



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter, November 26, 2013

www.bluffparkumc.org

GOD
COMES DOWN



Christmas at Bluff Park UMC

- December 1** **Sunday Morning Worship** (8:45 and 11:00 am)
Zechariah and Elizabeth, Luke 1:5-80
EVENING: Children's Christmas Pageant – 5:00 pm
- December 8** **Sunday Morning Worship** (8:45 and 11:00 am)
Joseph, Matthew 1:18-25
EVENING: Christmas on the Bluff – 6:30 pm
- December 14** Festival of Three Kings
- December 15** **Sunday Morning Worship** (8:45 and 11:00 am)
Mary, Luke 1:26-38
EVENING: Magic City Choral Society – 5:00 pm
- December 22** **Sunday Morning Worship** (8:45 and 11:00 am)
The Innkeeper, Luke 2:1-7
EVENING: Blue Christmas Service - 5:00 pm
- December 24** **Christmas Eve Communion Services**
(4:00 and 6:00 pm)
- December 29** **Sunday Morning Worship** (All Together at 10:00 am)
Breakfast at 9:00 am
NO EVENING WORSHIP

Advent Morning Prayer will be every Wednesday morning at 7:30 a.m.



Advent has finally arrived! We have quite an Advent and Christmas season ahead of us and we hope that you will make a special effort to come out each Sunday to learn a little bit more about the characters from the Christmas story.

Each character in the Christmas story experiences a momentary radical intrusion of a God. However, each person in the story had a channel open for God to speak. In our fast-paced go-get-it culture, we may be tempted to “cut to the chase” and skip the spiritual disciplines like prayer and Bible study.

This first Sunday, we will meet Zechariah and Elizabeth, the parents of John the Baptist, and see how their spiritual habits helped them prepare for God to break into their own lives and thus affect the rest of the world.

Mike

Members of our Church Family in the Hospital: Shelby Ridge-Ralph Drennen **Trinity** - Odessa Harbor
UAB Highlands—Marcel Crain

We are building **Ham Mountain** 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.



Started your Christmas shopping yet? There are still Bluff Park Cookbooks available. Pick one up in the church office or the narthex on Sunday.

Missions Committee— December 2 in the library at 7:00 p.m.



The Festival of Three Kings Gifts for the children will be due on Sunday December 8.



Poinsettias: Please reserve your large beautiful poinsettia now to remember or to honor a loved one at Christmas. The cost is \$22.00 per plant payable to the church. Deadline for ordering is **December 15.** Thank you.

In honor of: _____

by _____

In memory of _____

by _____

Bluff Park United Methodist Church
presents

THE FOURTH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS ON THE BLUFF

Believe

Directed by Lonnie Parsons
With the BPUMC Choir
and Orchestra
Featuring Ethan McGriff
and Carole Armistead

Sunday, December 8
6:30 p.m. ~ Sanctuary
Special Guests
Brad Simmons and Kristen Sharp

Pecans for Autism: Glenwood's pecans have a purpose. Every purchase of our pecans and coffees raise funds essential for the operation of Glenwood's programs and services for children, adolescents, adults, and families affected by autism and behavioral health disorders. Glenwood, a non profit, uses the proceeds from this sale to benefit all of its programs and services for children with autism, young boys with severe emotional disturbances, and preschool-age kids; adult habitation programs; children and adult residential facilities; consultation and training; a summer day camp and family support diagnosis and treatment. Over 38 years ago Glenwood's Holiday Pecan Sale began as a fund-raising effort to benefit the Allan Cott School, Glenwood's founding program. This was the first school established in Alabama to offer educational and therapeutic services to children with autism. Today, Glenwood touches the lives of over 8,000 people across Alabama. Thank you for supporting Pecans for Autism and believing in all of the people Glenwood serves. You can buy them at the Iberia Bank Branches.



