



733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226  
205.822.0910

# BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Newsletter, September 24, 2013*

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

## Bound Together

### A WORD FROM THE PASTOR



Our term "religion" comes from the Latin *religio*. One of the roots of *religio* is *religare*, which means, "to bind." Thus, religion has for many been seen as a way in which we put the pieces of our world together, binding us to others and most importantly to God. We are through Jesus Christ bound to each other and to God. One way that we express that connection is through mutual service as Christians in the world. In the Methodist tradition, we work with various churches and agencies to spread the gospel in places that we as an individual congregation would otherwise be unable to influence.

One of the great ministries that we sponsor in the North Alabama Conference and as a congregation is our United Methodist Children's Home. Each Christmas, we take up a "White Christmas Offering" that goes directly to support this amazing ministry. Lonna Lynn Higgs, a former associate pastor here at Bluff Park, is currently serving as the chaplain of this ministry. The Children's Home provides residential programs, foster care programs, family preservation & support services, adoption & other programs, as well as spiritual life & development.

This Sunday at 10:00, we will welcome Rebecca Morris, the Vice President for External Affairs of the Children's Home, for a presentation about their ministry. We hope that you will come to hear about this ministry that we as a church have supported for years.

As our 5th Sunday Connection Class, we will meet in the Fellowship Hall. We hope to see you Sunday at 10!



**BLOOD DRIVE**  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29  
7:30-12:00



Blessing of  
the Animals

Sunday, October, 6, 2013  
3:00 p.m.  
Petting Zoo in the Parking Lot

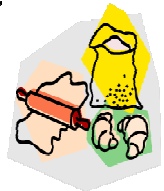


Bake your favorite recipes for the

**Bluff Park Art Show**

**BAKE SALE**

**October 5th**



Plan to be a part of this annual fundraiser for our Mission work by baking and sharing with others.

*If you run short of time  
baking ahead and freezing is a good thing*

**Goodies to Fellowship Hall Oct 4<sup>th</sup> Noon-6PM**

**Congratulations** to Anne and Matt Shuleva on the birth of a 7 lb. 12 oz. daughter, Anne Denby Shuleva, on September 22.

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:** Family conflict can be bitter and painful, and it's often hard to rebuild broken relationships with those closest to us. It takes grace and courage and patience. Steve Sweatt is available for that purpose. He is a licensed counselor, licensed marriage and family therapist, and ordained minister who comes to the satellite counseling office here at the church. Steve is affiliated with United Counseling, a ministry of the North Alabama Conference, and he comes to the satellite counseling office here at the church located below the chapel. Call 824-8320 for an appointment. It's confidential, convenient, and affordable. Weekend and evening appointments can be arranged.

**Need a perfect gift?** We still have the new Bluff Park Cook Book for sale. Pick one up in the narthex on Sunday or come by the church office.

**THE HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL** is Wednesday Oct. 30, 6-8p.m. There will be food, games, a bouncy house, a haunted house and a cake walk! The entire church family and community are invited to participate and feel free to bring a friend!

***Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity***

Stress, Anxiety, Fear: These words capture well the state of mind of many of us in America today. A recent survey found that over three in four Americans are stressed about the economy and their personal finances. Half were worried about providing for their family's basic needs. Over half of respondents reported feeling angry and irritable, and reported lying awake at night worried about this. The report concludes that, "The declining state of the nation's economy is taking a physical and emotional toll on people nationwide."<sup>1</sup>

Join us in worship this October for a sermon series entitled *Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity*. Over the course of four weeks, we will explore what the Bible teaches us about financial management through corporate worship and small group study. Each week we will provide you with some practical tools you can use to assess your financial situation and develop a financial plan with a biblical foundation.

At the conclusion of the series, we will have the opportunity to make personal commitments of our offerings to God through our church in the coming year. We will consecrate these commitments in the worship service on Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup> during both morning worship services.

I hope you will join us in the coming weeks as we look at how we can manage our financial resources and truly experience simplicity, generosity, and joy.

Mike

**Schedule of Events:**

October 6	Enough: Waste	Luke 15:11-16
October 13	Enough: Contentment	Matthew 12:13-21
October 20	Enough: Generosity	Matthew 25:31-46
October 27	Enough: Praise	1 Chronicles 16:28-36 Consecration Sunday



**2013 Flower Calendar:** The following dates are still available to remember a loved one or to commemorate a special occasion in the year 2013. One arrangement is \$50.00; both \$100.00. Please sign up in the office of the Education building. Thank you for adding to the beauty of our Worship Services. Dates available: November 3(1/2), 17; December 8.

1. Do you have to make a required minimum distribution (RMD) from your IRA in 2013?
2. Are you at least 70½ years old or will be at the time you take your RMD?

If you answered yes to **both** of these questions, some or all of your RMD can be made directly to the church and it will not be included in income on your 2013 tax return through the IRS Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) provision. (If you choose the QCD option, there will be no charitable contribution associated with the gift.) The QCD option may save you taxes directly through a lower taxable income and indirectly through taxable income exclusions or deductions based on your income. If you think you qualify for a QCD please contact your personal Tax Advisor. Thanks for your consideration

**The Permanent Endowment Fund Committee**

## CHILDREN'S NEWS

**4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> FELLOWSHIP CHILDREN'S COUNCIL** We will meet on September 29, at 4:30p.m. in the New Light Classroom.

**ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL** Bible verse for the month is..."We are ambassadors for Christ." 2 Corinthians 5:20. Ask your elementary kids to memorize this and ask them what it means to them. To take it one step farther, discuss it what it means to you with them.

