



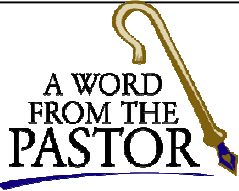
# BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226  
205.822.0910

*Newsletter, March 25, 2014*

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



Last Sunday, we learned how we are “nailed together” as a church through Jesus Christ. This Sunday, we focus on the agony of the cross in a very visceral sense as Jesus cries out to God in his pain, screaming “my God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

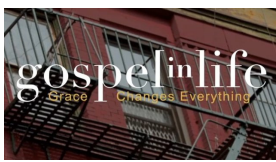
As we face pain, suffering, and death, we often feel far from God as we ask God "why?" How, we ask, could a God who is good allow these things to happen? At these times we feel far from God just when we need God the most.

The good news in these times is that God in Christ knows that pain and feeling of separation. Jesus, as fully human, asks God his creator "why?" as he hangs on the cross. Our God chooses not to be distant from our pain, but to be there with us. Jesus “became sin” for us, Paul says, thereby taking upon himself all of the separation from God we have created and bridging that gap.

Even better news than God being with us in our suffering is that Jesus’ suffering on the cross is not the end of the story. It is good news that our God chooses to be with us in the midst of our suffering. That our God transforms our suffering and gives us a hope beyond it is truly the best of news. We examine this Sunday the good yet awful news that God joins us in our suffering. We do this as we prepare ourselves for the greatest of news we will hear at Easter. See you Sunday!

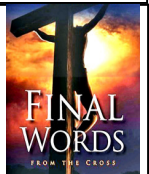
*Peter*

**Spotlight on a Promise Home Neighbor - James Michael Grissom** is the first resident from the **Promise Home** to become a member of BPUMC as well as the Promise Partners Sunday School Class. He attends the Exceptional Foundation and Studio by the Tracks where he enjoys one of his favorite pastimes ...art . He is a movie buff and likes to listen to Elvis Presley. Though his dog Fletcher is James Michael's favorite he loves all dogs. His birthday is July 31st



The **Living Room study** will meet on March 30 at 5:00 pm in the Fireside Room on the first floor of the church building near the Gymnasium. We will be studying “The Gospel in Life: Grace Changes Everything” by pastor and author Timothy Keller. This study will study the basics of our faith and how we are meant to live out our faith in every day living. The Living Room study is for young adults and childcare is provided.

**Looking for a Sunday school class? Want to know more about the Scriptures used in worship and sermons?** Join Rev. Mike Holly each Sunday in the Fellowship Hall below the Sanctuary as he uses the curriculum for our "Final Words from the Cross" study to help attendees connect even more deeply with the words of Jesus as He is crucified. This is a great opportunity for you to encounter new friends at BPUMC!



**Lenten Morning Prayer:** Rev. Tom Duley will lead a morning prayer service each Wednesday before Easter Sunday at 7:30 am in our Sanctuary. This a wonderful way to take on a rich spiritual discipline during the time of Lent as we seek to grow in faith and love of God and others.

We are **receiving two mission offerings during Lent** this year. The Easter Love Offering will support ministries and missions that we as a church are involved in.

The second offering will support the construction of the **Bluff Park Habitat for Humanity House**. For each dollar that you donate to the Habitat House a donation in the amount of \$2.66 will be made from matching funds donated by an anonymous donor. This will be our local Volunteers in Mission project for 2014. The Bluff Park Habitat for Humanity House is sponsored by the BPUMC United Appeal Fund.

When you write your checks please remember to designate where your gift should be directed by writing either Easter Love Offering or Bluff Park Habitat House in the memo line.

**Board of Stewards meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. No Evening Worship.**

**Sympathy** of the congregation is extended Marvin Broome in the death of his father, Marvin L. Broome on March 22....also to the Walker family in the death of their son, Stephen on March 20.....Patti Thomas in the death of her mother, Fay Dozier on March 18. Our prayers are with these families in their time of sorrow.

**ANNUAL BBQ and BAKE SALE**

April 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>

Tickets now on sale—\$8

1 ticket - 1 lb BBQ; 5 tickets - Boston Butt

Enjoy lunch on Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup> between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Dine in or drive thru. Sandwiches only after 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>)

Door Prizes!!!! (Delicious Baked Goodies.



**BBQ:** The annual BBQ is coming up on April 11-12. We need **DOOR PRIZES** for the ticket stub drawing. Bring items to the office. Thank you. Contact Peter von Herrmann for more information.



**THE EASTER EGG HUNT AND BREAKFAST** is Saturday, April 19, 9-10:30A.M. The breakfast is at 9 a.m. The Easter Bunny will be here! Parents can take pictures of their children with the Easter Bunny! The hunt will begin at 10a.m. There is a rain plan in place- just in case!

