



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter August 12, 2014

www.BluffParkUMC.org



Our youth did a wonderful job leading worship this past Sunday! As our children and youth begin a new school year, we hope and pray for their safety and for their studies. We as a congregation are committed to providing enriching activities and experiences for them to grow in their faith. We, as a congregation, are committed to our students as they transition into their studies in college as well. We support United Methodist Campus Ministries within our state, and we offer several scholarships that help students finance their education. Paulette Pearson is the chairperson of our Scholarship Committee at Bluff Park UMC and on Sunday she shared with us the importance of these scholarships as the cost of education continues to rise. You can take part in helping our scholarship recipients by donating to one of our scholarship funds at the church. Simply contact our Finance Office staff and they will help you.

You often hear folks say that “the youth and children are the future of the church.” Sometimes you hear that they are the “future leaders of the church.” In a sense, these statements are correct. In another sense, they are misleading because the youth and children of our church are a vital part of our church. Several of our students are already leaders, such as our wonderful preacher from last Sunday, Miss Hannah Shultz. I’m proud to be the pastor of a congregation that understands this and has invested in the lives of our students as well as into the coaching of our age-level staff and their volunteers as we partner with the consulting firm, Ministry Architects.

Currently, our Children’s Ministry is being coached by two staff members from Ministry Architects in an eighteen month process of helping to build infrastructure and excellence within our ministries with children. One of the most exciting things being developed right now is a curriculum plan from birth through fifth grade that helps each and every student progress in his or her faith as they grow and develop. I hope you will join me in praying for and supporting our ministries with young people!

Annual Bluff Park/St. Mark Golf Tournament

On September 15, at the Riverchase Country Club in Hoover, Bluff Park United Methodist Church and St. Mark United Methodist Church will hold their annual benefit golf tournament. Proceeds from the event support the youth and children’s ministries at the churches.

There will be 4 place prizes, door prizes, and special prizes for longest drive, closest to the pin, and more.

Register today to reserve your spot or to become a sponsor. Forms and more details are available on the church website.



News of the Week

IMAGINE NO MALARIA

Mrs. Jane Robinson (Joy Shultz's mother) will join us Sunday evening, August 24th at 6 PM in the Chapel to speak about malaria in Africa. Mrs. Robinson is a member of the First United Methodist Church in Maryville, TN and has traveled extensively on short-term mission projects. She has first-hand knowledge of the impact of malaria in Africa, especially South Sudan. Her presentation will officially kick-off our campaign in support of Imagine No Malaria. Dinner will be served from 5 to 6 PM in the fellowship hall followed by Mrs. Robinson's presentation in the Chapel.

CHURCH DIRECTORY PHOTOS

Last call for directory photos is August 16th and 17th. Call Col-or Craft at 1-800-638-9107 for an appointment.

BLUFF PARK HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Please start making plans to join us as we build the Bluff Park Habitat House in October and November. Please set these work dates aside on your calendar and make your plans to be with us as much as you can.

Work Dates: October 11, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 30, 31. November 1, 6, 7, 8.

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



Malaria's Dirty Dozen

Ten: The United Methodist Church has committed to join the global fight against malaria with a \$75 million fundraising campaign. Our Imagine No Malaria campaign includes:

- ◆ revitalizing health facilities
- ◆ supporting hospitals and health care development
- ◆ education, prevention and treatment programs for affected communities

In addition to treated bed nets, UMC efforts support environmental cleanup (stagnant water and trash), basic sanitation (latrines and water), training more health care workers, and improving our existing hospitals and clinics in Africa. All of these ongoing efforts are vital to combat malaria, and United Methodists are responding! This year Imagine No Malaria has trained 5,000 volunteers and distributed 1,000,000 nets.

Next: One member's up close perspective on malaria

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.

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.

SPECIAL THANKS

Church Family, Thank you for your support through my knee surgery and rehab.

I've appreciated your calls, cards, advice, encouragement, and most of all, your prayers.

-Gaile Ketchersid

FREE ONLINE COURSE

Birmingham Southern College is offering a free online course on the history of terrorism. For more details visit: www.infilaw.com/bsc/

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE

At the United Methodist Women's event last Monday, First Lady Dianne Bentley shared the number to the Alabama Coalition Against Domestic Violence 24-hour hotline. Dial 1-800-650-6522 and you will automatically be connected to the coalition shelter closest to you. If you, or someone you know, is a victim of domestic violence, please call.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

THE NEW SIGN IN/OUT POLICY is presently established. The procedure went fairly smoothly. Parents of K5-2nd graders- You will sign your children out with the grade shepherd in the room, not at the table. 3rd-5th graders will sign themselves out to go meet their parents. If you have a child who has permission to sign out K5-2nd grader, the shepherd needs to have the release waiver card in hand or the child will not be released to the sibling. The same goes for adults picking up other children other than their own.

8:45A.M. CHILDREN'S CHURCH If your preschooler comes to Children's church the nursery staff will continue to take the them to Sunday School without you coming down to sign them in. Mrs. Leigh or the Children's Church volunteer will sign them in. When you pick you child up from either Children's Church, after the service, OR from Sunday School you will sign them out.