**PRESCHOOL PARENTS** We are in need of teachers for the 3 and 4 year olds Sunday School classes. Curriculum is provided and there is a nursery worker assigned to the class. If you are unsure of what to do, Molly Knight, Georgia Pearson, or Leigh Delashaw will be glad to go over the material with you. You can e-mail Leigh Delashaw at [ldelashaw@bpumc.org](mailto:ldelashaw@bpumc.org) to sign up. Mrs. Leigh and the children thank you!

**TO THE NEW LIGHT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS** Thank you for teaching the elementary Sunday school unit on 3 Women of Faith. It was a great success! The children learned about Lydia and her purple cloth, Dorcus and how she made clothes for people, and Priscilla with her diligence at spreading the gospel. The children learned and the class did also! Thank you for giving the gift of service to the children of the church.

**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 Preschool, 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.



## STUDENT MINISTRY

There are FIVE unique environments in which we hope to engage students and equip them as disciples: "reach" events, Sunday School, worship, missions/service and small groups. Starting on September 25, our FALL 2013 small groups start up, discipling their students in ways that just don't happen in a larger group setting. Small groups dig into issues affecting their members, make memories together and small group leaders model what it looks like to follow Jesus, while coaching their students to do the same.

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](mailto:barts@bpumc.org)

Wednesday, September 25, 5:30pm: MS Small Groups (Girls in the Cave & Guys in the Rec Room)

Wednesday, September 25, 6:30pm: Holy Ground Worship in the Youth Wing

Sunday, September 29, 10:00am: Sunday School in the Youth Wing

Sunday, September 29, 4:00pm: Holy Ground Team Rehearsal

Sunday, September 29, 5:30pm: Free Snack Supper in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday, September 29: HS Small Group (time/location TBD)

Sunday, September 29, 6:00pm: HS Girls Small Group in the Cave

Sunday, September 29, 6:00pm: SERVE NIGHT (students will work on housewarming projects for our Promise Home neighbors)

Wednesday, October 2, 5:30pm: MS Small Groups (Girls in the Cave & Guys in the Rec Room)

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

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

**BRIDGE and LUNCH:**

With Barbara Morgan, **each Thursday** at 11:00 a.m. Beginners and advanced

**TUESDAY, SEPT. 25:**

**ANNISTON DAY TRIP** - Classic on the Noble

**THURSDAY, SEPT. 26:**

**SHEPHERD CENTER**—Mystery????????????? 11:00 Bible Study with Charlie.

**FRIDAY, SEPT. 27:**

**SENIOR FUN DAY WITH MIKE and PETER**—Lunch, special entertainment.

Mystery guest?????. Everyone's invited for a morning of fun, fellowship,. Call Betty.

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 17:**

**SHEPHERD CENTER FLU SHOTS** 9:00-10:00

**SUNDAY, OCT. 20:**

**CHURCH FLU SHOTS** 8:30-12:30

### **CHRISTMAS TRIP**

***Sevierville, Pigeon Forge, Gatlinburg—December 4th-7th. \$375 per person/double  
Christmas lights/ shopping/shows, Christmas on the Titanic, and Christ in the Smokies Museum.  
\$100 deposit—balance due November 1 - 5 rooms available!***

### **Special Moment with Jesus!**

*Cast your burden on the LORD, And He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.*

Psalm 55:22

# 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, 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 September 29-October 5

**Sunday, September 29**

7:30 a.m. Blood Drive  
8:45 a.m. Morning Worship Service  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service  
4:30 p.m. Children's Council  
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship

**Monday, September 30**

**Tuesday, October 1**

9:30 a.m. Bible Study

**Wednesday, October 2**

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 2**

6:00 p.m. Genealogy  
6:00 p.m. Mike Holly's Bible Study  
6:30 p.m. Coffee and Conversation  
6:30 p.m. Adult Choir

**Thursday, October 3**

9:00 a.m. Shepherd's Center

**Friday, October 4**

12:00 Baked Goods for Art Show

**Ushers**

8:45: Doran 11:00: Arthur

**Cross**

8:45: Clayton Marshall 11:00: Olivia Woodruff

**Acolytes**

8:45: Caroline Owen 11:00: Vasi Tsantes

**Children's Church**

8:45: Poe 11:00: Williamson

**Greeters September 29:** Wesley Forum

**Meals on Wheels October 2:** McDonald

**Food Pantry: October 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

September 22, 2013

Sunday School	384
Morning Worship	513
Evening Worship	25
Weekly Operating Needs	\$27,025.00
Operating Receipts	\$20,067.33
2013 Operating Budget	\$1,405,300.00
Needed to Date	\$1,027,952.00
Received to Date	\$968,748.98
Building Fund Receipts	\$12,835.00
Building Fund in 2013	\$206,283.49
New Members in 2013	37

**LIVING OUR LEGACY**

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,080,950.00
Received Last Week	\$2,700.00
Received to Date	\$244,847.63

**BLUFF PARK UNITED  
METHODIST COLUMBARIUM**

Information Sheets in Narthex and Church Office

**Wed. Night Servers—Sept. 25**

Fellowship Hall—Matt and Pat Reeder  
Carry Out Line Peggy and Gail

**Midweek Meal, Sept. 25**

Hamburger steak, cream potatoes, mixed vegetables, or baked chicken, baked potato bar, roll.  
**October 2**  
Baked, fish, scalloped potatoes, baked beans, or baked chicken, baked potato bar, roll,

**Sermon, September 29, 2013**  
**8:45 and 11:00 Morning Worship**

**"Held Together"**  
(Colossians 1:15-20)

**6:00 Evening Worship**  
**"An Unusual Time to Buy"**  
(Jeremiah 32:1-3a; 6-15)  
**Peter von Herrmann**

**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  
**First Class Free**