

A Letter from the Pastor...

Spring Time, Growing in Christ-likeness



How does a person start the process of growing in Christlikeness? It begins in sharing and receiving the gospel. In my experience sometimes a single conversation starter is a cry from someone that wants to know more about Christ. Taking the time to listen and engage in relationship is a way of working with the Holy Spirit on what is happening in this person's life. When an individual becomes somewhat comfortable in a relationship, questions will arise. My first commitment is to listen, ask questions to make sure I am not misinterpreting, and genuinely care for this individual. If and when I am asked questions about my life, the best answer is to share my own story. Since God's grace is working in this individual there is no need for me to persuade, convince, or convert. That is the job of the Holy Spirit. My job is to share my story with that individual. At that point, it may be that this individual will desire to come to Christ. Through prayer I can then lead this person to acknowledge repentance of sins and a desire to come to Christ.

This is only the beginning. God desires so much more for all of us. My job is to continue to deepen my relationship with this person. People are looking for community and God reveals His plan through community. It is in community where this individual's faith will grow. It is in community that this individual will become a disciple of Christ. Jesus called the twelve - He lived, walked, and taught these twelve so they could be the agents through which the gospel would be spread. Eventually, He commissioned them, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20, NRSV)

As you look around at the signs of Spring in the air, let me ask you a question? Are you making new friends? Are you seeking to connect with someone? The Holy Spirit often guides us in relationship so we can witness to one another and be a help to one another. Go then and make disciples. Go and share your faith! Happy Easter!



SUNDAY SCHOOL ON SATURDAY!

"The Wired Word"

Every Saturday 3:45 PM to 4:45 PM

This class provides the opportunity for discussion of current world events and how we, as Christians can relate issues to scriptural teachings. All materials are provided.

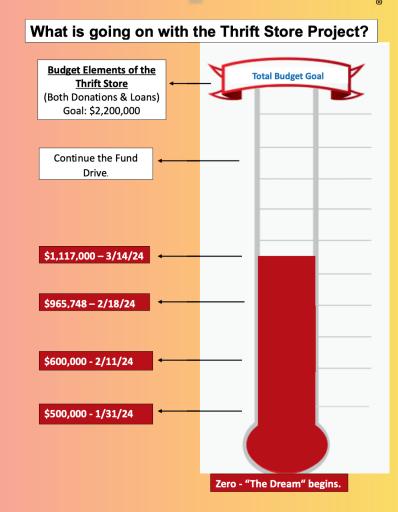
Contact Liz Schweers at 850-247-9489 with any questions.

Missions & Outreach

Invest in the Future Update... God is truly blessing us as our members and friends are investing in our Coleman Oaks Thrift Store & Coffee Shop. But we need EVERYONE to help make this outreach a reality. It is a "win-win" for you and for Lake Deaton. You invest and get your investment plus interest and save tens of thousands of dollars for LD in interest over the years. You help create a legacy helping Lake Deaton extend our mission and ministry locally, regionally, and around the world through the proceeds of Coleman Oaks. Mission and outreach programs like...







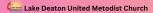
If you haven't received an "investment" packet or heard one of the presentations, contact Jonathan Baker at: jonathanbaker@lakedeatonumc.com. You can also scan or click on the QR code to the right for a video presentation.



Land Dedication and Ground Breaking Celebration

"Second Chance Savings"

Join Us!





When? Sunday, April 7 at 4:30 PM

Where? Land purchased for Coleman Oaks. (see directions below).

celebrate Lake Deaton's outreach ministry as we dedicate the land amazing blessings await through where Coleman Oaks Thrift Shop & Coffee Shop.

Thanks to Coleman United Methodist Church for hosting a reception following the Land Dedication/Ground-breaking ceremony at: 1102 E Warm Springs Ave, Coleman, Florida 33521.

Directions to Coleman Oaks Thrift Store and Coffee Shop:

Our lot does not have an address so, if using a GPS, input 114 S. Commercial St., Coleman, Florida 33521, which is the location of Debbie's Hair Salon. If coming from Wildwood or Warm Springs Ave, continue south and the lot is on your right and will be well designated.

Look for this sign!!

Parking will be off-street.





