



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter January 11, 2015

www.BluffParkUMC.org



We began 2015 with a new sermon series called “Dysfunctional Families of the Old Testament.” This past Sunday, as we looked at the dysfunction of Adam and Eve, each blaming one another for their own actions. The two people who were literally made for each other turned against each other at the time of crisis.

This Sunday, we are turning to the next vital family in the book of Genesis, Abram and Sarai. Yes, they will eventually undergo a name change to Abraham and Sarah, but as we are introduced to them in the twelfth chapter of Genesis, they still have their original names. As they move into the land promised to them by God in that same chapter, a crisis arises. Famine covers the land and so they go to the place you normally go when a famine occurs: Egypt.

However, we shall see that sometimes we act in dysfunctional ways when a crisis arises. One key to remember in any crisis is this: Remember who you are. When we have our backs against the wall, we might forget the standard to which we are called to live because of our faith. We might act in ungodly ways, and we might feel justified in doing so because of the nature of the crisis. We must remember who we are. You are God’s child. Together we are God’s children. How we live, during the good times and the bad, is of the utmost importance to how others encounter and understand God.

Mike

A New Year of MidWeek Ministry

A new year of MidWeek Ministry activities has already begun. This is an exciting time and an important part of the life of this congregation. In addition to our weekly meal time, we have a number of learning opportunities. The Pastor’s Bible Study at 4:30pm resumes and continues to explore the book of Revelation. A second class which has been added will take place at 6:30pm starting at chapter one. Disciple 1 continues in the evening and we are starting a Screamfree parenting seminar, a special social action seminar on The Church and People with Disabilities, and a preparation class for the upcoming Chile mission trip. There are more details available for these classes in the Weekly News section on page 2.

In addition to these new learning opportunities, we continue to have activities for the kids, Youth Worship, choir rehearsals, and Prayer Shawl Ministry, or you can just hang out and have a little coffee and conversation.

We look forward to seeing you Wednesday nights!

screamfree PARENTING

Parenting is not about kids, it’s about parents.
If you’re not in control, then you cannot be in charge.
What every kid really wants is parents who are able
to keep their cool... no matter what!

Learn how to be a screamfree Parent...

Wednesdays, 6:00 - 7:15pm
January 7, 14, 28 and February 4 & 11
Bluff Park United Methodist Church
733 Valley Street, Hoover

Group sessions to work through the book and method, led by Daniel Seigel, MFTA, M.Ed.

\$40 per couple (includes cost of the book)

\$30 for single parents

Max group size is 20, so register early!

Register today by calling the church office at (205) 822-0910

News of the Week

A NEWSLETTER CHANGE FOR A NEW YEAR

Starting with this week's newsletter, we have made a small but important change. The date on the cover of the newsletter now matches the upcoming Sunday and not the day we physically print out the copies to mail. This matches the event calendar printed on the back cover. Our publishing and mailing process has not changed, only the date listed on the cover. The goal is to more accurately reflect the dates covered in the content.

NEW MIDWEEK MEAL PRICES

It has been awhile since we've changed the prices of the MidWeek meal. But, to keep pace with rising costs, we've raised the prices slightly for the new year. Adult meals are now \$7 each, children 6-12 remain at \$2, and children 5 and under continue to eat free. The family maximum is \$20.

SCREAM FREE PARENTING SEMINAR

Parenting is not about kids, it's about parents. If you're not in control, then you cannot be in charge. What every kid really wants is parents who are able to keep their cool... no matter what. Easier said than done, right? If this sounds like you, there's help. Group sessions meet Wednesdays 6:00 - 7:15 January 7, 14, 28 and February 4 & 11. Call the office to sign up (group size is limited.)

MISSIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

The Missions Committee will meet on Thursday, January 15th at 7 PM in the church library. All members are encouraged to attend.

THE CHURCH AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES: AWARENESS, ACCESSIBILITY, AND ADVOCACY

On Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm, throughout the month of January, the United Methodist Women are sponsoring a Social action study exploring how the church is serving peo-

ple with disabilities. Mike Holly will lead the discussion in the Fireside Room. All members are encouraged to attend.

CHILE PREPARATION CLASS

The Chile preparation class is for those who will be members of the Chile VIM team for 2015 and for any other persons who are interested in learning more about Bluff Park's work in Chile. It will be led by Marigene Chamberlain our Chile VIM team leader for 2015. The class starts on January 13th and ends on March 10th. The class will meet in the church library at 6:30 PM.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Did you start the New Year with a desire to grow closer to God? Are you interested in becoming part of a small group at BPUMC? Covenant Bible Study will begin on Tuesday morning, January 13th. This study lasts 8 weeks, and is focused on developing relationships with God and with each other, especially within the concept of "creating". Our group meets in the Fellowship Hall every Tuesday morning from 9:30 til 11. Come and join us - all are welcome!! For more information, please call Becky Walker @ 987-0404.

UMW BOARD MEETING

The United Methodist Women's Board will meet on Monday, January 12, at 9:00 am in the Fireside Room.

SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION...

