



733 Valley Street  
 Hoover, AL 35226  
 205.822.0910

# BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Newsletter, October 15, 2013*

[www.bluffparkumc.org](http://www.bluffparkumc.org)

## ENOUGH

Proverbs 11:25 says that a "generous person will be enriched and one who gives water will get water." This is the divine voice speaking to our very hearts. But our hearts are fearful and out of fear, our own internal voices say, "if I give, there may not be enough left over for me."

Our minds are well-versed in creating "what if" scenarios. What if our health costs go up? What if my stocks do not perform well? What if my company downsizes? We do need to be wise with our resources and plan accordingly. We need to save and invest. However, we cannot leave out generosity because it is the very thing God demands from each and every one of us. We are commanded by Jesus Christ to be generous in each of the four Gospel accounts of His life.

John Wesley famously instructed in a sermon called The Use of Money: Earn all you can, save all you can, and give all you can. Notice that each verb is followed by "all you can." We are encouraged to use our gifts and talents to be productive in our careers. And we are to be thrifty - saving all we can lest it be wasted on things that will not last. And finally we are to be generous. Exceedingly generous.

Wesley understood as Adam Hamilton says in his book Enough: "Our giving - both to God and to others - is actually a measure of spiritual growth, because giving requires that we trust God to supply our needs." Giving all you can requires a leap of faith that God will take care of us, giving us what we need (not always what we want). Join us this Sunday in worship to learn more about what the Bible says about generosity!

*Mike*

### COMMITMENT SUNDAY OCTOBER 27



Turn in your pledge card and join us for lunch.  
 The meal will be served from 11:00-1:00.

#### BLANKETS FOR HOMELESS



We are still be collecting blankets for the next couple of weeks. Please bring them to the narthex or to the office. Thank you.

#### SUNDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY October 27, November 10



All adults with elementary age children or younger are invited to a special class called "The Living Room." We meet at 5:00 p.m. in the Vitality/Fireside Room. We are studying a new marriage curriculum called "Love to Stay".

#### Charge Conference - Thursday, November 7th at 6:00 pm

All Board of Stewards members should attend. This is a meeting that is open to the whole congregation if you would like to attend.

**Congratulations:** Walton Christopher Prueter was born Thursday, October 3, in Houston. Susan and Charles Prueter are the parents and Chris and Lois Truss are the maternal grandparents.

**New Members:** *Kelly Andringa* works at UAB in the department of nephrology. She recently moved to the Bluff Park area and comes to us by transfer from Canterbury UMC.

*Matt and Karen Harrison* come with their two children, Jacob George, Nicholas Wayne, and Alexis Mary.

*Ruby Hickey* is retired and comes by transfer from Goodwater Methodist, Goodwater, AL

*James Michael Grissom* grew up in the Birmingham area will be one of the new residents at the Promise Home.

We **need new head ushers** for both the early and late services. Head ushers help recruit and organize a team of 9 to serve during a worship service. Contact Steve Lawson (425-4916) for more information.

**Counseling:** We have a new counselor in the Counseling Office at Bluff Park UMC. Daniel Seigel will join Steve Sweatt and will offer counseling for couples, families and individuals. Whether it is stress or anxiety or issues with communication, or even issues in your work or career, Daniel is a wonderful person to help you manage and heal. Daniel is the grandson of members of Bluff Park UMC and is also an accomplished opera singer. Please contact United Counseling at (205) 824-8320 to schedule an appointment with either Dan or Steve here at the church's Counseling Office ([www.unitedcounseling.org](http://www.unitedcounseling.org)).

We will begin building **Ham Mountain** on Sunday, October 27th in the Narthex of the church. This mission is sponsored by the BPUMC United Appeal Fund to raise money for the Food Pantry We will receive hams each Sunday until December 1st. The hams will be given out at the food pantry on December 4th.



**Chile.** We are planning our 2014 Volunteers in Mission trip to Chile. Once again we will travel to El Vergel just outside of Angol, Chile to work with John Elmore our covenant missionary partner there. If you are interested in being a part of the team please plan to attend an information meeting on Wednesday, November 13th at 6:30 p.m. We will discuss details of the trip and answer any questions you might have. This meeting is for those who are interested in going. You do not have to make a commitment at this time.

BPUMC will host the annual meeting of the **Central District United Methodist Women** this Sunday, October 20, at 2:00 p.m., in the Chapel. All UMW ladies are invited to attend.

**THE HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL** is Wednesday Oct. 30, 6-8p.m. The entire church family and community are encouraged to participate. This is a fund raiser for the Pre-school, Children's ministry, Youth Ministry and the Shepherd's Center. Costumes are encouraged. There will be games, food, a cake walk, and a Haunted House. For young children there will be a Creepy Crawler Tunnel. All adult Sunday School classes are asked to participate.



