



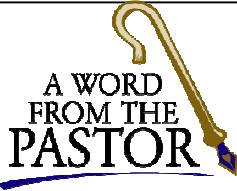
BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter, May 6, 2014

www.bluffparkumc.org



This past Sunday, we heard from the Song of Solomon in the Old Testament and from Romans in the New Testament about the radical and extravagant love of God. God is love. It is who God is and how God operates. What we will turn to this Sunday is that we human beings are created in God's image. We were created to be agents of love in God's creation as well. We were created to fulfill the Great Commandment: to love God and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

However, what we often find is that we give the most of who we are (our time, energy and resources) to things and not to people. Rev. Jacob Armstrong says that "our culture tells us to hold on and gather up, not to let go and give away." Rev. Armstrong reminds us that often we are too often focused upon what we can obtain or maintain in order to keep ourselves happy. This is a trap for our hearts because no matter how many different kinds of treasure we obtain or maintain — our hearts remain empty.

Jesus explains to each and everyone of us that in order to fill our hearts, we have to fill them up with the love of God and neighbor. Join us this Sunday at 8:45 or 11:00 am as we explore what it means to seek treasure that does not decay...and what it means to have Christ-centered hearts.

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.

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

Sympathy of the congregation is extended to Dot Watterson and family in the death of Gene, who died on May 5. Our prayers are with the family in their time of sorrow. A Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, May 18 at 2:00 p.m.

We will be going to an **Atlanta Braves** game on Thursday, August 14th. It is an afternoon game and they will be playing the Los Angeles Dodgers. Tickets are \$25.00. We will leave from the church at 7:30 am. If you are interested please make your reservation with Cindy in the church office.

Blood Drive
Sunday, May 18
In the Gym 7:30-12:30



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.

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.



Celebrate Mother's Day

Sunday, May 11

No Evening Worship



Are you looking for a Preschool or Parent's Day Out program for your sweet child/children? If so, the answer may be closer than you think.

Little Imaginations Preschool is a half-day program serving children aged 6 months through 4 years. School hours are 9:00-1:00. For more information or program details, please call the preschool office at 822-5813, or email our director, Tracy Estes, at imagination@bpumc.org.

There are still a few spots available in our Infants and Toddlers classes for the 2014-15 school year. If you, or someone you know is looking for a program for their child, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to sharing our preschool program with you!

Staffing Updates

This past Sunday, we welcomed Andrew Seltz to the staff of BPUMC. Andrew is our new Director of Communications, Media and Sound. Andrew will begin working with our newsletter, bulletin and other mailings as well as with our e-mail communication plan. He will also be working with letting the community and city know about what is going on at BPUMC! Andrew and his wife and children live here in Bluff Park and they are active in our neighborhood. We welcome the very creative Andrew Seltz to BPUMC!

We also say goodbye to two part-time staff members. Russell Blackburn, our adult handbell choir director, is graduating from Samford University and will be looking for full-time work in music education. Lauren-Michael Sellers, our youth worship leader, is also leaving BPUMC. We wish Lauren-Michael well in all of her endeavors. We will begin a process to replace both Russell and Lauren-Michael soon.

CHILDREN'S NEWS

LAST DAY FOR CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING FOR MIDWEEK is Wednesday May 7.

REVISIONING RETREAT for Children's Ministry is May 14 and 15. Please be in prayer for vital step in our renovation process.

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 at 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
	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 Cost—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.

MIDWEEK MEALS END MAY 7

We will have Holy Ground Worship for a couple more Wednesdays after Midweek Meals end on May 7th. We will have a dinner option before worship on those dates for \$5 per student.

SAVE THE DATES

Senior Recognition, May 18th. Our graduating seniors will be honored with a breakfast at 10am and during worship at 11am. Parents of seniors: Remember to get digital photos turned in to the office!

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

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

Sunday, May 11, 10:00am: Sunday School in the Youth Wing

Sunday, May 11: NO AFTERNOON OR EVENING ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, May 14, 6:30pm: Holy Ground Worship in the Youth Wing

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

Ladies Day—tablescapes were beautiful. Thanks to all who made this so successful.

THURSDAY, MAY 8: SHEPHERD'S CENTER – John Morris, Tip Top Grill History.

TUESDAY, MAY 13: SHEPHERD'S CENTER – HUNTSVILLE DAY TRIP
Church tour, Butterfly Garden, Lunch-8:30am-4:00pm Cost \$10.00/gas donation.

THURSDAY, MAY 15: SHEPHERD'S CENTER – Rev. Tom Duley, guest speaker.

SATURDAY, MAY 17: BPUMC RED HAT 10 YEAR REUNION with Mary Jane Wesler. Past, present and future members are invited. 979-8047 for reservations.

TUESDAY, MAY 24: COLUMBUS, MS. PILGRIMAGE HOME TOURS – Tour Bus
7:00am-5:00pm Cost \$65.00pp includes lunch.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17-23: SAN ANTONIO, TX. Riverwalk, The Alamo, San Fernando Cathedral, Fredericksburg, National Museum of the Pacific War, LBJ Ranch and lots of other good stuff.

Special Moment with Jesus—The Joy of Forgiveness

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Psalm 32:1

Bluff Park United Methodist Church

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226

**NON-PROFIT ORG.
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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 11-17

Sunday, May 11

8:45 a.m. Morning Worship Service
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service

Monday, May 12

11:00 a.m. Children's Ministry Group

Tuesday, May 13

8:30 a.m. Maintenance.
8:30 a.m. Betty Day trip
Under the Bridge

Wednesday, May 14

6:00 p.m. Men's Chorus

Wednesday, May 14

6:00 p.m. Becky Walker's Bible Study
Choir

Thursday, May 15

9:30 a.m. Shepherd Center

Friday, May 16

Preschool Graduation

Saturday, May 17

6:00 p.m. Tucker/Raley Wedding

Ushers

8:45: Nelson 11:00: Dover

Cross

8:45: John David Shanlever 11:00: Logan Watts

Acolytes

8:45: Clayton Marshall 11:00: Ruskin Gold

Children's Church

8:45 McGriff 11:00 Prudhomme
Meal on Wheels May 14: Shanlever
Greeters May 11: Friendship Class
Food Pantry May 4: Penny Burns

Last Week's Record

May 4, 2014

Youth/Children	55/81
Morning Worship	518
Weekly Operating Needs	29,189.36
Operating Receipts	\$37,001.00
2014 Operating Budget	\$1,517,847.00
Expected to Date	\$486,450.00
Received to Date	\$442,453.93
New Members in 2014	30

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$4,283.70
Received to Date	\$487,884.11

**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!

Sermon, May 11, 2014

8:45 and 11:00 Morning Worship
"How Do You Measure Love"
(Matthew 6:19-24)
Mike Holly

VALET PARKING

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