

BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter May 15, 2016

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org



As I write these words to our church family in Bluff Park, the global United Methodist Church is uniting in Portland, Oregon, from May 10 to May 20, 2016. This meeting is called General Conference and it occurs every four years. There will be 846 delegates from around the globe gathering to discuss important issues in our denomination. Half of these delegates are ordained clergy and the other half are lay leaders. There will be worship, reports from ministries and missions, resolutions and debate, and a lot of prayer. To demonstrate that the United Methodist Church is a global church: there will be simultaneous voice translation for delegates in English, French, German, Swahili, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese and Russian.

The North Alabama Conference is sending four clergy delegates and four lay delegates (along with a few reserve delegates as well). I hope that you will be praying over the course of the next two weeks for our global church – for wisdom, grace, unity and a sense of holy purpose and revival! Below are the names of the delegates that we should all be lifting up in prayer. You will notice my wife’s name as a reserve delegate but she will not be in Portland as they typically only send the first two reserve clergy and lay delegates due to the expenses. She will be a delegate to our regional gathering in July: the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.

We are blessed beyond belief by the ties the global United Methodist connection brings us. In a way, there is beauty in the chaos that is the UMC – that we still believe that the Holy Spirit can work in an through the gathered hearts and minds of nearly 1,000 delegates and bishops. There is beauty in believing that God will continue to work in an through our denomination whatever may lie ahead.

Mike

NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE DELEGATES

Laity

Steve Lyles
Scott Selman
Zac Riddle
Carol Toney

Clergy

Robin Scott
Dale Cohen
Mary Bendall Henley
Tiwirai Kufarimai

Lay Alternates

Charlie Carlton
Pat Meadows
Emily Chastain
Judy Poole

Clergy Alternates

Glenn Conner
Robert Sparkman
Mark Parris
Julie Holly



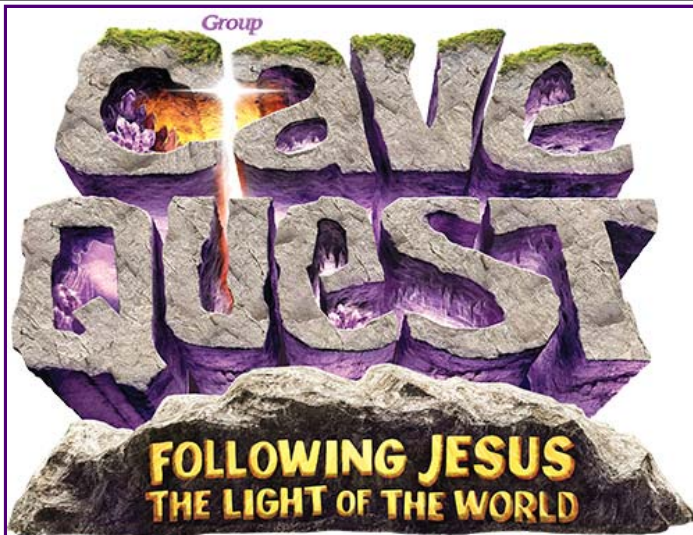
2016
GENERAL CONFERENCE
GUIDE

MAY 10 - MAY 20, 2016 | PORTLAND, OREGON

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church



News of the Week



VBS 2016 - CAVE QUEST!

Excitement is building in Children's Ministry!! Vacation Bible School for summer 2016 takes place July 18th-22nd. Daily sessions will run from 5:15-7:50pm. Dinner will be available each night of VBS, from 4:45pm-5:15pm, in the Fellowship Hall, at a cost of \$2 per plate. This is not part of the programming but a service to our students and volunteers. Parents must stay with their kids during dinner as programming begins in the Sanctuary at 5:30pm. Online registration is now open. To register visit:

bluffparkumc.org/VBS2016



GROW IT 2 EAT IT

Grow It 2 Eat It is a four day camp experience. Each day we will work in the garden and learn something new. Kids will harvest fresh produce and cook it for lunch, followed by a craft or activity that reinforces all that we've learned that day. Camp dates are June 13th-16th from 9:30am-12:30pm. The cost of the camp is \$10 per child with a family max of \$15. Register online at:

bluffparkumc.org/grow-it-2-eat-it-registration/

URBAN MINISTRY NEEDS A VAN

Urban Ministry is looking for a van to be donated (or sold at a reasonable price) for their mission and ministry. If you can help, please contact the church office.

