



THE GOOD NEWS

Lake Gibson United Methodist Church

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



From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Jesus opened up a new reality, the Kingdom of God, with his ministry! Jesus fed the weak and hungry, healed the sick and suffering, and drove out evil and addiction. Jesus met people where they were and called them to a full, true life in him.

Yet, do you know what Jesus did before he began his ministry of healing, transformation, and growth? He fasted. Jesus set himself aside and sought God, abiding in the wilderness with the Spirit (Luke 4:1-13). To effectively display God's love and make real God's Kingdom, we too must set aside our selfishness – we must set down our need to be in control, our stubbornness, our desire to hoard and our inability to invest in others with open hands. Jesus sets the example: to change the hearts, lives, and situations of the people around us, we must first allow God to change us. We are called to seek God in selflessness and in repentance so that we might show the world what repentant love and selfless community looks like.

If we want God to act, if we want to transform lives with the good news of Jesus Christ this year and in the years to come, then let us seek our Creator and repent together during this Lenten season. Fast and repent by turning inwards daily and asking God how we prevent ourselves from pursuing ministry, or from meeting the world where they are hurting, or from investing our love and resources in the people that God calls us to empower. Because, friends, evil met Jesus in the wilderness -- evil called Jesus to just be a little selfish and take care of yourself first, just accept a little of the world's power and way of doing things, just give in and things will get better (Luke 4:2-12). If you seek God and examine out how you have failed God and how you can change to become more effective and impactful disciples of Christ, I promise you: the Accuser will tempt you to give in, to serve and focus on yourself instead.

So friends, let us fast from certainty in ourselves. Let us repent from our failures to love, serve, and speak Jesus' good news. Let us pray for God's vision and kingdom to become real right here among us! And, as we do so, be ready to stand against our desires and the Accuser's prodding to focus on ourselves before God or others.

In peace and love,

Anthony

March Events As of 2/26/2023

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)

Date Day

- | | | |
|----|-----------|--|
| 1 | Wednesday | UWF , 10:00 am-noon, FLC; Praise Band Practice , 5:30pm, S; Hope House Mobile* , 6:30pm-8:30pm, FLC; Choir Practice* , 6:30 pm, S |
| 2 | Thursday | Food Pantry , 9:30 am-11:30 am, O; Glenn Ridge Home Owner's Association Meeting , 7pm-9pm, FLC |
| 3 | Friday | Movie Night , 6:30pm-8:30pm, Lawn |
| 4 | Saturday | Hope House , 9:30am –1:00pm, FLC; |
| 5 | 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 |
| 6 | Monday | Trustees Meeting , 2pm, O; |
| 7 | Tuesday | Book Study* , 10:30 am, off campus; Pastor's Bible Study , 1pm, FLC, ZVC |
| 8 | Wednesday | A Little Bit of Heaven (ALBOH) Chapel* , 9:00 am, S; Merry Matters craft group, 10:00 am - noon, FLC Classrooms; |
| 9 | Thursday | |
| 10 | Friday | |
| 11 | Saturday | SPPR Meeting , 10:00 am; |
| 12 | Sunday | Harvest Sunday (canned and boxed foods for our food pantry) |
| 13 | Monday | |
| 14 | Tuesday | |
| 15 | Wednesday | Praise Band Practice , 5:30 pm; |
| 16 | Thursday | |
| 17 | Friday | |
| 18 | Saturday | |
| 19 | Sunday | |
| 20 | Monday | |
| 21 | Tuesday | |
| 22 | Wednesday | Rummage Sale Setup , FLC; |
| 23 | Thursday | Rummage Sale Setup , FLC; |
| 24 | Friday | Rummage Sale , FLC, 9am-3pm |
| 25 | Saturday | Rummage Sale , FLC, 9am-2pm |
| 26 | Sunday | |
| 27 | Monday | |
| 28 | Tuesday | |
| 29 | Wednesday | Praise Band Practice , 5:30pm, S |
| 30 | Thursday | |

HOPE HOUSE FUNDRAISER

March 3rd and 4th. To be held March 3rd around 6:30 pm in time for Movie on The Lawn and March 4th from noon to 6 PM. Menu includes: Pulled pork, coleslaw, and Macaroni-n-cheese. All of this for \$12.00 with the knowledge you will be helping a good cause.

