

### of East Lake United Methodist Church

October 2024 Volume 65 Issue 10

In the neighborhood for good!

### Be a Part of the Miracle

I wish I could have been a fly on the wall (or a bird on the hill) when Jesus fed the 5,000. In John 6, Jesus asked the disciples how they were going to feed all the people gathered for healing. One of the disciples said, "Here's a boy who has 5 barley loaves and 2 fish." I wonder if Andrew sought that boy out, thinking that that small sack lunch would be enough? Did he think others would see the boy's gift and decide to share the little they had brought? Did he believe that Jesus would do a miracle and multiply the little into enough?

I imagine that the little boy heard the disciples grumbling about what they were going to do with all those people who were going to expect or need something to eat. I think he slipped away from his mother's gaze and scurried over to them and said, "I have this! Will this help?" Sweet thought, but of course it wasn't enough. It wasn't enough except for Jesus, except for the grace of God that takes what we have to offer and multiplies it until it is enough and more.

I am stunned by the enormity of the need in our neighborhood, by the hurricane victims, around the world. How could we ever have enough? On our own we do not, but together and with the grace of God there will be enough, and more, to supply the need. What do you hold in your hands? You may not have everything, but you do have something, something to share. Theologian John Haughey said, "We read the Gospel as if we had no money and we spend our money as if we know nothing of the Gospel." God calls us to hear the cries, see the need, and to give what we have. God will take it, bless it, and multiply it.

Do you hear the cries? Do you believe in the miracle? Michael Card wrote a children's song that says, "Take these few fish and crumbs of bread. It's all that I can do. But most of all, Lord, take my life and make me a miracle too."

Let's be a part of the miracle. The United Methodist Committee on Relief is requesting funds for disaster relief for hurricane victims. 100% of gifts will go toward relief. We are also collecting items for flood buckets. Specific items are listed on Facebook, and on flyers on page 6. Let us know if you want to contribute and then have us shop for you. Together, we are the body of Christ. What do you hold in your hand?

Peace, Sally

### ... from Leslie

#### Happy Fall, everyone!

I think the various Hospitality trainings we had in September were just delightful. Thanks to everyone who joined us during Sunday School to learn more about de-escalation, greeting, setting up before worship, and so on! You made it a success! If you missed these trainings but are interested in learning more about how you can help, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or our Hospitality Coordinator for the next few months—Veronica Williams! Veronica has wonderfully agreed to help send reminders out, oversee and guide people through hospitality things, and more!

We have great Sunday School options and much expanded Wednesday Night programming coming up this October and November, so I encourage you to check it out and see what speaks to you. Especially the Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinners and Groups are great things to invite new people to if you have been thinking about bringing someone to church with you! There are flyers in the Welcome Area, in the Diner, and on Facebook, and I've sent some email announcements, but if you haven't seen them yet, let me know and I'll be glad to share the details with you.

I hope you are busy selling pecans, preparing for the Halloween Carnival and the Fall Bazaar, and having lots of fun, but I also hope you make time for some of these great opportunities to slow down and grow spiritually this season.

Leslie

Church 2024 Charge Conference Sunday, October 20 10:15 a.m. In the Sanctuary

"Members of the congregation are welcome to attend; leaders are *expected* to attend."

### WELCOME!

We have celebrated two happy and exciting events in the life of our church recently, both happening in our 11:00 worship service. On Sunday, September 22, Brenda Ann Johnson and Terrell (Terry) Mabry joined our church on profession of faith. Then, on Sunday, September 29, Bryce Phan, who has been attending the church with his family for several months, was baptized into the family of God. Welcome, Brenda, Terry, and Bryce!



At left, Brenda and Terry

At right, Bryce takes the vows, and Sally baptizes him as his family and other members stand to support him.



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### Pastoral and Program Staff:

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Mrs. Leslie Norris Williams, Minister of Discipleship and Communications (205) 475-2890 elumccomm@gmail.com

October Birthdays							
		1	2	3 *Jackie Folk *Roy Miller *Betty Phan	4	5	
6	7	8 *Laure Smith	9	10	11 *Susie Knedlik	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28 *Tom Duley *Bronwyn Lovelace	29	30	31			



Happy October, friends!

