



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter September 23, 2014

www.BluffParkUMC.org



This past Sunday, we began our season of focusing on stewardship with Rev. Tom Duley's wonderful sermon as well as with a time of group study in our Sunday school classes. Tom challenged us to consider this study as a time to both reflect upon and personally renew our faithful commitments to God...the God who is unfailingly faithful to us.

Our study guide noted that modern psychologists tell us that most people in the United States have reported themselves as unsatisfied and unhappy. In an age in which we have more access to more and better things and information, we feel overwhelmed and disconnected.

Do you ever wonder if maybe that is because we have become committed to the wrong way of living? A way of living that says "the more you have, the more you achieve, and the more you experience, the happier you will be."

God never promises that his disciples will have an easy life. But God does promise that those disciples who are faithfully committed to Him and His Way will find joy, peace and eternal friendship with God.

Commitments to Prayer

Prayer is our chance to talk with God. It keeps us connected and invites God into all aspects of our lives. As part of our commitment to the church we should regularly pray for others, for the church and its ministries, and for those who don't yet know the love of God.

Prayer is accessible to everyone. You don't need to join a group or attend a meeting. You just need to set aside time to do it. But, Bluff Park United Methodist Church does have specific ministries focused on prayer, the prayer ministry and the prayer shawls ministry.

Members of the prayer ministry set aside time each week to pray for the specific prayer requests that people bring to the church. Members of the team receive a prayer list to guide their prayer time.

The prayer shawls ministry members come together to knit and crochet shawls to share with people in need of comfort. These shawls provide a tangible reminder of God's presence to those who receive them. The ministry members also pray over each one before sending them out.

Prayer connects us to the living water of God's love. It is vital to the growth and life of the church. As members of the church, we all need to make time to pray regularly.



News of the Week

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.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Sunday, October 5th is World Communion Sunday. It is also the day when we receive our annual Offering of Blankets for the homeless. As the days grow cooler and then get cold, those who are homeless need protection from the cold. The Offering of Blankets is one way that we help to meet that need. Please bring your blanket to the worship service and place it at the altar rail on October 5th. We will be receiving blankets at the 8:45 and 11:00 am worship services.

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.

JOIN THE HABITAT BUILD TEAM

Our first Habitat for Humanity work day is Saturday, October 11th. The church vans will leave from the church at 7 am. We will be working on framing the house that day. Lunch will be provided as will water. If you have tools that you would like to bring that is fine but not required. If you would like to drive to the site in your own car the street address is 329 Creek Run Circle, Calera, AL 35040.

All who want to participate are welcome but we would like to have a count of how many will be there. If you would sign-up at the church website or through your Sunday School class that would be most helpful.

<http://bluffparkumc.org/habitat-2014>

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.

MIDWEEK COOKING CLASSES BEGIN

Midweek cooking classes start on October 1st with Jon McClure, author of "Alabama's Best Restaurants Cookbook." Class starts at 6:00pm in the Fireside Room.

READY, SET, BAKE!

The Bluff Park United Methodist Women will be selling baked goods at The Bluff Park Art Show to raise money for mission projects. You can help by providing baked goods (cakes, cookies, brownies, and cupcakes) to sell. Drop off your goodies in the Fellowship Hall on October 3rd between 12:00–6:00pm.

CHILE MISSIONS

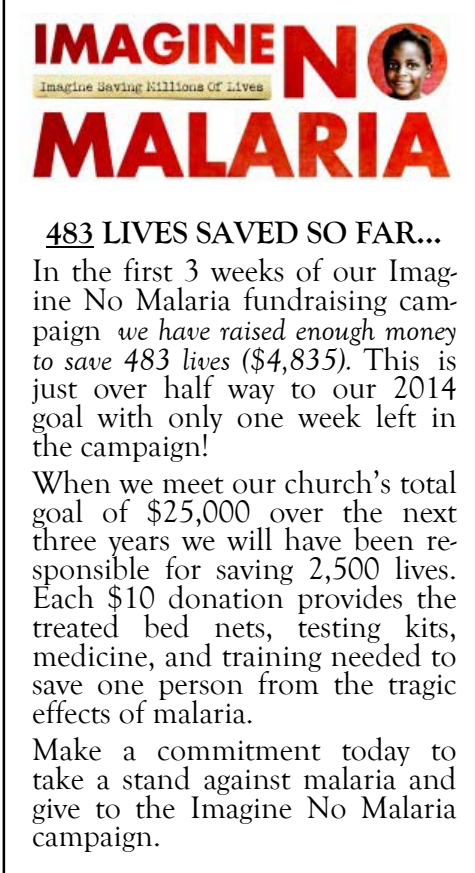
If you are interested in being a member of our 2015 Volunteer in Mission team to Chile or if you are just curious about what we do while in Chile there will be an interest

meeting on Wednesday, October 15th at 6 pm. The meeting will be held in the Chapel. We will share information about the work, dates, travel, accommodations, etc. No commitments will be asked for at this meeting. It is solely for the purpose of sharing information. Please make plans to attend if you have any interest in our work in Chile.

SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION

Our sympathy is extended to Win Shelby and her family on the passing of her husband, Charles, on September 13th. The funeral service was on Saturday. Our prayers are with the family in their time of sorrow.

Our sympathy is extended to Wayne and Jackie Walton and their family on the passing of their daughter, Yvonne, in Texas on September 22nd. Our prayers are with the family in their time of sorrow.



