



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter, January 7, 2014

www.bluffparkumc.org



This past Sunday, we began a sermon series on daring to dream God-sized dreams for our lives and for our church. On Sunday, we talked about how God uses dreams and visions to get in touch with us and to help us understand there is more to our lives if we simply step out in faith and live out the God-dream inside of us. This is, as we said, our God-purpose.

Of course, first you have to know what the dream inside of you is! Author and pastor, Michael Slaughter, says that a God-dream began inside of him as he was reading an article about war and genocide in Sudan in the newspaper. On the same page of the newspaper, there was an advertisement for a BMW sedan. He realized in that moment that his life was more focused upon obtaining a sedan than it was about being a blessing to the people in the Sudan.

His church has raised millions of dollars for the people in Sudan and they have dug wells for fresh water, provided food to the hungry, and education to the children there. All because of a dream that began on a page in a newspaper.

So, what is the God-dream inside of you? How is God calling you to honor Him, bless others, and provide true joy to your life?

Mike

Giving Update

Thank you, Bluff Park UMC! Your generosity is changing lives. Below you will find the total amount given during December in special offerings:

White Christmas Offering (The United Methodist Children's Home) - \$18,040

The Pastor's Discretionary Fund—\$11,637

Christmas Eve Offering - \$2250



Bluff Park UMC Bass Club

Jan 12 4:00 P.M the Bass Club Meeting in the Fireside Room 139 Bluff Park UMC 733 Valley Street Hoover AL 35226 go to talk about the Schedule Tournament Schedule and the Meeting Schedule the 6 Member Drew Sanford go to talk with the Bass Club the time 5:00 P.M Go to Join Alabama Federation Nation and go to have Bluff Park UMC Bass Maters or Bluff Park Bass Maters and will are looking for the Membership to join us, all can come to Check out

The Alabama Bass Nation is \$30.00, to questions please

ALLEN WORD at allenword@yahoo.com and allenjword@att.net 205-382-5233 and 205-822-8881

David Logan T-Director dlogan3201@att.net 205-222-5349

Mid-Week

activities



Our **Midweek Ministries** programming resumes on January 8.

We have another great slate of classes, and as always we will have a splendid **midweek meal** prepared by Doris in our kitchen. Meals are served from 5 pm—6:30 pm. The cost is \$6 for adults, \$2 for children 6-12, free for children under 6, with a family maximum of \$18. We also provide takeout.

Our **youth and children** will have excellent activities. Our children have a lesson, gym time, and choir. Our youth have a worship service called “Holy Ground” each Wednesday.

Adult classes begin with the Pastor’s Bible Study at 4:30 pm.

Most of our classes will begin at 6 pm. The only exception is the “**Chile Preparation Class**” that will talk about our mission trip to Chile, which will begin at 6:30 pm.

Throughout January at 6 pm we will have a study called “**Living Sacramentally, Walking Justly**” led by Mike Holly.

On January 29 and February 5 at 6 pm, Peter Kirchikov will lead **Russia and the Winter Olympic Games in Sochi**. This class will provide history and context for the venues at the Olympic games in Russia.

Starting January 29, a six week program developed by Rick Warren, author of *The Purpose Driven Life* will be offered in the Cornerstone Class. It is called **The Daniel Plan: 40 Days to a Healthier Life**. Please call 985-9463 and leave your name and number to sign up or ask for more information.

On February 12, two more classes will begin at 6pm - **Becky Walker’s Bible Study** and “**Believe it or Not,**” a study led by Peter von Herrmann on the Apostle’s Creed and world religions.

In April, we will have a series of **cooking classes** at 6 pm.

If classes aren’t your thing, just come and relax with “**Coffee and Conversation,**” our “program” that has no lesson plan and no schedule. Sit, have coffee or tea, and relax.



Do you have what it takes to take home the "Golden Pepper?" **The 10th Annual Chili Cook-Off** will be Sunday January 26th at 5pm-6:30pm. Entries for Chili, Youth Chili (13 and younger), Corn bread, and Cookies need to be dropped off in the fellowship hall between 4pm and 4:30pm to be judged. The winners will be announced shortly after the eating starts at 5pm. We have some surprises cooked up this year so be sure to plan to attend. Tickets are \$6 per person with a family max of \$18.



Come and join the fun at our "**Prayer Shawls Meeting**". The dates are: Jan. 6 Jan. 20
 Feb. 3 Feb. 17 Mar. 3 Mar. 17 Apr. 7 Apr. 21 May 5
 May 19 Jun. 2 Jun. 16 Call Kandis Scudder for more information

2014 Flower Calendar: The Calendar is up for 2014. Sign up to remember a loved one or to commemorate a special occasion. One arrangement is \$50.00; both \$100.00. Please sign up in the office of the Education building.



Prayer really works! It is unbelievable how Judy has responded to all the wonderful prayers and treatment. Her muscular coordination is great and her speech is progressing steadily. Thank all of you for your concern and kindness. We will be forever grateful for your love and consideration. You can’t beat good folks!

Thanks again, Sincerely Dick Morgan

CHILDREN'S NEWS

ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL will be taught by the SEEKERS' CLASS this month! Thank you to all who are going to teach and shepherd. The unit this month is called Those Who Made a Difference.

ELEMENTARY FIELD TRIP Monday January 20 we will go ice skating at the Pelham Civic Center. Doors to the church will open at 7:30 a.m. We will leave at 9:30 a.m. After lunch, we will see a movie. Cost is \$30.00 a child. Please make your child's reservation for the bus by calling or e-mailing Mrs. Leigh at 822.0910 ext. 107 or ldelashaw@bpumc.org.

