



# BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226  
205.822.0910

*Newsletter August 5, 2014*

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



We are on the tail end of marriage season in Alabama. While several couples do plan for weddings throughout the year, most couples tend to gravitate toward a window of time between late April and the end of August. When I ask couples why they tend to plan their weddings to occur before September, they usually give the same answer: we didn't want to plan our wedding on an Alabama or Auburn football game.

I have gleaned marriage counseling advice from books and mentors over the years, as well as from personal experience from my own marriage. With each couple, I discuss communication skills and tips for setting appropriate expectations. And we center on one important word: "teamwork." Successful covenant relationships require that each person stay committed to one another. However, I always talk with each couple about another important word. Without this word, no relationship can last. That word is "forgiveness."

Week after week at Bluff Park UMC, we celebrate wedding anniversaries at the start of worship. "Three years!" "Fifteen years!" "Thirty-six years!" "Fifty years!" Each couple celebrates with us the length of time that they have kept their vows. Another way of looking at it is that each couple that reports in that they have added another year together has successfully found ways of forgiving one another. There are ways each and every year that we fail to do the right thing in small and sometimes in very large ways. No matter the scale of our crimes, relationships can become scarred in the process. In each case, having the capacity to forgive and the ability to be forgiven are the key skills to overcome these scars and set our minds and our hearts back on the right path together.

As we begin another school year, maybe this is the perfect time for you or your family to explore how forgiveness can help you make a fresh start. Join us this Sunday for a special message on the power of forgiveness as we continue in our study of 2nd Corinthians!

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*Mike*

## **Your Old Cellphones Can Help Break the Cycle**

When you come to listen to Dianne Bentley, First Lady of Alabama, speak on Monday, August 11th, you can also make a difference in the life of a domestic violence victim. Bring your old cellphones and phone accessories to donate at the event. Through Verizon's HopeLine project, these phones will be used to give a voice to domestic violence victims and help break the cycle of violence.

This event is being hosted by the United Methodist Women. The First Lady will speak at 7pm and we encourage everyone to attend and learn more about the realities of domestic violence and ways we can all work together to end it.

Don't forget to bring your old cellphones!



PHOTO BY: CANNEDTUNA.CC

# News of the Week

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

### PHOTOS

If you have not had your picture taken for our new Church Directory there will be a 'make-up' photo day on Sunday, August 17th. Please call Color Craft directly at 1-800-638-9107 to make an appointment. We want everyone in the new Church Directory.

### IMAGINE NO MALARIA

On Wednesday, September 3rd Dr. Magdalena Paczkowski will be with us to teach about malaria and its affects on the people of Africa. Dr. Paczkowski is an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer with the Centers For Disease Control in Atlanta. She holds a PhD in Epidemiologic Science from Columbia University.

She has extensive first-hand experience with malaria in Africa. Her class will be the kick-off for our fall mid-week ministries. Dinner will be served from 5 PM to 6:30 PM. Dr. Paczkowski's class will be in the Chapel beginning at 6:30 PM.

### BPUMC STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

The Scholarship Committee meets this month to choose this year's recipients. We need your donations to assist our students with money for tuition and books. Please contact the church office to get a donation form.

### SPECIAL THANKS

Fine Arts Camp was a great success! Students learned about David- how he started out as a shepherd, fought Goliath, was anointed a king (3 times!) and was a patron of the arts! Thanks go to Carole Armistead for letting the children role play their way through the sto-



### Malaria's Dirty Dozen

**Nine:** In 2006 a Sports Illustrated column by Rick Reilly brought malaria and the use of bed nets to a national audience. Reilly challenged readers to donate \$10 to purchase an anti-malarial bed net. Thousands responded, leading to the creation of the Nothing But Nets campaign. The United Methodist Church was a founding partner in raising awareness and funds to purchase and distribute bed nets. Other original partners were the National Basketball Association and Sports Illustrated, and recent significant partners include the Boy Scouts of America. But, as we have learned, nets alone will not eradicate malaria. Therefore, in 2011 the United Methodist Church began an ambitious, comprehensive campaign called "Imagine No Malaria".

*Next: The goals and tools of "Imagine No Malaria"*

ry; Betsy Britain for adding a touch of science to slingshots, Hanna Delashaw for helping the children make beautiful Stars of David, Ann Harter for making melodious music on handchimes so we could be musical like David, and to Theresa Richerson for teaching the children about food from biblical times.

### SMALL GROUP SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE

We want everyone to have the ability to be a part of the ministries of Bluff Park UMC. If any small group has a fee or charge, we will gladly cover that fee or charge for any participant who needs that assistance. Any assistance will be confidential. Call or e-mail Rev. Mike Holly and he will take care of it for you: mholly@bpumc.org.

### DISCIPLE 1 BIBLE STUDY

Are you ready to study the Bible and develop yourself as a disciple of Jesus Christ? Join Disciple 1

this fall! Class begins Sunday afternoon, September 7th and meets weekly through the end of May 2015. Cost is \$40.

Aren't sure just yet? Join an informational meeting on Sunday, August 17th in the Fellowship Hall during the Sunday school hour to learn more.

### LITTLE IMAGINATIONS PRESCHOOL

If you have a precious little one at home, and are looking for a Parent's Day Out program, the solution might be closer than you think! There are still a few spots available in the Mon/Wed/Fri Toddlers class at Little Imaginations for the 2014-15 school year. For information and registration, please contact the Preschool office at (205) 822-5813 or imaginations@bpumc.org. We look forward to hearing from you!

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**THE NEW SIGN IN/OUT POLICY** goes into effect this Sunday August 10. All parents are required to sign in their children, infants through 5th grade. The 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders are the only ones who can sign themselves out. All preschoolers must be signed out by their parents. Waiver cards will be available to parents of 5K, 1st and 2nd graders at the sign in desk. The waiver card is for older sibling pick up in the elementary hall.

