

The Chimes

of East Lake United Methodist Church

August 2023
Volume 64
Issue 8

In the neighborhood for good!



Seeds of Hope

God, the great gardener of this universe and of our souls, is always planting seeds of hope (Matthew 13:3-8; 31-32). We, as faithful disciples, are stewards of these gardens, and we water and nourish and pray for a bountiful harvest. I am as excited as a kid planting a lima bean in a cup in kindergarten. I am amazed at the wonder of creation and at God's good gifts. Some of our long prayed for seeds are growing!! Some of the plants and flowers don't look exactly as we expected, but that happens in our physical gardens as well, right? Have you ever seen broccoli grow? Very weird.

Two of our fervent and frequent prayers in recent memory have been being faithful stewards of our property to the glory of God, and to better engage with the youth and children in our community so that they might know more about the love of God and the warm welcome of the church. These two prayers are beginning to blossom.

As I've told you previously, Terry Slaughter, a creative and faithful man who is also an artist and a businessman, is taking over renovations of our old parsonage that sits on church property on the First Avenue side. The work has finally begun in earnest. The house has been cleaned out and secured, and the surrounding landscape has been cleared of brush. Carpenters are rebuilding windows and doors, and soon the utilities will be reconnected, and we will be able to see his vision for the place as an art studio and for community classes really taking shape.



Meanwhile, our youth and children's directors have been doing an amazing job reaching out to our area schools, and the kids in our community. They will be leading discussion groups with 8th graders this coming school year, talking to them about peer pressure, social media etiquette, positive self-esteem, and much more. They are also planning fun activities for market days, holidays, and offering love and faith foundation lessons on Sundays.

Keep up the praying. Keep up the watering and nourishing. I can't wait to see what God will cause to sprout next.

Peace,

Sally

... from Leslie

Hey, friends!

Is anyone else having a hard time believing that August is already upon us?! I am glad to report that all of our Summer Discipleship Groups (our new Thursday Morning Discipleship Group, our Justice Book Study, and our seasonal Sunday School Group on *Messy People*) have been meaningful and fruitful. I'm currently working on the promotion materials for our Fall Discipleship Groups, but can go ahead and share some details.

Specifically for our new (and new-ish) people around the block at ELUMC, we are having a class on Methodism this fall! (You know who you are! And if you don't, you'll be hearing from me with more details soon!) This group will meet on Sunday evenings from October 1 through November 5 at Eric and Genie Christian's home. Each week will be 5:30-7pm with dinner included. Teachers will rotate as we move through Methodist history, theology, and more! This is an awesome chance to learn more about who we are.

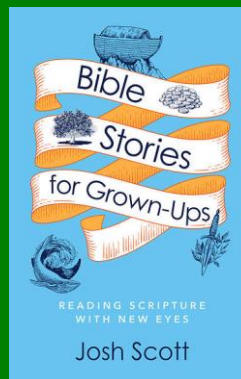
In addition to this, we are offering a seasonal Sunday School group that is open to everyone! Lucy Lipp will be leading us through *Bible Stories For Grown-Ups* from September 17 through November 5.

We will be pre-registering for books this go-around to make sure we purchase the right amount for everyone, and then you can pick up your book closer to class time. While there will be sign-up sheets at church in the next few weeks, you can also email

elumccomm@gmail.com anytime before Sunday, August 13, to pre-register if you already know you'll take part in the class. I hope you take part in this spiritually moving opportunity!

Love and peace,

Leslie



THE BELL TOWER PLAYERS PRESENT

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE
DIRECTED BY ANDREW DUXBURY

Thursday, August 17 & Fridays, August 11 & 18 at 7:30p
Saturdays, August 12 & 19 at 4:00p
Sundays, August 13 & 20 at 2:30p

East Lake United Methodist Church

Call for more info: 205. 836.3201
Buy tickets online at <https://btpelumc.booktix.com>

Hinton Rural Life Center in the Fall!

Yes, we are returning to our favorite mission field in November 9-12, 2023, and we want YOU to go!

The goal of this Hinton program is "Safe and Healthy Housing" for all folks living in the mountains surrounding the center. Last time (in February), we did some heavy duty clean-up, pressure washing, leaf-blowing (ask Sally about the last two), rubbish burning, electrical fixing, and a number of other tasks. It is always so very rewarding, and we hope you will be a part of our team. So far we have 10+ people planning to go, but the larger our team, the more we can accomplish. If you'd like more information, or would like to sign up, talk to Jane Phares at your earliest opportunity.

