



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,

When we speak of the need for revival and reformation (as we often do), we tend to picture others who need to be changed and transformed so that the Kingdom of God can flourish....rarely do we imagine our need to be changed, or consider our need for revival, renewal, and transformed life! Revival isn't about forcing the world or the church to change. No, revival begins in our own hearts. Revival begins with the fire of God's Spirit!

Acts 4:23-35 paints us a picture of where revival begins, and what spirit-driven revival brings. Revival is **rooted in fervent and faithful prayer** (here, the prayer of the entire community!) and in **a willingness to step where God leads**, loyally proclaiming and living out the truth of Jesus Christ. The early church prayed to God as their Creator and King (v. 24), submitting themselves wholly to God's will and call. In fact, they prayed not that God would rescue them from the world, fix their problems, or make their lives easier – no, they prayed that God would empower them to proclaim his good news of recreation boldly, in all places and at all times, and that God would work in and through them so that they might **live out this gospel by healing and serving others!** They literally prayed that they might **be the hands of God healing the broken, sick, and downtrodden in the world!** They prayed to be extensions of God's work, mission, and message of salvation:

²⁹ "And now, Lord, look at their threats, and grant to your servants to speak your word with all boldness, ³⁰ while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus." ³¹ When they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness.

The early Church's earnest prayer for God to work through them and empower them to be his hands and feet in the world – it resulted in God's Spirit being poured out upon them! So, my friends, as you move forward together, I urge you to pray earnestly, serve selflessly, and proclaim the good news of Jesus' transformative life and love to the families around you!

Peace and grace,

Pastor Anthony

June Events As of 5/30/2023

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

1	Thursday	
2	Friday	
3	Saturday	
4	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
5	Monday	Trustees Meeting , 2pm, O;
6	Tuesday	Pastor's Bible Study* , 1pm, FLC, ZVC Glenridge HOA meeting 6:30pm-9pm, FLC 1&2
7	Wednesday	A Little Bit of Heaven (ALBOH) Chapel* , 9:00 am, S; UWF , 10:00 am-noon, FLC; Hope House Mobile* , 6:30pm-8:30pm, FLC; Choir Practice* , 6:30 pm, S
8	Thursday	Food Pantry , 9:30 am-11:30 am,
9	Friday	
10	Saturday	Hope House* , 9:30am –1:00pm, FLC; SPPR 10am, Admin Conference room; Glenridge HOA meeting , 9am-11am, FLC 1&2
11	Sunday	Harvest Sunday (canned and boxed foods for our food pantry)
12	Monday	Finance Committee , 1pm, FLC 1&2
13	Tuesday	
14	Wednesday	Merry Matters craft group , 10:00 am-noon, FLC Classrooms;
15	Thursday	ALBOH Board Meeting , 2pm, FLC
16	Friday	
17	Saturday	SPPR Meeting 10am, FLC; Emmaus Group , 3pm-8pm, FLC
18	Sunday	Pastor Anthony Farewell Luncheon
19	Monday	Admin Council Meeting 1pm
20	Tuesday	
21	Wednesday	
22	Thursday	ALBOH Employee Continuing Education , 6pm-9pm, FLC 1&2
23	Friday	
24	Saturday	Nerf Night in FLC
25	Sunday	
26	Monday	
27	Tuesday	
28	Wednesday	Merry Matters craft group, 10:00 am-noon, FLC Classrooms;
29	Thursday	
30	Friday	

THANK YOU TRUSTEES

A big thank you to the trustees in their efforts to get our parking lot paved. It was wonderful to not have to dodge those potholes.

SAVE OUR REFRIGERATORS!

Tom Burns is requesting that the doors to the kitchen area in the FLC be kept closed. The air conditioning stays on to provide the cooling needed by the refrigerators to operate properly. Those refrigerators are expensive to repair and/or replace. So, if possible, if you see the doors open and no one in the kitchen, shut them. Thank you.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Hello LGUMC! We are excited to announce the formation of the REMADE youth ministry! We are very excited to relaunch the youth ministry here and are very hopeful for the future! We have had our first meeting, and while it is starting very small, we are optimistic about the growth that we will see going forward. We will meet this week and next, finishing out the school year, and begin to meet weekly again in the third week of August, when school starts back up. I will be hard at work getting the youth space ready for our use during the month of June, and, on Saturday, June 24 we are having a Nerf Night here in the FLC. On Saturday, July 8, we will be having a day to further clean out and organize the youth closet downstairs, so we can better determine what we have available for future use, and better organize it overall. On Saturday July 29, we will be having an End of Summer game night, with lots of summer fun. We do have a number of fun events planned for next school year as well, including a Disney Springs trip, a Halloween party, a Christmas party, and hopefully a trip to Universal Studios for Rock the Universe. Thank you all for your support of our growing REMADE youth ministry as we continue to reach young people for Christ.

Justin Bennett

FAREWELL POTLUCK

June 18th will be the last Sunday we will have to hear words of wisdom from Pastor Anthony. We will then gather for a farewell potluck and to give hugs and best wishes to Pastor and Emile as they head out to their next adventure.