Easter Egg Hunt, 1 April 2023

It's not too late. You still have time to support the community wide Spring Festival and Easter Egg Hunt. On Saturday, 1 April 2023, from 10 am – noon Lake Gibson United Methodist Church will hold an event for nursery and elementary school children. We anticipate that the Easter Bunny will be in attendance for parents to take photographs of their own children. After the outside egg hunts (nursery children in the ALBOH playground and elementary children behind the FLC), we'll offer hot dogs, chips, and beverages within the FLC in addition to games for varying ages.

We're hoping for a very large crowd. Our invitations were extended to our Cub Scout pack 711, children attending Padgett Elementary, and our neighbors. We can always use more candy. Support your diet by giving your stash of wrapped candies away. Please drop candy donations either by the office, or give them to Dwight Kitchens by the 24th of March. We have a lot of egg stuffing to accomplish the last week.

Merry Matters

This group continues to meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month in the FLC from 10:00 am -12:00. Our purpose was designed to make plarn (plastic yard) to crochet mats for the homeless. We have expanded our talents to helping the Hope House Mobile group. Geri has taken on a tremendous project supporting her group so anything we can do to help her is greatly appreciated and so very welcome. If making plarn or crocheting is not your cup of tea, perhaps you would be interested in joining us at noon on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month for an hour filling treat bags, sorting socks or any other little project Geri can find to help her out. Last Wednesday we filled plastic sandwich bags with a fork, spoon and a napkin. Not at all a hard job, but a very time consuming project for one person. Look into your heart, can you afford two hours a month to lend a helping hand to those less fortunate.

RUMMAGE SALE NEWS

The Women's Rummage sale is coming up at the end of this month. This will be our first sale using the full size of the FLC in a long time. It promises to be the biggest and best sale yet. There will be hours for workers to set up on Tuesday and Wednesday available as soon as it is determined. This year we will be unloading from the new shed located right outside the back doors of the FLC. The Salvation Army truck will be available to load any items not sold immediately after the sale ends on Saturday. In the past we have donated all items left unsold to the Viet Nam Veterans in Tampa. I would love to continue doing that, however, their schedule in this area is limited to pick up only on Tuesday or Thursday. It is labor intensive to continue using them for pickup at this time.

So mark your calendars for March 22nd and 23rd for setting up (more details to follow) and Friday the 24th 9:00 am – 3pm (workers at 8:00am) and Saturday the 25th 9:00-2:00 (workers at 8:00am) for the sale.

This is a big job with unlimited rewards. If you find yourself not wanting to miss all the fun or find yourself wanting to be included in the action, please don't hesitate to give Lynn a call (863-858-3589 or 906-360-8231). We will find you a job you can do, we really could use your help.

Friendly reminder, PLEASE do not leave any donations in the FLC. All items donated for the sale must have prior arrangements for delivery made thru the office, Tom Burns or Lynn Meske. Thank you for your cooperation.

“PENNIES FROM HEAVEN”

Are you tired of trying to get rid of that spare change? You know that stuff you accumulate in the bottom of your pocket or change purse? You collect it because you might need it to make exact change? How many times have you needed a penny or two to make exact change and all you can find is quarters or dimes? You know spare change vs exact change tends to confuse your checkout person? Well, we are very excited to announce a new program, “Pennies from Heaven”, that can help you lighten your load and pass on your blessings to others less fortunate . Bring your spare change (of course, folding money works good too) to Sunday Services beginning on March 5th. All will be revealed at that time. We are still working out some minor details as this goes to press. Thank you for your continued support in helping us help others.