2016 ALTAR FLOWERS

There are dates left on the 2016 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. Dates available include: June 19, and 26 and July 10, 17, 24, and 31. Check with the office for other available dates. Please sign up in the main office or call (205) 822-0910.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Christian Cooper—Still Burn Center, Augusta GA

Durwood Freeman—Aspire Rehab

Cary Moore—Aspire Rehab

SHOE BOXES ARE COMING!

This summer we will be putting together Shoe Boxes to be distributed to children throughout Latin America at Christmas time. The Shoe Boxes have small items that many of the children our missionaries work with have a hard time getting. We are setting aside the months of June and July to collect the items and assemble the Shoe Boxes. The list of needed materials will be published soon. This is a project in partnership with the United Methodist Committee on Relief and our United Methodist missionaries working in the region.

FAST AND SECURE ONLINE DONATIONS WITH EASYTITHE

Bluff Park United Methodist Church has implemented a new set of online giving tools, powered by easyTithe.com. They provide the ability to donate on our website and through a mobile app! After creating an account, you're able to give a donation or schedule a series of donations directly using your debit or credit card. You can also make a pledge and track your online giving. To create your online account, visit the church website and select 'Donate Online' under the 'Give' link in the top menu. Step-by-step tutorial videos are available on the main 'Give' landing page.

BluffParkUMC.org/give-online

The BPUMC Men's Chorus will be performing for the residents of Chateau Vestavia on Sunday, May 15. Performances will be at 2:00pm and at 3:15pm.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

DOLLY AND ME PAR-TEA: Girls of all ages: You are cordially invited to a Dolly and Me ParTEA in the Courtyard and Fireside Room on Sunday, May 15th from 12:30-2:30! There will be a light lunch, activities, crafts, and more! If you would like to attend, please register online at www.bluffparkumc.org/dollyandme. We hope to see you all there!

FIELD TRIP: The Children's Ministry will be offering a field trip for our rising Kindergarten-5th graders on Thursday, June 2nd. We will be going to Desoto Caverns for the day, where we will take a cave tour and participate in some fun activities! Drop off will begin at 7:30, we will leave the church at 10:00, and pickup will be at the church between 5:00-5:30. Please RSVP with Melissa Hendon at mhendon@bpumc.org as soon as possible as we only have 26 spots available.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH VOLUNTEERS: We are in need of volunteers for Children's Church on the following dates and times over the next two months: 11:00 on May 22 and 8:45 and 11:00 on May 29 and June 5, 12, 19, and 26. There is no pre-planning for this volunteer spot: this person will simply worship with Mr. Stanley and the children and assist if necessary! If you would like to volunteer in Children's Church, please contact Stanley Davidson at sdavidson@bpumc.org, or sign up through Volunteer Spot at <http://vols.pt/22XY7w>.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: This Sunday our theme will be "Praying for Others." We will be in Hudson Hall throughout the Summer!

STUDENT MINISTRY

BEACH RETREAT REGISTRATION IS OPEN We'll be staying at Laguna Beach Christian Retreat Center, just west of Panama City Beach, Florida, leaving on August 5th and coming back on the 8th. The cost is \$175 and covers transportation, lodging, a shirt and all but three meals. The retreat is open to rising 6th graders through 2016 high school graduates. Registration closes on Wednesday, May 25th and you can reserve your student's spot with a \$50 deposit. The balance is due on Friday, July 22nd.

