

# The Chimes

of East Lake United Methodist Church

May 2025  
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Issue 5

*In the neighborhood for good!*



## Making All Things New

I love spring! I don't mind the cold. I love bundling up in front of a fire with a hot drink and a good book, but I am always excited with I see the first buds of spring, when the sky turns that lighter shade of blue, and there is a soft breeze in the air. It reminds me of second chances. That is what this Easter season is about in many ways – a new day, a new chance, renewed hope.

Two scripture verses come to mind that express the joy and new opportunities that come with the Easter season and springtime. The first is from Isaiah 43:19-21: "Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild beasts will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise." We honor and follow the God of new life, new hope, and we give praise to God by extending these same things to the people around us. The second verse comes from the gospel of John, chapter 14 verse 5: "I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing." We are connected to God through our faith. We strengthen this connection through prayer and study and service. We draw strength and a love of living through this connection to God.

How can we give praise to God and bear fruit in our discipleship? I think about all of the things that springtime and Eastertide bring to the life of the church — like the church booth and Kid's Corner and the thrift store, all starting up in conjunction with the East Lake Farmers Market. You may wonder what these things have to do with new life and second chances, with bearing fruit and giving praise. All these involve community, new people right at our doorstep looking for friendly faces and welcome and belonging. All of these opportunities are great ways for us to connect, to reach out, to give the love back that God has given to us. It is what we do. It is who we are. These small ways to offer cold water, treats and crafts, and a good bargain are ways we let the community know that we are in the neighborhood for good. That we are here to spread the love of Jesus and remind them that they are loved more than they can possibly imagine.

Let us pray together that these opportunities that God gives us to spread hope and love as a means of praise will be fruitful. May each of us live out the second chance we have been given with joy.

Peace,

*Sally*

P.S. If you want to be a part of these simple, powerful opportunities, let me know. We'll get you connected!

... from Leslie

Hey, friends!

I'll just jump right into it this month... I am SO excited for Summer Discipleship Groups. They are really something special. You can read all about them on the flyer (see next page), but don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have questions. All of our regular groups (Joy Class, Crochet Group, Thursday (sometimes Wednesday) Morning Group, and so on) will continue as well!

If you are seeing this a little bit into May, and maybe the registration deadline for the Sabbath Economics Sunday School class has passed, or the Old Testament study has already met, that does NOT mean that it is too late for you to take part! We would love for you to hop right into an Old Testament study starting on Wednesday nights on May 7. And if you reach out to me, I can still order you a Sabbath Economics book, it just may not be here quite by the time class starts, but we can certainly make it work.

There are lots of other ways you can get involved in something new this Summer beyond small groups too... Working the Thrift Store, volunteering at the Market (Kids Corner, Church Booth, packing boxes, and more!), helping out the altar guild and preparing our worship spaces, and lots more! If any of this sounds interesting to you, let me know and we can get you fixed up! We can walk you through what different roles entail, or you can shadow a seasoned veteran first and see if you like it, so don't hesitate to reach out if you aren't sure yet but just want to know more.

Love and Peace,

*Leslie*



Tickets are \$15, but on Sunday, May 11 (Mother's Day), mothers get in for \$10!

We now accept credit cards at the door and for concessions

## East Lake United Methodist Church

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# SUMMER DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

## at East Lake UMC



What does it look like to take Jesus and justice seriously? How can we practically live out our call as Christians? Can radical, life-giving practices and principles from Scripture challenge and revive us?

### Sabbath Economics

Sunday School Book Study

- **Sundays this June & July, 10am**, Meeting Room
- **Register by Sunday, May 4** – Sign up on the Welcome Table, call, or email! People who register will get an email about book pick-up at church.
- Group discussion on Ched Myers' *The Biblical Vision of Sabbath Economics*
- Books are \$8. If you can't pay in full, just pay what you can. If you can pay extra to help cover a friend, feel free. Pay online using the QR code or by writing "Book" on your cash/check.



