

The Chimes

of East Lake United Methodist Church

April 2023
Volume 64
Issue 4

In the neighborhood for good!



We are soon to end this Lenten journey. It is Holy Week. We are tempted, always tempted, to jump to the end of the story, to read the last page of the book, to start planning for Easter and skip over Good Friday. But, we cannot learn the lessons, we cannot grasp the full impact of God's magnificent power unless we walk through the valley, unless we, too, rehearse the suffering. That is when we truly come to understand that love is more powerful than death every time, in every way. When we walk in these footsteps of Jesus every Lenten season, we begin to forge an unforgettable assurance in our mind and hearts that no matter the sorrow or the heartbreak, we are never alone. And that, in the end, love always win. It may not be the way we wished that it had been, but we are transformed in the process of suffering love. We are broken and remolded again and again, growing closer to becoming the loving, healing presence in this world that God has created us to be.

I was reading a mystery novel and found, in this story of a woman about to embark on a journey that would take her away from all that was familiar, an Easter message:

"Leaving that which you love breaks your heart open. But you will find a jewel inside, and this precious jewel is the opening of your heart to all that is new, and all that is different, and it will be the making of you – if you allow it to be. It is like the fracture of a delicate blue egg, when the bird-chick is ready to face the world. Such a struggle, such a rent in the casing that has most protected the small creature; but look what awaits – the learning to fly, and the grand adventure of migration. Yes, there is the risk of death, and the sorry promise of starvation, of exhaustion, but that struggle is unavoidable. For you, the mystery of departure awaits." "She had told her that in leaving everything most loved, Maisie would break her own heart. In fact, she could feel it now, this much wounded heart that she had worked so hard to protect from the dragon of her memories – that she had cradled gently so it might not be broken, again, by love – was, as she waved and called out, being fractured by her own desire for something more, something different. [She had the] assurance that, in leaving, she would shatter this precious part of her to open it again – and in so doing, she would cast aside all fears and instead claim the colors and scents, the sounds and minds of other places that would fashion who she might now become, and fill her anew." (From *Leaving Everything Most Loved* by Jacqueline Winspear)

Rest assured; Easter is coming. It will come. But first, we must walk through the valley of denial, betrayal, and abandonment to truly understand the dynamic of a love undeserved, a love that knows no bounds, a love that asks for our undying commitment. As we sang at the beginning of this season, may we walk with Jesus through this Holy Week, that "an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last."

Peace,

Sally

... from Leslie

Hi, friends!

Lent is one of my favorite parts of the Christian year. The emphasis on growing in our faith journey, no matter where we're starting, is so important. I am so happy about the many different ways there are to plug in and grow at East Lake UMC this Lenten season. For one, I know Lucy Lipp's Sunday school class on Adam Hamilton's new book, *Luke*, has generated a lot of wonderful energy. If you've been thinking about leading a new discipleship group of any sort, I'd love to talk with you about it and help you follow that call! It is always fun for me to hear your thoughts, encourage you, walk with you as we make it happen, and streamline even more offerings into a cohesive schedule. I am excited already!

Love and peace,

Leslie

EASTER



EGG

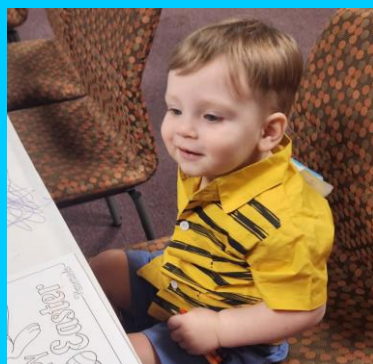


FUN!

EASTER



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FUN!

East Lake United Methodist Church

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April Birthdays

2	3	4	5 *Mark "Bruno" Hughes	6	7	8
9 *Veronica Williams	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 *Connie Peek	17	18	19	20 *Dwight Anderson *Maliyah Luster	21	22 *Maggie Gibson *Jerry Handley
23	24	25	26 *Jan Briley *Rex McDonald	27 *LaTonya Brown	28	29
30						



Seniors!

Truthfully, it was a little hard to find an open Tuesday for us to get together this month. I will be at an event in Montgomery on the 11th, and our day trip to Lynchburg, Tennessee, is on the 18th (wish more of our seniors were going). That only leaves us the 25th, which is so close to May we might as well wait, but we won't!

SO, on April 25, we will meet for a movie. This time we will watch *Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris*, a recent Academy Award nominee, about an ordinary woman whose dream of owning a Christian Dior gown leads her on an adventure in Paris. Her unwavering spirit charms all the elite people that she meets. It sounds like a winner! Hope to see you there (office conference room)!

Jane P.




Hey there, friends!

