



# THE GOOD NEWS

## Lake Gibson United Methodist Church

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



### *From the Pastor*

Hello Lake Gibson friends,

Although many members already know my wife, Sue and me, I'll take this opportunity to introduce myself and my wife. We have been attending Lake Gibson Methodist for the past five years. Sue is a member. Being a member of the Florida Conference, precludes me from membership in a local congregation.

I was born in Indiana. My family moved to Lakeland in 1951. I attended Polk county schools, graduating from Kathleen High School. I am a graduate of Florida Southern College with a BA degree in History and Religion. I received my Master of Divinity degree from The Methodist Theological School in Ohio.

I have served churches in Ohio, North Carolina and Florida. Also, I was Chaplain of Florida Southern College and taught Old and New Testament. I also taught Old and New Testament at what is now Gateway College in Lake City, FL. I was briefly the Director of Admissions at my seminary in Ohio.

During my ministry of 43 years, I also served as a chaplain with Civil Air Patrol/United States Air Force Auxiliary.

Sue is a PK (Preacher's Kid). She was born on moving day. Her father was a Methodist pastor in the East Ohio Conference and later the Florida Conference. She graduated from Florida Southern College with a BA in Christian Education.

Sue and I met at Florida Southern. We were married in Annie Pfeiffer Chapel in 1971. We are blessed with two sons, Rob and Josh. Rob is a vice president with large AG firm in south Florida. Josh works for the Price, Waterhouse, and Cooper firm. We have four grandchildren: Joshua 18; Hannah 16; Johnny 7; and Kate 6.

Having retired for the second time in 2015, I wasn't expecting to get recalled to the pastorate. But, the times in which we are living are exceptional to say the least. I gladly said "yes". It would appear that God isn't finished with me, yet. And, God is certainly not finished with this congregation.

Although I hate see Anthony go to the cold north, I know he and Emile will love the College Chaplaincy. My prayers go with them, both.

In the near future I look forward to serving with all of you in a faithful ministry as disciples of Christ.

Sincerely,

Rob Atchley

Let us: "Make of all, disciples"



United Way of Central Florida

*Mentor to Make a Difference!*

## Become a ReadingPal today!

Research shows that reading with children significantly increases success in school and life.

# OVER 50%

of children entering kindergarten in Polk County are not fully prepared for school.

ReadingPals volunteers read with kindergarten children in Polk County Public Schools for one hour, one day a week (or more) using a program designed to enhance literacy skills that kindergarteners need to master.



## July Events As of 6/30/2023

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

Saturday

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    | ALBOH Summer Camp*, Trustees 2pm FLC,                                      |
| 4  | Tuesday   | 4th of July, Staff Meeting 11:00am O; Wedding                              |
| 5  | Wednesday | 9:00am Chapel Pre School*, 6:30 pm Choir Practice* (S:), Hope House Mobile |
| 6  | Thursday  | Food Pantry*, 9:30 am-11:30 am   |
| 7  | Friday    |  |
| 8  | Saturday  | Hope House, FLC  |
| 9  | Sunday    | Harvest Sunday (canned and boxed foods for our food pantry).               |
| 10 | Monday    |  |
| 11 | Tuesday   | ALBOH Summer Camp 10-2, FLC Classrooms 1&2                                 |
| 12 | Wednesday | Merry Matters 10:00—12:00 FLC  |
| 13 | Thursday  |  |
| 14 | Friday    |  |
| 15 | Saturday  | SPPR Meeting 10am, FLC; Hope House   |
| 16 | Sunday    | *  |
| 17 | Monday    | ALBOH Summer Camp, Admin Meeting 1PM1pm @ Olive Tree, Praise Team 6:30     |
| 18 | Tuesday   | *, Staff Meeting 12:30pm, Zoom Bible Study 1PM                             |
| 19 | Wednesday | *, Chapel Pre School 9am, Choir practice 6:30 pm                           |
| 20 | Thursday  | *, Praise Team Practice 6:30 pm  |
| 21 | Friday    | *  |
| 22 | Saturday  | Hope House   |
| 23 | Sunday    | *  |
| 24 | Monday    | *, 7 pm Worship  |
| 25 | Tuesday   | *, Zoom Bible Study 1 pm   |
| 26 | Wednesday | Merry Matters 10:00am– 12:00pm, Chapel Pre School, Choir Practice 6:30     |
| 27 | Thursday  | ALBOH Summer Camp  |
| 28 | Friday    | ALBOH Summer Camp  |
| 29 | Saturday  | Youth End of Summer Party, FLC   |
| 30 | Sunday    | *  |
| 31 | Monday    | ALBOH Summer Camp, Praise Team Practice 6:30                               |

Technical difficulties with calendar, my apologies.