### Stories of Our Faith:

A Brief Overview of the Old Testament

- **Wednesdays starting in May, 6pm**, Meeting Rm. May 7-June 11, July 9-Aug. 27 (break in between)
- **No registration needed**, just bring a Bible!
- Join Pastor Sally as we explore the Torah, the Prophets, and more!

Do you struggle with the Old Testament?  
Are you longing for some help falling in love with these sacred, foundational writings?



Contact us: (205) 836-3201 | [elumccomm@gmail.com](mailto:elumccomm@gmail.com)  
Directions, hours, and more: [www.eastlakeunitedmethodist.org/connect](http://www.eastlakeunitedmethodist.org/connect)



East Lake UMC is a loving & diverse congregation that is engaged in the community. For more on what's happening, visit our website, like us on Facebook, or reach out!





## May Birthdays

				1 *Vien Phan	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 *Danielle Self	12	13	14	15	16 *Kay Miller	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 *Sally Allocca
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



Hi, friends!

I hope y'all enjoyed watching *Pollyanna* last month as much as I did. It brought back lots of memories from my childhood, and I was really impressed, as an adult, to see how much talent Hayley Mills had.

This month, we are going to have a game day to welcome Spring. It might be Bingo, or it might be something different. Whatever it is, I will try to make it fun. And, of course, there will be prizes! This might be a team competition, so gather all your senior friends and get ready to rumble! (We really need to expand our group, so if you think of someone younger than you are, but still in the senior age group, invite them to come. Our church has a number of "junior" senior, so let's get them coming to our activities. We'll have a good time as we always do!

Our day this month is **Tuesday, May 13, at 10 a.m.**, as usual. Let's meet in the office conference room.

Jane P.

*"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:*

**Lucy Lipp**

**Gary Sandridge**

*Please keep these folks in your prayers.*

**PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER.**



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## Lectionary Readings for May

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

### Sunday, May 4 – Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:1-6 (7-20)

Psalm 30

Revelation 5:11-14

John 21:1-9

### Sunday, May 11 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:36-43

Psalm 23

Revelation 7:9-17

John 10:22-30

### Sunday, May 18 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 11:1-18

Psalm 148

Revelation 21:1-16

John 13:31-35

### Sunday, May 25 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:9-15

Psalm 67

Revelations 21:10, 22-22:5

John 14:23-29

Hey folks,

I wanted to reach out to our faithful volunteers for the thrift store. We are hoping to have the store consistently open this season during the farmers market. In the past we have made up to \$100 a day. We need it to be reliably open to build back up our customer base. Melinda works hard to get new stuff for the store, and Doreen has been a great help in making signing up easier. I am hoping that you can find a friend who has not worked before to help you out on a Saturday and then hopefully they in turn can find someone new and work with them. The more people we have the less times each person will need to sign up. Hope you can help us build momentum to draw people in, give them a great bargain, and make more money for mission and ministry.

*Sally*

### ... from your Lay Leader ...

Whew! April was quite the busy month, and May's looking like it might be just the same. Last month we practiced *Second Samuel*, which I am directing this time. I hope you will all come and see it. It's funny, touching, and heartwarming, and I think you will love its message for us all. We open this coming week, on Thursday, May 8.

Then in the midst of that, we went to Hinton, and like always, we had a wonderful trip. The man we worked for (building a deck, cleaning his kitchen, clearing over-grown branches in his yard, etc.) was such an interesting man! We all want to tell you about it.

Plus, there was Easter and everything that went with it—the Holy Week service, which was so meaningful, the egg hunt, which brought in a **lot** of kids, and the regular (and new) helpers. It was all good! May brings the play performances, Annual Conference, and more. Hope to see you!