Bake your favorite recipe  
for the  
April 12th

Plan to be a part of this annual fundraiser for our Church by baking and sharing with others.  
Bring goodies to Fellowship Hall Friday Noon-



Please pick up your eggs to stuff for the **Easter Egg Hunt**. You may pick the eggs up in the narthex and the church office.

Children's Council will sponsor a **Spaghetti Luncheon** on April 6. Carry out only—\$5 a box or \$20 family max. Tickets on sale now. Call Leigh for more information.



**Easter Lilies** add a beautiful touch to the Easter Worship services. Reserve yours today to honor a special person or remember a loved one. The cost is \$15.00 per lily payable to the church with your order. Deadline for orders is April 13.

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_



**MEMORIALS**

**BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

*Willie Creswell* by the Opportunity Class

*Mildred McDonald* by Canterbury Class

*Bill Snow* by George and Jennifer Thagard

*Marcel Crain* by Bradley and Charlotte Word

*George Little* by Betty G. Houston

*Ginny Gillespie* by the Opportunity Class

*Doris Mixon* by the Opportunity Class

**SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

*Ralph Drennen* by Friendship Class

*Marcel Crain* by Friendship Class

**PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND**

*Louise Sturdivant* by Bob and Marianna Sturdivant

**PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

*Mildred McDonald* by Ken and Kay Adams, Mike and Sandy Miller

*Ralph Drennen* by Gordon and Catherine Hallmark, Wayne and Jackie Walton

*Marcel Crain* by Gordon and Catherine Hallmark

*Faye Sims* by Pat and Carol Westbrook

**WHITE CHRISTMAS**

*Michael Thompson* by Pony Thompson

*Faye Sims* by Jim and Becky McCrary

**UNDER THE BRIDGE**

*Sgt. Christopher Michael Graves, Jr.* by JB and Frankie Thrasher

**EASTER LOVE OFFERING**

*Sadiet Claude Tyler* by AV and Mary Marlow

*Kyle Garwick* by Bill and Ann Garwick

**HABITAT HOUSE**

*Ginny Gillespie* by Ken and Kay Adams, Kenny Adams, Kerry Adams

**FOOD PANTRY**

*Willie Creswell* by Evelyn Lawrence

**HONORARIUM**

**BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

*Libby Snow* by George and Jennifer Thagard

**HABITAT HOUSE**

*Tom Duley* by Jim and Becky McCrary

**CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT**

*Christening of Sophia Leigh Thompson* by Curtis and Paula Thompson

**BUILDING FUND**

*Bennie Vinson* by Marvin and Diane Broome

**MUSIC FUND**

*Maurice Rogers* by Stretch and Joan Dunn

*Lonnie Parsons* by Anonymous

*Jamie Davis* by Anonymous

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

*Knitters* by JoAnn Freeman

**SILENT AUCTION FUND**

*Jennie Alley* by David and Laura Fugit

Please note: Some Memorials and Honorariums are not listed by the request of the donors.

## CHILDREN'S NEWS

**SPAGHETTI FUND RAISER** There will be a carry-out spaghetti lunch on Sunday, April 6, 11a.m.-1p.m. Come find your Children's Council hard at work to raise money for new gym equipment. We'll be in the Kitchen. Tickets are on sale now. Cost is \$5 a lunch and \$20.00 family max. Meal will include garlic bread and a brownie.

**CHILDREN'S COUNCIL** will meet April 2 at 6:30p.m. in the New Light Class.

**EASTER EGGS** are in the narthex! To help us get ready for the Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast please pick up a bag of these eggs, fill then return them by April 16. You can bring them back to the office or drop them in the "filled egg" box in the narthex! Thank you for helping with this event for the children.

**PALM SUNDAY** is April 13. we are asking all of the children in the congregation to join us in celebrating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem by having a parade in the sanctuary during the first hymn of each service. Each child will have a palm branch to wave. Parents are welcome to walk with our shy children. We will gather in the narthex 15 minutes before the beginning of each service.

## STUDENT MINISTRY

### SAVE THE DATES!

**Youth Worship Event**, April 13th. Our Holy Ground Team will lead a church-wide worship service in the Chapel as a fundraiser for their summer tour. 6-7pm

**Confirmation Sunday**, April 27th. Our Confirmands will "firm up" their commitment to God and to the Church during 11am worship.

**Senior Recognition**, May 18th. Our graduating seniors will be honored with a breakfast at 10am and during worship at 11am.

