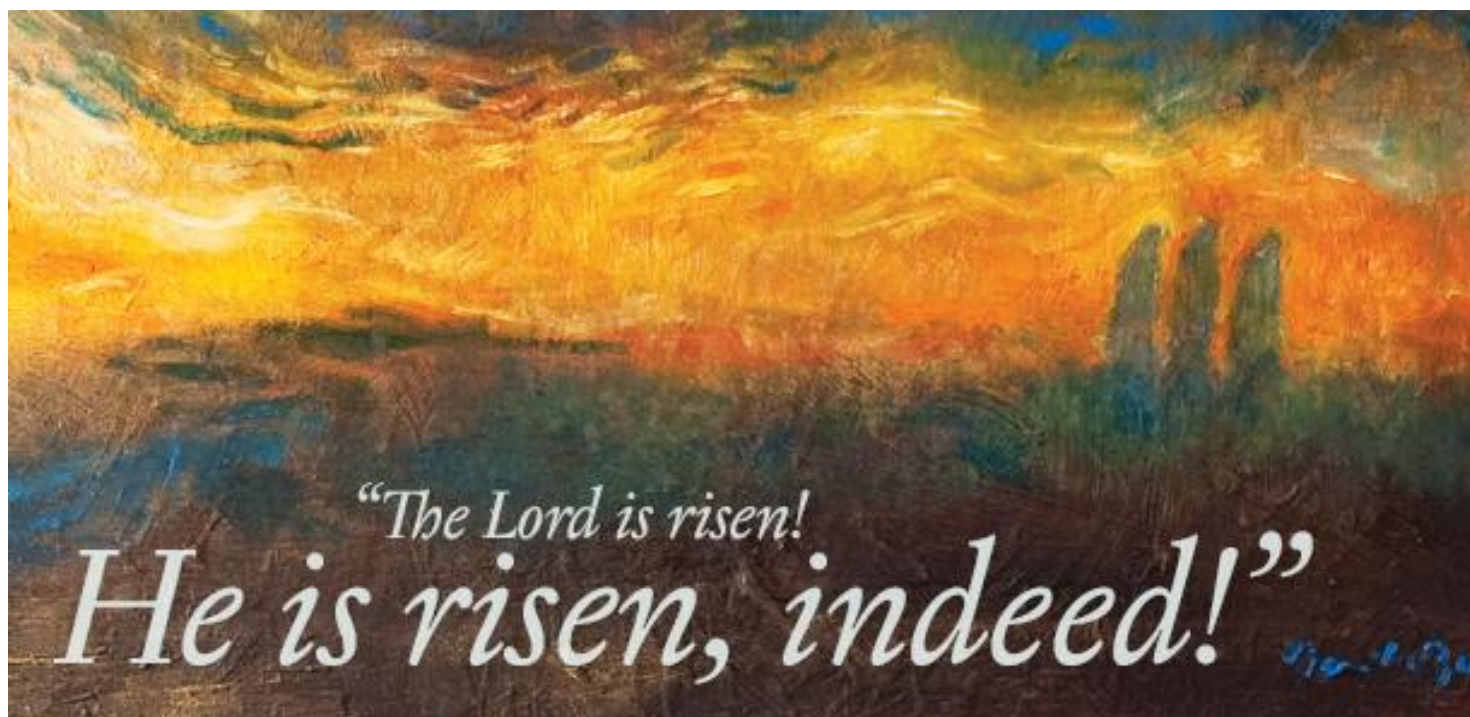




The Chimes

April 2018
Volume 59, Issue 4

In the neighborhood for good!



Earthy Easter

It's hard to wrap our minds around the concept of resurrection. We are all too familiar with the reality of death. We see division, destruction, hatred, and violence every day on the news and in the media, and often it hits much closer to home. This we know. This we recognize. Perhaps we have given in to the idea that this will always be a fact of our lives and of our world. But resurrection? New life? It's incredible! It's fantastic! It's beyond our imagining.

What if rather than wrapping our minds around the resurrection, rather than understanding it intellectually, we were to wrap our hands around it. What if we were to come to know the resurrection as an earthy reality instead of an ethereal mystery?

