



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter July 31, 2016

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org



One of the themes that is often neglected in the New Testament is the theme of movement. From the very beginning of Jesus' life, Mary and Joseph have to move from their homes and travel back to Bethlehem due to a census. Then, Matthew tells us that Mary and Joseph have to sneak their young child off to the land of Egypt where their own people were enslaved in order to protect Jesus from the murderous King Herod. And once Jesus begins his ministry, he is constantly on the move. He travels from village to village in the area of the Sea of Galilee and then finally he sets his eyes on Jerusalem and journeys to the place where he will be rejected. The final steps of Jesus' earthly life were the steps towards Golgotha which are called the Via Dolorosa, or the Way of Suffering. Jesus was constantly on the move. He did not stay in one place asking people to come to him to hear about what God was going to do for the world. No, Jesus went to the people because he loved us and sought to tell us all who he was and why he mattered and how his life was our example of how to serve the world in love.

This theme of movement continued as apostles like Peter and Paul hit the road to spread the good news about Jesus around the Mediterranean. You see, the good news about Jesus is too important to keep to ourselves. The good news of Jesus offers life transformation and gives us all a purpose and a way of transforming the world around us. Thriving churches do not simply exist for the people who are already present, but turn their churches inside out seeking to help all people to find all of these things through faith and service. Our church has spent a lot of time and prayer preparing a document to help us continue our long tradition of being the kind of church that loves our community while also seeking to grow in our ability to welcome, connect and assist God in the transformation of folks in our community. I hope that you will go to our website and look at our Vision Steering Proposal and pray for the ways in which you might be instrumental in helping us to reach our goals. The Board of Stewards will consider this proposal on Sunday, July 31, at 4:00 pm.

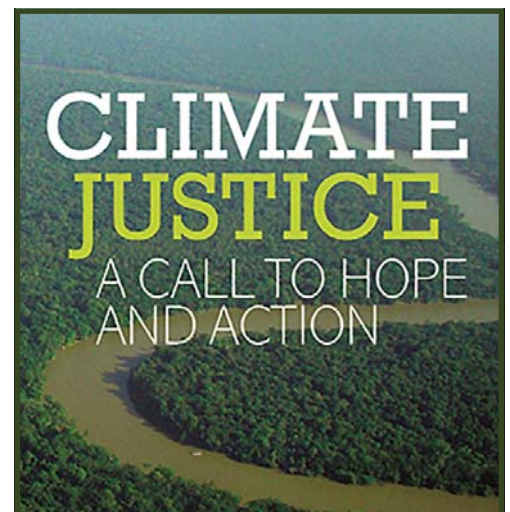
Mike

Climate Justice: A Call to Hope and Action

Monday, August 8, the Bluff Park United Methodist Women will host a program about climate justice. Kyle G. Crider, Energy Project Manager for the Alabama Environmental Council and the Alabama Solar Knowledge project, will be the special guest speaker.

The program will take place in the Chapel starting with refreshments at 6:30 pm and the program following at 7:00 pm.

United Methodist Women calls for sound stewardship of the earth and environmentally friendly lifestyles that preserve creation for the benefit of present and future generations.



News of the Week

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BREAKFAST

Have you volunteered in the ministry work of Bluff Park UMC this past year? Please join us for a free breakfast in the Fellowship Hall this Sunday morning, July 31st, from 10am until noon. We are grateful for all that you do, and would like to say thank you!

BOARD OF STEWARDS MEETING

The Board of Stewards will meet on Sunday, July 31st at 4:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

SILENT AUCTION TICKETS

The date has been set for the 2016 Legacy Gala and Silent Auction. It will be held on August 12th, at The Club. Tickets are now on sale. You can purchase tickets on Sunday mornings or online. Reserve your spot early. We look forward to seeing you there!

Bluffparkumc.org/gala2016

BPUMC FAMILY NIGHT AT THE BALL PARK

It's not too late to sign up for tickets to the ballgame on August 3rd! Each \$12 ticket includes admission and meal ticket. Sign up at table in narthex. For those who have signed up to ride the church bus, we will be leaving the church at 6:00 p.m. There are still a few seats available on the bus. Everyone will pick up their tickets at the Group Will Call Tent at the FIAT Parkside Gate the night of the ballgame. Gates open at 6:05.

BLOOD DRIVE

There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive in the Bluff Park UMC gym on Sunday, July 31st, from 7:30am–12:30pm. Please make time to stop by and give the gift of life. A Red Cross Donor Card or photo ID is required to make a donation. To schedule an appointment to donate call 1-800-Red-Cross or visit their website at RedCrossBlood.org and use the keyword BPUMC.

BPUMC BLOCK PARTY

On September 25th, from 4:00-6:00pm, we will be

hosting a party here at BPUMC. There will be free hotdogs, chips and drinks; carnival games and prizes, inflatables, a Velcro wall, a rock climbing wall, a trackless train, music, and face painting! Mark your calendar and invite your friends and neighbors.

SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION...

