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BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Newsletter, October 22, 2013

www.bluffparkumc.org



Please bring your completed Ministry Budget Pledge Card with you to worship this Sunday. If you do not have one, we will have extras for you. At the end of both worship services, you will have a time to personally, or as a family unit, place your pledge card on the altar as a gift to God. Join us for a free celebration lunch from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. This lunch is a way of saying "Thank You" for your generosity to God and to Bluff Park UMC!

My wife, Julie, and I have been blessed beyond measure in our lives. We each have stories of how God has shown up in our lives, guided us in our lives and blessed us with opportunities to live for Him. And as pastors, we encounter God's presence and blessings in the joys and even in the midst of the sorrows of the lives of our congregations. We both consider it to be a great blessing that I have been appointed to be your senior pastor!

We each have gone beyond a tithe to our churches as an expression of our gratitude to God. We set this offering over at the beginning of the year and before we plan a budget for the year. And because the offering plate never makes it up to the pastors, our church's finance office simply withdraws that tithe from my salary and places it in the church's ministry operating budget.

We do give as an expression of gratitude to God. But we also give because we believe that our churches are places of great opportunity and great blessing to a lot of people. We want to invest God's money (our tithe) into places that are doing the most good for God's world and everyone in it and that begins in the local church. Bluff Park UMC has a great opportunity to grow in its ministry and mission to our community and to our world, but we do need each and every person to help support these endeavors with their finances, their prayers, their time and their energy.

Join us on Sunday as we begin to dream how we can use your pledges to help make new disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!

Mike

Children's and Family Ministry Assessment December 4-6, 2013

Just over a year ago, BPUMC invested in our youth program by bringing in consultants from Ministry Architects for an assessment and ministry plan to help our program move forward towards health and growth. During December, we will make similar investments in our Children's Ministry and overall family ministries. Stay tuned for more information!

SUNDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY October 27 & November 10

THE LIVING ROOM 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". These next two classes are the last of a five week series, but they still have wonderful advice and teaching! As always, a nursery is provided.

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.

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 it 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 fundraiser 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.



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.

4th 5th FELLOWSHIP had a great time at Trussville Playstation last Sunday. Our next off campus event will be Nov.24. We will go bowling!

STUDENT MINISTRY

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!

Fall Retreat is Friday-Sunday, November 22-24 at Camp Sumatanga. Sign up and pay online at www.bluffparkumc.org.

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 chaperones and small group leaders. To learn more, contact Bart at 205-790-1803 or barts@bpumc.org.

Sunday, October 27, 10:00am: Sunday School in the Youth Wing
Sunday, October 27, 4:00pm: Holy Ground Team Rehearsal
Sunday, October 27, 4:30pm: HS Guys Small Group
Sunday, October 27, 5:30pm: Free Snack Supper in the Fellowship Hall
Sunday, October 27, 6:00pm: Halloween Carnival Setup & HS Girls
Wednesday, October 30: Halloween Carnival & Haunted Youth Wing

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

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

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 30: Halloween Carnival

THURSDAY, OCT. 31: SHEPHERD CENTER Music Program

(His Sweet Assurance), No. Highlands Baptist

*****MEDICAL SUPPLY CLOSET IS TEMPORARILY 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, Christ in the Smokies Museum, Mystery Tour

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