Did you notice that there is a line through the Boomers logo? That's because it's about time for a name change, as "Boomers" doesn't, and hasn't for awhile, really described our group. We have several folks who weren't born between 1945 and 1965, so they do not qualify as Boomers. Anyway, to make a long story short, Jane is taking suggestions for a more inclusive name. What are your suggestions?

In the meantime, this month we'll meet for dinner at Lloyd's on Highway 280. The last time we were there was Sally's birthday several years ago. The prices might have increased a little since then, but the food never changes—it's always delicious. And there's always A LOT of it.

If there are those who want to carpool from the church, let's plan to leave there at 5:30, with hopes of beating the 280 traffick and arriving there at 6 p.m. Others over the mountain can meet us at Lloyd's.

THE BELL TOWER PLAYERS PRESENT



**THE
MOUSE
TRAP**

BY AGATHA CHRISTIE DIRECTED BY JANE PHARES

May 4, 5, 11 & 12 at 7:30pm
May 6 & 13 at 4pm | May 7 at 2:30pm

East Lake United Methodist Church • 7753 1st Ave N • Birmingham AL
park & enter on second avenue side of church

205.836.3201 | btpelumc.booktix.com

First "Feeding Our Friends" event is a great success!

On a very cold Sunday last month, the first "Feeding Our Friends" lunch took place. Supposed to be in the parking lot, it had to be moved inside, but that didn't stop the serving! Led by **Robert Milledge**, who has worked with a ministry to feed the homeless in downtown Birmingham, the event was a major hit, not just among our neighbors who ate, but among all who helped to make it happen.

Our next "3rd Sunday feeding" will be on Sunday, April 16, after the 11:00 service (about 12:30). Talk to Robert or Sally about how you might help. We will be grilling hamburgers and



Karen Marks with Robert Milledge

hotdogs, hoping the aroma will draw more people!

Music Notes 'midst Organ-izing

The season of Easter, sometimes called Eastertide, of course, begins this Sunday when we celebrate our risen Lord! We sing *Christ, the Lord, Is Risen Today* and *The Day of Resurrection*. At our call to prayer, we'll all sing He is risen, He is risen, tell it out with joyful voice! The choir will sing two anthems of Mimi Jackson's, and Shelly Ann is planning to sing *I Know That My Redeemer Liveth*, from *Messiah*. The day is considered the most important feast day of the church year.

However, the feast goes on! Why is that? Well, we continue on in Eastertide through the Sunday of Pentecost. The name comes from the Greek *pentekoste*, which means 50, five times ten (It has the similar prefix to our country's five-sided *Pentagon*). Why fifty days? The Bible tells that Jesus walked the earth for forty days prior to his ascension, followed by ten days of waiting for the coming of the Holy Spirit, hence the 50 days, Easter Sunday through Pentecost Sunday.

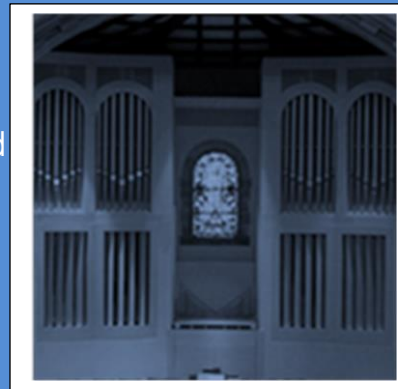
During that time the choir sings of doubting Thomas (*O Sons and Daughters*), the road to Emmaus (*Day of Arising*--dedicated to former Birmingham music critic, Nancy Raabe), and the familiar *This Joyful Eastertide*. There are also three new ones (for us) this year.

There is a setting of *Savior, Like a Shepherd, Lead Us* to go along with Psalm 23 on Easter 4, along with a beautiful new tune for *Come My Way, My Truth, My Life*, and the use of *Hark, Ten Thousand Harps and Voices* for the Sunday after Ascension. We conclude the season on Pentecost with the beloved 500-year-old anthem, *If Ye Love Me*, by Elizabethan composer, Thomas Tallis. It remains the most-sung anthem of any on this day!

Happy Easter!

Love,

Barry



“Keep on praying for the saints . . .”

Ephesians 6:18

Please pray for the members of our church family who have been in the hospital, who have recently had surgery, or who otherwise need our prayers:

Alma & Jack Boggan

Doreen Duley

Woni Lawrence

Jane Phares

Gary Sandridge

Kay Sharp

Those whose lives are being torn by war, storms of snow, rain, tornados, extreme temperatures, and other disasters



Togetherness

First Tuesday of each month @ 6pm

Next Gathering: May 2nd @ 6pm

@ The Lumbar in Pepper Place

This time is meant for anyone seeking to dive more deeply into their faith and those who are completely unsure about the whole "faith" thing all together. The goal of the group is simple: Converse with and support one another as we wrestle with our faith.

