends are already reaching out to meet the needs of others. I will highlight some of them in coming months so we all can know what they are doing and support them in whatever way we can.

I am starting right at home. Charlie and I are volunteers at Lakeland Volunteers in Medicine (LVIM). This clinic provides free medical services to people who live and work in Polk County and who do not have any form of health insurance. They must meet certain income requirements. They are our friends and neighbors, and many of them are children. LVIM provides routine medical and dental services, and has its own pharmacy, all at no charge. Charlie and I have seen lives saved and changed during our time there. People have left in tears, thanking us and saying they don't know what they would have done if it weren't for LVIM and its volunteers.

If you are in mission serving our community here or anywhere in the world, I would like to hear your story. Please call me at 853-4870 or find me in church and tell me about your experiences. Let us be a blessing to each other.

Church Council Meeting Minutes March 17, 2013

Meeting Opening-Chair, Carol Davis, opened our meeting at 11:49am,
Pastor Steve offered a prayer.

Minutes from January 5, 2013 meeting-George Band moved to approve, Linda Alvarez 2nd
APPROVED.

Thank you to Bonnie Fuqua and Worship committee and the Hines and George Band for the wonderful Jubilee Celebration planning and prep!!

Finance Controls-on file in the office. check the website to read up on this info. Eric Hines moved to accept these controls, Ken Fuqua 2nd, APPROVED.

New Realities-conference has cut this program, but Steve will work with a couple of the former leaders to glean useful info to possibly put to use at Lake Gibson.

Christian Ed-George Band-still struggling to get a foothold. He and MaryBeth are working on the library-which holds a vast amount of resources. Working with the worship and music committee. Will check the CCLI license about showing movies. We need to work on Christian Ed for the children, adults, youth, so we can offer something for all.

Worship Committee-Bonnie Fuqua and committee did a wonderful job on the jubilee
THANK YOU!!!

Trustees-Tom Burns, no report

VBS-Judy VanZile-starting to get organized now that Jubilee is over.

UMW-Sue Shelton, rummage sale will be April 19-20. Please hold larger items until the week of the sale.

PreSchool-Gail Patterson, no report.

Missions-Linda Alveraz, children's home visit was fantastic!

Eric Hines-would like to have some of our Jubilee pictures out to view.

SPR-Ken Fuqua, employee reviews coming up.

UMM-Mike Stafford, living last supper, April field trip coming up.

Children's Home-Jeff Acor, back from visit to children's home, let's remember to support it.

Youth-Lee Mueller, back from a leadership get away to Tomlin/Giglio concert. Spring break activities coming up. Acquire the Fire April 19 & 20. Camp registration is coming up, tuition is \$395. Working with the Presbyterians on Good Friday service. Sunrise service will be 7am Easter.

Finance-Sue Heishman and Wayne Wesley-insurance has been paid, with a deduction for early pay. Now we work on apportionments. Finance meeting tomorrow night.

Pastor Steve Polk-one service from Memorial Day to Labor Day??? Praise Band and choir would be able to take some time off. See what our friends think about this idea.

Easter schedule: 7am Son Rise service, 8:30am-churchwide potluck breakfast. 10am-cantata

Carol would like all committee meeting minutes be sent to her email: wda-vis101@tampabay.rr.com

(not SPPR minutes).

Eric Hines moved to adjourn, Wayne Wesley 2nd, adjourned at 12:30pm

Next Church Council meeting will be called.

Respectfully, Lee Mueller

United Methodist Women



The UMW Spring Rummage Sale is just around the corner! Please help us get ready for it by donating items you no longer have room for or need. Due to storage issues we prefer that the items be brought to the FLC April 14th (morning) - April 18th (by noon). The rummage sale is April 19th & 20th. If you need to get rid of items before then or would like to contribute items you cannot transport please call Sue Shelton at 853-9212 or JoAnn Mickle at 255-8391. We would greatly appreciate help marking items on Thursday April 18th anytime up until about 3:00 pm. If you plan to be here around noon bring a sandwich. Thanks for all your support. UMW

Offering Envelopes and Name Badges

If you are in need of more offering envelopes or a name badge to hang around your neck, please sign up on the dry erase board in front of the church on Sunday morning. We will have them ready for pick up the next Sunday in the Narthex on the table behind the greeters.

If you forget, you can call the office Monday thru Friday, 8 .m. til 2 p.m.

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR IS AVAILABLE ON WEBSITE
www.lakegibsonumc.com

4/2 Philip and Mary Lou Webb
 4/4 Larry and Linda Smucker
 4/6 Harrison and Marge Payne



4/22 Kenneth and Paula Drummond
 4/24 Bill and Lydia McKinney
 4/25 George and Nita Davis



Birthdays

4/1 Gail Gail Bishop
 4/3 William Jones
 4/8 Stanley Retter
 4/9 Tyler Jacoby
 4/9 Richard Kneeland
 4/10 Bonnie Fuqua
 4/10 Warren Hamilton

4/10 Richard Richie Kneeland
 4/11 Nola Osborn
 4/11 Dorothy Spadafora
 4/14 Susan Chambers
 4/14 Mary Mason
 4/14 Marita Willey
 4/15 Kyle Fox
 4/15 Randy Moore
 4/15 Alison Oftedal
 4/16 Sarah Schiemann
 4/17 Gwendolen Allen
 4/17 Marina Garcia

4/17 Susannah Wesley
 4/18 Jacob McKnight
 4/20 Homer Burr
 4/20 Ayashia Drummond
 4/20 Ed Hall
 4/20 John Joyce
 4/26 Juanita Davis
 4/29 Harrison Payne
 4/29 Ray Welch
 4/30 Gage Mueller



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

The Good News

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 and comments. Please send to :

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

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 FAX : 863-853-1625
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 Web Page - www.lakegibsonumc.com

Office Hours: 9:00 am. till 2:00 pm. (Monday thru Friday)

Marina Garcia—Administrative Secretary;

Lee Mueller—Youth Director

Sue Heishman— Bookkeeper,

Glenda Grant—Director of Music/Organist

Custodian—Jose Cardona

A Little Bit of Heaven Child Enrichment Center

Gail Patterson—Director - Phone: 858-8400

email: alboh@lakegibsonumc.com