**Wednesday, March 26:** No Afternoon/Evening Youth Activities

**Sunday, March 30, 10:00am:** Sunday School & Confirmation in the Youth Wing

**Sunday, March 30, 4:00pm:** Holy Ground Team Rehearsal

**Sunday, March 30, 5:30pm:** Free Snack Supper in the Fellowship Hall

**Sunday, March 30, 6:00pm:** Hang Out Night in the Youth Wing (simply come have fun with friends as we return from Spring Break)

**Wednesday, April 2, 5:30pm:** MS Girls Small Group & MS Guys Recreation

**Wednesday, April 2, 6:30pm:** Holy Ground Worship in the Youth Wing

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2:** **COOKING CLASS** with Jennifer and Bill Tsantes—6:00 p.m. Fireside Room

**THURSDAY, APRIL 3:** **SHEPHERD'S CENTER**—Peter Kirchikov—Winter Olympics

**THURSDAY, APRIL 3:** **THE EXPLORATION IN ANTIQUITY CENTER**, La Grange, GA  
Tour and Passover Meal - Traveling by Tour Bus—Cost \$75 **please turn in to Betty by Thursday, March 27. Bus arrives at 6:00—leave at 6:30**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 10:** **SHEPHERD CENTER** - Donna DiGiorgio—Bottle Caps Art Work

**SATURDAY, MAY 3:** **LADIES DAY**—Tablescapes, Memory Candle, Devotional, Special Music, Bible Study with Becky Walker, Lunch, Special Guest, lots of prizes and surprises!  
Tickets \$15, on sale, Sunday, March 30. Sign up for Tablescapes.

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 17-23:** **SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**—Riverwalk Boat Tour, The Alamo, LBJ Ranch, Alamo Missions, Museum, San Fernando Cathedral, Mexican Market Square, Fredericksburg—National Museum of the Pacific War. Cost \$675 –Deposit \$100

**\*\*\*\*\*EASTER'S BASKETS for Sick/Shut-ins/Care n' Contact—  
pick up a basket in Betty's office—fill and deliver at your convenience.**

**Special Moment with Jesus!**

“Let the favor of the Lord, our God, be upon us.” Psalm 90:17 a

**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, petervh@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 March 30-April 5**

**Sunday, March 30**

- 8:45 a.m. Morning Worship Service
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:45 a.m. Confirmation Class
- 9:45 a.m. Young Adult Bible Study
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service
- 6:00 p.m. Board of Stewards

**Monday, March 31**

- Tuesday, April 1**
- 9:30 .M. Bible Study

**Wednesday, April 2**

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

**Wednesday, April 2**

- 6:00 p.m. Believe It or Not
- 6:00 p.m. The Daniel Plan
- 6:00 p.m. Cooking Class
- 6:00 p.m. Becky Walker's Bible Study
- 6:30 p.m. Coffee and Conversation
- 6:30 p.m. Choir

**Thursday, April 3**

- 9:30 a.m. Shepherd Center

**Friday, April 4**

**Saturday, April 5**

- 9:00 a.m. UMW

**Ushers**

8:45: Doran 11:00: Arthur

**Cross**

8:45: Claire Patton 11:00: Mollie Edwards

**Acolytes**

8:45: Emma Patton 11:00: Rory Edwards

**Children's Church**

8:45: Chadha 11:00 Sparks

**Meal on Wheels April 2:** Nan and Ed Thomas

**Greeters March 30:** Wesley Forum

**Food Pantry: April 2:** Kay Adams

**BPUMC FOOD PANTRY**

**1st Wednesday each month**

We are serving 200+ families a month.

We appreciate all donations!

**Last Week's Record**

March 23, 2014

Youth/Children	61/92
Morning Worship	513
Weekly Operating Needs	29,189.36
Operating Receipts	\$12,670.00
2014 Operating Budget	\$1,517,847.00
Expected to Date	\$324,300.00
Received to Date	\$279,703.95
Building Fund Receipts	\$9,236.67
Building Fund in 2014	\$70,513.93
New Members in 2014	12

**LIVING OUR LEGACY**

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,080,950.00
Received Last Week	9,036.67
Received to Date	\$441,920.25

**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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**Pray for our Mission Team as they travel to Chile.**

**Sermon, March 30, 2014**

**8:45 and 11:00 Morning Worship**

**"My God,**

**Why Have You Forsaken Me?"**

**(Mark 15:29-36)**

**Peter von Herrmann**

**VALET PARKING**

Every Sunday morning!  
Drive to the covered entrance near the nursery

**MIDWEEK MEAL: April 2**

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

**April 9**

Taco salad or baked chicken, baked potato bar, roll and dessert