Needs for Community Ministries

Snack bags: Snack crackers Fruit cups

Food Co-op: Cleaning supplies Paper goods

Wellness Pantry: Bar soap Toothbrushes
 Toothpaste Shower gel
 Mouthwash Deodorant
 Band-Aids Lotion
 Vaseline Baby Aspirin
 Toilet Paper Paper Towels
 Feminine Hygiene Products
 Baby and Adult Diapers
 Hydrogen Peroxide Wipes

Spring Day Trips update!

April 18 – Lynchburg, Tennessee, and Miss Mary’s Boarding House - We will leave the church at 9:00 a.m. on the Canterbury van. We should arrive in Lynchburg between 11:30 and noon, and will check in at Miss Mary’s by 12:45 p.m. for lunch at 1:00. After lunch, we’ll look around in some of Lynchburg’s shops before departing for home around 3 or 3:30 (depending on how much shopping y’all want to do). We’ll arrive home long before dark (5ish-5:30ish).

April 28 – Our trip to the Just Museum in Montgomery was postponed due to other conflicts. We will now go on Friday, April 28. Please let Jane Phares know if you would like to go so we can arrange our transportation.

The trip to the Alabama Shakespeare Festival to see *Clyde’s* has been cancelled. We’ll try this one again later.

**THIS is the
 PERFECT TIME
 to do NEW THINGS
 to reach NEW PEOPLE
 for Jesus Christ!
 How is the Holy Spirit
 leading YOU to do this?**



Lectionary Readings for April

I keep your word close, in my heart, so that I won't sin against you.
Psalm 119:11 (CEB)

Sunday, April 2 – Palm and Passion Sunday

Isaiah 50:4–9a
Psalm 118:1–2, 19–29

Matthew 21:1–11
Matthew 26:14–27:66

Thursday, April 6 – Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1–4, (5–10) 11–14
Psalm 116:1–4, 12–19

1 Corinthians 11:23–26
John 13:1–17, 31b–35

Friday, April 7 – Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13–53:12
Psalm 22

Hebrews 10:16–25
John 18:1–19:42

Saturday, April 8 – Holy Saturday

Job 14:1–14
Psalm 31:1–4

Peter 4:1–8
Matthew 27:57–66

Sunday, April 9 – Easter Day

Psalm 118:1–2, 14–24
Acts 10:34–43
Colossians 4:3:1–4

Matthew 28:1–10
John 20:1–18

Sunday, April 16 – Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 22–32
Psalm 16

1 Peter 1:3–9
John 9:1–41

Sunday, April 23 – Third Sunday of Easter

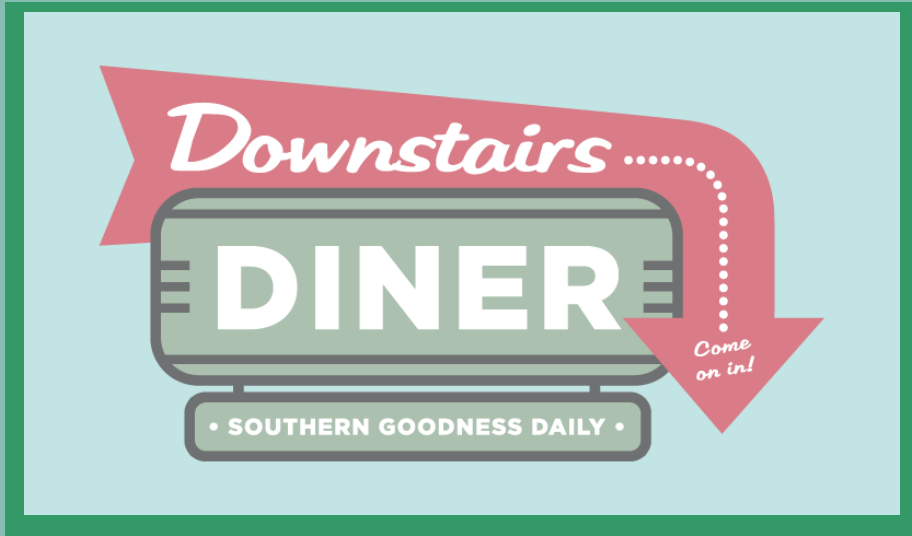
Acts 2:14a, 36–41
Psalm 116:1–4, 12–19

1 Peter 1:17–23
Luke 24:13–35

Sunday, April 30 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42–47
Psalm 23

