

The Chimes

of East Lake United Methodist Church

November 2024

Volume 65

Issue 11

In the neighborhood for good!



How I See Stewardship

My understanding of stewardship and its importance can be seen in my two favorite verses of scripture. The first, as you probably know by now, is Romans 8:35-39. “...For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

And, as you may also know, the second is Deuteronomy 26: 1-11. “...you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name...you shall make this response before the Lord your God: ‘A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord hear our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.’ You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.”

When we are lost and afraid, when we cry out to God, God hears us and saves us. When we don’t know who or where we are, God knows and brings us to a safe and good place. God seeks us, finds us, knows us, and loves us—always. God brings us out of the pits of despair and puts us on level ground. We therefore bring our gifts to God and prayerfully give them. Then we celebrate together all the goodness and the love of God. There is nothing, nothing, NOTHING that can separate us from that love. It has always been there and will always be there. And, I am so grateful!

Therefore, I will give to God of my very best, always my very best time and energy and resources out of deep gratitude for God’s saving love. We are loved, and so we love one another. God gives first to us and so we give back to God. It’s simple and fulfilling. Give from your heart, the heart that God made and loves and saves.

Peace,

Sally

... from Leslie

Happy November!

I've got two things – an update on our Food Co-op and a preview of what to expect related to Discipleship this Advent.

Many of you know our Food Co-op group meets twice a month, works together, distributes grocery items, and fosters community. We recently became partners with Bundles of Hope Diaper Bank downtown, meaning we can now offer the group a pretty reliable supply of baby diapers. Bundles of Hope has continually been an incredible blessing to about 10 families in our area through this partnership! One of the qualifications of being a partner is that we do something to support them in return each year. We are not expected to repay everything we receive by any means, but we are encouraged to lean into the circle of paying it forward and invest in our shared mission of helping families in this area. This Advent, we'll host a Diaper Drive in support of Bundles of Hope (and, in turn, of our Food Co-op group). Stay tuned for details, our collection goal, and how you can raise awareness! Our Food Co-op also always needs baby wipes, adult diapers (XL), dog food, cat food, and cat litter!

Our Wednesday Night Dinners and Groups have been a success! Those opportunities conclude on November 20, so swing by before then if you haven't already. We're planning to relaunch them in the Spring. We'll be on break from both Wednesday Nights and monthly prayer services at the end of November and in December. Things to look out for during Advent include:

- A daily devotional booklet that aligns with our Advent theme in worship (will be available for pick-up at church or digital download the last couple weeks of November)
- An Advent Sunday School class
- A Christmas Wishlist from the church
- A calendar including special services like Longest Night, Christmas Pipes, Christmas Eve, and more
- Our regular offerings like Ponder with the Pastor, Grief Group, Crochet Group, and so on

See you soon!

Leslie

A special word of thanks for the delightful reception on Sunday for Pastor Appreciation Month. It was a complete surprise. Y'all are sneakier than I thought! The food and the sweet cards and the gifts were all lovely.

It is and has been my great joy to serve with you and to see the love of Jesus shine so brightly through each one of you. Thank you with all my heart.

Sally

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November Birthdays

					1 *Greg Boling	2 *Susan Preston
3	4 *John Milledge	5	6	7 *Dan Phan	8	9
10	11	12 *Betty King	13	14 *Lillian Nelson	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 *Ichabod Temperance	25 *Ja'Leshia Luster	26	27	28	29	30



Happy November, friends!

Hope all of you are well. I say this because it's been a while since I've seen some of you at our monthly senior activities. If you're well and have just had other things to do, that's understandable. If you haven't been interested in the activities, or if you've been under the weather, I need to know that! Since I've seen most of you at other church events, I'm going to assume you are well and just haven't been interested. SO, please tell me what kind of activities you WOULD be interested in—day trips? Lunch outings? Movies in the theater? Perhaps you have other ideas. If so, please tell me!

Because I'm on my own in the planning for November, we're going to have a Thanksgiving game day on Tuesday, November 12. Mind you, as I plan this, I don't know any Thanksgiving games, but I promise I'll find some—and there will be prizes! Come out of curiosity if for no other reason!

Again, it's Tuesday, November 12, at 10 a.m. in the back room of the diner—where we can get rowdy if we need to.

Jane P.

Apologies. . .