### **MISSING LIBRARY BOOK**

We have discovered a missing volume in the library while doing inventory. We are looking for Volume III of The Bible on cassette. If found, please return to the library.

Thank you.

### **MERRY MATTERS NEEDS ASSISTANCE**

**Merry Matters is in need of people (women or man) to help Crochet mats for our homeless population. Join us on Wednesday Mornings (the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of a month). If you can't join Us take some balls of plastic and work from home.**

### **UW of Faith Circle Meeting**

**Due to accidents, illnesses, and ladies going on vacation, the July 5th meeting of UW of Faith has been cancelled.**

**The next meeting will be August 2nd in the FLC classrooms.**

### **MISSION STUDY FOR UW OF FAITH**

**Four books have been ordered that should be read before the August 19th planning meeting. If anyone is interested in attending this planning meeting please let Phyllis Kitchens know so she can order a book for you.**

**The book being studied at the September 23rd Mission Study will be:**

**Living The Kin-dom, Exploring The Lord's Prayer as a Spiritual Practice for Social Transformation.**

**We will be hosting this event and look forward to an in-depth study and conversation with many other United Women of Faith.**



## Prayer Ministry-July 2023”



**“Your prayers and your compassionate acts are like a memorial offering to God.”  
Acts 10:4 CEB**

God honors and blesses those who help those in need.

“Since God chose you to be the holy people whom he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.” Colossians 4: 12 NLT

We must forgive others; as Christ has forgiven us. We must love one another; love binds us together. Let peace come into your heart and always be thankful. “The eyes of the Lord

watch over those who do right, and His ears are open to their prayers.” 1 Peter 3:12

May the grace of God be with you.

We currently have 70 long-term prayer requests on the Prayer Journal, 9 in other living facilities other than their own homes, 9 in the U.S. Service and many other needs to pray over within our church. We also average 40 prayer needs on our non-long-term prayer list that extends for a month.

Lake Gibson is very blessed to have Prayer Warriors who are dedicated to praying for others. If you would like to become a prayer warrior, please contact the church office or Fran. The purpose of being a prayer warrior is simply receiving an occasional email and a monthly prayer journal to partnership with other prayer warriors in praying for others. Have a blessed summer and if you are traveling, stay safe. Prayers and God’s blessings.

Prayer Ministry-Fran

### **FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

Pantry needs rice a roni varieties, dry pasta noodles, canned beans, jelly and soup. The beans and soup I get at Aldi. Thank you for all your donations.

### **NURTURE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

The Nurture committee needs volunteers for visiting members in the hospital and shut ins (home bound, sick at home, nursing homes, assisted living). We need to step up as a Church and visit those needing caring attention. It only takes once a month or once a week if you wish to visit more often. Please volunteer to help. Call Ann Johnson 863-450-2765

## July 2023 Newsletter input:

### Financial Update

Well, our financial records from the end of May are now available for publication. The first chart reflects that we are below where we would have anticipated we would be at this point in the year (\$149,993 anticipated average vs \$122,961 actual). The second chart reflects that we are 21.83% behind where we had anticipated.

Thanks to Pastor Rob, we should make up some of this shortage during the second half of the year. But, as you may have seen from congregational attendance, our numbers appear to be dwindling. We, collectively, need to address changes in programs to entice additional attendees. The Church Council desires to build a family which can bring members of our communities into our fold. Your thoughts on how we might succeed in this endeavor are always welcome.