Our sympathy is extended to Roberta Northington on the passing of her husband Jimmy on January 2nd. Our prayers are with the family in their time of sorrow.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Shirley White—The Oaks Rehab
Opal Humphrey—Lakeshore Rehab

Memorials

PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Chris Delionback by Robert and Ann Nelson

Bernie Thompson by Robert and Ann Nelson

CHOIR ROBES

Patrick Crotty by Patricia Reese

BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rudy Schaefer by Joanna Schaefer

Chris Delionback by The Fisherman Class, The Maids, Lynn and

Donna Nettleton, Lynnette Park

Bernie Thompson by The Fisherman Class, Lois Truss, Jennifer

Alley, M.H. Chase

Reid Rodgers by Lois Truss

Betty Lou Hager by The Opportunity Class

The Roy Gilbert Fellowship- Sunday School Class by Mr and Mrs

Roy Gilbert

Ray Stokes by Roy and Bobbye Guyton

Yevonne Bowman by Roy and Bobbye Guyton

FOOD PANTRY

Richard Dick Bueoy by DeAnn Bueoy

Bernie Thompson by Theodore and Phyllis Johnston, John and

Sylvia Sumners

Chris Delionback by John and Sylvia Sumners

Reid Rogers by John and Sylvia Sumners

WHITE CHRISTMAS FUND

Amanda Humphries by Joan and Stretch Dunn

John H. Pearson by Jack and Sue Pearson

Linda Ferrell Carkil by Jack and Sue Pearson

Patrick Crotty by Jack and Sue Pearson

Victor Harbor by Pony Thompson

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Bernie Thompson by Elizabeth Davis

LIVING OUR LEGACY FUND

Chris Delionback by Elizabeth Davis

Honorariums

BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Mary Ann McGriff by Robert and Ginger Owen

FOOD PANTRY

Mr. Christopher Anders by Paula Thompson

Mr. Jacqnai Finkley by Paula Thompson

Mrs. Serra Peterson by Paula Thompson

Evelyn Harper by Pony Thompson

WHITE CHRISTMAS FUND

Libby Snow by Jenny, George, Frank, and Merrill Thagard

Pat and Carol Westbrook by Pony Thompson

Ryan and Judy Gibson by Pony Thompson

MUSIC FUND

Mahala McKinney by the Adult Choir

NO MORE MALARIA FUND

Mike Holly by James and Becky McCrary

BUILDING FUND

Wayne Williams by The Fisherman Class

Charles Trucks by The Fisherman Class

Sylvia Sumners by The Fisherman Class

Matt Reeder by The Fisherman Class

Richard Joiner by The Fisherman Class

Jackie Wesson by The Fisherman Class

HANDBELL CHOIR FUND

Betty Lou Hager by Margaret Parsons

Please Note: Some Memorials and Honorariums are not listed by the request of the donors.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

He Said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" - Luke 1:49
We will continue our study of "The Boy in the Temple." This week, during our opening, we will discuss how Joseph and Mary could lose Jesus and not find him for three days! Thank you to Ivy Holmes, Theresa Real, Theresa Richardson, Aimie Marshall, Stacy Neal, Olivia Howard, Lori Beasley, Linda King, Stephanie Turner, Georgia Pearson, Ellen Kerns and Zach Edwards for leading this month. Thank you to John Bowles for subbing this week! Thank you to Mandy Black and Kristi Wolfe for leading the preschool this month!

BARGAINS ON THE BLUFF is just around the corner! The sale is Feb 19(Private sale for volunteers and consignors) and Feb 20-21 (public). Clear up some time during the week of Feb 15th-21st now so that you can volunteer for one or two shifts. Your hard work will be rewarded with an opportunity to shop the private sale. It is so worth it!

THE PRESCHOOL PAJAMA PARTY is the event of the year! Well, for preschoolers.. It will be February 27th at 6:00pm. There will be crafts, snacks, and entertainment! We can still use some volunteers to help make this super fun event possible. Please contact Ms Marcie at nursery@bpumc to find out how you can help. And don't forget your jammies!

THE 4TH/5TH FELLOWSHIP will be going to Exit 456 at Camp Sumatanga on March 13-15, 2015. This is a two day event. It is a weekend designed to help children understand their Methodist heritage and to encourage their faith journey. It is a FABULOUS event sponsored by the North Alabama United Methodist conference. It can be a very important event for your 4th/5th grader, plus so much fun its crazy! Cost is \$85. Registration forms must be turned in by Feb 21st. Interested? Send an email to mhendon@bpumc.org to get the registration started.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 11	Second Rotation in Sunday School Unit
February 20-21	Bargains on the Bluff
February 21	Deadline for exit 456 forms
February 27	Preschool Pajama Party 6:00pm.
March 13-14	Exit 456

STUDENT MINISTRY

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO...TAYLOR SWIFT!! We've created a fun Holy Ground series to kick off 2015 and the return of midweek meals. Each Wednesday night, our student worship team will lead us in a different Taylor Swift song and the message will be built around the lyrical theme. What can Taylor Swift songs help us learn about being new creations in Jesus Christ? Come find out!