. . . to Suzy Phan, who was left off the birthday calendar last month. Her birthday was on October 15. Happy belated birthday, Suzy!

“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

Billy Coupland

Josh Hester

Connie Stone

Photo Collage of Last Week!



Lectionary Readings for November

I keep your word close, in my heart, so that I won't sin against you.

Psalm 119:11 (CEB)

Sunday, November 3 – Twentieth-fourth Sunday after Pentecost, All Saints Sunday

Ruth 1:1-18

Psalm 146

Hebrews 9:11-14

Mark 12:28-34

All Saints Lections:

Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalm 24

Revelation 21:1-6a

John 11:32-44

Sunday, November 10 – Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Ruth 3:1-5

Psalm 127 or Psalm 42

Hebrews 9:24-28

Mark 12:38-44

Sunday, November 17 – Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost

1 Samuel 1:4-20

1 Samuel 2:1-10, or Psalm 113

Hebrew 10:11-14 (15-18) 19-25

Mark 13:1-8

Sunday, November 24 – Christ the King Sunday

2 Samuel 23:1-7

Psalm 132:1-12 (13-18)

Revelation 1:4b-8

John 18:33-37

... from your Lay Leader

Whew! What a whirlwind of activity this past week! First, the Halloween Carnival on October 31, and then the Falls Arts and Crafts Bazaar two days later on November 2—who on earth would have planned these two events two days apart??? Unfortunately, I chose the bazaar date, not paying attention to the rest of the calendar, so I have no one to blame but myself. But the volunteers and staff pulled them both off without a hitch, and both were extremely successful!

I wanted to make an attempt to thank all the volunteers that gave their time to assure we had that success, but I actually don't think there is room in this piece of a page that is left to me. I'll plan to do that next month, so maybe I can get a complete list and not leave anyone out.

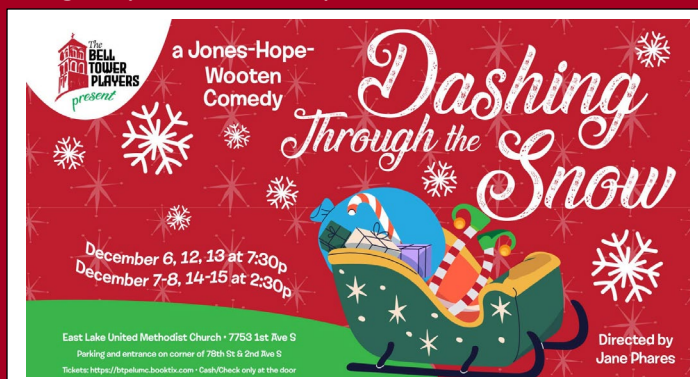
That being the case, I'm going to use this space to give you a heads-up about the next Bell Tower Players production. Here is the info →

I know the print is small here, but you'll be seeing posters up before long that will be similar to this but much easier to read! I hope you'll make plans to come—it's going to be a hoot!

Thanks to every who keeps us going and "in the neighborhood for good"!

Cheering for you,

Jane P.





East Lake Mental Health Initiative presents:

STAYING SANE THIS SEASON

a workshop on healthy boundaries
and self care during the holidays



**Holidays are great.
Holidays are lovely.
Holidays remind us of what is important!
Holidays also come with price tags.**

**Join us as we explore the way we can
create safe strategies to navigate the holidays
with true comfort, joy, and peace.**

All are welcome as we discuss:

- the importance of presence
- grief – how we remember and honor loved ones
- handling boundaries and limits
- taking responsibility and planning for self care
- creating safe spaces for yourself
- how faith informs our celebrations