AUGUST 27 PARENT ORIENTATION All parents are invited to attend an orientation dinner and meeting. We will present an overview of all the ministries and procedures associated with children birth thru 12 grade. A nursery will be provided. Supervision will be provided for elementary children. They will either be on the playground or in the gym. Come and learn about all that we do and what you and your children can do!

MIDWEEK PROGRAMMING will begin Wednesday Sept. 3rd. The nursery opens at 5:30p.m. Elementary children will have Open Gym at 5-5:45p.m. Children's Choir is at 5:50-6:25p.m. From 6:30-7:30p.m K5-1st Graders will have Holy Moly time, 2-3 graders will meet with Mrs. Carole Roegner for her class on "How to use your Bible," and 4th and 5th graders will meet in the Zoo Room on the 3rd floor for 4th 5th Fellowship.

BIBLES FOR 3rd GRADERS Each 3rd grade student will receive their Bibles at the 11a.m. service on Sept. 7. Please let Mrs. Leigh know what name your child will want in his or her Bible. ldelashaw@bpumc.org

STUDENT MINISTRY

PRAY FOR OUR STUDENTS & FAMILIES. All of our students have now returned to school. Please keep them and their families in your prayers as they begin the fall semester. We also lift up our 2014 graduates who are beginning their college or vocational careers.

THANK YOU SUMMER INTERNS. We had a wonderful summer and in large part that was due to our college-age interns: Amanda Alldredge, Stephen Copper, Sammy Slack and David Smith. Our students enjoyed the enthusiasm and spirit that each of these incredible young people brought to the summer. **THANK YOU!**

STUDENT MINISTRY IN AUGUST. We are taking a few weeks off from our normal student programming to let your family get back into the rhythm of the school year and to put our youth wing back together. We will continue to have Sunday School at 10am and Holy Ground team rehearsal at 4pm on August 17th and 24th. But we will not have other evening youth-specific programs until September. Instead, here are some events we hope you attend:

Sunday, August 24th - Imagine No Malaria Dinner - This is an important church-wide effort.

Wednesday, August 27th - Student Ministry Orientation & Training - This is just for parents. Come let us feed you dinner and learn how to volunteer successfully with our students. Dinner at 5:30pm.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, August 17, 10:00am
Sunday, August 17, 4:00pm

Sunday School in the Youth Wing
Holy Ground Team Rehearsal

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14

SHEPHERD'S CENTER -Becky Walker will be here for a short Bible Study. Program at 10:00 - come early for chat/refreshment time.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16

PICTURES DIRECTORY MAKE-UP - Color Craft has given us an extra day.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17

PICTURES DIRECTORY MAKE-UP DAY - This will be the Last day - call 1-800-638-9107 for an appointment.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17-23

SAN ANTONIO TRIP - Bus arrives at 6:30 - departs at 7:00am bring you release forms we'll collect on the bus.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26

MYSTERY FUN DAY - 9:00-4:00pm-call Betty to sign-up

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

PEACH PARK - BBQ, Dogs, Peach Ice Cream, 4:00-7:30pm - call Betty to sign-up—this will fill up quickly.

Special Moment with Jesus

"O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!" Psalm 136: 1



Bluff Park United Methodist Church

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

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
AUTO
BIRMINGHAM, AL
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Pastors

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Lonnie Parsons
Organist, Jamie Davis
Preschool Director,
Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org



The Week of August 17-23

Sunday, August 17

7:00 am San Antonio Trip Departs
8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
9:45 am Disciple 1 Meeting
10:00 am Church Directory Photos
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
4:00 pm Board of Stewards
5:30 pm Building Team
6:00 pm Evening Worship Service

Tuesday, August 19

10:00 am Church Directory Photos

Wednesday, August 20

10:00 am Church Directory Photos
6:00 pm Men's Chorus
6:30 pm Choir

Thursday, August 21

9:30 am Shepherd's Center
10:00 am Church Directory Photos
6:30 pm Finance Committee

Saturday, August 23

9:00 am Children's Council Retreat

SUNDAY, August 17, 2014

8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship
"Treasures In Jars of Clay"
(Scripture - 2 Corinthians 4:5-12)
Rev. Mike Holly

6:00pm Evening Worship Service
Rev. Peter von Herrmann

Lectionary Scripture Readings

Genesis 45:1-15

Psalms 133

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Matthew 15: (10-20) 21-28

SERVING SUNDAY

Ushers

8:45 Open 11:00 Davis

Cross

Ethan McGriff 11:00 Campbell Hecklinski

Acolytes

Will Thompson 11:00 Carolyne Hecklinski

Greeters : Home Improvement

Meal on Wheels August 20:

Linton and Pat Chambers

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 10, 2014

Children	84
Morning/Evening Worship	506/26
Weekly Operating Needs	\$29,189.36
Operating Receipts	\$23,295.00
2014 Operating Budget	\$1,517,847.00
Expected to Date	\$864,800.00
Received to Date	\$791,283.57
New Members in 2014	44

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013–December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$2123.33
Received to Date	\$530,184.67

**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!