



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter September 2, 2014

www.BluffParkUMC.org



The fall has officially begun at Bluff Park UMC. By the time you read this newsletter, we will be preparing for our first Midweek meal of the season followed by an informative lesson on malaria from a staff member of the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, GA. After this important event, other Midweek studies and programs will follow in the coming weeks. Some of these classes will require you to engage in compassionate conversation with one another, while others will help to empower you to grow and serve in new ways within the church community. We hope you will seriously consider attending our programming this fall at Midweek!

This Sunday morning, we will embark on a short two-week sermon series on the burning questions we have for God – questions that generations have struggled with while remaining steadfast in the footsteps of God. We will enter into conversation with God as we consider whether or not God has a plan for everything in our lives, as well as whether or not God is present in both the good times as well as in the bad times. We invite you to engage with us on our Facebook page as we post questions there in the hope of fostering a dialog within our church family!

Soon, we will also be talking about Stewardship and our vows as members of the church. At the same time, we are seeking to select our church leadership for 2015. A great way to discover how you might be able to plug in to a new ministry, or create one of your own, is to take a Spiritual Gift Inventory. You may pick one up at the Welcome Center in the Narthex just outside of the Sanctuary or you may pick one up in the main office during normal business hours. Becky Walker will be leading a class during the Sunday School hour on Sunday, September 7th, in the Fellowship Hall, to help people understand their gifts. I will be teaching the same course on two consecutive Wednesday evenings, September 10th and 17th. If you can't make it to one of these sessions, just contact us and we will set up another opportunity for you to discover how you are uniquely wired to serve and bless!

Providing Shelter

“(Owning a house) will give us a sense of peace and security,” says LaKisha Perry. LaKisha and her children Cornelius and Cailyn are the family who will live in the home we are building through Habitat for Humanity. Work starts on October 11th in Calera and we need volunteers to join us during the building process.

Work dates for this project are October 11, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 30, 31, and November 1, 6, 7, 8.

You can sign-up online or using the contact forms being distributed at the church. Please prayerfully consider helping build a sense of peace and security for the Perry family.



News of the Week

FINAL CHURCH DIRECTORY MAKE-UP DATE

Sunday, September 7 will be the last photo make-up day for our 2014 Church Directory. If you have not had your picture taken yet, please call Betty to schedule an appointment. We want to be sure everyone is included in our new directory.

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

1ST ANNUAL FUN RUN

Run a mile and help bring clean drinking water to a village in India. The New Light Sunday School class is organizing a fun run September 28th at 2:30pm to raise money for neverthirst—a non-profit group focused on providing clean drinking water to people around the world. Registration fee is \$20 per runner. Visit the church website for more information and to register online.

SEARCHING FOR SERVANTS

In September, our Nominations Committee will be looking for new servants and new leaders in several areas around the church. If you have had an interest or a calling to serve in some way in the mission and ministry of our church, please contact Mike Holly and share that with him: (205) 822-0910, ext. 104 / mholly@bpumc.org. If you are not sure where you can best serve, there will be a 2-part spiritual gifts assessment class held September 10th and 17th at 6:00pm.

FALL MISSION & MINISTRY GUIDE

Keeping track of all the activities going on here at Bluff Park UMC can be a challenge. Help is on the way. The fall 2014 guide to missions and ministries has just been completed. The guide highlights the major events, sermon series, mission opportunities, Bible studies, and other important activities happening in the church. The new guide is available to download on the website and printed versions will be mailed to members and also available at the welcome station in the Narthex.

MIDWEEK MINISTRIES BEGIN

Our fall activities kick into high gear on Wednesday, September 10th. The evening starts with dinner which is served in the Fellowship Hall from 5:00-6:30pm. This is followed by Bible studies, activities for the children (see the Children's Ministry section for details), Handbell choir at 5:45pm, Men's Choir at 6:00pm, and Adult Choir at 6:30pm. Midweek Bible study opportunities starting this week include the Pastors' Bible Study at

4:30pm, Disciple 1 Bible study at 5:30pm, The Bible and Homosexuality with Rev. Dr. David Barnhart at 6:00pm, and the Spiritual Gifts Assessment with Rev. Mike Holly at 6:00pm.

This fall, the Prayer Shawl Ministry will begin meeting at 6:00pm, after the meal, in the Fellowship Hall. And, if you aren't signed up for any other activities already, you are always welcome to hang out after dinner for coffee and conversation.

NEW MEMBER CLASS

If you have been considering membership here at Bluff Park (or even if you are just curious), we are beginning a class for you. On Sunday, September 7th at 9:45am we begin a new member class to explore what it means to be a member of this congregation and what it means to be a member of the Methodist Church. Meet in the Narthex.



IT'S TIME TO SAVE LIVES

For an investment of just \$10, you can save a life through the Imagine No Malaria campaign. When we as a church meet our total goal of \$25,000 over the next three years we will have been responsible for saving 2,500 lives. Each donation provides the treated bed nets, testing kits, medicine, and training needed to save one person from the tragic effects of malaria.