PRAY THIS MAY The number one issue facing our students right now is STRESS! Whether they are finishing up basketball and starting baseball or cramming for ACT's and final exams or trying to work a job around their school day, our students are short on sleep and loaded with responsibilities until the last day of classes. So please pray for our 6th-12th graders especially over the next couple of weeks and give them words of encouragement when you see them on our church campus.

NO HOLY GROUND OR REACH EVENTS IN MAY We will take a hiatus from evening programming, except for worship team rehearsal, and then start back in June with our summer calendar of events. Instead our staff and volunteers will use this month for planning and training.

DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP & KEEP UP WITH THE FAST-MOVING WINTER/SPRING SCHEDULE. There's so much going on as we move deeper into 2016: Senior Recognition, Summer Mission Trips, the Beach Retreat and more. You can keep track of things via your smartphone or tablet by going to your app store and downloading our free app. Just search the key words Youth Wing to find it.

SAVE THESE DATES July 10-15: *Urban Ministries Middle School Mission Trip*; Sunday-Saturday, July 24-30: *ASP High School Mission Trip*; Friday-Monday, August 5-8: *Beach Retreat*; Friday, August 12: *Legacy Gala & Silent Auction*.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 15, 4:00pm

Worship Team Rehearsal in the Youth Wing

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

SATURDAY MAY 14

LADIES DAY RETREAT

Amazing Grace for a Woman's Heart

9:00am-2:00pm—Chapel

MC - Frances Bellows

DEVOTIONAL/WORSHIP - Tina Hardy

MUSIC - Dr. Rocket Curtis

MEMORY CANDLE - Betsy Brittain

BIBLE STUDY - Becky Walker

STORY TIME/MUSIC - Delores Hydock and Bobby Horton

LUNCHEON PRAYER - Sally Frederickson

LUNCHEON GUEST SPEAKER - Harmony Mendoza, Metrologist Channel 13 WVTM TV NBC

Tablescapes, Lunch, Fun, Laughter, Excitement, Door Prizes and maybe a Surprise or two. Tickets, \$15.00, Office. One for yourself one for a friend.



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733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
(205) 822-0910

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
AUTO
BIRMINGHAM, AL
PERMIT NO. 1816

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Tom Duley, tduley@bpumc.org, ext. 112
Director of Senior Ministries, ext. 103
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Bart Styes, barts@bpumc.org
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Stanley Davidson, sdavidson@bpumc.org
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Lonnie Parsons
Organist,
Dr. Lorna Lee Curtis
Preschool Director,
Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org



The Week of May 15—21

Sunday, May 15—Senior Recognition Sunday
8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:00 am Senior Recognition Breakfast
9:45 am Sunday School
10:00 am Membership Class
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
12:30 pm Dolly and Me Tea Party

Monday, May 16
10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
6:00 pm Campaign Leadership
Advisory Council

Wednesday, May 18
6:00 pm Handbell Choir
6:00 pm Men's Chorus
6:00 pm Communion Service
6:30 pm Choir

Thursday, May 19
9:30 am Shepherd's Center
6:30 pm Finance Committee

SUNDAY, May 15th, 2016
8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship
Acts 2:1-21
"A Second Wind"
Rev. Mike Holly

Lectionary Scripture Readings
Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 8:14-17
John 14:8-17 (25-27)

SERVING SUNDAY
Ushers
8:45 McDonald 11:00am Lawson
Cross
8:45 Vivi Shanlever 11:00 Abbey Gray
Acolyte
8:45 Lena Holly 11:00 Jackson Boyd
Greeters: Home Improvement
Meals on Wheels: Martin
Food Pantry June 1st: Penny Burns

Last Week's Record

May 8, 2016

Children	86
Morning Worship	403
Weekly Contributions Expected*	\$27,212.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$22,936.99
Annual Contributions Expected*	\$1,415,000.00
Contributions Expected to Date*	\$517,023.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$574,170.15
New Members in 2016	13

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$1,765.00
Received to Date	\$963,527.87

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

BPUMC FOOD PANTRY

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

VALET PARKING

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