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	\$11,416
March	\$31,430	\$23,181	\$43,835	\$98,446	\$32,815	\$94,720	\$22,184
April	\$48,131	\$24,073	\$23,275	\$95,479	\$31,826	\$126,546	\$22,778
May	\$25,816	\$26,093	\$18,433	\$70,342	\$23,447	\$149,993	\$20,719
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	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$317,779</b>	<b>\$286,250</b>	<b>\$291,654</b>	<b>\$895,683</b>	<b>\$298,561</b>	<b>\$298,561</b>	<b>\$122,961</b>

### Current Budget \$313,092

Month	% Needed Monthly	\$ Needed Monthly	Received Monthly	% Needed Cumulative	\$ Needed Cumulative	Received Cumulative	Status Ahead or (Behind)	% Ahead or (Behind)
January	11.88%	\$37,180	\$45,864	11.88%	\$37,180	\$45,864	\$8,684	23.36%
February	8.86%	\$27,737	\$11,416	20.73%	\$64,917	\$57,280	(\$7,637)	-11.76%
March	10.99%	\$34,412	\$22,184	31.73%	\$99,330	\$79,464	(\$19,866)	-20.00%
April	10.66%	\$33,375	\$22,778	42.39%	\$132,705	\$102,242	(\$30,463)	-22.96%
May	7.85%	\$24,589	\$20,719	50.24%	\$157,294	\$122,961	(\$34,333)	-21.83%
June	6.70%	\$20,992	\$0	56.94%	\$178,285	\$122,961	(\$55,324)	
July	7.42%	\$23,239	\$0	64.37%	\$201,524	\$122,961	(\$78,563)	
August	7.06%	\$22,115	\$0	71.43%	\$223,639	\$122,961	(\$100,678)	
September	7.05%	\$22,072	\$0	78.48%	\$245,711	\$122,961	(\$122,750)	
October	6.74%	\$21,112	\$0	85.22%	\$266,823	\$122,961	(\$143,862)	
November	6.56%	\$20,554	\$0	91.79%	\$287,377	\$122,961	(\$164,416)	
December	8.21%	\$25,715	\$0	100.00%	\$313,092	\$122,961	(\$190,131)	

Totals \$313,092

Thanks to all who have been supporting the Florida United Methodist Children's Home (FUMCH) bicycle repair program. On the 31<sup>st</sup> of May we delivered a dozen repaired bicycles to the facility. We also checked out a pile of broken bicycles which might be repairable. After putting nine in the church's trailer to bring home, we found that five of the dozen just delivered had already been picked up by a group of children who were seen riding around the campus. Of the nine brought home, seven were actually repairable and have now been fixed and are ready for the return trip to FUMCH.

Your support makes this ministry possible. Again, may God Bless each of you for your kindness.



(

**For those people (not necessarily just ladies) who feel bored or restless, you would be more than welcomed to join us in the FLC library. We are attempting to finish the inventory of the books on the shelves. We meet informally (usually on a Thursday) for about two hours. Please feel free to contact Barb Allen-Coil if interested. All that is needed is to sit at a table and record the name of a book and the author. The lists will be put on a spreadsheet at a later date and placed in a log book.**

### **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

### **Contact Information**

**Pastor Rob Atchley**, 863-858-5431; fax 863-853-1625; pastor@lakegibsonumc.com

**Kristie Otte**, Administrative Secretary, 863-858-5431, office@lakegibsonumc.com

**Sue Heishman**, Bookkeeper

**Office Hours: 8:00 am to 1:00 pm, Monday thru Thursday**

**Glenda Grant Hess**, Music/Worship Director

**Justin Bennett**, Director of Youth and Children's Ministries

**Leon Rumohr**, Custodian

**Barbara Allen-Coil** Newsletter Editor, ballencoil@gmail.com

**Latisha Cook**, Director of A Little Bit of Heaven Child Enrichment Center, 863-858-8400.

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





## Birthdays in July

<u>Date</u>	<u>Names</u>
7/1	Adam Schertzer
7/04	Gary Mudge
7/05	Dick McPherson
7/08	Mary Armentrout
7/11	Jeff Acor
7/11	Dennis Greenwood
7/15	Mollie Oliva
7/16	John Bernat
7/18	Deborah Moore
7/23	Larry Smucker
7/24	Matthew Collins
7/24	Raymond Merritt
7/26	Eric Hines
7/30	JoAnn Beebe
7/30	Ed Haney
7/30	Lynn Meske
7/30	Martina Willome



## Anniversaries in July

<u>Date</u>	<u>Names</u>
7/10	Matthew & Jamie Collins
7/11	Dennis & Merry Greenwood
7/30	Gary & Fran Mudge