As we look toward the last three months of 2024 (can you believe it?), we know that we usually play Christmas Bingo at least, and I was thinking of some Thanksgiving Bingo as well. SO, we will do something else this month. I'm a little afraid to try "Lunch and Learn" again right now, so what's left is another movie. I don't think we've ever had a Halloween movie, and the "fun" or non-gory ones are hard to find. But I have two in mind for you to choose from: either *Hocus Pocus* 

(1993, with the hilarious Bette Midler), or *Arsenic and Old Lace* (1944, with Cary Grant). Think on it! Or, if you have another suggestion, let me know!

See you **Tuesday**, **October 8**, **10 a.m.** in the office conference room!

Jane P.



## Apologies...

... to Bryce Phan, who was left off the birthday calendar last month. His birthday was on September 10. Hope it was happy, Bryce!

## "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:

Barbara Boyd	Stacy Pentecost
Kay Sharp	(former member,
	Connie Stone's daughter)

**Memorial** A gift has been given to the church in memory of **Evelyn Lindsay** James and Carole Smith

# HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL DONATION ITEMS NEEDED!

Thursday, October 31 | 5-7pm | Fellowship Hall

- Unopened packages of cakes, cookies, doughnuts, Little Debbie treats, etc. for the Sweets Walk (Make sure they don't expire before or on the 31st!)
  - Bags of individually wrapped candies for prizes
  - Small toys for prizes (cars, bouncy balls, fun pencils, stickers, small bubble wands, rings, things from Dollar General, etc.)

Drop off donations in the basket under the Welcome Table or in the Church Office during the week!

If you're available to help set up for or volunteer at the Carnival, please see the Sign-Up Sheet on the Welcome Table or email <u>elumccomm@gmail.com</u>!



### One more week to sell pecans!



Our churchwide Priester's Pecan sale will end on Wednesday, Oct. 9, when all orders are due. We must have order forms and payment turned in then so we can in turn order the pecans from Priester's in Fort Deposit, Alabama.

We hope that all church members are helping to sell these delicious pecans. It might just take a phone call and a little effort to collect payment. Or put the flyer on your Facebook page. Buyers who use Venmo may make their payment to @Jane-Phares, and she will transfer those funds to the church; or if you have Venmo, they can pay you, and you can write your own check to the church.

Orders will be available for pickup at our Fall Arts & Crafts Bazaar on Saturday, November 2. Please encourage those who have bought pecans from you to come to the bazaar to get them. That way they might see something they can't live without! If they can't come to the bazaar, you can deliver their bags to them.

Call Jane Phares in the church office if you have any questions.

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

Sunday, October 6 – Twentieth Sunday after PentecostJob 1:1; 2:1-10Psalm 26 or Psalm 25Mark 10:2-16

Sunday, October 13 – Twenty-first Sunday after PentecostJob 23:1-9, 16-17Hebrews 4:12-16Psalm 22:1-15Mark 10:17-31

Sunday, October 20 – Twenty-second Sunday after PentecostJob 38:1-7 (34-41)Hebrew 5:1-10Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35cMark 10:35-45

Sunday, October 27 – Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost, Reformation SundayJob 42:1-6, 10-17Hebrews 7:23-28Psalm 34:1-8 (19-22)Mark 10:46-52

## ... from your Lay Leader

Last night, as I write, we had our first Wednesday night with supper and classes/activities. What a good time! First of all, the chicken spaghetti and salad we had for dinner was delicious; plus, it was so nice not having to cook! After supper, we broke up into classes—the continued Luke study taught by Tom Duley, arts and crafts with Suzy Phan and Alex Collum, and the short-term "Cultivating Kindness" study that I lead. Plus, Lucy Lipp kept the children busy in the nursery. By all accounts, these all went really well. In fact, Martez (our guard) and Sally had to chase us out of the glass-door area long after the night's activities were supposed to be over! Conversation was warm and abundant.

Our 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament was also this week, on Monday. As usual, it was a really good day. We don't know exactly how much money we made for missions, but it was somewhere around \$8,000. Of course, we could put twice that much to good use, but we are happy!

I also wanted to mention that I am updating our church directory. Before too long, I will have a proof copy for you to check your information. Some of you were not in our last directory, so I'll need to get a picture of you. Others who were in the last one might want a new photo taken (many of us have changed in the last how ever many years since the last directory was done; case in point, look at Logan and Tallulah McDonald's pictures when you get a chance!) You can just let me know if you don't like your picture, and we'll work out a time to take a new one.

We have recently had a visitor who moved here from Peru. Interestingly, when he came to 11:00 worship last Sunday, we found out how many of our members speak at least a little Spanish. This has sparked a desire (or reignited a desire) to offer ESL classes (that's English as a Second Language). Sounds like several of us could tag-team this effort and offer a needed resource in our community.

Well, that's all for this time. We appreciate your prayers for all our activities. Remember that I am

Cheering for you, Jane P.





### DINER OFFERINGS FOR OCTOBER 2024

Tuesday, October 1 Wednesday, October 2 Thursday, October 3 Friday, October 4

Monday, October 7 Tuesday, October 8 Wednesday, October 9 Thursday, October 10 Friday, October 11

Monday, October 14 Tuesday, October 15 Wednesday, October 16 Thursday, October 17 Friday, October 18

Monday, October 21 Tuesday, October 22 Wednesday, October 23 Thursday, October 24 Friday, October 25

Monday, October 28 Tuesday, October 29 Wednesday, October 30 Thursday, October 31 Taco salad with tortilla chips, pinto beans, and Spanish rice Hamburger steak, mashed potatoes, lima beans Baked chicken, roasted vegetables, sweet potatoes Baked pork chops, macaroni and cheese, cabbage

BBQ chicken, potato salad, baked beans Lasagna (meat or vegetable), garden salad, cornbread Salisbury steak, seasoned potatoes, green beans Chicken, cabbage, sweet potatoes Baked or fried fish, coleslaw, baked beans

Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans Pulled pork sandwich, baked beans, potato salad Spaghetti with meat sauce, garden salad, corn on the cob Salmon croquettes, rice, roasted vegetables Chicken tetrazzini, garden salad, corn

Beef tips with rice, steamed broccoli, roll Stuffed chicken, cabbage, sweet potatoes Cheeseburger, potato salad, baked beans Pork chops, roasted vegetables, rice Baked or fried fish, scalloped potatoes, green beans

Chili, grilled cheese, garden salad Salisbury steak with gravy, rice, green beans Baked chicken, seasoned potatoes, roasted vegetables Taco salad with tortilla chips, pinto beans, and Spanish rice

# *October 2024*

### **EVERY SUNDAY IN OCTOBER:**

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

#### Additional Sunday Activities/Meetings:

Sunday, October 6 – 4 p.m. Celebration Service and Reception for new Bishop Holston (Asbury UMC)

Sunday, October 13 – 2 p.m. Staff-Parish Committee meeting – (Office Conference Room)

Sunday, October 20 – 10:15 a.m. Church Charge Conference (Sanctuary)
Sunday, October 20 – 12:30-1:30 p.m. Lunch with Our Neighbors (Diner)

#### **EVERY TUESDAY IN OCTOBER:**

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

### Additional Tuesday Activities/Meetings:

Tuesday, October 8 – 10 a.m. Senior movie (Office Conference Room)

Tuesday, October 15 – 5:45-7 p.m. Grief Group (Parlor)

### **EVERY WEDNESDAY IN OCTOBER:**

Adult Bible Study – 11 a.m. (by phone) Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Supper – 5:30-6:00 p.m. (Wesley Hall) Various studies/activities – 6-7 p.m.

Exceptions/Additions to Wednesday meetings:

Wednesday, October 9 – Pecan order deadline

Wednesday, October 16 – No "Cultivating Kindness" study this week

#### **EVERY THURSDAY IN OCTOBER:**

Book Study\* – 10 a.m. (Jane Phares's house) Downstairs Diner – open 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Thrift store - open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Exceptions/Additions to Thursday meetings: \*Thursday, October 17 - \*No Book Study meeting

**Thursday, October 17** – 5:30-7 p.m. Ponder with the Pastor (True Story Brewery)

Thursday, October 31 – 5-7 p.m. Halloween Carnival (Wesley Hall)

#### **SATURDAYS IN OCTOBER:**

Only first two Saturdays, October 5 and October 12 – 8-noon; East Lake Market (small parking lot)

Thrift Store -9-noon

O suns and skies and clouds of June, And flowers of June together, Ye cannot rival for one hour October's bright blue weather.

~ Helen Hunt Jackson