Easter Lilies

Easter Lilies are available to help celebrate our Lord’s Resurrection.

You may purchase lilies “In Memory of”, “In Honor of” and/or To the Glory of our Lord.

Supplies are limited. First come, First Serve. The cost is \$10.00 per lily. Checks should be made out to:

Lake Gibson UMC. Please indicate “Lily” on your check.

Thank you for your support.

Name of Person (s) giving lilies:

Phone #: _____

Given in memory of: _____

Given in honor of: _____

To The Glory of Our Lord: _____

Amount Given: _____

Lake Gibson UMC: Check: _____ Cash: _____

COME JOIN US FOR MOVIE ON THE LAWN

Once again, in conjunction with ALBOH, the church will be having Movies on the Lawn. Come join the fun on Friday, March 3rd with your families and friends. Show starts at 6:30 pm. Being shown is Disney's Encanto. So bring your blankets or chairs.

Administrative Council Meeting - February 20, 2023

The Administrative Council held its first meeting of the year on February 20th at 10:00 AM in Classrooms 1 and 2 in the FLC. The various committee chairpersons and other leaders were present to represent their committees and gave reports of the actions taken by the committees as well as what was planned for the future. The following are some of the highlights:

Sandy Stanfield, SPPR chairperson, said that volunteers will be needed to fill in at the office while Kristie is unavailable. Also, the SPPR has interviewed a candidate for the position of youth director. An offer was made and they are now waiting for the candidate to respond

Lay Leader, Mike Stafford, distributed a list of ideas for various ministry projects/events that we might consider. He also announced that there was a court hearing scheduled this week regarding the disaffiliation lawsuit and that several members of the congregation would be attending.

Dwight Kitchens, Finance Committee chairperson, noted that we were close to meeting our annual budget last year. He indicated that because a lot of funds are tied up in several designated accounts, we need to increase the funds in our general account in order to meet the budget. Plans are being made to pass the plate during Sunday service rather than having the plates at the back of the sanctuary. Ushers are needed to accomplish this.

Bob Siegel, church treasurer, also spoke for the Trustees as Tom Burns was not available. He noted that we need volunteers to count the offering on Monday morning. It takes about an hour. He reported that The Trustees have several projects in discussion, including relocating the sound/AV booth, purchasing a second van, which would be paid for by ALBOH, paving a portion of the parking lot and repairing soffits and fascia damaged during Hurricane Ian. It was also discussed that the church needs a new refrigerator for the FLC and will need to replace the FLC air conditioner.

The United Methodist Men are currently inactive and need a volunteer to serve as president and to revitalize the group.

Sarah Schiemann spoke for ALBOH. She shared that she wanted to make it clear that ALBOH is totally self-sufficient, through tuition and grants secured by the ALBOH director. They paid for the reroofing of the building they use. They would like to expand both the preschool and afterschool programs, but need an additional van to pick up children for the after-school program. They have funds available to pay for the van.

Lynn Meske, speaking for the Outreach ministry, outlined several ideas that they are working on:

Pennies From Heaven – would ask the congregation to bring their spare change to services on Sunday to donate to a worthy cause each month. Any 5th Sunday collection would go to the UM Children's Home. Youth would circulate among the congregation and collect the money in buckets or cans.

Thinking of You Cards – need volunteers

Providing thank you cards for patients to give to their caregivers.

Witness ministries / Hope House was represented by Dick McPherson, who spoke about the number of people served by Hope House. He also announced that there would be a fund raiser for Hope House on March 3rd and 4th. The focus for the Witness ministries is going to be young families and youth.

Under New Business, a discussion was had about the need for a publicity team, which, among other things, would coordinate a church calendar and take photos at church events.

Also discussed was a proposal to hold a tent revival / renewal later in the year with food, music, messages and testimony. This will be considered further, including preparation of a possible budget.



