LAKELAND FINANCIAL CORP Form 8-K December 23, 2008

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

| WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549                                 |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| FORM 8-K   |  |   |  |
| CURRENT REPORT   |  |   |  |
| Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)                        | ) of the                                 |   |  |
| Securities Exchange Act of 193                         | 4  |   |  |
| Date of Report (Date of earlies                        | t event reported) December 23, 2008      |   |  |
| Lakeland Fina (Exact name of Registrant as speci       | ancial Corporation  fied in its charter) | n   |  |
| Indiana (State or other jurisdiction Of incorporation) | <b>0-11487</b> (Commission File Number)  | <b>35-1559596</b> (IRS Employer Identification No.) |  |
| 202 East Center Street, P.O. Bo                        | ox 1387, Warsaw, Indiana 46581-1387      |   |  |
| (Address of principal executive off                    | ices) (Zip Code)                         |   |  |
| (574) 267-6144   |  |   |  |
| (Registrant s telephone number, i                      | ncluding area code)                      |   |  |

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Not Applicable

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:

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- X Solicitation material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b)
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c)

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#### Item 8.01. Other Events

On December 23, 2008, Lakeland Financial Corporation issued a press release announcing that it has received preliminary approval from the U.S. Treasury Department to participate in the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) Capital Purchase Program. Additional information is provided in the press release attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated by reference herein.

#### Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

99.1 Press Release dated December 23, 2008

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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: December 23, 2008 David M. Findlay By: /s/David M. Findlay

Chief Financial Officer