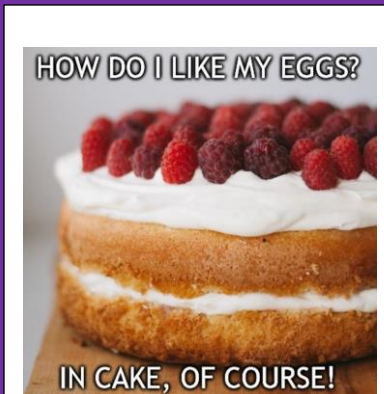
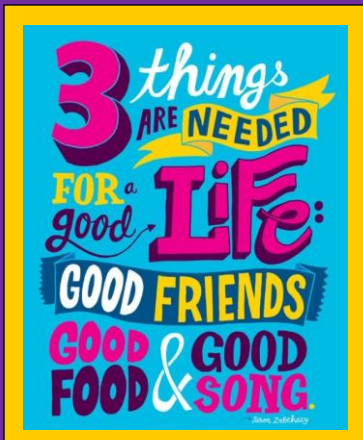
1 Peter 2:19–25
John 10:1–10



Menus for April 2023

Tuesday, April 4	Baked chicken, Italian vegetables, wild rice, rolls
Wednesday, April 5	Macaroni & cheese, cabbage, butter beans, cornbread
Thursday, April 6	Fried or baked fish, coleslaw, baked beans
Tuesday, April 11	Taco salad w/kernel corn & tortilla chips
Wednesday, April 12	Baked pork chops, roasted potatoes, vegetables
Thursday, April 13	Chicken salad, sliced tomatoes, fruit salad
Tuesday, April 18	Hamburger steak with gravy, mashed potatoes, roasted vegetables
Wednesday, April 19	Chicken parmesan, garden salad, corn
Thursday, April 20	Fried or baked fish, potato salad, baked beans
Tuesday, April 25	Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll
Wednesday, April 26	Beef tips with gravy, rice, Italian vegetables
Thursday, April 27	Big baked potato w/chicken or pork, cheese, chives, BBQ sauce

Food
for
Thought



April 2023

Saturday, April 1

Eggs-Stravaganza – 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
(1st floor conference room and grounds)

Sunday, April 2

Traditional worship – 9 a.m. (Sanctuary)
Sunday School – 10 a.m. (various classrooms)
Adam Hamilton Luke Study – 10 a.m. (1st
Floor Meeting Room)
Alternative worship – 11 a.m. (Chapel)

Tuesday, April 4

Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Thrift store - open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Crochet group – 12 noon (Diner)

Wednesday, April 5

Adult Bible Study – 11 a.m. (by phone)
Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Luke study – 6 p.m. (1st floor meeting room)

Thursday, April 6

Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Thrift store - open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Maundy Thursday Service – 6 p.m. (Sanctuary)

Friday, April 7 – Good Friday

Community Good Friday Service – 6:30 p.m.
(Woodlawn United Methodist Church)

Sunday, April 9 - EASTER DAY

Traditional worship – 9 a.m. (Sanctuary)
Sunday School – 10 a.m. (various classrooms)
Adam Hamilton Luke Study – 10 a.m. (1st
Floor Meeting Room)
Alternative worship – 11 a.m. (Chapel)

Monday, April 10 – Easter Monday

**Holiday for Church Staff
OFFICE CLOSED**

Tuesday, April 11

Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Thrift store - open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Crochet group – 12 noon (Diner)

Wednesday, April 12

Adult Bible Study – 11 a.m. (by phone)
Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Luke study – 6 p.m. (1st floor meeting room)

Sunday, April 16

Traditional worship – 9 a.m. (Sanctuary)
Sunday School – 10 a.m. (various classrooms)
Adam Hamilton Luke Study – 10 a.m. (1st
Floor Meeting Room)
Alternative worship – 11 a.m. (Chapel)
“Feeding Our Friends” event – 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 18

Day Trip to Lynchburg – Depart church at 9 a.m.
Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Thrift store - open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Crochet group – 12 noon (Diner)

Wednesday, April 19

Adult Bible Study – 11 a.m. (by phone)
Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Luke study – 6 p.m. (1st floor meeting room)

Thursday, April 20

Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Thrift store - open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Ponder w/ the Pastor – 5:30 (True Story
Brewery)

Friday, April 21

Boomers outing – See page 3

Sunday, April 23

Traditional worship – 9 a.m. (Sanctuary)
Sunday School – 10 a.m. (various classrooms)
Adam Hamilton Luke Study – 10 a.m.
Alternative worship – 11 a.m. (Chapel)
Staff-Parish Committee meeting – 2:30 p.m.
(Office Conference Room)

Tuesday, April 25

Senior Movie – 10 a.m. (Office Conference Room)
Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Thrift store - open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Crochet group – 12 noon (Diner)

Wednesday, April 26

Adult Bible Study – 11 a.m. (by phone)
Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Luke study – 6 p.m. (1st floor meeting room)

Friday, April 28

Day Trip to Justice Museum (Montgomery) –
Depart church at 9 a.m.

Sunday, April 30 – See Sundays above for details