Prayer Ministry



Lenten season we seek to share, with Jesus, his journey on the way to the cross. One way we can participate is to be steadfast in prayer as Jesus showed us his dedication to prayer, especially during this time of his life. May we use the example Jesus set for us to be our guide in prayer, during Lenten season and the rest of the year. The best connection to God is through our prayers and a gracious combination to follow God and love another. Jesus knew his journey to the cross would not be easy but through his prayers, faith, and love for us he knew it would be all worthwhile.

“Always be joyful! Keep on praying no matter what happens, always be thankful, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus”. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NLT

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you on this journey.

Prayer Ministry-Fran

Food Pantry

We are running 28 average a week in food pantry. It's great to be able to help so many people.

We could use canned great northern and black beans; and canned carrots. Soups are always a good option also. I buy these at Aldi. Also could use rice a roni or rice a pasta etc. Cash donations are always welcome and we will do the shopping for you. We still need 2 more volunteers to help out on a Thurs morning once a month. That's just one morning a month. Thank you for caring.

Visitation Volunteers needed

The Nurture committee: We are looking to make teams of 2 for visitation. Need at least 6 people to visit. You will visit in groups of 2 and visit 2 people each time. Time wise that is enough. Visiting any day of the week works as long as they know you are coming. Hopefully, I will have some small wooden crosses made from one of the pews to hand out when we visit.

Call Ann 863-450-2765 If not home leave a message please.

FUMCH Day on Campus

Once again, the Florida United Methodist Children’s Home will offer a “Day on Campus” to see what goes on at the Enterprise campus. Want to learn how the children live, are educated, and participate in spiritual growth? The rough schedule is reflected below:

- 9:00 Gates Open
- 9:30 Break-out sessions and tours begin
- 11:00 Program in the gym
- 11:30 Picnic Lunch under the Big Top and tours resume

1:30 Youth present *Wizard of Oz* in the gym

[Register now to visit on Saturday, March 25th 2023 \(www.fumch.org/rsvp\).](http://www.fumch.org/rsvp)

If you want to go as a group, contact Dwight Kitchens, (863) 984-4564 to travel either in the church van or a personal van (depending upon numbers). We anticipate departing at 7:30 am and get back about 5 pm.

Why is it important to attend church?

Why do you come to church? Do you come to church to catch up with friends that you haven't seen since last Sunday? Do you come to church expecting to be entertained by an invigorating message from the pastor? Maybe you come because you love those old classic hymns or maybe it is the more contemporary Christian music? It is important to have fellowship with your Christian brothers and sisters, but, those should not be the primary reasons that you or I should make attending church a priority. Here are some reasons that I would like to suggest as to why attending Sunday worship should be a priority in your life if you are physically able to attend.

It connects us with God. One of the wonderful benefits of attending church on a regular basis is the opportunity to connect with God. Being in the House of God immediately opens us up to God and the Holy Spirit allowing us to hear His message specifically designed for each of us individually. When we connect with God, He gives us His good gifts of forgiveness and love.

It helps us find deeper meaning in our lives. Sometimes we can find ourselves overwhelmed by the day-to-day struggles we experience in the world. But when we go to church, we are given deeper meaning and purpose to our lives. We see the promise that is in our future. The future promised by God.

We can encourage one another. In Hebrews 10:24-25, we are told that by meeting together with one another we can build up and encourage one another. This verse further states that we should not give up meeting together as some are in the habit of doing. Fellowship with one another is key to a strong spiritual life.

"For where two or more are gathered together in my name, there I am with them". Matthew 18:20. When we gather together, as the body of Christ, we can be assured that God is with us. He is speaking to us through the scriptures that are shared, the message delivered by the pastor and the music that is played. Have you ever been in a church service and thought, "That was meant specifically for me?" You were probably correct, God was talking directly to you.

In Acts 2:42, we are given the bare bones of what it means to be a church. We are to teach the Word of God, enjoy fellowship and commit ourselves to prayer. These are things that can only be achieved through communal worship.

