



The Good News

*Our Mission in making disciples for Jesus Christ ...
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

July 2013

Steve Polk, Pastor

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Phone (863) 858-5431

From the Pastor's Desk

I have been reading and contemplating some of the works of Bishop Will Willimon recently; his book, "Bishop", has particularly stirred my soul. In it the Bishop makes the point that from Methodism's beginning in America and up through the year 1969 the Methodist Church grew in numbers but since then we have declined every year. Even as I write this I feel a burden and sense of despair and I want to shout, "Why God, why?" The early Methodists in America were trail blazers. They were pragmatic in thinking, bold in presentation and would not stop moving forward. The original Circuit Riders were zealous to make converts; they used the barbershop, the saloon or a big tree to hold their church meetings grew despite not having a building of their own. The Methodists were always on the forefront of bringing justice and equality to their community; they founded many schools, hospitals and orphanages. All of this is a part of being a Disciple of Christ, which is what we claim the mission of our church is: "To make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

Our forefathers did not rest but kept presenting the Gospel and taking God's love to those in need whether it was in the gutters down town or across the oceans to foreign lands. They found new ways to present the gospel and often went against the thinking of society to promote justice. In Alabama it was Methodist clergy that supported Civil Rights - much like is occurring in North Carolina concerning political issues now. These actions were not limited to the professional clergy only but many laity, sensing and responding to God's call upon their lives, were often the leaders of these movements. As Wesleyan Methodists we believe that we are a priesthood of believers, that each and every one of us, not just the preacher, is called by God for a purpose. Bishop Willimon suggests that we have become too comfortable with our religion to carry out the mission of God; we have be-

come Wesley's worst nightmare that we, "hold to a form of religion without any power". Willimon also questions if we have forgotten that the God who called us is an ever moving, ever present God, not resting in any one spot for long but continuing to create and restore new life and he says we need to remember the Triune God we serve is all about creating and invigorating dry old bones.

The task to revive the church looks almost impossible to us - good. Good, because that means it has to be a God thing and no mere man or superhero can revive it, therefore only God will get the glory. Good, because that means we must work together as God's family to accomplish the task (something we should already be doing). Good, because to reclaim the church and work together we must be filled with the Holy Spirit's power and discernment anew each and every day to complete the mission. To revive the church also means we cannot continue to do things the same way we have for years but must try new innovative ways of reaching out to others. It means we must once again begin to "Go into all the world and make Disciples." We start in our neighborhoods and begin to work outward. The old adage of, "Build it and they will come" is gone - in reality I think that attitude was a ploy of the Devil that worked very well to isolate and limit the effectiveness of the church. It may be uncomfortable to see change within the church we love but that change must occur if we are to reach the next generation for Jesus Christ.

Are you ready to be a part of something new and exciting for Jesus Christ? I am excited about the possibilities and opportunities that God is bringing to our church and community. Let's get out of the box and allow God to use us to usher His Kingdom into our communities; beginning anew today.

Pastor Steve



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Your trash, our treasure, we find jewels in your junk! Bathtubs, old tools, stoves, copper pipe, car parts, down spouts, nuts and bolts, hot water heaters, electric wire, lawn mowers, pipes, shelves, even a whole car! These are just some of the things you have donated to the Youth and we have recycled.

This load was just recycled for an extraordinary \$215.09-is that crazy or what?! This year we have earned almost \$750 toward camp for 7 of our youth! Thank you so much for letting us have your junk. If you have metal you want to get rid of, give Lee a call (944.5010) for pickup or drop it off at the church-label it Youth, no item too small or too big (so far).

Thanks for your support! The Youth



JULY

3-Mon, NO YOUTH, celebrate the 4th
4-Thur, NO Vball, celebrate the 4th
7-Sun, 4th celebration service and potluck after, 10am
7-Sun, hi school & older bible study 6-8:30pm
10-Wed, youth, 6-8:30pm
11-Thur, Odd job at FSC
11-Thur, vball, 7-10pm
12-Fri, disc golf, 8:30am-5pm, \$2 & food \$
14-Sun, youth, 6-8:30pm
17-Wed, youth, 6-8:30pm
18-Thur, vball, 7-10pm
19-Fri, SAK, 5pm-midnight, \$13 & food \$
21-Sun, hi school & older bible study 6-8:30pm
22-Mon, Tubing, 5am-8:30pm \$15, pack lunch & supper food \$
24-Wed, youth 6-8:30pm
25-Thur, VBALL, 7-10pm
26-Fri, Nerf Night, 7pm-midnight, bring snack
28-Sun, youth, 6-8:30pm
29-AUG 3, Mon-Sat, CAMP leave @ noon