DISCOVERY WEEKEND IS FRIDAY-SUNDAY, JANUARY 23RD-25TH This spiritual formation retreat held at our church is the most important annual event in our student ministry. High school and college students will lead middle school students through a weekend of worship, games, prayer, talks and discussion with support from adult volunteers. The cost is \$75 for middle school students and FREE for high school leaders. Over the coming weeks, we'll be working with our high school students to prepare them for their leadership roles. Online signup will be available soon.

DISCOVERY WEEKEND PRAYER SERVICE. Be sure to add the this service to your calendar: Saturday, January 24th at 7:00pm. All family and close friends are invited as we come forward, lay hands on our students and pray for each one at the altar. If you or a representative of your family CANNOT attend, let us know and we'll designate a group of adult volunteers to do so on your behalf.

CONFIRMATION CLASS begins on Sunday, February 1st. Students who want to be confirmed as full, confessing members of our congregation on Sunday, April 12th are required to attend 8 of the 10 class topics we offer. We'll have one extra class at the end to make up any missed topics. Our plan is to teach on Sunday mornings during the Sunday School hour (10am).

THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 11, 10:00am	Sunday School in the Youth Wing
Sunday, January 11, 4:00pm	Holy Ground Team Rehearsal
Sunday, January 11, 5:00pm	HS Coed, MS Girls & MS Guys Small Groups (HS students need to attend to prepare for Discovery Weekend!)
Sunday, January 11, 6:00pm	Snack Supper in the Fellowship Hall
Sunday, January 11, 6:30pm	MS Video Shoot & HS Dodgeball
Wednesday, January 14, 5:30pm	ang Out Time in the Youth Hall & Gym
Wednesday, January 14, 6:30pm	Holy Ground Worship - Shake It Off

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY JANUARY 15

TUESDAY JANUARY 20

THURSDAY JANUARY 22

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 11

SHEPHERD'S CENTER—The fun starts at 9:30am.

CULLMAN DAY TRIP— Church Tour—Lunch 9:00am – 3:00pm. Call Betty.

YELLOW DOT SIGN-UP—1:30pm – 3:00pm in the Gym.

VALENTINE'S DAY CARDS TO SICK AND SHUT-INS 11:00am-12:00pm - Meet in the Library.

Special Moment with Jesus

“Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.” Romans 12:12



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 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 Finance and Administration**, ext. 117
- Ben Sheets, bsheets@bpumc.org
- Financial Manager**, ext. 101
- Joe Pitard, jpitar@bpumc.org
- Director of Communications and Media**, ext. 119
- Andrew Seltz, aseltz@bpumc.org
- Secretary**, ext. 111
- Catherine Ward, cward@bpumc.org
- Director of Worship Music**,
- Lonnie Parsons
- Organist**, Jamie Davis
- Preschool Director**,
- Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org



The Week of January 11—January 17

- Sunday, January 11**
- 8:45 am Morning Worship Service
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am Morning Worship Service
- 5:00 pm Evening Worship Service
- Monday, January 12**
- 9:00 am UMW Board Meeting
- Tuesday, January 13**
- 8:30 am Maintenance
- 9:30 am Becky Walker's Bible Study
- 6:00 pm Under the Bridge
- 6:00 pm Church Life Committee
- Wednesday, January 14**
- 4:30 pm Pastors' Bible Study
- 5:00-6:30pm Dinner
- 5:30 pm Disciple 1
- 5:45 pm Midweek Ministries
- 6:00 pm Men's Chorus
- 6:30 pm Choir
- Thursday, January 15**
- 9:30 am Shepherd's Center
- 6:30 pm Handbell Choir
- 6:30 pm Finance Committee

SUNDAY, January 11, 2015
8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship
"Marriage in Difficult Times"
 (Scripture - Genesis 12:10-20)
 Rev. Mike Holly

5:00pm Evening Worship Service
 Rev. Tom Duley

Lectionary Scripture Readings
 Genesis 1:1-5
 Psalm 29
 Acts 19:1-7
 Mark 1:4-11

SERVING SUNDAY

- Ushers**
- 8:45 Nelson 11:00 Dover
- Cross**
- 8:45 Carolyn Thompson
- 11:00 Kate Ryan Black
- Acolytes**
- 8:45 Lily Matheson 11:00 Emily Toth
- Greeters: Canterbury**
- Meals on Wheels January 14: TBA**
- Food Pantry February 4: TBA**

MIDWEEK MENU: January 14th
 Beef tips on rice, fried okra, baked chicken, baked potato, and salad bar. Chicken Fingers for the kids.

Last Week's Record

January 4, 2015

Children	65
Morning/Evening Worship	566/20
Weekly Operating Needs*	\$29,189.36
Operating Receipts	\$22,690.00
2015 Operating Budget*	\$1,517,847.00
Expected to Date*	\$27,025.00
Received to Date	\$22,690.00
New Members in 2015	0

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$4,185.00
Received to Date	\$625,188.19

**Provisional figures pending approval of 2015 budget.*

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

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.