Make a commitment today to take a stand against malaria and give to the Imagine No Malaria campaign.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

SIGN IN/OUT FOR MIDWEEK ACTIVITIES for children starts this Wednesday. Parents must sign their elementary children in at the gym. From that point on, they are considered in rotation. Parents can sign their children out at any time during rotation. 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders can sign themselves out at 7:30p.m. If you have wish for an older sibling or another parent to sign out your K5, 1st or 2nd grader, please fill out the release waiver card and give to Mrs. Melissa in the gym.

MIDWEEK PROGRAMMING will begin Wednesday Sept. 3rd. The nursery opens at 5:30p.m. Elementary children will have hand bell choir rehearsal at 4:30p.m., Open Gym at 5:15-5:45p.m., and 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.

3RD GRADERS We will gather in the narthex at 10:45a.m. this Sunday Sept. 7. At the 11a.m. service, you will receive your Bible. Please let Mrs. Leigh know what name to put in their Bible.

LOOKING AHEAD The Halloween Carnival is coming up!!! Wednesday Oct. 29 6-8p.m. There will be food, fun, and fellowship for all who participate!

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 10 - October
September 12th(9am-6pm) and 13th(9am-2pm)

September 24th
October 8th - November
October 29th

Unit Study Hall, 6:30pm, New Light class
Bargains on the Bluff consignment sale. September 11th is a private sale for volunteers and consignors
Children's Council Meeting. 6:30pm, New Light class
Unit Study Hall. 6:30pm, New Light class
Halloween Carnival 5pm-8pm, gym

STUDENT MINISTRY

STUDENT SMALL GROUP STUDIES. Our middle school student small groups start this Sunday, September 7th at 5:00pm in the Youth Wing. Our high school student group will begin on the 14th.

HOLY GROUND WORSHIP STARTS BACK. Our weekly student worship event will start back on Wednesday, September 10th at 6:30pm. This week, September 3rd, we encourage all our students and parents to attend the Imagine No Malaria program at 6:30pm (after the Fellowship Supper.).

THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 7th, 10:00am

Sunday, September 7th, 5:00pm

Sunday, September 7th, 6:00pm

Sunday, September 7th, 6:30pm

Wednesday, September 10th, 4:30pm

Wednesday, September 10th, 5:30pm

Wednesday, September 10th, 6:30pm

Sunday School in the Youth Wing

MS Small Groups

Free Snack Supper in the Fellowship Hall

Dodgeball in the Gym

Holy Ground Team Rehearsal

Hang Out Time in the Youth Wing

Holy Ground Worship in the Youth Wing

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

MID-WEEK

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Spend some time with Julia Tutwiler...a presentation by Carol Armstead.

PICTURE-MAKE-UP-DAY -10:am - 5:00pm last day to have your picture taken for our new 2014 Church Directory. Call Betty for an appointment or stop by the Parlor after Church.

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Dr. Larry Michaels will be here.

AARP SAFETY DRIVING 8:00-12:30pm - call Betty to sign up. Taking this class may help lower your vehicle insurance. Check with you Company. \$15.00/AARP members - \$20.00/Non members.

YELLOW DOT SIGN-UP 10:00-12:00Noon in the Gym. Now is the time to pick-up a new decal.

SENIOR FUN DAY with Mike, Peter, Tom - the fun starts at 10:30am in the Fellowship with Coffee - lunch, \$5.00, at Noon. Special surprise Guest. Everyone invited..

Special Moment with Jesus:

O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; The earth is full of your creatures.
Psalm 104:24



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
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Pastors

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



The Week of September 7-13

Sunday, September 7

8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
9:45 am New Member Class
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
11:00 am Bibles to 3rd Graders
5:00 pm Living Room Study
6:00 pm Evening Worship Service

Tuesday, September 9

8:30 am Maintenance
9:30 am Becky Walker's Bible Study
6:00 pm Under The Bridge

Wednesday, September 10

5:00-6:30pm Dinner
5:30 pm Disciple 1
5:45 pm Handbell Choir
6:00 pm Men's Chorus
6:30 pm Choir

Thursday, September 11

9:30 am Shepherd's Center

SUNDAY, September 7, 2014

8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship
"Does Everything Happen for a Reason?"
(Scripture - Jeremiah 29:11-13 &
Romans 8:28)
Rev. Mike Holly

6:00pm Evening Worship Service
Sam Vogt

Lectionary Scripture Readings

Exodus 12:1-14
Psalm 148
Romans 13:8-14
Matthew 18:15-20

SERVING SUNDAY

Ushers
8:45 Carlisle 11:00 Moore
Cross
8:45 Carolyn Thompson 11:00 Billy Neal
Acolytes
8:45 Davison Dover 11:00 Graham Coltrane
Greeters : Opportunity
Meal on Wheels September 10:
David and Laura Fugit
Food Pantry September 3: Becky McCrary

VALET PARKING

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

Last Week's Record

August 31, 2014

Children	77
Morning Worship	390
Weekly Operating Needs	\$29,189.36
Operating Receipts	\$15,168.00
2014 Operating Budget	\$1,517,847.00
Expected to Date	\$945,875.00
Received to Date	\$841,293.49
New Members in 2014	44

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013–December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$2,400.00
Received to Date	\$538,651.34

**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!