August Birthdays

		1 *Gary Sandridge	2	3	4	5 *Tom Preston
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 *Karen Marks
20 *Lin Livingston	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 *Jim Briley	28 *June Dodson	29 *Myra Bradley	30	31		

SUPER SENIORS

and

Friday Night Fellowship



This month, you are all invited to attend a performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at a \$2.00 discount, making your cost \$10 instead of \$12. Seniors, your day is Sunday, August 13, at 2:30 p.m., and Friday Night Fellowship-ers, yours is Friday night, August 18, at 7:30. Come on out for accessible Shakespeare!

Jane P.

Let's Talk about the Attacks on our Trans Communities

Town Hall Meeting

AT T.A.K.E. RESOURCE CENTER



A 2 Hour Discussion

Free & Open to the Public

Friday, August 25

5:00 pm - 7:00pm
T.A.K.E.

7128 Oporto Madrid Blvd
Birmingham, AL

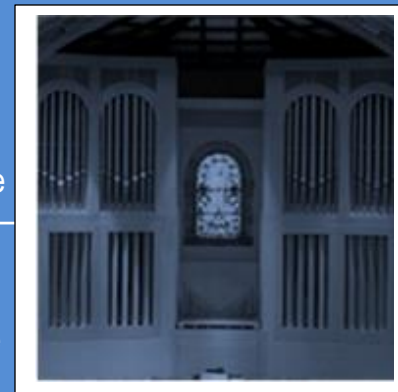


For More Information:

Takepeergroup@gmail.com

Music Notes 'midst Organ-izing

Continuing from last month, here's more info about the liturgical colors, or more down-to-earth, "why our altar and pulpit paraments, and Sally and the choir's stoles, are the color they are." Last month we spoke of the color **Blue** and its unique usage for the four Sundays of Advent. It is the color of HOPE. Then after sunset (or thereabout) on Christmas Eve, we switch to **White**, and its alternate color, **Gold**, which are the colors for feast days in the Church. A feast day is defined as "any day when we remember and celebrate something or someone important to our faith. Here are some of ours in the United Methodist Church:



1. The one or two Sundays in the midst of the *Twelve Days of Christmas*, December 25 through January 5 (Twelfth Night), mark the first time we move to **White/ Gold**. Obviously, Jesus's birthday is high on the list of something important to our faith.
2. The next day, January 6, is the *Feast of the Epiphany*, the day that the visitation of the Wise Men to Jesus is celebrated, another feast day.
3. Then on the 2nd Sunday of January, we celebrate the *Baptism of the Lord*, another time for **White / Gold**.
4. Moving on approximately six weeks, we have the *Transfiguration of the Lord*. This is when Jesus met with Moses and Elijah on the mountain. In our denomination, it is always celebrated the Sunday immediately before Ash Wednesday.
5. Then on the night before Easter Sunday, we are then very much at the beginning of feast day and season!

I shall also be researching what used to be a tradition in many of our churches, to have **White** for our color on Communion Sundays. So, more about that next month!

Love,

Barry

Apologies . . .

. . . to **Kathy Bassham Jackson** and **Phyllis Davis**, whose birthdays were left off the July *Chimes* calendar. Kathy's birthday was July 14, and Phyllis's was July 28. Happy belated birthday, ladies!

If you know of anyone whose birthday is left off, please notify your *Chimes* editor!

"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, are scheduled for surgery, or who otherwise need our prayers:

Alma & Jack Boggan
Gary Sandridge

Needs for Community Ministries

Snack Bags:	Fruit cups	Water		
Food Co-op:	Cleaning supplies	Paper goods (toilet paper, paper towels)		
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			

Lectionary Readings for August

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

Sunday, August 6 – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 32:22-31

Psalm 17:1-7, 15

Romans 9:1-5

Matthew 14:13-21

Sunday, August 13 – Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22

Romans 10:5-15

Matthew 14:22-33

Sunday, August 20 – Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 45:1-15

Psalm 133

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28

Sunday, August 27 – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 1:8-2:10

