



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter, April 29, 2014

www.bluffparkumc.org

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

The Song of Solomon, also known as the Song of Songs, is very unique. It makes no mention of God and it makes no mention of commandments. It is a poetic meditation on love, particularly between what seems to be a husband and a wife.

Through most of Christian history, the Song of Solomon has been seen as a metaphor for the love that Jesus Christ has for his Church (and the Christians within the church). This idea places Jesus Christ as the "beloved" and that we are "his" -- we are cherished and loved and cared for.

While we have new ways to look at the Song of Solomon, this first interpretation is very helpful as we read chapter 8, verses 6-7:

"Set me as a seal upon your heart,
as a seal upon your arm;
for love is strong as death,
passion fierce as the grave.
Its flashes are flashes of fire,
a raging flame.
Many waters cannot quench love,
neither floods drown it.
If one offered for love
all the wealth of one's house,
it would be utterly scorned."

Notice how strong the love of God through Christ is for us. It is a raging fire. It is a love so great, no amount of flooding can quench it. It is worth more than all the wealth we have. Do you know that God loves you this much?

Mike

WE EAT TOGETHER, an event full of fun and fellowship sponsored by Urban Ministry, is scheduled for May 8, 2014, from 5:30 until 8:30 at Hulsey Hall on the campus of Birmingham-Southern College. There will be a silent auction for participants to bid on while they enjoy beverages and appetizers provided by Chef Chris Dupont of *Café Dupont* and Good People Brewing Company. Music for the evening will be complements of Shaun Pezant. Proceeds raised will benefit the **WE Community Gardens**, a ministry of the Community Church without Walls and Urban Ministry. The Gardens has a three-fold mission for the community it serves:

1. **Inspiration:** Through the fundamental example of community gardens that are beautiful and bountiful.
2. **Education:** We provide resources and information about sustainable gardening and natural food preparation to increase the health and well-being of a community overwhelmingly challenged by food insecurity and the lack of healthier food choice.
3. **Institutions:** We are striving to create self-sustaining and holistic food institutions that can revitalize the economic landscape in a community that is otherwise a food desert.

Tickets are \$45 each, and can be purchased from Becky Walker (987-0404) or through the Urban Ministry website: www.urban-ministry.org. Please join us and show your support for this wonderful worthwhile ministry.

Stay tuned for more information about a special Mother's Day offering. We will be taking up an offering on May 11th at both morning worship services for Jessie's Place, a women's and children's shelter in downtown Birmingham. More information will be provided soon!



2014 Flower Calendar: There are a few dates left on the 2014 Flower Calendar. Please sign up to remember a loved one or to commemorate a special occasion. One arrangement is \$50.00; both \$100.00. We have two arrangements each Sunday. The dates that are available are: June 15, July 6, September 28 (1/2), October 1 (1/2), 12 (1/2), 19, 26 (1/2), November 2, 23 (1/2), and December 14. Please sign up in the main office or contact 822-0910.



Member of our Church Family in the Hospital:

Lakeshore Shirley White

THE CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2014

Ethan Todd Caraway
Austin Chase Coley
Mollie Morgan Edwards
Keegan Hart Ferguson
Hannah Leann Lagan
Martha Sophia McLemore
Claire Elizabeth Patton
Barrett Erikson Stahr
John Michael Williamson

Alyssa Taylor Chavez
Lydia Corrine Coltrane
Luke Adam Godwin
Lauren Ann Holmes
Rachel Ann Martin
Katherine Faye Norris
Ethan Gibbs Pomeroy
Johnathan Patrick Trucks
Olivia Grace Woodruff

The Choir Committee will meet May 18 at 3:30 in the library. We will be discussing new choir, acolyte and handbells robes.

Update Membership: It is not too late to update your **membership information**. You can do this on line (<http://bluffparkumc.org/updateinfo/>) or call the office at 822-0910.

NEW MEMBER CLASS: Our next new member class will be on May 4 at 9:45 in the church parlor. Whether or not you are planning to join our church, we encourage you to come. We will find out more about this congregation, about our denomination, and about what it means to be a member at Bluff Park UMC. This is our final class session. For more information, talk to Peter at petervh@bpumc.org

Tom Duley and Bill Pearson will hold a **Promise Home wrap-up meeting** on Wednesday, May 7 from 4:30 to 5:30 pm and from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. in the Opportunity Classroom. Each session will cover the same information so pick the time that is best for you. Tom and Bill will cover all aspects of the Promise Home story including building, financing, current status and more. There will be a time for questions and answers as well. If you have any remaining questions or need more information about the Promise Home we would love for you to join us.