MEMORIALS
BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Martha Craig Valleydale Baptist Church, Virginia McLean, Evelyn McRee
Olys Hildreth by Joyce Hanson
Virginia Wilson by a Caring Neighbor, Mark Hernandez
Bob Ford by Mike and Sandy Miller
Faye Sims by Deana and Frank Jett
Brenda Moore by Jim and Sandy Dollar
SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Nancy Williams by Laura Boren
PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND
Louise Sturdivant by Bob and Marianna Sturdivant
PROMISE HOME
Faye Sims by Terry and Jamie Davis
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
Virginia Wilson by Carol Wilson, James and Shirley Chandler
Jim Small by J. B. and Margaret Dover
NURSERY DEPARTMENT
Virginia Wilson by Julia Dunne
UNDER THE BRIDGE
Mrs. Brenda Ehrensperger by Ann and Geoff Huddleston

MUSIC FUND
Faye Sims by Keith and Sylvia Harper
FOOD PANTRY
Faye Sims by Evelyn Lawrence, Seekers Class
Olys Hildreth by Sue Crunk, Jack and Sue Pearson
PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND
Tom Hudson by Ann Gilliland
CHRISTIN CROCKETT SCHOLARSHIP
Tom Hudson by Jim and Sara Perry
BUILDING FUND
Trudy Lawyer by Bill Lawyer
HONORARIUM
BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Lori Parker by Glynda Culver
Margaret Dover by "The Jones Girls"
SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Charlie Trucks by the Shepherd's Center
VICTOR HARBOR SCHOLARSHIP
Stretch Dunn by Bill and Paulette Pearson
CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT
Linda Small by J. B. and Margaret Dover
Please note: Some Memorials and Honorariums are not listed by the request of the donors.

CHILDREN'S NEWS

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT is Dec. 1st at 5p.m. in the Sanctuary. **Rehearsal is on Sunday Dec. 1, 2-3p.m.** in the Sanctuary. The Church wide Christmas Party will be at 5:30p.m. Please notify Mrs. Leigh at ldelashaw@bpumc.org that your child will be in the pageant. We need animals, shepherds, angels and townspeople to make this wonderful pageant! Please respond by Friday Nov. 29.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MUSICAL is Wednesday Dec. 4. Dinner will start at 5p.m. and the musical will be at 6p.m. everyone is invited to attend.

PRESCHOOL ADVENT WORKSHOP All preschoolers and their families are invited to participate in an Advent Workshop on Wednesday Dec. 11. Dinner will start at 5p.m. with a family devotional at 5:45p.m. There will be 3 advent crafts for families to make together. Reservations are a must. Please notify Leigh Delashaw at ldelashaw@bpumc.org of how many people in your family will be coming that night.



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL will have a breakfast gathering in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday Dec. 22 at 9:45a.m.

STUDENT MINISTRY

Derek Webb Concert, Friday, December 6. Singer-songwriter Derek Webb (formerly of Caedmon's Call and co-founder of www.noisetrade.com) will be performing in the Chapel at 7pm. If you're a student and want to attend, contact Bart ASAP. Our student ministry will pay your way but we must order our tickets soon! If you decide you want to attend the day of the concert, you'll have to buy your ticket at the door.

Festival of Three Kings is Saturday, December 14. We're collecting money at Sunday School, small groups, recreation events and at Holy Ground worship so we can sponsor two children. Our goal will be to raise \$200 (\$100 for each child). We'll then use the funds raised to purchase items on their Christmas wish list. Please give to this great effort!

Discovery Weekend is Friday-Sunday, January 25-27 here at the church. The cost is \$75 for middle school students and FREE for high school students who help lead the retreat. Over the coming weeks, we'll be working with our high school students to prepare them for their leadership roles. If you're a parent who has not yet signed up to help, you can do so online. Check the student ministries section of our church website for more info.

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.