Psalm 124

Romans 12:1-8

Matthew 16:13-20

... from your Lay Leader

Last month I explored some ways we can “live with respect in creation.” I said that I would continue that part of the creed this month, by looking at some more ways to live out this particular part. There are many, some of which are harder than others. Here are some that most of us can do:

1. Turn off the lights in rooms you aren't in. This is true for the church, too! If your group meets in a room, turn off the light when you're the last one to leave.
2. Wash clothes with cold water as much as possible.
3. Air-dry your clothes if you can. Remember the fresh smell of clothes, linens, etc. that were dried outside on a clothesline?
4. Close your blinds or curtains when the sun is shining directly on them. This will help your air conditioner not work so hard.
5. Set your fridge temperature at 35-38° and your freezer to 0° Fahrenheit, no lower. Also, try not to overpack it to keep it working efficiently.
6. Make sure your windows and doors are sealed properly to keep the temperature of your home stable.
7. Keep your car/truck maintained so that it runs efficiently. Also, remember that keeping it loaded with heavy items can cut down on your fuel efficiency.
8. Finally, reduce plastic waste (and other types) as much as possible. Buy a box of paper straws (which are biodegradable) instead of using plastic ones; take your own reusable bags to the grocery store instead of using the plastic ones, and I bet you can think of more ways!

Cheering for you!

Jane Phares

A Back-to-School Prayer

By Rev. H.N.

God of new beginnings,
We look to you for guidance as students, teachers,
and parents prepare for a new year.
As we wander aisles looking for supplies for the
year ahead, ease anxieties of whether or not
we've done enough to prepare.
These anxieties stretch beyond pens and folders to
much more serious questions.
Am I smart enough? Will I make friends?
Am I prepare to teach? How will I manage my
class?
Will the teacher be nice?
Will the students listen?
Will my child be successful?
Will I struggle? Will they struggle?
Am I enough? Have I done enough?
We've done all we can. The start of a new year is
upon us. You say we are enough.
Regardless of grades or struggles, your love and
presence remains. Amid all challenges, your
hand is outstretched beckoning us to come.
Come, face the day.
Come, meet new friends.
Come, shepherd your students.
Come, support your child.
Come, grow together.
In all new beginnings, there is cause for fear and for
hope. May we each focus upon hope in the days,
weeks, and months ahead.
Amen.



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, Senior Pastor (205) 821-8804

smcallocca@gmail.com

Rev. Henry Gibson, Associate Pastor
henry.gibson@umcna.org

Mr. Barry Norris (205) 540-1820

the1220chambers@yahoo.com

Dr. Jane Phares (205) 821-8632

jane.eastlakeumc@gmail.com

Mrs. Leslie Norris Williams (205) 475-2890

1eno2699@gmail.com

Ms. Genesis Turner
genesisturner068gmail.com, Youth

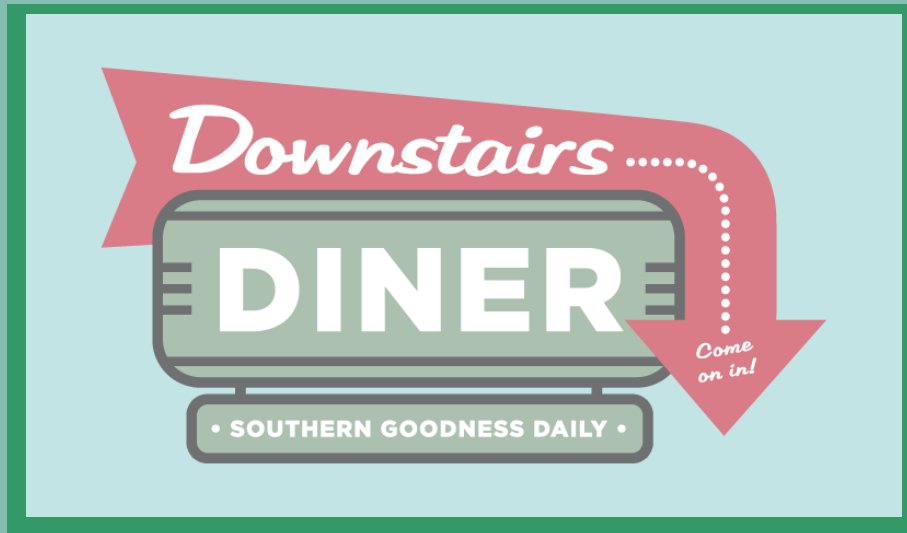
Ms. Laila Sears

lailasears6@gmail.com, Children

What religion do I preach?
The religion of love—the law
of kindness brought to light
by the gospel.