I love the resurrection as told by the gospel of John. It is so literally down to earth. Mary, distraught, in shock, comes to the tomb as a final act of love, to lay spices on the body to cover the stench. You can't get much earthier than that. And there she sees Jesus. She can't believe it. She can't see it. She can't recognize him, not because he is so different, but because he is there in the flesh.

Most of our life is far too fleshy—changing diapers, washing ourselves, caring for loved ones at the end of their lives. We can't help but get our hands dirty in the living of our days. We think that our

(continued on next page)

Earthy Easter, continued

faith calls us out of that, removes us from that. But here is Jesus, the very Son of God, the victor over death, showing up in front of us as a gardener, ready to get his hands dirty in the saving of our lives. He shows up in the garden (again) to say that it is good, that we are loved, and that we are called to go forth as the image of God.

So, maybe the resurrection is hard to figure, hard to believe. Perhaps, instead, it is something we are to live out. This world is made new again. We have a second chance. A chance to plant and to grow, a chance to pull out the hatred and evil that chokes us, and to let love and peace take root. It's real. It's here. It's for each of us. It's for all the world: The Lord is risen! The Lord is risen, indeed!

Peace,
Sally

Hope renewed!

We have **only \$5,000 more to go** to reach our goal of matching the \$12,500 gift by Memorial Day. Every size gift counts. Once we have reached this goal, we can complete the hook-up for the heating and air on the first floor of the educational building. This will make all the difference in our learning and outreach ministries, as most of our Sunday School classes and community groups meet on this floor.

God has great plans for us and for the ministries of this church in this community. Your gift will offer the opportunity for more and more people to know the love and hope of our risen Lord as they are welcomed into this wonderful church family, and we together live into the beloved community God has called us to become.

Every gift matters. You can make a difference. Please give today. You can give online at our website, www.eastlakeumc.net, or drop a check in the offering plate or the church office.

Income Taxes Due, Ain't Got No Money, Bean Soup Potluck Lunch

Sunday, April 15 11:30-1:30

Wesley Hall

Bring Soup (any kind), Salad, Bread, or Dessert



East Lake United Methodist Church

7753 First Avenue South (corner of 2nd Ave. S. & 78th)

Birmingham, AL 35206

www.eastlakeumc.net

(205) 836-3201 (office) (205) 836-3203 (FAX)

Pastoral and Program Staff:

Rev. Sally Allocca

(205) 821-8804

smcallocca@gmail.com

Mr. Barry Norris

(205) 540-1820

the1220chambers@yahoo.com

Dr. Jane Phares

(205) 821-8632

jane.eastlakeumc@gmail.com

The Chimes is published monthly by East Lake United Methodist Church.

Editor: Jane Phares

Deadline for articles: The 15th of the month prior to publication month.

Music Notes 'midst Organ-izing

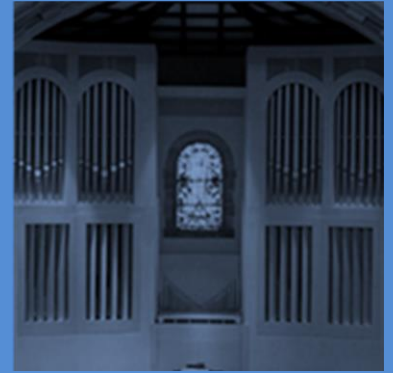
When you receive this, we will be in the midst of Eastertide. It makes the joy all the more profound after having gone through the time of Lent. Thank you to everyone who made those six weeks such a special time. Jeff, the altar settings have been stunning! Choir, you made me so very proud, as you always do, but especially during our Lenten music. Thank you for your dedication to come to rehearsal all those six Saturday mornings, to learn those new anthems, and to sing them so beautifully on March 18. Jane, it was a lot of work on you to do the *Stations of the Cross*, especially with just one hand. It means so much to me; thank you!