Romans 12:4-5 expands on what it means to be the Body of Christ. In this verse, Paul points out how critical every part of the human body is for the entire body to function properly. As a member of the Body of Christ, each and every member of our church is essential for us to fulfill God's purpose to our community. Each and every person that attends Lake Gibson is here for a specific purpose. We have all been given spiritual gifts that are essential for us to fulfill God's purpose. Without you, we will be handicapped.

I hope you noticed that none of the above reasons I have suggested have anything to do with you coming to church to be entertained. We attend church because it is important for us to worship, thank and honor God. We also attend church because it is a vital practice to keep your spiritual life healthy. We attend church so that we can be recharged by the Holy Spirit to give us the strength to go back out into the world carrying God's message of love and to share the gospel with those God places in our path.

See you Sunday!!

Building the Foundation for our Church's Future

Dick McPherson

I recently read of a college class studying a period of church history in which the church behavior had not been very great. And it just so happened a lot of the class was getting kind of negative and critical about the church and the role of the church and then started arguing and they were going back and forth. The Professor was an agnostic and he didn't seem to be very interested at all in stopping the conversation until at some point a young man stood up saying, you know what, the whole world would be better off if the church just went away and it didn't exist.

And that's when this agnostic Professor did something that was shocking. He simply said to the entire class, know if the church went away in our culture it would be like turning the lights off.

Sometimes we get caught up in a lot of different things that are happening and we see the church misstep and we forget the church is here for a very specific reason and it starts with introducing to the world who Jesus is. And it was actually Jesus that one day unpackaged this idea in a way that I think has an implication for the future of the church.

Let's listen to what he said. "Let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to God who is in heaven." Matthew 5:16.

Think about this, Jesus was basically saying that day, we (you and me) have the potential to turn the lights on and there's a generation, and perhaps generations that, needs us to do that.

It is a foregone conclusion, a church without children, youth and young families has no future. Let us be intentional in the work that God has placed before us as we set out to build the foundation for God's work at Lake Gibson As I look over our campus I am reminded that our church started in a mobile home park. Land was purchased, a small building added that was expanded over time. In 1982 members were in their new Sanctuary. I remember the first time there, in 1991, and upon entering I thought "what a beautiful church." In that same year the Family Life Center opened. It's apparent that a generation of leaders understood the value of generations coming behind them. My family benefited for those efforts. Today I look and wonder where are the families this facility was built for?

Many times I have been asked why is it that we don't have what once was Lake Gibson. In a Sunday School Class 2 – 3 months ago the question was brought up and a long time member responded "back in those days we had leaders that knew what they were doing, today our leaders don't know what they are doing." Ouch, that kind of stings, no it really stings.

Now hold on, I don't want anyone to think that I'm saying we have bad leaders or anything of that nature. Perhaps we, our community and God would be better served by taking a look for what and not who. Let's look at Mat 4:19. Please read it as I'm going to paraphrase a little.

1. Jesus says come – come to be changed by Jesus. 2 Follow Jesus 3. He will make us fishermen of men. Are you being called, changed by Jesus and are we on mission? Are we using our facilities as prior generations understood and intended? Bringing younger generations to know who Jesus is? ARE WE ON MISSION.

It is my prayer that those who read these words find themselves on bended knees seeking His guidance, His wisdom and His direction for our church.

Or, we will just simply allow the lights to go off?

May the discussions begin that will be pleasing to God and beneficial to our efforts to share His love and teachings.

SPRING 2023

RUMMAGE SALE

SALE DATES:

Friday March 24th 9-3pm Saturday March 25th 9-1pm

PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE We are asking everyone to please

MAKE ARRANGMENTS FOR ALL DONATIONS TO BE DROPPED OFF.

Do not leave items in FLC or church office without contacting one of the numbers listed below.

Our facilities are being utilized by other groups who also have donations dropped off. Making prior arrangements is necessary to avoid anything getting misdirected.

