

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20549**

**FORM 8-K**

**CURRENT REPORT PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) **March 14, 2019**

**Lakeland Financial Corporation**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Indiana**  
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

**000-11487**  
(Commission File Number)

**35-1559596**  
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

**202 East Center Street  
Warsaw, Indiana 46581-1387**  
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

**(574) 267-6144**  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

**N/A**  
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (*see* General Instruction A.2 below):

Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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**Item 5.02. Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.**

On March 14, 2019, Lakeland Financial Corporation (the “Company”) and Lake City Bank, the Company’s wholly owned subsidiary (the “Bank”), announced that Brok A. Lahrman has been appointed as the Company’s Chief Accounting Officer and Senior Vice President of Finance, and will serve as the Company’s principal accounting officer.

Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Lahrman, age 32, served as a Senior Manager with BKD, LLP from January 2009 to March 2019, where he worked on audits of financial institutions and other firm-wide initiatives related to financial institutions. Mr. Lahrman is a certified public accountant.

**Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure.**

On March 14, 2019, the Company and the Bank issued a press release announcing Mr. Lahrman’s appointment. A copy of the press release is furnished herewith as Exhibit 99.1.

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) *Exhibits.*

99.1 Press Release issued by Lakeland Financial Corporation and Lake City Bank on March 14, 2019.

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## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

**LAKELAND FINANCIAL CORPORATION**

Dated: March 14, 2019

By: /s/Lisa M. O'Neill  
Lisa M. O'Neill  
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

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**EXHIBIT INDEX**

| <b>Exhibit No.</b> | <b>Description</b>   |
|--------------------|--|
| 99.1               | Press Release issued by Lakeland Financial Corporation and Lake City Bank on March 14, 2019. |



## NEWS FROM LAKE CITY BANK

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Contact

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## Brok A. Lahrman Joins Lake City Bank as Chief Accounting Officer and Senior Vice President of Finance

Warsaw, Indiana (March 14, 2019) – Lake City Bank is pleased to announce that Brok A. Lahrman has joined the bank as Senior Vice President of Finance and Chief Accounting Officer.

Lahrman is responsible for leading the finance department, ensuring that financial reporting by the company is made in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) rules. He also will perform strategic financial modeling for Lakeland Financial Corporation and Lake City Bank.

Lahrman is a former Senior Manager at BKD, LLP in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He led teams responsible for audits at financial institutions, including both SEC and non-SEC registered companies. He also participated in various firm-wide task forces including the Current Expected Credit Losses (CECL) Task Force and the SEC Task Force.

“Brok’s background, including his extensive experience in the banking industry are great assets to Lake City Bank,” said David M. Findlay, President and Chief Executive Officer.

“We’re pleased that Brok has joined the Lake City Bank Team,” said Lisa M. O’Neill, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. “His proven knowledge in the financial services industry, experience leading the assurance teams, and expertise in financial reporting, audit and internal controls are an advantage to the bank.”

Lahrman has a bachelor’s degree in accounting and finance and graduated with honors from the University of Saint Francis. He completed his Certified Public Accounting Designation in 2011. He is an August 2019 candidate at the Graduate School of Banking at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He serves on the board of the Fort Wayne Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors and is a guest speaker at the University of Saint Francis for business and accounting students. He is a board member and treasurer of the Boys and Girls Club of Fort Wayne, also serving on the finance committee.

Lake City Bank, a \$4.9 billion bank headquartered in Warsaw, Indiana, is the fourth largest bank headquartered in the state, and the largest bank 100% invested in Indiana. Lake City Bank operates 50 branch offices in northern and central Indiana, delivering technology-driven solutions in a client-centric way to individuals and businesses. The bank is the single bank subsidiary of Lakeland Financial Corporation (Nasdaq Global Select/LKFN). For more information visit [lakecitybank.com](http://lakecitybank.com).



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