What is this good for?
To make all who receive it
enjoy God and themselves,
and to make them, like God,
lovers of all.

– John Wesley



Diner Offerings for August 2023

Tuesday, August 1	Sub sandwiches, pasta salad, chips
Wednesday, August 2	Greek chicken, rice pilaf, roasted vegetables
Thursday, August 3	Pulled pork or chicken sandwiches, potato salad, baked beans
Tuesday, August 8	Taco salad with chips, corn, and black beans
Wednesday, August 9	Chicken tetrazzini, garden salad, roll
Thursday, August 10	Big-baker loaded potatoes with chicken or pork
Tuesday, August 15	Beef patty w/ gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans
Wednesday, August 16	Macaroni & cheese, cabbage, butter beans, cornbread
Thursday, August 17	Fried or baked fish, baked beans, coleslaw, roll
Tuesday, August 22	Beef tips w/ gravy, green bean casserole, mashed potatoes
Wednesday, August 23	Baked chicken, stuffed tomato with rice, roasted vegetables
Thursday, August 24	Chicken salad, sliced tomatoes, pita bread
Tuesday, August 29	Lasagna, garden salad, roll
Wednesday, August 30	Macaroni & cheese, collards, sweet potatoes
Thursday, August 31	Breakfast for lunch: Eggs, grits, sausage, hash-browns, pancakes

Food
for
Thought

FOOD BRINGS PEOPLE TOGETHER ON MANY DIFFERENT LEVELS. IT'S THE NOURISHMENT OF THE SOUL AND BODY: IT'S TRULY LOVE.

Giada De Laurentis

Your tanger



Reminder:

**FOOD IS FUEL.
NOT THERAPY.**

September 2023

Tuesday, August 1

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

Wednesday, August 2

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

Thursday, August 3

Book study– 10-11ish a.m. (Jane Phares's house)
 Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
 Thrift store - open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Saturday, August 5

East Lake Market – 8-noon (small parking lot)
 Thrift Store – 9 a.m. – noon

Sunday, August 6

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

Tuesday, August 8

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

Wednesday, August 9

Adult Bible Study – 11 a.m. (by phone)
 Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Thursday, August 10

Book study– 10-11ish a.m. (Jane Phares's house)
 Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
 Thrift store - open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Friday, August 11

A Midsummer Night's Dream – 7:30 p.m. (Wesley Hall)

Saturday, August 12

East Lake Market – 8-noon (small parking lot)
 Thrift Store – 9 a.m. – noon
A Midsummer Night's Dream – 4:00 p.m. (Wesley Hall)

Sunday, August 13

Traditional worship – 9 a.m. (Sanctuary)
 Sunday School – 10 a.m. (various classrooms)
 Alternative worship – 11 a.m. (Chapel)
A Midsummer Night's Dream – 2:30 p.m.

Tuesday, August 15

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

Wednesday, August 16

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

Thursday, August 17

Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
 Thrift store - open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
 Ponder with the Pastor – 5:30-7 p.m. (True Story Brewery)

A Midsummer Night's Dream – 7:30 p.m.

Friday, August 18

A Midsummer Night's Dream – 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, August 19

East Lake Market – 8-noon (small parking lot)
 Thrift Store – 9 a.m. – noon
A Midsummer Night's Dream – 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 20

Traditional worship – 9 a.m. (Sanctuary)
 Sunday School – 10 a.m. (various classrooms)
 Alternative worship – 11 a.m. (Chapel)
 "Feeding Our Friends" – 12:30 p.m. (Diner)
A Midsummer Night's Dream – 2:30 p.m.

Tuesday, August 22

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

Wednesday, August 23

Adult Bible Study – 11 a.m. (by phone)
 Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Thursday, August 24

Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
 Thrift store - open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Saturday, August 26

East Lake Market – 8-noon (small parking lot)
 Thrift Store – 9 a.m. – noon

Activities for the week of August 27-August 31 will follow the regular schedule as listed above.