And Sally, I'm so glad that you decided to do something a little different on Maundy Thursday. The singing in the Chapel, the common meal, followed by the time of contemplation and sharing over the Scripture, and then the washing of each others' hands, all touched me deeply. And yes, I realize that *Second Samuel* was not outwardly Lenten, but, yes, it really was. It made us stop and think! Hopefully, it made us a little more open to looking down inside others, and ourselves as well. Isn't that what Lent's all about?

John Schwandt and his colleague, Adam Pajan, arrive here in a week or so. Those two organ professionals, college professors, are donating a week of their time to tune our organ from stem to stern prior to the making of the recording! Some of the pipes were temporarily removed from behind the choir loft. This was for me to do some routine maintenance on the two chests beneath those pipes. All to be ready for these two great guys!

Love,

Barry



SUPER SENIORS

Well, *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* won the second Tuesday movie contest last month, so this month it will be *Florence Foster Jenkins* . . . unless Jane P. hears a better suggestion! The date is Tuesday, April 10, at 10 a.m. in the office conference room.

Then on Tuesday, April 24, we'll go downtown to Sweet Tea for a good comfort food (or a meat and two, or a veggie) lunch. We'll leave from the church at 10:45.



We're meeting on Friday, April 27, and Connie and Carol are in charge! Niki's West did not disappoint last month, of course, but this month we're staying in and having a salad extravaganza! In Connie's words, "Not just your average tossed salad, but other salads as well."

We are all supposed to chip in and bring an item (or two), but you need to **see Connie** for her to tell you what is needed. We don't want everyone bringing croutons!

We'll meet at our regular 6 p.m. Hope you can come!

EACM Item for April: CEREAL



Let every man and woman count himself immortal.
Let him catch the revelation of Jesus in his resurrection. Let him say not merely, 'Christ is risen,' but 'I shall rise.' — Phillips Brooks

"Keep on praying for the saints..."

Ephesians 6:18

Please pray for the members of our church family who have had surgery, been in the hospital or rehab during the last month, are currently in the hospital or in rehab at press time, or who are continuing to recover at home:

**Corinne Averitt
Yvonne Duncan
Jim Elliott
Clifford Harris
Lin Livingston**

We extend our sympathies to

Craig and Jeanine Cordes and their family in the loss of Craig's mother, **Marie Cordes**, who died on March 12. Marie was a faithful church member for many years and a member and officer of the Randolph Class; when the Randolph Class disbanded, she became a faithful member of the Alma Boggan Class.

Please keep this family in your prayers.

Memorials

Gifts have been given to the church in memory of:

Marie Cordes

Alma & Jack Boggan
Richard Tayloe
Commercial Sector Insurance Brokers
Robert Chapman
Alma Boggan Sunday School Class
Elaine Sheldon

Geraldine Floyd

Alma & Jack Boggan

Snack Bag Needs

We have run out of snack bags in the office, and the demand has been great lately. After giving out a large number of bags from Canterbury UMC, we need to restock. Can you help us?

Vienna sausage	Non-refrigerated
or potted meat	pudding
Cheese or peanut	Granola bars
butter crackers	Peanuts

April Birthdays

1	2 *Rhetta Tatum	3	4 *Paula Eggers	5	6	7
8	9 *Randa Mosley	10 *Clifford Harris	11 *Cliff Eady	12	13 *Catherine Neugent	14
15	16 *Connie Peek	17	18	19	20 *Dwight Anderson	21
22	23	24	25	26 *Jan Briley *Rex McDonald	27 *LaTonya Brown	28
29	30			29		

Lectionary Readings for April

Sunday, April 1 – Easter Day

Acts 10:34-43

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8

Sunday, April 8 – Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:32-35

Psalm 133

1 John 1:1- 2:2

John 20:19-31

Sunday, April 15 – Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:12-19

Psalm 4

1 John 3:1-7

Luke 24:36b-48

Sunday, April 22 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:5-12

Psalm 23

1 John 3:16-24

John 10:11-18

Sunday, April 29 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40

Psalm 22:25-31

1 John 4:7-21

John 15:1-8

From Your Lay Leader

Due to lack of space, it's been a few months since I've written a *Chimes* article. And now I'm typing one-handed due to the monstrosity of a splint on my hand (if you haven't seen it, take my word, it's a piece of work!). So I'll proceed slowly and with caution so as not to leave any typos.