**WOW!!!** What a wonderful summer we have had! Field trips, Vacation Bible School and Fine Arts Camp. Many thank yous are given to all of our volunteers. The summer would not have been as great as it was without the youth and adults who helped. **THANK YOU!**

**BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS** will be Sunday August 10. Each child is invited to bring their backpacks up to the altar where we will say a special prayer over them. A special bookmark will be placed in each back pack. All children preschool through high school are encouraged to bring their backpacks! This will be for both services.

**NURSERY** Molly Knight, the nursery/preschool coordinator has stepped down from her official position to pursue her new business, *The Growing Tree*. Thankfully she would like to stay on the regular nursery staff position in the infants room. SPRC is presently interviewing candidates to fill this position.

### SUMMER EVENT CALENDAR

Blessing of the Backpacks                      Sun. Aug. 10                      All school children!

## STUDENT MINISTRY

**YOUTH SUNDAY, AUGUST 10.** Our students will be taking a major leadership role in the morning worship services this Sunday. We hope that your family will choose to worship with us.

**YOUTH BEACH RETREAT.** The beach retreat was a big success and we would like to thank everyone who helped to make it happen.

**THE HANDS AND FEET OF GOD AT WORK.** Our Appalachian Service Project trip was a rewarding opportunity for the students of Bluff Park United Methodist Church to step out into the mission field and serve others in a very tangible way. We have posted pictures from our ASP work on the church website for anyone who would like to see what we did in Green County, Tennessee. To see the pictures visit: <http://bluffparkumc.org/?p=3146>

### THIS WEEK

Sunday, August 10, 8:45 am                      Youth Led Sunday Worship Service  
Sunday, August 10, 11:00 am                      Youth Led Sunday Worship Service

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

### UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY AUGUST 7:                      **SHEPHERD'S CENTER** – Stewart Welch, of The Welch Group, Management Services for Retirees.

SUNDAY AUGUST 17:                      **MAKE-UP-PICTURE DAY** – for our Church Directory Please call 1-800-638-9107 for appointments.

TUESDAY AUGUST 12:                      **CAMP SUMATANGA DAY RETREAT** – Worship, Music, Bible Story, Lunch and maybe a surprise or two. Fellowship, fun, lots of laughter. 8:30am to 4:00pm. Cost: \$10.00pp. Call Betty.

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 13:                      **CARDS TO OUR SICK/SHUT-IN** – Join us in the Library at 11:00 am to address cards.

THURSDAY AUGUST 14:                      **SHEPHERD'S CENTER** – Bible Study with Beck Walker at 10:00am. Come early for refreshments.

### Special Moment with Jesus

“For the word of the LORD is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness.” Psalm 33: 4



## Bluff Park United Methodist Church

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

Address Service Requested

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### Pastors

Mike Holly, mholly@bpumc.org, ext. 104  
Peter von Hermann, petervh@bpumc.org, ext. 105  
Tom Duley, tduley@bpumc.org, ext. 112  
**Director of Senior Ministries**, ext. 103  
Betty Hottenstein, bhottenstein@bpumc.org  
**Director of Student Ministries**, ext. 118  
Bart Styes, barts@bpumc.org  
**Director of Children's Ministries**, 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 Worship Music**,  
Lonnie Parsons  
**Organist**, Jamie Davis  
**Preschool Director**,  
Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org



## The Week of August 10-16

### Sunday, August 10

8:45 am Morning Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Morning Worship Service  
12:00 pm Permanent Endowment Luncheon  
2:00 pm Scholarship Committee  
6:00 pm Evening Worship Service  
6:00 pm Preschool Board Meeting  
7:30 pm Isn't Bible Study

### Monday, August 11th

6:00 pm UMW Dinner  
7:00 pm Diane Bentley UMW Presentation

### Tuesday, August 12

8:30 am Betty Day Trip  
10:00 am Church Directory Photos  
6:00 pm Under The Bridge

### Wednesday, August 13

10:00 am Church Directory Photos  
5:30 pm Children's Ministry Training

### Thursday, August 14

8:30 am Atlanta Baseball Game  
9:30 am Shepherd's Center  
6:00 pm Men's Chorus  
6:30 pm Finance Committee  
6:30 pm Choir

### Friday, August 15

12:00 pm Opportunity Class Luncheon

### Saturday, August 16

6:00 pm Fisherman Class Dinner

### SUNDAY, August 10, 2014

8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship  
(Scripture - 2 Corinthians 2:4-8)  
Miss Hannah Shultz

6:00pm Evening Worship Service  
*"With The Winds Against Us"*  
Rev. John Gates

### Lectionary Scripture Readings

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28  
Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b  
Romans 10:5-15  
Matthew 14:22-33

### SERVING SUNDAY

#### Ushers

8:45 Youth 11:00 Youth  
Cross

8:45 Matt Lagan 11:00 Kate Culverhouse  
Acolytes

8:45 Neiley Mann 11:00 Logan Watts  
Greeters: Friendship

**Meal on Wheels August 13:**  
Georgia Pearson/Julie Adams  
**Food Pantry September 3:** Kay Adams

### VALET PARKING

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

## Last Week's Record

August 3, 2014

Children	69
Morning Worship	539
Weekly Operating Needs	\$29,189.36
Operating Receipts	\$32,240.57
2014 Operating Budget	\$1,517,847.00
Expected to Date	\$837,775.00
Received to Date	\$767,988.57
New Members in 2014	44

### LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013–December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$3,404.00
Received to Date	\$528,061.34

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

### 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!