Sunday, December 1, 10:00am: Sunday School in the Youth Wing

Sunday, December 1, 4:00pm: Children's Christmas Pageant (we'll sit together and support our children's ministry)

Sunday, December 1, 5:30pm: Free Snack Supper in the Fellowship Hall (HS students: we'll eat together and discuss the coming Discovery Weekend!)

Wednesday, December 4, 6:30pm: Holy Ground Worship in the Youth Wing (bring \$5 for pizza and drinks)

Friday, December 6, 7:00pm: Derek Webb Concert in the Chapel (students should contact Bart ASAP if they want tickets)

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

THURSDAY, NOV. 28: **THANKSGIVING DAY DINNER** for members, friends, & community that would be home alone. We invite you to join us. 11:30-2:00. Call Betty for info.
SUNDAY, DEC. 1: **CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS** for our sick/shut-ins available in the narthex. Fill and deliver at your convenience.

THURSDAY, DEC. 5: **SHEPHERD'S CENTER**—Dr. Gary Boyd, Internal Medicine Care
TUESDAY, DEC. 10: **DINNER and CHRISTMAS LIGHTS** - train ride through the park Nocalula Falls, Gadsden. Cost \$10 pp, (admission & gas) Dinner on your own. Trip is full but we'll be happy to add you to the waiting list.



THURSDAY, DEC. 12: **SHEPHERD'S CENTER**—Advent Bible Study with Charlotte Word

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 17: **CHRISTMAS CARDS** to our sick/shut-in 11:00-12:00 library

THURSDAY, DEC. 19: **SHEPHERD'S CENTER CHRISTMAS PARTY**

CHRISTMAS TRIP—December 4th-7th

Special Moment with Jesus!

Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel. Isaiah 7:14

Bluff Park United Methodist Church

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226

NON-PROFIT ORG.
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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, jpitar@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 DECEMBER 1—7

Sunday, December 1

8:45 a.m. Morning Worship Service
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service
5:00 p.m. Supper
6:00 p.m. Christmas Party and Pageant

Monday, December 2

7:00 p.m. Missions Committee

Tuesday, December 3

Wednesday, December 4

7:30 a.m. Advent Morning Prayer
5:00 p.m. Dinner
6:00 p.m. Children's Musical

Thursday, December 5

9:00 a.m. Shepherd's Center
11:30 a.m. Thanksgiving Dinner

Friday, December 6

7:00 p.m. Derek Webb Concert

Saturday, December 7

Ushers

8:45: Thompson 11:00: Youth

Cross

8:45: Carolyn Owen 11:00: Lauren Ann Holmes

Acolytes

8:45: Savannah Sanders 11:00: Rachel Martin

Children's Church

8:45: Blanchard: 11:00: Worley

Greeters December 1: New Horizons

Meals on Wheels: December 4—Diane Moore

Food Pantry: December 4: Sylvia Sumners

BPUMC FOOD PANTRY

1st Wednesday each month

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

Last Week's Record

November 24 2013

Sunday School	410
Morning Worship	543
Weekly Operating Needs	\$27,025.00
Operating Receipts	\$25,843.80
2013 Operating Budget	\$1,405,300.00
Needed to Date	\$1,241,250.00
Received to Date	\$1,174,908.46
Building Fund Receipts	\$11,870.67
Building Fund in 2013	\$244,953.83
New Members in 2013	41

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,080,950.00
Received Last Week	\$11,821.67
Received to Date	\$280,856.73

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

Men's Freeplay Basketball In the Gym

Sunday & Thursday: 7:00pm (church members)	Wednesday: 7:00pm (community)
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Sermon, December 1, 2013

8:45 and 11:00 Morning Worship
"Watching and Waiting"

(Luke 1:5-14)

Mike Holly

5:00 p.m.

Christmas Pageant and Party

VALET PARKING

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

We have received \$4,555.00 for the Philippines Relief Effort
(UMCOR). We are still receiving an offering if you would like
to give. Thank you for your generosity