DETAILS

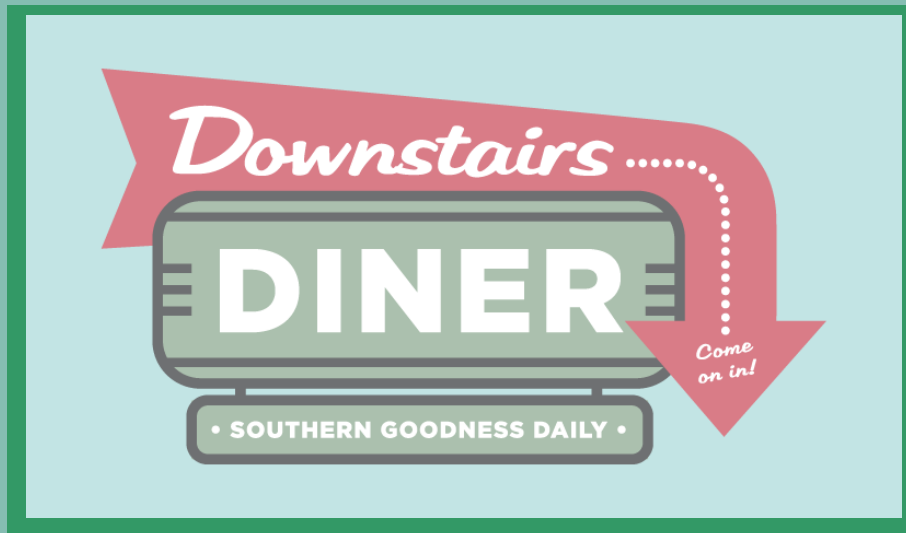
- Saturday, November 9
- 10:30AM -12PM
- East Lake UMC Chapel
- Facilitator: Karen D. Marks, MSW, LICSW, PIP
Clinical Social Worker in Birmingham

RSVP

- **RSVPs requested by Sunday, Nov. 3**
- RSVP via the Facebook event (scan above or click [HERE](#)) or call/email.
- You're invited to submit questions for Q&A time via call/email as well!

MORE INFO

- (205) 836-3201
- elumccomm@gmail.com
- Parking details & more:
www.eastlakeunitedmethodist.org/connect



DINER OFFERINGS FOR NOVEMBER 2024

Friday, November 1	Baked or fried fish, coleslaw, baked beans
Monday, November 4	Chicken soup or chili
Tuesday, November 5	Chicken salad, sliced tomatoes, fresh fruit
Wednesday, November 6	Red beans & rice with turkey sausage, fried okra, roll
Thursday, November 7	Beef stroganoff, garden salad, fresh fruit
Friday, November 8	Loaded baked potato with chicken and barbeque sauce
Monday, November 11	CLOSED FOR VETERANS DAY
Tuesday, November 12	Pork chops, blackeyed peas, fried okra
Wednesday, November 13	Chicken and dressing, green beans, cranberry sauce
Thursday, November 14	Spaghetti with meat sauce, garden salad, fruit
Friday, November 15	Hamburger with lettuce and tomatoes, French fries
Monday, November 18	Country fried steak, mashed potatoes, green peas
Tuesday, November 19	Turkey lasagna, tossed salad, fruit
Wednesday, November 20	Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans
Thursday, November 21	Roast beef, new potatoes, broccoli casserole
Friday, November 22	Barbeque chicken, coleslaw, baked beans
Monday, November 25	Meatballs, turnip greens, butter beans
Tuesday, November 26	Chicken tenders, mashed potatoes, roasted vegetables
Wednesday, November 27	Macaroni & cheese, blackeyed peas, steamed cabbage
Thursday, November 28	CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING
Friday, November 29	CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS

November 2024

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Fall Arts and Crafts Bazaar
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Wesley Hall

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Mental Health workshop – see p. 6

EVERY SUNDAY IN NOVEMBER:

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

Additional Sunday Activities/Meetings:

Sunday, November 3 – TIME CHANGE SUNDAY!

Sunday, November 10 – 2 p.m. Finance Committee meeting – (Office Conference Room)

Sunday, November 17 – 12:30-1:30 p.m. Lunch with Our Neighbors (Diner)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11

OFFICE AND DINER CLOSED FOR VETERANS DAY

EVERY TUESDAY IN NOVEMBER:

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, November 12 – 10 a.m. Senior Thanksgiving Game Day (Back room of the diner)

Tuesday, November 19 – 5:45-7 p.m. Grief Group (Parlor)

EVERY WEDNESDAY IN NOVEMBER:

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.

EVERY THURSDAY IN NOVEMBER:

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, November 21 – 8:30 a.m. Team leaves for Hinton (returns Sun., Nov. 24)

***Thursday, November 21** - *No Book Study meeting

Thursday, November 21 – 5:30-7 p.m. Ponder with the Pastor (True Story Brewery)

Thursday, November 28 – Friday, November 29

OFFICE AND DINER CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS