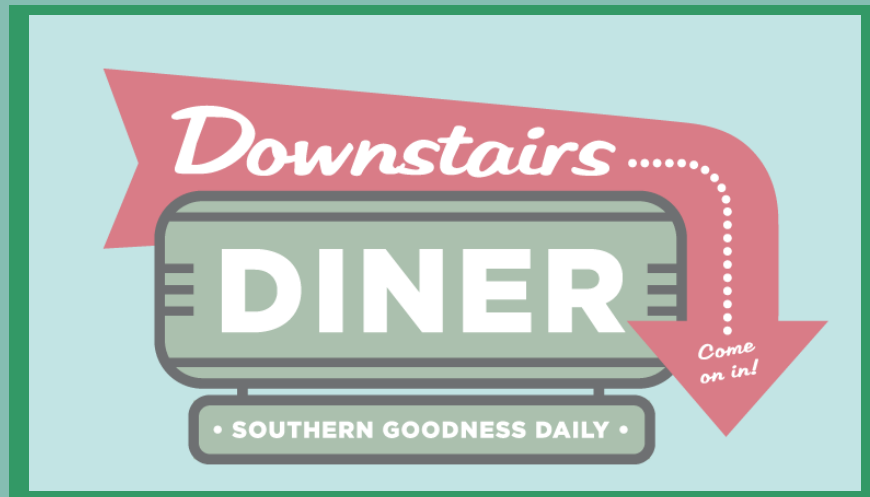
Love to each of you! *Jane P.*

## Annual Conference is this month

Annual Conference this year will be May 28-31 at Asbury United Methodist in Shelby County. This year's special offering will go to programs that address food insecurity in the North Alabama Conference. The monies collected will be dispensed on a grant basis. We all know that East Lake UMC has numerous programs that help people in our community—senior market baskets, our diner (where else can seniors get a delicious meal for \$6?), the market, the drop-in center, Lunch with Our Neighbors, and snack bags. Let's give generously to the special offering, which will be collected through May 25. In the 9:00 service, please put your special giving in an envelope, and designate it "AC special offering." In the 11:00 service, place your special offering in the missions basket.

In addition, each church is asked to give two complete Cleaning Buckets to go to disaster-hit areas of the United States. We know that there have been numerous floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, etc. in the last few months. UMCOR is very specific about the contents, so we will need to bring *exactly what is on the list*. We will have slips of paper on the long table in front of the glass doors on the lawn side. This will help us not to get more than we need of any one thing. Take one or more, and bring that item or items as soon as you get it/them. If shopping is difficult for you, you can also give money for us to buy needed items. Designate it "Cleaning Buckets" on an envelope. Here is a list of items we need for each bucket:

- One five-gallon round bucket with lid (14.35" h x 12.19" w x 12.19" d)  
**Like paint buckets you can get at Lowe's, Home Depot, or Ace Hardware)**
- One 32–64 oz. bottle liquid laundry detergent
- One 16–40 oz. bottle liquid concentrate household cleaner - **No spray cleaners**
- One 16–34 oz. bottle liquid dish soap.
- One 4–8 oz. pump/aerosol spray air freshener (aerosol must have safety cap)
- One 4–14 oz. pump spray insect repellent (pack of 20 wipes also acceptable)  
(Pump spray bottles must have protective covers)
- One scrub brush with or without handle
- 18 re-usable cleaning wipes **NO shop cloths, terrycloth, microfiber or paper towels** (Can be removed from packaging)
- Five scouring pads – **NO stainless steel, copper or pads with soap in them**; can be removed from packaging
- 36–50 clothespins
- One 50–100 ft. clothesline (cotton or plastic line)
- 24 roll of HD black trash bags (12ml) 3945 gallon – Can be removed from packaging
- Five **N95** particulate respirator dust masks (1–3 mm thickness) (**No surgical masks**)
- Two pairs kitchen gloves (durable for multiple uses)
- One pair work gloves - cotton with leather palm or all leather



## DINER OFFERINGS FOR MAY 2025

Thursday, May 1	Macaroni & cheese, collard greens, pinto beans, cornbread
Friday, May 2	Fried fish, French fries, coleslaw, roll
Monday, May 5	Beef patty with gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll
Tuesday, May 6	Baked ham, au gratin potatoes, baby carrots, roll
Wednesday, May 7	Chicken, broccoli, and rice casserole, fruit, roll
Thursday, May 8	Taco salad w/ Mexican rice, kernel corn, tortilla chips
Friday, May 9	Pork chop, yellow rice, fried okra, roll
Monday, May 12	Spaghetti with meat sauce, garden salad, fruit, garlic bread
Tuesday, May 13	Chicken salad, sliced tomatoes, fruit, crackers
Wednesday, May 14	Hamburgers w/ lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, French fries
Thursday, May 15	Red beans and rice w/ turkey sausage, fried okra, cornbread
Friday, May 16	Fried fish, French fries, coleslaw, roll
Monday, May 19	Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green peas, roll,
Tuesday, May 20	Fried chicken, rice pilaf, green beans, roll
Wednesday, May 21	Taco salad w/ Mexican rice, kernel corn, tortilla chips
Thursday, May 22	Macaroni & cheese, collard greens, pinto beans, cornbread
Friday, May 23	Baked ham, roasted vegetables, sweet potatoes
Monday, May 26	CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY
Tuesday, May 27	Chicken Alfredo, broccoli Normandy, roll, fruit
Wednesday, May 28	Baked ziti, garden salad, garlic bread, fruit
Thursday, May 29	Pulled pork, baked beans, garden salad
Friday, May 30	Fried fish, au gratin potatoes, fried okra, bread

# May 2025

## Thursday, May 1

Book study group at Red Bike Coffee (Crestwood Shopping Center) – 10 a.m.  
Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Thrift store - open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

## Sunday, May 4

Traditional worship – 9 a.m. (Sanctuary)  
Sunday School – 10 a.m. (various classrooms)  
Alternative worship – 11 a.m. (Chapel)  
Finance Committee meeting – 1 p.m. (Office Conference Room)

## Tuesday, May 6

Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Thrift store - open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Crochet group – 12 noon (Diner)

## Wednesday, May 7

Adult Bible Study – 11 a.m. (by phone)  
Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. til 1 p.m.  
“Thursday” book study – Red Bike Coffee – 10 a.m.  
Dinner – 5:30-6 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
Old Testament Overview – 6 p.m. (1<sup>st</sup> floor meeting room)

## Thursday, May 8

Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Thrift store - open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
*Second Samuel* – 7:30 p.m. (Wesley Hall)

## Friday, May 9

*Second Samuel* – 7:30 p.m. (Wesley Hall)

## Saturday, May 10

*Second Samuel* – 2:30 p.m. (Wesley Hall)

## Sunday, May 11 – Mothers Day

Traditional worship – 9 a.m. (Sanctuary)  
Sunday School – 10 a.m. (various classrooms)  
Alternative worship – 11 a.m. (Chapel)  
*Second Samuel* – 2:30 p.m. (Wesley Hall)

## Tuesday, May 13

Senior games – 10 a.m.-11:30ish (office)  
Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Thrift store - open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Crochet group – 12 noon (Diner)

## Wednesday, May 14

Adult Bible Study – 11 a.m. (by phone)  
Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. til 1 p.m.  
Dinner – 5:30-6 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
Old Testament Overview – 6 p.m. (1<sup>st</sup> floor meeting room)

## Thursday, May 15

Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Thrift store – open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Crochet group – 12 noon (Diner)  
Ponder with the Pastor – 5:30 p.m.  
*Second Samuel* – 7:30 p.m. (Wesley Hall)

## Friday, May 16

*Second Samuel* – 7:30 p.m. (Wesley Hall)

## Saturday, May 17

*Second Samuel* – 2:30 p.m. (Wesley Hall)

## Sunday, May 18

Traditional worship – 9 a.m. (Sanctuary)  
Sunday School – 10 a.m. (various classrooms)  
Alternative worship – 11 a.m. (Chapel)  
Lunch with our neighbors – 12:30-1:30  
*Second Samuel* – 2:30 p.m. (Wesley Hall)

## Tuesday, May 20

Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Thrift store - open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Crochet group – 12 noon (Diner)

## Wednesday, May 21

Adult Bible Study – 11 a.m. (by phone)  
Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. til 1 p.m.  
Dinner – 5:30-6 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
Old Testament Overview – 6 p.m. (1<sup>st</sup> floor meeting room)

## Thursday, May 22

Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Thrift store - open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

## Sunday, May 25

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

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, May 27-29 – See Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, May 20-22