Our sympathy is extended to Crystal Bowles on the passing of her mother, Teresa Montgomery, on July 22nd. Our prayers are with her in her time of sorrow.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Christian Cooper—Still Burn Center, Augusta GA



Save The Dates

As we prepare for an important Board of Stewards meeting at the end of July, we are working hard on plans for the fall at BPUMC. We want to invite you to save two new dates as important options for getting plugged in this fall!

Sunday, August 14 and Sunday, August 21

On these two Sundays, you will have the option to come to the Fellowship Hall to see what new classes, studies and opportunities will be offered in the coming year. There will be new groups and new ministries so it should be a great way for you to learn more and get the word out about courses beginning after Labor Day. Please come, enjoy some coffee and see what is in store!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

THANK YOU: Thank you so much to everyone who helped make our Vacation Bible School so great this year! Whether you helped us decorate, volunteered during the event, helped clean up, prayed for us, or anything else, we could not have done it without you! Because of you, we were able to teach over 150 children about the love of Jesus Christ! I am so proud to serve at such a loving and giving church!

JOB OPPORTUNITY: The BPUMC nursery is looking to hire 3 or 4 people to work on Sunday's and/or Wednesday's. These people (at least 19 years old) would need to have a love for children and be willing to go through a small interview process. If interested, please contact Marcie Walters at nursery@bpumc.org or Stanley Davidson at sdavidson@bpumc.org.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Our lesson this Sunday will be on "Noah's Ark!"

STUDENT MINISTRY

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BREAKFAST - JULY 31 If you've volunteered with our student ministry in the past year, we hope you will enjoy a free breakfast in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday morning, July 31st, 10am until noon. We are grateful for all that you do!

LEGACY GALA & SILENT AUCTION - FRIDAY, AUGUST 12TH This great fundraising event for all kinds of ministries and mission across our church will be on Friday night, August 12th at The Club. You can buy your tickets online or in the Narthex on Sunday morning. Auction items are great appreciated and needed. So contact the church office or Megan Wise megan.f.wise@gmail.com if you have food, art, sporting event tickets or vacation rentals or other creative items or services that you would like to donate to this worthy cause.

MISSING SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS SUMMER? THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT. All of our student Sunday School lessons will have a corresponding Weekly Devo uploaded to our *Youth Wing mobile app* each week. So if your family is on the road or at the beach, your student can still have some quiet time in the Word. Each lesson follows the chronological story of God's people through the Old Testament with an everyday application. We've also kept up last summer's devos as well.

DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP & KEEP UP WITH THE FAST-MOVING SUMMER SCHEDULE. There's so much going on as we move deeper into 2016: 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 Friday-Monday, August 5-8: *Beach Retreat*; Friday, August 12: *Legacy Gala & Silent Auction*.

THIS WEEK

Saturday, July 30, 3:00pm
Sunday, July 31, 10:00am

ASP Mission Team Returns
Sunday School in the Youth Wing

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY JULY 28 SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Chuck King Band - Come See, Come Hear, Come Sing.
THURSDAY AUGUST 4 SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Alabama Highway Patrol.
TUESDAY AUGUST 9 MYSTERY LUNCHEON????? with Special Entertainment
THURSDAY AUGUST 11 SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Carol & Pat Westbrook Wesley Heritage Tour

ENCORE!

A Community Respite Ministry

Our Mission: To enrich the lives of adults with memory loss meets each Tuesday and Thursday at Canterbury United Methodist Church for fellowship and activities. We could use a few good volunteers from BPUMC.

Remember your Care n' Contact person this week... visit, mail a card, or call to inquire on their needs and share Church activities.

SPECIAL MOMENT WITH JESUS

If you love me, you will keep my commandments
John 14:15



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Tom Duley, tduley@bpumc.org, ext. 112
John Carl Hastings, jchastings@bpumc.org, ext. 120
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Betty Hottenstein, bhottenstein@bpumc.org
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Stanley Davidson, sdavidson@bpumc.org
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The Week of July 31—August 6

Sunday, July 31

7:30 am Blood Drive in Gym
8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
10:00 am Volunteer Appreciation
Breakfast
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
12:00 pm Youth Council Meeting
4:00 pm Board of Stewards Meeting

Monday, August 1

10:00 am Prayer Shawls

Wednesday, August 3

9:00 am Food Pantry
6:00 pm Family Night at Regions Field
6:00 pm Handbell Choir
6:00 pm Communion Service
6:30 pm Choir
6:30 pm Junior/Senior Dinner

Thursday, August 4

9:30 am Shepherd's Center

Friday, August 5

Youth Depart for Beach
Retreat

SUNDAY, July 31st, 2016

8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship
Rev. Mike Holly

Lectionary Scripture Readings

Hosea 11:1-11
Psalm 107:1-9, 43
Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21

SERVING SUNDAY

Ushers

8:45 Doran 11:00am Arthur

Acolyte

8:45 Ella Bowles 11:00 Mary El Neal

Greeters: Fisherman

Meals on Wheels: Fugit

Food Pantry August 3rd: Sylvia Summers

Last Week's Record

July 24, 2016

Children	167
Morning Worship	452
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$27,212.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$28,263.54
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,415,000.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$789,143.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$806,673.76
New Members in 2016	19

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013–December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$490.00
Received to Date	\$970,223.87

**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.