IMAGINE NO MALARIA
Imagine Saving Millions Of Lives

483 LIVES SAVED SO FAR...

In the first 3 weeks of our Imagine No Malaria fundraising campaign we have raised enough money to save 483 lives (\$4,835). This is just over half way to our 2014 goal with only one week left in the campaign!

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.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

NURSERY AND PRESCHOOL PARENTS. We have tweaked the sign in/out process. All parents will sign their children in at the front desk. Each class has a clip board. Teachers and nursery staff will write in attendance in the room and parents will initial their children out of the class. If your child is in Children's church, Mrs. Leigh or an appointed volunteer will sign your child in and you will initial them out. Hopefully, this will streamline the process and save on repetition.

MIDWEEK PROGRAMMING. The nursery opens at 5:30p.m. Elementary children will have handbell 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.

THE HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL is coming up!!!! Wednesday Oct. 29 6-8p.m. SPOILER ALERT- As part of the festivities, there will be a **Popsicle cart from Steel City Pops!** There will also be food, fun, and fellowship for all who participate! Invite your friends and neighbors!!! Come dressed in Costume!

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 8th

October 22

October 29th

November Unit Study Hall. 6:30pm, New Light class

Spooky Cooking Class with Charlotte McCrary. 6:30pm in the Fireside Room.

Halloween Carnival 5pm-8pm, gym

STUDENT MINISTRY

FALL RETREAT - NOVEMBER 21-23. Our annual fall retreat to Camp Sumatanga is the weekend leading into Fall Break. We will "retreat" to the camp to "re-center" ourselves on Christ. Cost is \$125 and includes transportation, lodging for two nights, five meals and a t-shirt..

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. Oct 1 (the 90's).

THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 28, 10:00am

Sunday, September 28: 4:00pm

Sunday, September 28: 5:00pm

Sunday, September 28: 6:00pm

Sunday, September 28: 6:30pm

Wednesday, October 1, 4:30pm

Wednesday, October 1, 5:30pm

Wednesday, October 1, 6:30pm

Sunday School in the Youth Wing

Holy Ground Rehearsal in the Youth Wing

MS Guys, MS Girls and HS Coed Small Groups

FREE Snack Supper in the Fellowship Hall

MS Improv Games (Holy Ground Room) & HS Hunger Games (in the Gym)

Holy Ground Team Rehearsal

Hang Out Time in the Youth Wing

Holy Ground Worship in the Youth Wing

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

Thank you to everyone that had pictures taken for our new Church Directory. If you were not able to have pictures taken you may submit a small snap-shot for the Directory. Bring to the Welcome Center on Sunday or to the office.

UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 25

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Fun Bingo - What's in your purse/pocket? Prizes/Surprises.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 26

SENIOR FUN DAY with Mike, Peter and Tom. The fun starts at 10:30am with Bobby, Brad and Jerry, *Three-on-a-String*. Lunch by Doris/Anita, Mystery Guest??? Everyone invited. Call Betty.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 1

COOKING CLASS with Jon McClure, Author, Alabama's Best Restaurants Cookbook, 6:00-7:00pm in the Fireside Room.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 3 -
FRIDAY DECEMBER 5

CHRISTMAS-IN-NORTH CAROLINA. We'll travel to Charlotte, NC - tour Billy Graham's Ministries/Campus, visit the Museum, Library, Cow Barn, live Nativity, Christmas Lights and Music, Carriage Ride, Christmas Dinner and much more. Thursday we're off to Asheville for a Historical Church tour and the beautiful Christmas decorated Biltmore House.

Special Moment with Jesus

"The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?" Psalm 27:1



Bluff Park United Methodist Church

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

Address Service Requested

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U.S. POSTAGE PAID
AUTO
BIRMINGHAM, AL
PERMIT NO. 1816

Pastors

Mike Holly, mholly@bpumc.org, ext. 104
Peter von Hermann, 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
office@bpumc.org
Director of Worship Music,
Lonnie Parsons
Organist, Jamie Davis
Preschool Director,
Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org



The Week of September 28–October 4

Sunday, September 28

8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
1:00 pm Neverthirst Fun Run
6:00 pm Evening Worship

Tuesday, September 30

9:30 am Becky Walker's Bible Study

Wednesday, October 1

9:00 am Food Pantry
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
6:30 pm Children's Council

Thursday, October 2

9:30 am Shepherd's Center

Friday, October 3

12:00-5:00 pm Bake Sale Drop-off in Fellowship Hall

SUNDAY, September 28, 2014

8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship
"Prayer"
(Scripture - Luke 11:1-13)
Mrs. Becky Walker

6:00pm Evening Worship Service
Rev. Tom Duley Preaching

Lectionary Scripture Readings

Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:23-32

SERVING SUNDAY

Ushers

8:45 Chatterton 11:00 Youth
Cross
8:45 John David Shanlever
11:00 Carolyne Hecklinski

Acolytes

8:45 Clayton Marshall
11:00 Campbell Hecklinski
Children's Church

8:45 Bowles 11:00 Worley

Greeters : Wesley Forum

Meal on Wheels October 1: Peggy White

Food Pantry October 1:

Becky McCrary

MIDWEEK MENU October 1

Taco salad, baked chicken, baked potato, and salad bar. Chicken fingers for the kids.

Last Week's Record

September 21, 2014

Children/Youth	99/67
Morning/Evening Worship	493/60
Weekly Operating Needs	\$29,189.36
Operating Receipts	\$21,485.00
2014 Operating Budget	\$1,517,847.00
Expected to Date	\$1,026,950.00
Received to Date	\$905,637.14
New Members in 2014	47

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013–December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$1,665.00
Received to Date	\$545,109.67

**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!

VALET PARKING

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