### Proposed Changes to our Safe Sanctuaries Policy



Our Safe Sanctuaries Policy seeks to provide a safe and nurturing environment for children of all ages within our church. In order to provide this to our children, we make sure that each volunteer has a national criminal background check and we ensure that there are enough adults to care for our children. We are about to amend our policy to improve safety and to improve our staff's ability to structure their ministries to our children. For the next thirty days, our policy and the proposed changes will be available in the church's main office as well as in the Welcome Center in the Narthex. Please feel free to contact any staff member with your thoughts on the proposed changes. The Board of Stewards will vote on these changes in November.

The Firehouse Shelter will be having its annual **5-Alarm Gala** on **Thursday, November 7** at the B & A Warehouse. The shelter's main fundraiser will include numerous basket raffles, hors d'oeuvres, music and more. Tickets are only \$50.00 per person (corporate tables also available). Ninety-three cents of every dollar donated to the Firehouse goes directly to services actually serving Birmingham's homeless. The Firehouse Shelter is Birmingham's only step-by-step network of resources for the homeless and provides short and long term housing options, street outreach programs, counseling, medical referrals and educational programs for the community. The Shelter also provides 450 meals a day and houses more than 175 men each night. To order tickets, contribute a gift basket for the raffle or for more information, please contact Kyle Puchta at (205) 481-3790 or [athcup@bellsouth.net](mailto:athcup@bellsouth.net)

## CHILDREN'S NEWS

**ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL** Bible verse for the month is... "Each one, as a good manager of God's different gifts, must use for the good of others the special gift he or she has received from God." 1 Peter 4:10 Ask your elementary kids to memorize this and ask them what it means to them. To take it one step farther, discuss what it means to you with them.

**THE HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL** is Wednesday Oct. 30, 6-8p.m. The entire church family and community are encouraged to participate. This is a fund raiser for the Preschool, Children's ministry, Youth Ministry and the Shepherd's Center. Costumes are encouraged. There will be games, food, a cake walk, and a Haunted House. For young children there will be a Creepy Crawler Tunnel. All adult Sunday School classes are asked to participate.



**CHILDREN'S COUNCIL** We will meet on Wednesday, Oct. 23, at 6:30p.m. in the New Light Classroom. This has been moved up from Oct. 27. We need to talk about several events including the Halloween Carnival.

**THE NEXT ELEMENTARY FIELD TRIP** will be Monday Nov. 11. We will do a patriotic surprise trip, go eat pizza and see a movie. Doors open at 7:30a.m. We will leave about 9:30a.m. and be back around 4:30p.m. Please pick up children by 5:30p.m. We have spots for 21 students. Call and make your child's reservation for the bus! Cost is \$30.00 a child

## STUDENT MINISTRY

This past Sunday, Oct 6th, Bluff Park students led morning worship at Church of the Reconciler, which is in ministry with the homeless. This was the second time this year we've been asked to lead there and we look forward to this being an ongoing partnership. In addition, Promise Home residents worshiped with our students on Wednesday, Oct 9th, at our Holy Ground service. It is indeed a blessing from God to be allowed to use our worship team as a way to serve and meet the needs of others.

The last Wednesday of the month, we'll turn our Youth Wing into a Haunted House. You **MUST** attend on Sunday, Oct 27th and help set up if you want to participate on that Wednesday. We hope you'll join us!

Thank you to every parent who has signed up to help as a volunteer this fall. We still have several needs, including Sunday School teachers, event chaperons and small group leaders. To learn more, contact Bart at 205\_790\_1803 or barts@bpumc.org.

Wednesday, October 16, 5:30pm: MS Small Groups

Wednesday, October 16, 6:30pm: Holy Ground Worship in the Youth Wing

Sunday, October 20, 4:00pm: Holy Ground Team Rehearsal

Sunday, October 20, 5:30pm: HS Students leave for Atrax Factory (bring \$\$ for admission/fast food dinner)

Sunday, October 20, 5:30pm: Free Snack Supper in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday, October 20, 5:30pm: MS Student Party in the Youth Wing