PLEASE CALL

Lynn Meske 863-858-3589

Tom Burns 863-397-4254

Church office 863-858-5431

to make arrangements **BEFORE** donating. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated. Additional details will follow.

Polk County Homeless Graduating Seniors

As in years past Polk County has numerous homeless students who are graduating. The current number is 135 according to staff at Polk County School board.

Cindy Webb and I have worked on providing food bags for the students for several years with generous support from many of you at Lake Gibson United Methodist Church. It is in Cindy's honor that I, along with Lake Gibson Women of Faith, wish to continue this project this year. Instead of food items we are requesting Walmart Gift cards in increments of \$10.00 or \$20.00. The gift cards will be presented to the students at a luncheon in April.

If you wish to help, please bring gift cards or cash donations on an envelope with my name on it to the church office by the end of March or give them to me no later than Sunday, April 2nd. If you prefer to make a cash donation, I will be happy to purchase the gift cards for you. If you have any questions please call or text to 863-258-0233.

Thank you for your generous support for this great cause.

Blessings, Beverly Henrich.

MISSION MOMENTS

Estamos major si estamos juntos.



I was reading my Response Magazine, the magazine of women in mission, the other day. It is the official magazine of United Women in Faith. While scanning the book review section this phrase jumped out at me. It means we are better if we are together. I realized this is what I had been missing for some time: being together with you. Seven hours a day of rehab on my knee, not being able to drive, living in a new place – all have taken a toll on my socia life. Since most of my friends are the people of LGUMC, that means that I missed you!

Not only am I missing you, but I am late thanking you for donating sox last December. The sox boxes were filled which kept me busy bagging them, labeling them and hanging them by the Family Life Center and in the circle. I saw this idea in Response magazine a few years ago. Your response has always been great, which means that those who pick them off the line are blessed with warm feet.

I look forward to bringing out the sox boxes again next November. I am also looking forward to seeing all of you in person. Till then, may God bless you all. Linda Alvarez, Mission Coordinator



Financial Information thru January 2023

Last year our budget was set at \$295,275. This year we start with an increase of \$8,848. This change is before we finalize the hiring of a full-time youth director. Additionally, the Church Council will likely look into other one-time expenses which we may need to incur during FY2023. Some will likely be required should Lake Gibson United Methodist Church pursue disaffiliation from the denomination. Additionally, there are other actions under discussion which were not envisioned in October 2022 when the budget was initially drafted. Should these additional actions be approved, they will likely be prioritized by the Church Council for implementation.

When looking at the months of January in 2021, 2022 and 2023, it appears that we start the year off well. Later months take a significant drop in contributions. This is partially due to receiving at least one yearly tithe during the first month of the year.

Current Budget

\$304,123

Month	Actual 2020	Actual 2021	Actual 2022	3-Yr Total	3-Yr \$ Avg Monthly	3-Yr \$ Avg Cumulative	Actual 2023
January	\$19,250	\$41,469	\$45,644	\$106,363	\$35,454	\$35,454	\$45,864
February	\$26,344	\$26,633	\$26,373	\$79,350	\$26,450	\$61,904	
March	\$31,430	\$23,181	\$43,835	\$98,446	\$32,815	\$94,720	
April	\$48,131	\$24,073	\$23,275	\$95,479	\$31,826	\$126,546	
May	\$25,816	\$26,093	\$18,433	\$70,342	\$23,447	\$149,993	
June	\$25,894	\$15,866	\$18,293	\$60,053	\$20,018	\$170,011	
July	\$20,865	\$23,104	\$22,512	\$66,481	\$22,160	\$192,171	
August	\$22,494	\$20,877	\$19,894	\$63,265	\$21,088	\$213,260	
September	\$25,185	\$21,208	\$16,749	\$63,142	\$21,047	\$234,307	
October	\$20,998	\$20,238	\$19,161	\$60,397	\$20,132	\$254,439	
November	\$25,284	\$18,325	\$15,192	\$58,801	\$19,600	\$274,040	
December	\$26,088	\$25,183	\$22,293	\$73,564	\$24,521	\$298,561	
Total	\$317,779	\$286,250	\$291,654	\$895,683	\$298,561	\$298,561	\$45,864

