



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter September 9, 2014

www.BluffParkUMC.org



This past Sunday, Peter and I met with folks who have been visiting our church recently. During our first session, Peter and I always begin by describing our church: "Bluff Park United Methodist Church is known for being a community church with a big heart for missions," we say. We are a church nestled in the Bluff Park community of Hoover and we are a church organized around community. We have a strong Sunday school program. We celebrate birthdays and anniversaries. And we are seeking to grow our MidWeek meal and ministry program into an inter-generational gathering point for our entire congregation.

We are proud of who we are, but we know that we have continuing work to become more of the kind of church that God expects us to be. But as Paul reminds us in both Romans and 1st Corinthians: a church is not a building. And a church is not made of the staff. As we learned over this summer, the church is a community of disciples who are each essential to the church. Each of us is uniquely gifted to build up our church and to serve others in the name of Jesus Christ.

Starting on Sunday, September 21st, we will spend six Sundays studying what it means to be a fully committed follower of Jesus Christ here at Bluff Park. Just like we will teach our prospective members this coming Sunday morning: to be a fully committed disciple here at Bluff Park UMC, we promise to pray, to be present, to share our gifts, to serve others, and to be a witness of God's goodness to others. On each Sunday we will discuss one of these vows and what they mean for each of us. I hope you will make a special effort to be here or to listen to our messages online. We hope that this will be a time of remembering and re-committing ourselves to being a church that takes its promises to God seriously!

Join The Habitat Build Team Today!

We are building a home for the Perry family. Last week we shared some information about the family. They will be working alongside us and then moving into the home we create during our Habitat for Humanity mission project. Today we have a picture of the lot where their house will be built.

This patch of land at 329 Creek Run Circle in Calera does not look like much now. Soon, with your help, it will be transformed.

Work dates for this project are October 11, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 30, 31, and November 1, 6, 7, and 8. You can sign up for the build team on the church website:

bluffparkumc.org/habitat-2014



News of the Week

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.

STEWART JACKSON CONCERT

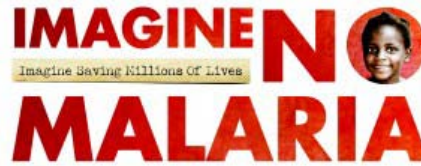
Singer and guitarist Stewart Jackson (member of the group the Dill Pickers) will be giving a solo performance in the Chapel. The concert takes place Sunday September 21st at 6:00 pm.

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.

PARKING NEAR THE MAIN OFFICE

Due to several instances where emergency vehicles have had to respond to situations at BPUMC, we are asking everyone in our church to please not park in a fire lane at any time of the week. We have several places in our campus for loading and unloading that are very close to an elevator. Thank you for taking the steps to keep our fire lanes open for when they are needed.



298 LIVES SAVED SO FAR...

In the first week of our Imagine No Malaria fundraising campaign we have raised enough money to save 298 lives (\$2,980). This is a great start!

When we meet our church's total goal of \$25,000 over the next three years we will have been responsible for saving 2,500 lives. Each \$10 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.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The Friendship Circle and Compassion Circle will join together for a fall study on "Strengths Finder" led by Laura Ann Pitts. Meetings will be on September 22, October 27 and November 17, 6:30 pm, in the Parlor. Guests are welcome. If you would like to attend email Alice Chase achase2929@gmail.com or 823-2929.

The Hope-Love Circle will meet on Monday, September 22, 10:00 am, in the home of Phyllis Johnston.

If you would like to attend call Jackie Wesson, 824-6264.

The Joy Circle will meet on Monday, September 22, 10:00 am, in the Friendship Classroom. If you would

like to attend email Julie Adams 822-6516 or juliead40@bellsouth.net.

LUNCH WITH JUDGE SHANTA OWENS

Everyone is invited on Sunday, October 5, for United Methodist Women's lunch and a program presented by Jefferson County Court Judge Shanta Owens. Judge Owens presides over the Jefferson County Drug Program. She will discuss the "Over the Mountain Initiative for Drug Awareness". Lunch will follow the late worship service, around 12:15. Lunch is \$6. RSVP to Tina Hardy, 979-8286, by September 29th.

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 began on 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.