Bring your favorite casserole, salad, side or dessert to share with all. A basket will be available to collect your cards and best wishes for the Purcells.

LOVE BREAD & DESSERTS?

Help share those yummy carbs with those at the Food Pantry on Thursday and make them available to all on Sunday morning. But that doesn't happen without the assistance of volunteers.

Bread is picked up at Publix on Marcum Rd & 98 at various times. For the Food Pantry, it can be picked up at 9:45 PM on Wednesday night or at 6:45-7:00 AM on Thursday morning. For Sunday, pick up is Saturday night at 9:45 PM. Bread is brought back to the church and prices and bar codes are marked out.... And the job is done!

This is a fun project for either couples or friends to do. The more volunteers we have, the less frequently you are needed to assist. Please think prayerfully about ways you can serve in our church.

To sign up, contact Kristie at the church office (863-858-5431) or Sandy Stanfield (863-660-3320).

COLORFUL BAGS NEEDED!

Thanks to everyone for the supply of Publix and Wal-Mart plastic bags that Merry Matters uses to make ground mats for the homeless. We have a huge supply, so these are no longer needed. BUT we DO need yellow, blue, green, white and red bags to brighten up the mats. So please save your bright bags – and any your neighbors have too!

We still need people to crochet, knit or weave the mats. Not your skill? There's something for everyone to do, even if it's just to enjoy the companionship. Join us in the FLC every 2nd and 4th Wednesday from 10 – 12 noon. Bring your friends and neighbors to enjoy the fun while they learn a new skill.



Prayer Ministry-June 2023”



“Look straight ahead and fix your eyes on what lies before you. Mark out a straight path for your feet; then stick to the path and stay safe, don’t get sidetracked, keep your feet from following evil.” Proverbs 4:26-27 NLT 1996

If walking on a nature trail and we don’t keep our eyes on the path ahead we may quickly learn it may be uneven territory; causing a fall and serious injury to our body. The scripture in Proverbs is pretty much telling us the same; except we walk a straight and narrow path with Jesus leading us and He is to remain our leader throughout life here on earth to save our souls from destruction.

Jesus speaks of mistakes and our seeking honest forgiveness by His hard truths but also giving his grace and mercy to us to keep us balanced and in line.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will direct your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6

Always keep your eyes on Jesus and follow Jesus’s path.
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

EDITOR’S NOTE

**Please bear with me while I figure out how to use this format. Mistakes will probably be made, so keep a sense of humor while reading this version. Thank you,
Barb Allen-Coil, editor**

June 2023 Financial Report:

Last month our budget was anticipated to need \$313,092 for yearly operations. Over the next few months you will see a difference in this amount as we rework the budget. A number of changes have occurred to impact our financial situation.

First, Pastor Rob Atchley has been appointed to LGUMC starting with his first sermon on 25 June. He has chosen to serve a half-time appointment, with a reduced salary, until we resolve our denominational issues. LGUMC will save financially during the remainder of this year as he is not requesting either a housing stipend or health insurance stipend, and a retirement contribution is not required. Total savings are anticipated to be \$34,517.

Our hiring last month of Justin Bennett as our Youth/Children's Director comes with three significant impacts. First, his salary is being covered by our former Youth/Children's Endowment. Sufficient funds are being transferred from this reserved account into our budget (\$20,550). Second, there necessitates an amount for initial operations of the program. We are transferring an initial \$4,000 for the balance of this year from our Youth/Children's Operations Account reserved funds. Third, as mentioned last month, we are moving our church office into the sanctuary and re-establishing the current office into housing. This necessitates an anticipated expenditure of \$10,500 from your general checking account, but saves us a yearly housing stipend.

Since last summer we have had an Assistant Worship Leader in our employ. We realized that Katrina Schell could have been paid from funds set aside within our former Scholarship Endowment fund. Therefore, the Finance Committee has voted to recover this cost by transferring the amount of her salary (\$7,735 from October 2022 thru April 2023) from the Scholarship reserved account into the general checking account.

As mentioned last month, we have proceeded with the paving of the primary parking lot and driveway into the church. This expenditure of \$27,400 is being paid for with three reserved accounts and the general checking account: \$10,100 is being covered by our recent Parking Lot Paving reserved account. \$5,309 is being covered by our Undesignated Memorial reserved account. \$1,495 is being covered by our Capital Improvement reserved account. The remaining \$10,496 will come from our general checking account.

After all of these transactions, our yearly budget should be reduced by approximately \$3,000. Unfortunately, current requirements have significantly lowered our general checking account. You will note that the savings we garner from Pastor Rob's generous actions don't significantly affect our checking account until the end of this year.

In looking at the two charts below, the second chart reflects that contributions are 22% below where we would hope to be at this point in the year. Each month this number is growing. Not a good trend.

Last month the Finance Committee requested that we send a letter to our members. The letter basically stated that it was better to give to our general operating budget rather than to reserved accounts. Many of those accounts, such as the Insurance Reserve Account, Air Conditioner Account and Parking Lot Paving Account continue to vie for dollars which are basically needed to keep paying our other bills. Thus far, four families have given us permission to move remaining monies from reserved accounts

(continued on next page)

into the general checking account. If you are currently contributing any reserved accounts, I encourage you to give those funds to the general operating account instead. If you previously gave to reserved accounts in either last year (2022) or this year (2023) and would permit us to recover those funds, send either an email (office@lakegibsonumc.com) or letter (LGUMC, 424 W. Daughtery Road, Lakeland, FL 33809) giving us permission to transfer unspent reserved account funds back into the general operating account.

Annual Budget Monthly thru April Data Entry

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	
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	\$102,242

Annual Budget Monthly thru April Monthly Results

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	\$0	50.24%	\$157,294	\$102,242	(\$55,052)	
June	6.70%	\$20,992	\$0	56.94%	\$178,285	\$102,242	(\$76,043)	
July	7.42%	\$23,239	\$0	64.37%	\$201,524	\$102,242	(\$99,282)	
August	7.06%	\$22,115	\$0	71.43%	\$223,639	\$102,242	(\$121,397)	
September	7.05%	\$22,072	\$0	78.48%	\$245,711	\$102,242	(\$143,469)	
October	6.74%	\$21,112	\$0	85.22%	\$266,823	\$102,242	(\$164,581)	
November	6.56%	\$20,554	\$0	91.79%	\$287,377	\$102,242	(\$185,135)	
December	8.21%	\$25,715	\$0	100.00%	\$313,092	\$102,242	(\$210,850)	

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Instructions | Monthly Data Entry | **Monthly Results** | +

Should you have questions, don't hesitate to call me at 863-984-4564. I'll be happy to discuss any of these issues with you.

Submitted by Dwight Kitchens, Finance Chairman 2023

WOMEN IN FAITH

Attention ladies! We would like to invite you to our next circle meeting June 7th, 2023 at 10am in the FLC. We are very excited to have two speakers from Noah's Landing, Christina A. Hall and CauneY Bamberg.

This is a mission we have donated to in past years and we want to update you on it's growth and accomplishments. So please come and enjoy the meeting. If time allows, we will discuss Chapter 5 in Help Is Here by Max Lucado. Come prepared to go out and enjoy lunch with your Christian friends. See you on the 7th!

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 Anthony Purcell, 863-858-5431; fax 863-853-1625; pastor@lakegibsonumc.com
Pastor Rob Atchley, 863-858-5431; fax 863-853-1625; pastor@lakegibsonumc.com (July 1st)

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

Hope House Happenings

On April 20, 2022, the original Hope House located on Hwy 98N closed. However, volunteers were committed to keeping the mission of Hope House alive. We became Hope House Mobile (HHM). For a time, HHM "squatted" in the parking lots of empty businesses which was not an ideal situation. God intervened.

Two blessings occurred:

- 1) One of our volunteers, Laura, found Hunt Fountain Park. This gave us the ability to serve in a stable outside location.
- 2) The Lake Gibson United Methodist family opened their doors for our HHM guests. Twice a week, folks are able to:
Be in an air -conditioned building.
Enjoy a hot meal.
Take a shower (a true blessing).
Choose clean clothes.
Pick up necessities, such as blankets, towels, and hygiene products.

Over the last year, the LGUMC family and other supporters have blessed HHM with clothing and food donations, with meals, and by volunteering. We are incredibly grateful.

It is an ongoing ministry, so our needs are ongoing as well. The largest need is for volunteers.

The Merry Matters stay for about an hour to create hygiene bags and sort clothing.

HHM was blessed with 5 ladies who volunteer on Wednesday nights.

Ms Cindy from LGUMC has recently been volunteering on Saturdays.

HHM needs volunteers on Saturdays from 9am to 1:30pm. If people could commit to a volunteer day once a month, this would be a tremendous blessing.

HHM would welcome volunteers to help with sorting clothing and food donations. With cooking. With collecting needed items. With sharing our needs with your friends, community, or group.

Thank you for all you do!

Hope House Mobile/ Geraldine Mayo

@Hunt Fountain Park pavilion
7036 Green Rd, Lakeland, FL 33810
Mondays & Wednesdays
11:30 am to 1pm

Lake Gibson United Methodist Church
Wednesday nights: 6:30 to 8:30pm

YOUTH WISH LIST (sent by office – no name attached)

Love seats
Bean bag chairs
Tv stand
Flat screen tv
Blu-ray player
Family board/party games
Monetary donations in any amount



Birthdays in April

<u>Date</u>	<u>Names</u>
6/1	Tom Burns
6/1	Dick Lammey
6/1	Pat Moon
6/3	Lorraine Grimsby
6/7	Shirley Addems
6/7	Pat Gilmore
6/11	Tom Fischer
6/18	James Miller
6/19	Joshua Byroads
6/20	Cynthia Graham
6/21	Megyn Miller
6/24	Meghan Maxon
6/30	Barbara Gunter



Anniversaries in April

<u>Date</u>	<u>Names</u>
6/9	Mike & Sharon Moake
6/17	Bob & Lisa Evans
6/24	Dave & Maureen Meyer
6/26	Tom & Betty Fischer