AUGUST

5-Sun, hi school & older bible study 6-8:30pm
7-Wed, youth, 6-8:30pm
8-Thur, vball, 7-10pm
9-Fri, Beach, 8:30am-5pm, \$5 & food \$
11-Sun, youth, 6-8:30pm
14-Wed, youth, 6-8:30pm
15-Thur, Back to School LOCK IN, 7pm-7am guys bring snack, gals bring drink
18-Sun, hi school & older bible study 6-8:30pm
19-Mon, 1ST DAY OF SCHOOL
21-Wed, youth, 6-8:30pm
23-Fri, Lg @ Lkld football classic
25-Sun, Youth, 6-8:30pm
28-Wed, youth, 6-8:30pm

SOME NOTES FROM MARINA

FLC will be closed for painting and carpet installation July 8 – 26

Blood mobile will be here July 7 from 9 -12

July 7 will be our 4th of July Celebration with Pot Luck

Christmas in July will be 7/10/13 at Lake Side Hills – Clubhouse with Potluck @ 6:00 pm

Office will be closed on the 4th of July



Jeff and I would like to thank everyone who donated items for the Children's Home for the Summer Quest program. We also would like to thank the UMW for donating three quilts that we took up to the kids.

Before we know it August will be here and the kids heading back to school. Once again we will be collecting school supplies. Listed below are some items the Children's Home is asking for:

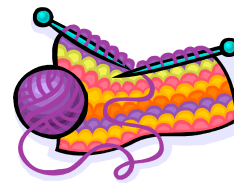
Pencil sharpeners, binders, (1" - 2"), dividers, (prefer 8 count), colored pencils, markers, highlighters, dry erase makers, construction paper, copy/printer paper, mechanical pencils, glue sticks, journal/diaries, baby wipes, tissue boxes, hand sanitizer.

We will be collecting school supplies the whole month of July. We will have our box in the Narthex to place your items in.

Thank you, Karen & Jeff



Church “Living Cookbook” and Crafts



Meetings start in July, 9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays on the 9th and 30th, Thursdays 18th and 25th in the Church Office Conference Room. We will need to organize, proof, and type recipes. We need a few new craft ideas to make at the meetings and at home. Dish washing scrubbies and dish cloths are always popular and sell very quickly. Need yarn or netting, let me know! You can share and/or make on your own craft ideas. If you are unable to come, whether visiting up North or otherwise, please call me at 863 604-0194 or email at annfox27@gmail.com with suggestions. Reminder, time and cost of materials are a consideration for pricing to sell. Already craft fairs are gearing up for the Fall, Silver Lakes is November 7 and our Holiday Fair will be December 7.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Painting of the FLC will start
July 8th at 9:00 am.

Contact Mr. Tom Burns For More information



7/1 Douglas & Sandra Harwell

7/5 Charles & Joyce Scott

7/10 Matthew & Jamie Collins



7/29 William & Tracie Simpson

7/30 Gary & Fran Mudge



Birthdays

7/1 Adam Schertzer

7/2 Maureen Meyer

7/4 Mary Bristol

7/4 Gary Mudge

7/6 Joyce Holleran

7/10 Marilyn Cornwell

7/10 Richard Willey

7/13 Lisa Evans

7/14 Laura Welch

7/15 Dorothy McGehean

7/15 Mollie Oliva

7/16 John Bernat

7/17 Nicholas Bryant

7/17 Shelby Knox

7/18 Deborah Moore

7/18 Mary Tuttle

7/19 Jeffrey Acor

7/20 Emily Hoffman

7/20 David Knox

7/21 Julie Heck

7/22 Allison Wesley

7/23 Larry Smucker

7/24 Matthew Collins

7/26 Eric Hines

7/29 Vanesa Vanzile

7/30 JoAn Beebe

7/30 Meredith Ducker

7/30 Jeanne Shull

7/30 Martha Willome



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 :

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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

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