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)

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

September 24th
October 8th - November
October 29th

STUDENT MINISTRY

STUDENT SMALL GROUP STUDIES. Our middle school student small groups started on Sunday, September 7th at 5:00pm in the Youth Wing. The middle school girls will continue with "Girl Talk" while the middle school boys continue "Dangerous Devotions for Guys." Our high school student group begins on the 14th with a video and discussion.

HOLY GROUND WORSHIP - "BACK TO THE FUTURE" SERIES. Each week will feature a theme decade from the 60's, 70's, 80's & 90's. We encourage students to come in costume as we look at our past to plan for our future. September 10, 17, 24 & Oct 1.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 14th, 10:00am
Sunday, September 14th, 5:00pm
Sunday, September 14th, 6:00pm
Sunday, September 14th, 6:30pm
Wednesday, September 17th, 4:30pm
Wednesday, September 17th, 5:30pm
Wednesday, September 17th, 6:30pm

Sunday School in the Youth Wing
MS Guys, MS Girls and HS Coed Small Groups
Free Snack Supper in the Fellowship Hall
MS Vision Night in Youth Wing & HS 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

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 11

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Meeting in the Fellowship Hall with Dr. Larry Michaels

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 15

AARP SAFETY DRIVING - 8:00-12:30pm - taking this class may help lower you vehicle insurance. Check with your Company. Call Betty to sign-up.

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 16

YELLOW DOT SIGN-UP 10:00-12:00 Noon in the Gym. Need a new decal?? Pick one up today.

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 17

YELLOW DOT SIGN-UP - Oxmoor Valley Community Center 10:00-12:00 Noon. Need 2 Volunteers to help. Call Betty.

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 18

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Music by Wolfgang.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 26

SENIOR FUN DAY with Mike, Peter and Tom. The fun starts at 10:30 with Bobby, Jerry and Brad, **THREE-ON-A-STRING**, Lunch by Doris/Anita followed by a special mystery guest. \$6.00 lunch - everyone welcome - call Betty or Sign-up at the Welcome Center.

Special Moment with Jesus

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me." Psalm 51:10



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
PERMIT NO. 1816

Pastors

Mike Holly, mholly@bpumc.org, ext. 104
Peter von Herrmann, petervh@bpumc.org, ext. 107
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. 121
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 September 14-20

Sunday, September 14

8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
9:45 am New Member Class
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
6:00 pm Evening Worship Service
7:00 pm ISN'T Bible Study

Monday, September 15

8:00 am AARP Driver Safety
11:00 am Golf Tournament

Tuesday, September 16

9:30 am Becky Walker's Bible Study

Wednesday, September 17

4:30 pm Pastors' Bible Study
5:00-6:30pm Dinner
5:30 pm Disciple 1
5:45 pm Handbell Choir
6:00 pm Men's Chorus
6:30 pm Midweek Ministries
6:30 pm Choir

Thursday, September 18

9:30 am Shepherd's Center
6:30 pm Finance Committee

SUNDAY, September 14, 2014

8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship
"Where Is God When I Need Him?"
(Scripture - Ecclesiastes 4:1-3
Exodus 3:7-10)
Rev. Mike Holly

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

Lectionary Scripture Readings

Exodus 14:19-31
Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21
Romans 14:1-12
Matthew 18:21-35

SERVING SUNDAY

Ushers

8:45 Nelson 11:00 Dover
Cross
8:45 Sally Frances Little
11:00 Harrison Winter

Acolytes

8:45 Matt Lagan 11:00 Kate Culverhouse
Children's Church
8:45 Jones 11:00 Colley
Greeters : Seekers

Meal on Wheels September 17:

Roy and Charlotte Shanlever

Food Pantry October 1: Becky McCrary

VALET PARKING

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

Last Week's Record

September 7, 2014

Children/Students	94/47
Morning Worship	596
Weekly Operating Needs	\$29,189.36
Operating Receipts	\$26,833.65
2014 Operating Budget	\$1,517,847.00
Expected to Date	\$972,900.00
Received to Date	\$868,127.14
New Members in 2014	44

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013–December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$2,505.00
Received to Date	\$541,156.34

**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)
--	-------------------------------------

BPUMC FOOD PANTRY

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