Missions & Outreach (continued)

ANGOLA **JULY 12-26**

Join the Angola, Africa 2024 mission team and serve at the Quéssua Methodist Mission showing God's love in a variety of ways, from medical work to theological education, evangelism, ministry with youth and women, VBS, malaria control. minor construction projects, etc. The trip dates are July 12-26 with an optional South African safari July 26-28. Click HERE for Introduction video. Contact Giselle Lawn with interest. questions comments or at <u>gisellelawn@gmail.com</u>.



From the Lake Deaton Florida Children's Home

In Recognition and Appreciation this certificate is presented to Lake Deaton United Methodist Church in sincere appreciation for meeting your goal of total giving in 2023 \$19,374.50.



CELEBRATION DINNERS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10 AT 4:45 PM

Join us for a celebration dinner representing "The Coleman Oaks Thrift Store and Coffee Shop." Cost for dinner is \$10. (\$15 after deadline.) Click HERE.

Wednesday, May 8 at 4:45 PM

Pastor Jim Divine will talk about his upcoming sabbatical and what he will be doing. Cost for dinner is \$10 (\$15 after deadline.) Click HERE.

Wednesday, May 15 at 4:45 PM

Join us for "Juke Box" Bingo Game Night. Cost for dinner is \$10 (\$15 after deadline.) Click HERE.

Hi Lake Deaton Emmaus folks,

I want to give you a little update as we approach the Spring Emmaus Walks. We have a few people thinking about being pilgrims and one man slated to attend. Please let me know if you think of anyone else who may want to attend the Walks or if you are interested in being a sponsor.

Men's Walk April 4-7 Women's Walk April 11-14

If you would like to help out with the above walks in any way, please contact the appropriate people on the website. I'm sure they will appreciate it! www.aldersgateemmaus.org.

Our next Emmaus Gathering will be sometime this summer, so keep a look-out for more details. Continue being Christ's hands and feet in the world! May God bless you all!

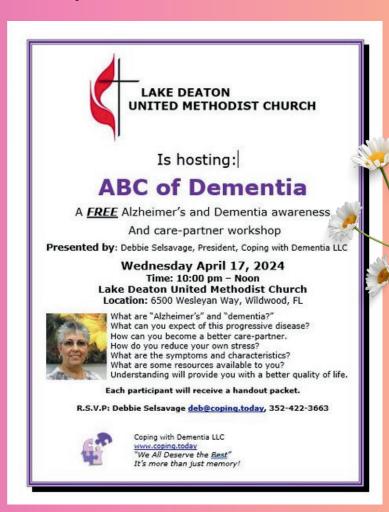
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April's Moment for Mission

Sonrise Respite is three years old and celebrated its birthday on March 4 with balloons, party hats (decorated by the participants), music, games and birthday cupcakes (also decorated....and eaten....by the participants and volunteers)! Sonrise meets every Monday at LDUMC from 10 AM - 2 PM, and a hot lunch prepared by Chef Leo and his team is served each week. In the past three years we have served over 50 participants who are living with dementia, and we continue to maintain a waiting list of 16 people hoping to join Sonrise soon. We have a dedicated team of 43 volunteers who donate an estimate total of 3,828 volunteer hours per year. These volunteers have received special training and share their love and their talents with our Sonrise family each and every week. What a blessing to have the opportunity to serve in this special way. If you are interested in learning more about the program and perhaps joining the Sonrise team, please contact Jan McCoy, Director at 321-501-6673 or janrn@cfl.rr.com for more information.





UPCOMING EVENTS!

Card Making Class - April 3

Join us the first Wednesday of each month from Noon to 3 PM in Classroom 4 in making Cards for our Care Ministry to send to those in need of sympathy, prayer or pick me up. Bring adhesive, scissors or any cardmaking supplies you may have. For more information or to sign up contact Teresa at tnburgess@comcast.net.

Free 8-Week Line Dancing Class for Beginners Join us every Thursday starting April 4 through May 23 from 1:30 to 2:30 PM. Come learn Line Dancing with Karen Maurey. No prior Line Dancing experience needed. Once you learn, you can join us at Brownwood every Monday from 5 to 6 PM to dance with the DOPS club. For your safety wear comfortable sneakers. Sign up online or click HERE.