Wednesday, October 23, 5:30pm: MS Small Groups

Wednesday, October 23, 6:30pm: Holy Ground Worship in the Youth Wing

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

### **BRIDGE and LUNCH:**

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 16:**

**THURSDAY, OCT. 17:**

**SATURDAY, OCT. 19:**

**SUNDAY, OCT. 20:**

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 23:**

With Barbara Morgan, **each Thursday** at 11:00 a.m. Beginners and advanced

**COOKING CLASS/HALLOWEEN** with Charlotte McCrary and friends 6-7 p.m.

**SHEPHERD CENTER**—Town Hall Meeting - Program by Frances Bellows-10:00

**FLU SHOTS** 9:00-10:00 in the gym. Exercise with Rita at 11:00

**RED HAT LUNCHEON**—Call Betty for reservations

**CHURCH FLU SHOTS** 8:30-12:30 in the gym—bring insurance information

**COOKING CLASS** with Olivia Howard—Fireside Room 6-7

**FRIDAY, OCT. 25-SUNDAY, OCT. 27: Beach Trip** Cost \$175 pp

**MEDICAL SUPPLY CLOSET IS TEMPORIAL CLOSED**

**CHRISTMAS TRIP—December 4th-7th**

**\$375 per person/double - \$100 deposit ASAP—balance due November 1 - 1 rooms available!**

**Sevierville, Pigeon Forge, Gatlinburg. Christmas lights/ shopping/shows, Christmas on the Titanic, and Christ in the Smokies Museum.**

**Special Moment with Jesus!**

*O LORD, our Lord, How excellent is Your name in all the earth, Who have set Your glory above the heavens!*

Psalms 8:1

# Bluff Park United Methodist Church

733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226

**NON-PROFIT ORG.**  
**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
**AUTO**  
**BIRMINGHAM, AL**  
**PERMIT NO. 1816**

**Pastors**

Mike Holly, mholly@bpumc.org, ext. 104  
Peter von Herrmann, pvonherrmann@bpumc.org, ext. 105  
Tom Duley, tduley@bpumc.org, ext. 112

**Dir. of Seniors**, ext. 103

Betty Hottenstein, bhottenstein@bpumc.org

**Director of Student Ministries**, ext. 118

Bart Styes, barts@bpumc.org

**Dir. of Children**, ext. 107

Leigh Delashaw, ldelashaw@bpumc.org

**Director of Finance and Administration**, ext. 117

Ben Sheets, bsheets@bpumc.org

**Financial Manager**, ext. 101

Joe Pitard, jpitard@bpumc.org

**Secretary**, ext. 111

Cindy Myers, cmyers@bpumc.org

**Director of Chancel Choir and Special Programs**,

Lonnie Parsons

**Organist**, Jamie Davis

**Preschool Director**

Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org



## The Week of October 20-26

**Sunday, October 20**

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  
5:00 p.m. Leadership Team  
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship

**Monday, October 21**

**Tuesday, October 22**

9:30 a.m. Bible Study  
6:00 p.m. Appreciation Dinner

**Wednesday, October 23**

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

**Wednesday, October 23**

6:00 p.m. Mike Holly's Bible Study  
6:00 p.m. Cooking Class  
6:30 p.m. Coffee and Conversation  
6:30 p.m. Adult Choir

**Thursday, October 24**

9:00 a.m. Shepherd's Center

**Friday, October 25**

**Ushers**

8:45: White 11:00: Davis

**Cross**

8:45: Davidson Dover 11:00: Sally Frances Little

**Acolytes**

8:45: John David Shanlever 11:00: Kate Culverhouse

**Children's Church**

8:45: Robinson 11:00: Chatterton

**Greeters October 20:** Covenant Class

**Meals on Wheels October 16:** Pam McDonald

**Food Pantry: November 6:** Penny Burns

**BPUMC FOOD PANTRY**

**1st Wednesday each month**

We are serving 200+ families a month.

We appreciate all donations!

**Sermon, October 20, 2013**  
**8:45 and 11:00 Morning Worship**  
**"Generosity"**  
**(Matthew 25:31-46)**  
**Mike Holly**

**6:00 Evening Worship**  
**"Don't Let Up"**  
**(Luke 18:1-8)**  
**Peter von Herrmann**

## Last Week's Record

October 13 2013

Sunday School	390
Morning Worship	530
Evening Worship	32
Weekly Operating Needs	\$27,025.00
Operating Receipts	\$25,537.33
2013 Operating Budget	\$1,405,300.00
Needed to Date	\$1,109,027.00
Received to Date	\$1,046,854.31
Building Fund Receipts	\$8,554.00
Building Fund in 2013	\$221,739.16
New Members in 2013	37

**LIVING OUR LEGACY**

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,080,950.00
Received Last Week	\$3,085.00
Received to Date	\$251,319.30

**BLUFF PARK UNITED  
METHODIST COLUMBARIUM**

Information Sheets in Narthex and Church Office

**Wed. Night Servers—Oct. 16**

Fellowship Hall—Fishermen Class  
Carry Out Line—Peggy and Gail

**October 16**

Meatloaf, hash brown potatoes, greens, or baked chicken, baked potato bar, roll.

**October 23**

Roast beef, mashed potatoes, green beans, or baked chicken, baked potato bar, roll.

**VALET PARKING**

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

**Men's Freeplay Basketball  
In the Gym**

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



Monday 6:30  
In the Gym