THE STAKEHOLDERS' MEETING which is the culmination of the ministry assessment done by Ministry Architect's will be Thursday January 16 at 5:30p.m. The meeting will be in the Fireside Room.

THE CHILI COOK-OFF is January 26! Children are welcomed to make a scrumptious pot of chili and see if they can win a prize. Other categories they can compete in are cornbread and cookies. Parents are encouraged to enter their own special dishes. All food should be in the Fellowship Hall by 4:30p.m. Judging is 4:30-5p.m. dinner is at 5p.m. Donations accepted. All proceeds goes to our incredible preschool, Little Imaginations.

CHILDREN'S COUNCIL will meet on Sunday Jan. 26 after the Chili Cook-off in combination with the Board of Stewards meeting.

STUDENT MINISTRY

Discovery Weekend is Friday-Sunday, January 24-26 here at the church. This spiritual formation retreat held at our church is the most important annual event in our student ministry. High school and college students will lead middle school students through a weekend of worship, games, prayer, talks and discussion with support from adult volunteers. The cost is \$75 for middle school students and FREE for high school leaders. Over the coming weeks, we'll be working with our high school students to prepare them for their leadership roles. You can register your students from the Student Ministries section of our church website. Be sure to add the Discovery Weekend Prayer Service to your calendar: Saturday, January 25th at 7:00pm. All family and close friends are invited as we come forward, lay hands on our students and pray for each one at the altar. If you or a representative of your family CANNOT attend, let us know and we'll designate a group of adult volunteers to do so on your behalf.

Confirmation Class begins on Sunday, February 16. Students who want to be confirmed as full, confessing members of our congregation on Sunday, April 27 are required to attend 8 of the 10 class topics we offer. We'll have one extra class at the end to make up any missed topics. Our plan is to teach on Sunday mornings during the Sunday School hour (10am). If needed, we will consider adding a Wednesday afternoon class. Parents, check your email inbox for more info.

Wednesday, January 8, 5:30pm: MS Small Groups in the Youth Wing

Wednesday, January 8, 6:30pm: Holy Ground Worship in the Youth Wing

Sunday, January 12, 10:00am: Sunday School in the Youth Wing

Sunday, January 12, 12:30-2:00pm: HS Leaders Training for Discovery Weekend (in Youth Wing, lunch provided)

Sunday, January 12, 4:00pm: Holy Ground Team Rehearsal

Sunday, January 12, 5:30pm: Free Snack Supper in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday, January 12, 6:00pm: HS Girls Small Group & Dodgeball in the Gym

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

THURSDAY, JAN. 9: SHEPHERD'S CENTER—Program by Leonette Slay, Cuba

TUESDAY, JAN. 14: DAY TRIP—Cullman—Church Tour and Lunch

THURSDAY, JAN. 16: SEHPHERD'S CENTER

Special Moment with Jesus!

Be still in the presence of the LORD, and wait patiently for him to act.

Don't worry about evil people who prosper or fret about their wicked schemes. Psalm 37:7

Bluff Park United Methodist Church

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226

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Director of Chancel Choir and Special Programs,
Lonnie Parsons
Organist, Jamie Davis
Preschool Director
Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org

The Week of JANUARY 12-18

Sunday, January 12

8:45 a.m. Morning Worship Service
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service
3:30 p.m. Music Committee

Monday, January 13

Tuesday, January 14

8:30 a.m. Maintenance
9:30 a.m. Bible Study
Betty trip to Cullman

Wednesday, January 15

4:30 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study
5:00 p.m. Dinner
6:00 p.m. Men's Chorus

Wednesday, January 15

6:30 p.m. Coffee and Conversation
6:30 p.m. Choir

Thursday, January 16

9:30 a.m. Shepherd Center

Friday, January 17

Saturday, January 18

Ushers

8:45: Nelson 11:00: Dover

Cross

8:45: Carolyn Thompson 11:00: Ruskin Gold
Acolytes

8:45: Neily Mann 11:00: Kate Culverhouse
Children's Church
Nursery Staff

Meal on Wheels: January 15: Robin Martin
Greeters January 12: Canterbury Class
Food Pantry: February 5: Theresa Richerson

BPUMC FOOD PANTRY

1st Wednesday each month

We are serving 200+ families a month.
We appreciate all donations!

Last Week's Record

January 5, 2014

Sunday School	
Morning Worship	
Weekly Operating Needs	
Operating Receipts	\$26,429.00
2014 Operating Budget	
Needed to Date	
Received to Date	
Building Fund Receipts	\$6,325.00
Building Fund in 2014	\$6,325.00
New Members in 2014	0

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,080,950.00
Received Last Week	\$5,925.00
Received to Date	\$356,840.06

**BLUFF PARK UNITED
METHODIST COLUMBARIUM**
Information Sheets in Narthex and Church
Office

Men's Free Play Basketball In the Gym

Sunday & Thursday: 7:00pm (church members)	Wednesday: 7:00pm (community)
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VALET PARKING

Every Sunday morning! Drive
to the covered entrance near the
nursery
and Fellowship Hall.

MIDWEEK MEAL: January 8

Chicken Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Green Beans or baked chicken, baked potato bar,
roll and dessert.

MIDWEEK MEAL: January 15

Fried Chicken, rice/gravy, lima beans or baked chicken, baked potato bar, roll and dessert.