The Truth Project - from April 10 to June 19

Join us every Wednesday from April 10 to June 19 at 3 PM in Classroom 5/6 for The "Truth Project." A Bible Study class taught by Denise McGhee where the students work through interactive videos. Each lesson looks at the importance of living the Christian worldly view in a daily life. Whether you are a new believer or simply wanting to revisit the principles, the "Truth Project" is the perfect starting point. Truth is revealed in the Bible as the character of Christ, His teachings, and His promises. Click HERE to sign up today!

Using Qigong for Healing - Every 2nd Thursday of Each Month from 10 to 11 AM in CR 5/6

This is the Spring Forest Qigong view: Everything is energy and energy is vibration. Your body is a symphony of vibrations. When all your organs and energy channels vibrate in unison they make beautiful music called health. When little by little each organ and energy channel loses its rhythm and gets out of tune, the harmony dissipates. Chaos. Energy blocks will be created. Illness can be a natural result. We will call on God's divine healing wisdom to bring our bodies back into harmony. Bring a bottle of water and an open mind. Dress comfortably. You can do these movements sitting, standing, lying down or with visualization. For details or to sign up, contact Meredith Brubaker at mamabru02@gmail.com.

ABC of Dementia - Wednesday, April 17 at 10 AM

This is a free Alzheimer's and Dementia Awareness and Care-Partner Workshop for the community. Please contact Jan McCoy at janrn@cfl.rr.com for more information or sign up online to attend.

Singles Night Out - Monday, April 29 at 5 PM

The LDUMC Singles planning committee is pleased to announce a dinner social at Oxford Downs located at 17996 US-301, Summerfield, To sign up Contact Dale at texasranger@charter.net

Please keep us informed.

We invite you to let the Office or Connect Desk know if you, or someone you know is moving, changed email address, or changed phone numbers. This helps us keep our database current. The Connection Team thanks you. csutorka@lakedeatonumc.com





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UPCOMING EVENTS! (continued)

Butterfly Garden - Wednesday, April 17 from 9 AM to Noon

It's that time again, to refresh our beautiful garden. Please join us on Wednesday, April 17 from 9 AM to Noon. We will be planting, weeding and staining the benches. This peaceful place is enjoyed by many and continues to be an outreach to our community. Please bring gloves, gardening tools and water. We always have fun, burn a few calories and enjoy our time together in God's creation. Hope to see you then! "Many Hands Make Light Work." Please email LuAnn Gilbert at <u>luanngilbert@gmail.com</u> with any questions or to sign up. Here's some pics from last month's Butterfly Garden event...







Special Dinner for Our VOLUNTEERS - Wednesday, April 24 from 5 to 7:30 PM

We are having a 50's Sock Hop! If you are a volunteer who is involved in any ministry at Lake Deaton, be sure to join us for this free event to celebrate YOU! We are having hamburgers, hot dogs and malts. There will also be a vegan option. We will be looking for the best (and worst) dressed, best (and worst) dancer, hula hoop contest and night of trivia and dancing. Register today by clicking HERE. Please come even if you don't dance...



UPCOMING EVENTS! (continued)

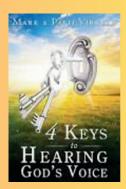


Healing Prayer Service - Sunday, April 21 at 11:45 AM

Don't stop praying! Sometimes we wonder if God hears our prayers or answers them. Come hear how your faith can grow when you continue to keep your heart open to His healing. God always hears our prayers; often his response is not in our timing. Faith, Trust and Hope for tomorrow. Join Nancy Wilson on Sunday, April 21 at 11:45 AM in Classroom 1.

4 Keys to Hearing God's Voice - (4 Classes)

Learn how to hear God's voice. Based on Mark Virkler's 4 Keys to Hearing God's Voice. Take this opportunity to transform your relationship with God by implementing these 4 keys. The book is not required, but may be helpful. Join Nancy Wilson on Wednesdays, May 1 to May 22 from 3:30 to 5pm in Classroom 1. To register, click HERE.









MINISTRY FAIR - MAY 11 & 12 - Before and After Services

featuring Bloom, Journeymen and Financial Faith Ministries

Lake Deaton UMC will once again be celebrating the many ministries that our church family participates in and supports. This upcoming MINI-MINISTRY FAIR will showcase the Women's Bloom, Men's Journeyman, and Financial Faith Ministries on Saturday, May 11 and Sunday, May 12 before and after services. If you are looking for a place to plug in and connect with other Lake Deaton folks, you'll want to attend the Fair to learn more about these ministries and the variety of ways to serve. If you are a Ministry Team Leader looking for volunteers or wanting to build more awareness of your specific Ministry, this is an ideal opportunity for you as well! Either way, the Lake Deaton Mini-Ministry Fair is sure to be a great way to build new relationships and connections in the process.

So, mark your calendars for May 11 and 12, and please plan to attend this upcoming Mini-Ministry Fair. See you there!

Pastor Loida, Chairperson, Ministry Fair Diane Hull, Assistant Coordinator, Ministry Fair

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

We have many volunteers who help us in many ways in the church office. We are so very grateful for our receptionists who answer the phones, type, greet visitors, fold the weekly handouts, add paper in our copiers and are so willing to help in other areas with anything. They never complain and are amazing. We also have a wonderful volunteer who helps to make the Resource Room, which is located in the office, very organized. This is where you can find books used for small groups. Thank you to Ionathan Baker for making the shelves for this room. Thank you all for volunteering. You are appreciated!



CARE MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS

The Care Ministry is very thankful and grateful to all who serve in these various ministries: Prayer Quilt Ministry, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Stephen Ministers, Congregational Care Ministers, Sonrise Respite, Card Ministry (creating cards), Care Card Ministry (writing and sending cards), Healing Prayer Ministry, Thursday Prayer.











CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTERS

Please mark your calendar for a Congregational Care Minister's Training on May 17 at 9:30 AM. If you have a caring heart and a listening ear, please join this vital ministry. For more information, contact Janice Braden or sign up at the Connect Desk or online.

BONE BUILDERS IS BACK! Mondays beginning April 8 from 10 to 11:30 AM

For more information contact: Mary Corini at mlgrdh2596@yahoo.com or Ruth Corn at ruthfw@gmail.com.

LDUMC STAFF CHANGES

Lake Deaton UMC is so proud to have an amazing staff. We are always so thankful and we want to keep our congregation informed when changes occur. Please take note of a few more changes coming up soon:

Maria Arias, as of April 1st, will be working from home as a contract employee. She has moved to Davenport to be closer to her children. Maria will be handling the website and social media along with creating the beautiful monthly newsletter, (please make sure to have all articles and pictures to Maria by the 20th of each month.) Maria's email will continue to be: marias@lakedeatonumc.com.



Desiree Willett will now be in the Communications office. Desiree will continue as our Technology Specialist and will be taking additional responsibilities in our communications area. Desiree's email is dwillett@lakedeatonumc.com

We thank you for your patience and understanding during these transition times and we invite you to find ways to say thank you to our staff members. God bless!

BLOOM...

Hi Ladies,

Do you remember the fashion show from last year? It's back by popular demand! The last two years I served as a model and you can, too... I remember how fun it was from picking clothes to walking with the other models and the joy and fellowship around the tables. Many of the ladies serving in different ministries today, may have come for the first time to one of our annual fashion shows. Join us **Tuesday**, **April 9 at 11:00 AM**. Our models will be featuring items that can be found at the future Coleman Oaks Thrift Store and Coffee Shop. Come see what great fashion treasures you will be able to find there when it opens. Register today! Click <u>HERE</u>.

In addition, we are asking all attendees to support our mission team to Angola. We have two church members going back to Angola and we need the resources listed below. As you go to the store/drugstore, pick one or two of these items and support the team traveling to support and

love on the people of Angola:

- Vitamins & supplements (prenatal, women's 50+, adult
- Bengay
- Antacids
- Adult decongestants (Mucinex or generic)
- · Lip balm
- Diaper rash cream (Desitin or butt paste)
- Dove bar soap (no liquid)
- Neosporin or generic
- Lotrimin cream or generic
- Tylenol infant drops
- Tylenol adult children
- Advil/Ibuprofen adult
- Aleve adult
- Benadryl or Claritin
- Calamine or Caladryl lotion





Don't miss out on this yearly event. Click **HERE** to register and to see menu options.













BLOOM... (continued)



BLOOM BOOK CLUB - MONDAY, APRIL 22 AT 1 PM

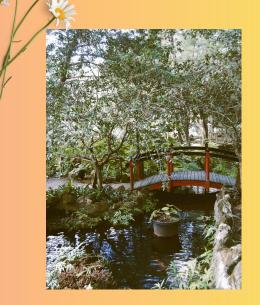
At our April 22 meeting we will be discussing the first book of Angela Hunt's, The Silent Year Series, "Egypt's Sisters- Cleopatra." We will be meeting in Classroom 1 from 1 to 2:45 PM. We are a small group, so everyone gets a chance to take part in the discussion and we always have room for new members. You do not need to be a member of Lake Deaton UMC to join us, all you need is a desire to read Biblical Fiction and an opportunity to discuss these books with like minded women.

BLOOM WOMEN'S DAY OUT-TUESDAY, MAY 14

Ladies, Join us on a bus trip to enjoy the flowers in a beautiful Sunken Garden! We will be traveling to Williston, Florida, to Cedar Lakes Woods and Gardens. Although the gardens are not handicap accessible, there is a very good explanation on the website of handicap accommodations. https://cedarlakeswoodsandgarden.com/

After spending a lovely morning at the gardens, we will head south to the quaint little town of Dunnellon for lunch and shopping on your own.

Cost for the trip is \$45. Click <u>HERE</u> to register. The bus will depart the church at 8:30 AM and return by 4:30PM. Call Nancy Lewis at 636-584-8740 if you have questions.



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Kidney. She is doing very just know that and uch you all cert are Grzybowsk

KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS

By Leo Steffen

I bet you have been curious how I manage to prepare serve and clean up for all the fabulous meals for Sonrise, the Men's Breakfast, Grow Nights, Women's Ministry and all the special fur events and celebrations that are part of our Lake Deaton UMC family. Volunteers! Volunteers!

First, let's talk about Sam Shipley who is the Volunteer Extrodinaire for organizing and handling the Men's Breakfast and the Grow Night dinners. We develop the menu for events and consult constantly about the timing and preparation of meals. It's all about team work!

Then we have a cadre of volunteers who contribute to the efforts of our breakfasts, lunches and dinners. Besides helping with preparation and serving, we also have volunteers who handle clean-up and dish washing.

Sam and I really appreciate all the people who give so willingly of their time and talents. We have a lot of fun while we strive to create delicious meals for our Lake Deaton family.

Thank you Kitchen Volunteers for your help, your energy and most of all your laughter! Go Kitchen

Leo







Kitchen Staff

- Leo Steffen
- Sam Shipley
- **Chuck Eaton**
- Harvey Koeske
- Karen Schomaker
- Anita Truax
- Beth Mundinger
- Gary Mundinger
- Kat Grygiel
- Pat Bailey
- Barb Prindle
- Joanne Orr
- Denise Perz
- JulieÂnnâ Davis
- Ken Davis
- Susan King

Grow Night Dinner Helpers:

- Chuck Eaton
- Barbie Strome
- Kat Grygiel
- Leo Steffen
- JulieAnna Davis
- Donna Buntemeyer
- Don McConnell
- Bob Cosmai
- Kerry Hughes
- Randy Benjamin
- Joe Clouse
- Harvey Koeske
- Ken Davis

Grow Night Dinner Helpers:

- Pat Bailey
- Bob Cosmai
- Sue Woody
- Gary Wetterhall
- Susan Wetterhall
- Randy Wright

Men's Breakfast Helpers:

- Chuck Eaton
- John Eaton
- Ken Grosskopf
- David Hurnevich
- Ion Sollid









FROM OUR EVENTS COORDINATOR ...

Hello Lake Deaton family!

The past couple of months have been very busy, beginning with the "Hoedown". Our two small groups did a fantastic job and everyone had a great time. "Texas Pete from Maine" and his "new girlfriend" were a hit coming in their covered wagon. As always, the entertainment was enjoyable including Square dancing and line dancing. We had a good-ole time!

That weekend we had our "Nearly New" rummage sale to promote our new "Coleman Oaks Thrift Store and Coffee Shop". Over \$12,000 was raised to enable us to purchase much needed items for inside the store. Thank you to everyone who helped, priced, carried, donated and worked behind the scenes. We could not have done it without you and the prayers!!

Our weekly "Lenten Fish Fry" has become a hit. Thank you to Sam Shipley for leading this effort. All monies are to help support any items needed for our kitchen. We fed 50 to 60 people each week. There was a lot of fellowship around the tables. Thank you to those who supported us.

The Indiana Wesleyan Chorale presented the finest level of performance and ministry in choral music recently here at LDUMC. Membership in this 60-voice ensemble is decided by competitive auditions and represents a wide spectrum of majors. What beautiful voices were heard in our Sanctuary.

Another performance by Beacon College blessed us with a tribute to Ray Charles performed by "The Flying Horsemen". Over 500 people attended the dinner and concert and enjoyed the performance. The Beacon Salon Speaker Series events are free and open to the public with a hot meal served to guests. Events typically draw 250-plus guests. This event had a phenomenal amount of attendees. Watch for the Salon Series next year.

Mark your calendars for the dedication of our property for the new Coleman Oaks and Thrift Store. See the invite on page 4 of this newsletter. It will be a short service and you will be able to have your picture taken with the "gold" shovel scooping up dirt! Right after the service a reception will be held at Coleman UMC, just a short distance on Highway 301. Come join us!

UPDATE:

Oktoberfest date has changed to: Friday, September 20 with The Villages German Band performing. Watch for more details. Mark your calendars for a fun evening!

SAVE-THE-DATES:

Christmas in July - Before & After Services during the month of July.

As always, you can contact me at the office if you have any questions or need help with anything







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MULTIPLYING LOVE



United Methodist churches yearn to embrace love more completely because God first loved us.

(Circle words in the puzzle below.)

D	Τ	L	S	G	Ν	-1	Н	С	А	Ε	T	Ε
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U	L	Е	Е	С	Ε	U	W	Ε	Ν	U	М	S
В	Т	Ν	J	I	S	Q	Т	-1	Ν	K	В	1
Ε	1	R	R	D	L	Н	0	1	F	Р	R	D
L	Р	А	Е	А	Е	J	T	G	U	U	Α	0
1	L	Е	А	R	Υ	Е	С	Н	U	R	С	Н
Ε	Υ	Υ	L	-1	Α	Е	V	1	L	Р	1	Т
V	-1	S	-1	0	Ν	0	Т	А	L	0	Ν	Ε
Ε	Ν	Α	D	Е	Т	Т	-1	Ν	K	S	G	М
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multiplying love joined knitted together

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yearn
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build
complete

God Wesleyan vision believe live

Jesus
Methodist
purpose
embracing
united

not alone church grow real body



4/1/24 - Luke 22-24; John 1-2

4/8/24 - John 3-7

4/15/24 - John 8-12

4/22/24 - John 13-17

4/29/24 - John 18-21; Acts 1

Welcome New Members!

Class of March 2024

We Love Our Volunteers!

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. ~Ephesians 2:10

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. ~Galatians 6:10

Lake Deaton UMC

Coffee with the Pastors



Are you new to our community? Have you been with us for a while? Coffee with the Pastors is an opportunity to meet our pastors, learn more about our church, our mission, vision and values, and learn about our expectations for members. The next class is on: **Sunday, April 28 at 11:45 AM.** Sign up **here**.

Worship Services:

Saturdays at 5:00 pm (with translation for Hearing Impaired) Sundays at 9:00 am

Traditional Service:

Sundays at 10:30 am

Online Services:

www.lakedeatongrows.com

Office Hours:

Monday to Thursday 9am - 4:30pm

Friday 9am - 1pm

Call the Office:

352-571-4665

Mailing Address:

6500 Wesleyan Way Wildwood, FL 34785

Visit Our Website:

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Email Us:

Info@lakedeatonumc.com

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