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Hoover, AL 35226  
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**BLUFF PARK**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Newsletter, October 8, 2013*

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

## ENOUGH

# ENOUGH

Our church-wide emphasis Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity is in full swing! Last Sunday, our topic was "Waste." We saw how God blesses us and how we are to put His blessings to full use in our lives, in our families and in our communities without wasting those precious gifts of time, energy and finances on things that will not last. And we were challenged to cut the waste and increase our ability to be generous.

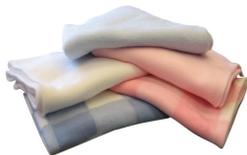
This next week in worship we will look at what the Bible says about joy and happiness and how we seek it. We will study Luke 12:13-21 and learn about Jesus' teachings on contentment.

A few people remarked to me on Sunday that they had a desire to live more simply after years of feeling like they were trapped in this never-ending pursuit of more in life. Here are some steps toward simplicity that author Adam Hamilton suggests:

1. Set a goal of reducing your consumption and choose to live below your means. For example, you might set your thermostat back a few degrees this winter and use extra blankets. Instead of bottled water, try using a refillable bottle.
2. Before making a purchase, ask yourself, "Do I really need this?" and "Why do I want this?" Try waiting 24 hours before making a purchase and see if you still want or need this item.
3. Use something up before buying something new. Buy things that are meant to last and try repairing things instead of replacing them.
4. Plan low-cost entertainment that still enriches. Invite people over for dinner instead of going out to eat, or wait until movies come to the discount movie theater or out on DVD.
5. Ask yourself, "Are there major changes that would allow me to simplify my life?"

*Mike*

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6



was

#### WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

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

### SUNDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

October 13, 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". Nursery is provided.

### Charge Conference - Thursday, November 7th at 6:30 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.

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.

Many members of Bluff Park UMC have worked very hard to make the **Promise Home** a reality. In order to express our appreciation for their efforts there will be a Banquet of Thanks on Tuesday evening October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6 PM. The banquet will be held in the Fellowship Hall. We will enjoy a nice meal and fellowship time together. There will also be entertainment provided by our own Leigh Delashaw and Bart Styes. The Banquet of Thanks is open to anyone who helped on the Promise Home in any way. However, we must have reservations in order to know how many meals to prepare. Please make your reservations by phone or by email through Cindy Myers in the church office.



**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)).

**Bluff Park UMC is blessed to have many generous members.** One such member was Mrs. Huber whose estate will support missions and ministries at BPUMC for years to come! Mrs. Huber also left her home to the church and we recently sold that house. The proceeds of the home will be used for various ministries and missions of the church. Thank you to everyone who helped, including Geoff Huddleston, Bob Walker, Joan Dunn, Bill Garwick, Alex Tucker, J.B. Thrasher, Benny Vinson, Marvin Broome, Steve Copper, John and Debi Whitcomb, and many more!

### **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, to 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)

**The Effect of VIM Work:** In early September government inspectors came to El Vergel to look at physical conditions for the students living at the school. The results came in during my stay there this week. Rosanna, the school principal, was excited to share that the school got high marks from the inspection team and she attributed the good results directly to the efforts of United Methodist congregations supporting El Vergel. Last year UM churches in Virginia shipped 150 new mattresses, a significant upgrade from what had been there before. And our BPUMC 2012 VIM work crew, especially Elizabeth Davis, worked to repaint much of the common areas of the girls' dorm, and it still looks pristine.

Thanks to our 2013 VIM work team efforts, the hostel is very close to receiving a favorable inspection result, because staples are now being stored in the separate pantry area built by our team. Samuel, director of El Vergel farm and school, is especially grateful for the funds you just sent for septic system repairs. One of El Vergel's next projects is replacing windows in the boys' dorm, and our missionary John Elmore will soon tell us specifics on how we might help. In summary, our prayers, funds, and relationship-building are making a difference. Could 2014 be the year that you feel the call to join the VIM team?

Leonette Slay

## 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 further, discuss it what it means to you with them.

**TO THE NEW HORIZONS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS** Thank you for taking on the responsibility of teaching the elementary Sunday school unit on God's gifts. The first week went great! We are looking forward to next week.