First of all, I have to say thanks to all of you who came to see *Second Samuel*. Barry came to all FIVE performances, and Sally only missed one. And a number of people came two and even three times. It was so great to hear y'all laugh (we couldn't see you due to the lights) and hear your comments on the wonderful message the play presented. Thanks to Mitchell Nash for knowing just the right show for us to do—he knows so much about plays, among many other things, and he surely picked a winner this time!

But speaking of being blinded by the stage lights, I have to mention some people who were *behind* the lights and yet who were so very committed to doing their jobs to make the play a success. In fact, we couldn't have done it without them. Mitchell, the director, of course. He spent countless hours planning, rehearsing, designing and building sets, and well, directing. And then there were the three who were truly behind the scenes: **Carol Hay, Lin Livingston, and Barbara Patton**. Lin tended the spotlight in the back of the room, so it's her fault I couldn't see you! No, really, she kept us "enlightened" with the light and an always cheerful attitude. As for Carol and Barb, what would we have done without them? Who would have made sure our Coke bottles were filled every night, or the *Life* magazines were where they needed to be, or we had all the pieces of our costumes, if it hadn't been for them? They were right on the spot *every time*, and hardly ever missed a rehearsal (four days a week for 6, or was it 7, weeks?). I repeat, we couldn't have done it without them.

That's the way it is with serving in the church and God's Kingdom. Much of our work is "behind the scenes," and most people don't even know we are doing it, so the thanks and accolades don't often come our way. But the truth is, the church couldn't make it without those behind the scenes. Thanks for all you do.

Jane P.

April 2018

Sunday, April 1

Traditional worship – 9 a.m. (Sanctuary)
 Sunday School – 10 a.m. (various classrooms)
 Alternative worship – 11 a.m. (Chapel)

Tuesday, April 3

Super Seniors: No Program

Wednesday, April 4

Adult Bible Study: Special Lenten Study – 11 a.m.
 (Fireside Room)
 Trustees Committee – 1 p.m. (back room of the diner)

Sunday, April 8

Traditional worship – 9 a.m. (Sanctuary)
 Sunday School – 10 a.m. (various classrooms)
 Alternative worship – 11 a.m. (Chapel)
 Finance Committee – 2:00 p.m. (Office Conference Room)

Tuesday, April 10

Super Seniors Second Tuesday Movie: *Florence Foster Jenkins* (maybe!) (see page 3) – 10 a.m.
 (office conference room)

Wednesday, April 11

Adult Bible Study – 11 a.m. (Fireside Room)

Sunday, April 15

Traditional worship – 9 a.m. (Sanctuary)
 Sunday School – 10 a.m. (various classrooms)
 Alternative worship – 11 a.m. (Chapel)
 Income Taxes Due, Ain't Got No Money, Bean Soup
 Potluck Lunch – 11:30-1:30 (Wesley Hall)

Wednesday, April 18

Adult Bible Study – 11 a.m. (Fireside Room)

Sunday, April 22

Traditional worship – 9 a.m. (Sanctuary)
 Sunday School – 10 a.m. (various classrooms)
 Alternative worship – 11 a.m. (Chapel)

Tuesday, April 24

Seniors to Sweet Tea for lunch – Leave the church at 10:45 a.m.

Wednesday, April 25

Adult Bible Study – 11 a.m. (Fireside Room)

Friday, April 27

Boomers Gathering – 6 p.m. (Diner)



Easter is...
 Joining in a birdsong,
 Eying an early sunrise,
 Smelling yellow daffodils,
 Unbolting windows and doors,
 Skipping through meadows,
 Cuddling newborns,
 Hoping, believing,
 Reviving spent life,
 Inhaling fresh air,
 Sprinkling seeds along furrows,
 Tracking in the mud.
 Easter is the soul's first taste of
 spring.

- Richelle E. Goodrich