Current Year

2023

Current Budget

\$304,123

Month	% Needed Monthly	\$ Needed Monthly	Received Monthly	% Needed Cumulative	\$ Needed Cumulative	Received Cumulative	Status Ahead or (Behind)	% Ahead or (Behind)
January	11.88%	\$36,115	\$45,864	11.88%	\$36,115	\$45,864	\$9,749	26.99%
February	8.86%	\$26,943	\$0	20.73%	\$63,058	\$45,864	(\$17,194)	
March	10.99%	\$33,427	\$0	31.73%	\$96,484	\$45,864	(\$50,620)	
April	10.66%	\$32,419	\$0	42.39%	\$128,903	\$45,864	(\$83,039)	
May	7.85%	\$23,884	\$0	50.24%	\$152,788	\$45,864	(\$106,924)	
June	6.70%	\$20,391	\$0	56.94%	\$173,178	\$45,864	(\$127,314)	
July	7.42%	\$22,573	\$0	64.37%	\$195,751	\$45,864	(\$149,887)	
August	7.06%	\$21,481	\$0	71.43%	\$217,233	\$45,864	(\$171,369)	
September	7.05%	\$21,439	\$0	78.48%	\$238,672	\$45,864	(\$192,808)	
October	6.74%	\$20,507	\$0	85.22%	\$259,179	\$45,864	(\$213,315)	
November	6.56%	\$19,965	\$0	91.79%	\$279,145	\$45,864	(\$233,281)	
December	8.21%	\$24,978	\$0	100.00%	\$304,123	\$45,864	(\$258,259)	
Totals		\$304,123						

LGUMC has a number of reserved funds which are not found within our yearly operational budget. Contributions have been made to these "designated accounts" for a specific purpose. We also have reserved funds which came from our former endowment accounts. Examples are that we have \$17,096 in our Youth Operation Account from 2017 and \$65,558 from our former Youth/Child endowment. Once these funds are expended, our budget would need to be increased to continue these programs.

I encourage you to look now at how you support the continued operation of our church. If you do not tithe, consider that the church, like individuals, incurs increasing costs to keep our doors open. This past year, many of us received an eight point seven percent increase in Social Security payments. Hopefully, you found it in your heart to share this in helping to continue the mission of our church.

Dwight Kitchens

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, Stacie Sullivan and Bailey Taylor, Audio/Visual Team

United Women In Faith



Do you know the Holy Spirit? If not why don't you join us for circle meeting March 1, 2023, in the FLC at 10:00AM in rooms 1 & 2.

We are studying Max Lucado's book, *Help Is Here*, chapter 3, *Raise Your Sail*. It has been a great study so far, with Pastor Anthony visiting last month and answering our questions on the Holy Spirit and giving us some interesting questions to answer about the Holy Spirit.

We had a wonderful celebration for Ruth Zona after our meeting last month. Sadly it was to say goodbye to her and to celebrate her dedication to the organization for over 20 years. Ruth and Henry are safely in Birmingham, AL starting their new life in a new home. We will be praying for them and know that God will bless them and their new adventure. They both will be sorely missed!!!!





Birthdays in March

<u>Date</u>	<u>Names</u>
3/1	Bob Willome
3/2	Leon Rumohr
3/3	Jim Huven
3/4	Anne Bernat
3/7	Dick Shepherd
3/8	Lilia Harbaugh
3/9	Lynda Laman
3/10	Ann Johnson
3/12	Sharon Shepherd
3/13	Frankie Hooks
3/13	Dwight Kitchens
3/19	Wanda Lammey
3/20	Debbie McPherson
3/30	Shari Sarles
3/31	Sue Bodemer



Anniversaries in March

<u>Date</u>	<u>Names</u>
3/11	Eric & Beverly Hines