**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.



**CHILDREN'S COUNCIL** We will meet on Oct. 27, at 4:30p.m. in the New Light Classroom.

## STUDENT MINISTRY

We're starting a new Holy Ground Worship series in October entitled, "Bullies, Frenemies & Tough Teachers: How to Handle Difficult People." We'll look at the life of David and learn how to respond to others without losing the best of ourselves in the process. Then the last Wednesday of the month, we'll turn our Youth Wing into a Haunted House. You **MUST** attend on Sunday, October 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 9, 5:30pm: MS Small Groups

Wednesday, October 9, 6:30pm: Holy Ground Worship in the Youth Wing

Sunday, October 13, 10:00am: Sunday School in the Youth Wing

Sunday, October 13, 4:00pm: Holy Ground Team Rehearsal

Sunday, October 13, 4:30pm: HS Guys Small Group

Sunday, October 13, 5:30pm: Flag Football at a Local Park (meet in the Youth Wing Parking Lot, dinner provided)

Sunday, October 13, 6:00pm: HS Girls Small Group

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

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

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

<b><u>BRIDGE and LUNCH:</u></b>	With Barbara Morgan, <b>each Thursday</b> at 11:00 a.m. Beginners and advanced
<b><u>WEDNESDAY, OCT. 9:</u></b>	<b>COOKING CLASS</b> —Rosemary Dallam – Fireside Room 6-7 pm
<b><u>THURSDAY, OCT. 10:</u></b>	<b>SHEPHERD CENTER</b> - Charlie Trucks - John Wayne Bible Study 10:00 am
<b><u>TUESDAY, OCT. 15:</u></b>	<b>MYSTERY TRIP ????????????????</b>
<b><u>WEDNESDAY, OCT. 16:</u></b>	<b>COOKING CLASS</b> with Charlotte McCrary and friends 6-7 Fireside Room
<b><u>THURSDAY, OCT. 17:</u></b>	<b>SHEPHERD CENTER FLU SHOTS</b> 9:00-10:00 in the gym
<b><u>SATURDAY, OCT. 19:</u></b>	<b>RED HAT LUNCHEON</b> —Call Betty for reservations
<b><u>SUNDAY, OCT. 20:</u></b>	<b>CHURCH FLU SHOTS</b> 8:30-12:30 in the gym—bring insurance information

**FRIDAY, OCT. 25-SUNDAY, OCT. 27: Beach Trip** Cost \$175 pp 2 room available.

***CHRISTMAS TRIP—December 4th-7th***

***\$375 per person/double - \$100 deposit ASAP—balance due November 1 - 4 rooms available!***  
***Sevierville, Pigeon Forge, Gatlinburg. Christmas lights/ shopping/shows, Christmas on the Titanic, and Christ in the Smokies Museum.***

**Special Moment with Jesus!**

*Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies. Psalms 36:5*

**Bluff Park United Methodist Church**

733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226

**NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
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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 6-13**

**Sunday, October 6**

8:45 a.m. Morning Worship Service  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service  
3:00 p.m. Blessing of the Animals  
4:00 p.m. Compassion Circle  
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship

**Monday, October 7**

**Tuesday, October 8**

8:30 a.m. Maintenance  
9:30 a.m. Bible Study

**Wednesday, October 9**

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 9**

6:00 p.m. Genealogy  
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. Bass Club  
6:30 p.m. Adult Choir

**Thursday, October 10**

9:00 a.m. Shepherd's Center  
6:30 p.m. Finance Committee

**Friday, October 4**

6:00 p.m. Friendship Class

**Ushers**

8:45: Adams 11:00: Alley

**Cross**

8:45: Carolyn Thompson 11:00: Savannah Sanders

**Acolytes**

8:45: Cam Coler 11:00: Lauren Ann Holmes

**Children's Church**

8:45: Hecklinski 11:00: Nutter

**Greeters October 13:** Canterbury Class  
**Meals on Wheels October 9:** Debra McCallum  
**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 13, 2013**  
**8:45 and 11:00 Morning Worship**  
**"Enough—Generosity"**  
**(Matthew 12:13-21)**  
**Mike Holly**

**6:00 Evening Worship**  
**"A Theology of Health Care"**  
**(Luke 17:11-19)**  
**Tom Duley**

**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

**Last Week's Record**

October 6 2013

Sunday School	403
Morning Worship	522
Evening Worship	16
Weekly Operating Needs	\$27,025.00
Operating Receipts	\$32,195.00
2013 Operating Budget	\$1,405,300.00
Needed to Date	\$1,082,002.00
Received to Date	\$1,021,316.98
Building Fund Receipts	\$3,405.00
Building Fund in 2013	\$213,185.16
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. 9**  
Fellowship Hall—Richard and Derilda Joiner  
Carry Out Line—Wesley Forum

**October 9**  
Beef tips over rice, peas, or baked chicken, baked potato bar, roll.  
**October 16**  
Meatloaf, hash brown potatoes, greens, or baked chicken, baked potato bar, roll.