MEMORIALS

BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Marvin Broome, Sr. by Tim and Ellen Finley, Elizabeth Sheetz, Stretch and Joan Dunn

Doris Mixon by Sarah Young

Faye Dozier by Tim and Ellen Finley

John Buford Baird by Peggy White

Bobby Jo Ashworth by Kenneth Wade, Stretch and Joan Dunn, Ray and Lynne Nix

PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND

Louise Sturdivant by Bob and Marianne Sturdivant

UNDER THE BRIDGE

Marvin Broome, Sr. by Martha McCary, Bob and Ann Nelson, Jim and Sara Perry, Roy and Charlotte Shanlever, Hunter Street Baptist Church Cornerstone Sunday School Class, Julia and Terry Dunne, Elsie Medders, Leroy and Bobbie Broome, Amy Rensing, Sandra Schwartz, Joe and Madelyne Duncan, Betty Hottenstein,

BUILDING FUND

Ginny Gillespie by Marvin and Diane Broome

Doris Mixon by Marvin and Diane Broome

Pat Adair by Bill Adair

FOOD PANTRY

Bobby Jo Ashworth by The Jack Crawford family, W.C. and Joy Sisk, Larry and Audrey Sellers, Lawrence Kendrick, E. Preston, Bobby and Patsy Cummings, James and Sally Holland, Jim and Sara Perry, Annis Cammack, Ken and Kay Adams, Canterbury Class, Wayne and Sylvia Thaggard, Clyde Brashier, Tim and Ellen Finely, Judith and Michael Welborn, JB and Frankie Thrasher, H and M Jensen, Lois Reeves, Carolyn Sexton, Ed and Nan Thomas, Laura Boren, Tuesday Morning Bible Study, Bob and Becky Walker, Bill and Carol Watson, Jim and Sandy Dolar

HABITAT HOUSE

Ginny Gillespie by Martha McCary, Mahala McKinney

Doris Mixon by Mahala McKinney

Michael Thompson by Pony Thompson

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Ginny Gillespie by Martha McCary, Mahala McKinney

Doris Mixon by Mahala McKinney

Michael Thompson by Pony Thompson

PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Doris Mixon by Elsie Medders

Bobby Jo Ashworth by Gene and Jean Brown

Kyle Garwick by JB and Frankie Thrasher, Covenant Class

CHRISTIN CROCKETT SCHOLARSHIP

Bobby Jo Ashworth by Harry Hill

EASTER LOVE OFFERING

Chris and Sammy Daniel by Fred and Jackie Teaford

Jenny Gillespie by Howard and Peggy Sisson

Victor Harbor by Pony Thompson

YOUTH DEPARTMENT

Ryan Huddleston by Ann and Geoff Huddleston

COUNSELING

Kyle Garwick by Bob and Becky Walker

HONORARIUM

BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Bill Garwick by Jim and Becky McCary

HABITAT HOUSE

Tom Duley by Mahala McKinney

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Megan Wise by Vitality Class

CHOIR DEPARTMENT

Jackie Teaford by Joy Circle

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

CHILDREN'S NEWS

6th GRADE ACOLYTES will be honored this Sunday, May 4, at the 11a.m. service for their participation in helping us worship every Sunday. Please let me know if your 6th grader is not attending.

CHILDREN'S COUNCIL will meet on Wednesday April 30 in the New Light Classroom at 6:30p.m.

THANK YOU Canterbury Class for teaching the Elementary Sunday School classes for 3 weeks in May! Y'all are AWESOME!!!!

ELEMENTARY CHILDREN'S FIELD TRIP is June 4th. Bowling, pizza, and a movie! This is for rising 1st graders thru 6th graders. Cost is \$30 a child. Room for 23 students. Doors open at 7:30a.m. We leave around 9:30a.m. and are back by 4:30p.m. We ask that you pick your child up by 5:30p.m. Call to reserve your child's place on the bus!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL leaders are looking for volunteers to help with our **Wilderness Escape this year.**

If you like having fun and enjoy watching children grow in their faith, we have just the thing for you! Please e-mail Mrs. Leigh Delashaw @ ldelashaw@bpumc.org if you would like to volunteer!

WOW! We are heading into summer! Check out the summer events calendar below!

SUMMER EVENT CALENDAR

On The Road Again Field Trip	Wed. June 4	For rising 1 st thru rising 6 th graders
On The Road Again Field Trip	Wed. June 18	Cost \$30.00 a child 7:30am-5:30p.m
Little Imaginations Day Camp	Mon.-Fri. June 16-20	9a.m.-1p.m. Call 822-5813 for more info!
Preschool Splash Party	Tue. June 24	For Preschoolers and family 10:30a.m.-noon Free!
Vacation Bible School	Mon.-Fri. July 7-11	Cost \$10 Dinner served. 5-8:15p.m.
Fine Arts Camp 9a.m.-12:30p.m.	Mon.-Fri. July 28-31	Cost \$35 For rising 1 st thru rising 6 th graders
Promotion Sunday	Sun. Aug. 3	All Children!

STUDENT MINISTRY

SUMMER CALENDARS

Need to pay for a summer trip? Go to www.bluffparkumc.org and scroll over the Giving tab. Then click on Online Donations. From there you can click on the Youth tab and make a partial or full payment for the Band Tour, ASP or the Beach Retreat. Anyone can also make a donation to our Student Trip Scholarship Fund, which assists families who need a little help getting their students to all the great things we have planned off-site. Contact Bart Styes if your family needs assistance with a trip.

SAVE THE DATES

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

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

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

Sunday, May 4, 10:00am: Sunday School in the Youth Wing

Sunday, May 4, 4:00pm: Holy Ground Team Rehearsal

Sunday, May 4, 5:30pm: Snack Supper in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday, May 4, 6:00pm: Wiffle Ball Tourney in the Gym & HS Girls Small Group

Wednesday, May 7, 5:30pm: MS Girls Small Group & MS Guys Recreation

Wednesday, May 7, 6:30pm: Holy Ground Worship in the Youth Wing

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30: COOKING CLASS with Wesley Lassen, The Cook Store, Mt. Brook

THURSDAY, MAY 1: SHEPHERD'S CENTER MYSTERY PROGRAM???????

SATURDAY, MAY 3: LADIES DAY—Loving God, Loving Each Other

Join us for a day of fun, excitement, and surprises.

Devotion by Yvonne Sellers (Dawson Memorial Baptist Church), Memory Candle, Julie Adams, Special Music by Alice Marie and Randy, Bible Study with Becky Walker, and Music/Love Story by Delores Hydock and Bobby Horton, Beth Chapman, former Alabama Secretary of State, guest luncheon speaker. Tablesapes, 1st, 2nd, 3rd prizes awarded.



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

Special Moment with Jesus!

I will give to the Lord the thanks due to his righteousness, and sing praise to the name of the LORD, the Most High. Psalm 7:17

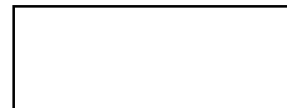
Bluff Park United Methodist Church

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, 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
Director of Communications and Media, ext. 119
Andrew Seltz, aseltz@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 May 4-10

Sunday, May 4
8:45 a.m. Morning Worship Service
9:45 a.m. New Member Class
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship
Monday, May 5
Tuesday, May 6
UMW to Upper Sand Mtn.
Wednesday, May 7
9:00 a.m. Food Pantry
4:30 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study
5:00 p.m. Dinner
6:00 p.m. Men's Chorus
6:00 p.m. Daniel Plan

Wednesday, May 7
6:00 p.m. Becky Walker's Bible Study
6:30 p.m. Children's Council
6:30 p.m. Coffee and Conversation
6:30 p.m. Choir
Thursday, May 8
9:30 a.m. Shepherd Center
Friday, May 9
6:00 p.m. Friendship Class
Saturday, May 10

Ushers
8:45: Carlisle 11:00: Moore
Cross
8:45: 11:00: Billy Neal
Acolytes
8:45: Emma Patton 11:00: Kate Culverhouse
Meal on Wheels May 7: David and Laura Fugit
Greeters May 4: Cornerstone Class
Food Pantry May 7: Becky McCrary

MIDWEEK MEAL May 7
Spaghetti and meatballs, corn on the cob or baked chicken, baked potato bar, roll and dessert.

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

Sermon, May 4, 2014
8:45 and 11:00 Morning Worship
"Just an Old Fashioned Love Song"
(Song of Solomon 8:6-7)
Mike Holly

Last Week's Record

April 27, 2014

Youth/Children	57/98
Morning Worship	540
Weekly Operating Needs	29,189.36
Operating Receipts	\$25,300.00
2014 Operating Budget	\$1,517,847.00
Expected to Date	\$459,425.00
Received to Date	\$405,452.93
New Members in 2014	30

LIVING OUR LEGACY
January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,080,950.00
Received Last Week	\$2,891.67
Received to Date	\$460,624.23

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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BPUMC FOOD PANTRY
1st Wednesday each month
We are serving 200+ families a month.
We appreciate all donations!