



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter January 25, 2015

www.BluffParkUMC.org



The mission of the United Methodist Church as a world-wide entity is to “make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.” This mission is carried out by followers of Jesus Christ, as members of what the church calls “vital congregations.” Vital congregations are 1) spirit-filled, forward leaning communities of believers that welcome all people, and 2) communities that serve like Christ through justice and mercy ministries.

As a United Methodist congregation, we are part of this high calling to make disciples. We do so in our community of Bluff Park, and the surrounding communities. Our job is to help connect people to God through community, worship, education and service.

This coming Saturday, leaders from BPUMC will be gathering to discuss and dream about how we, as a church, will continue to help all people connect with God. We hope you will join us in prayer at this very important time in the life of our church. We also invite you to be in prayer this weekend for our students as they gather together in fellowship, prayer and worship at Discovery Weekend.

Mike

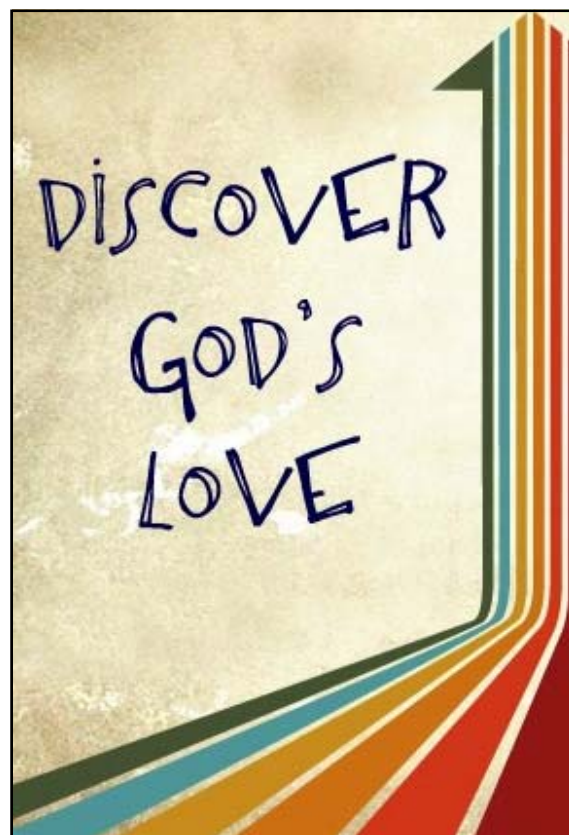
Discovery Weekend

This weekend, January 23rd- 25th, is an important time in the Student Ministry at Bluff Park UMC. High school and college students come together to lead middle school students on a spiritual formation retreat. Together, they will worship, talk, pray, and play together. Young people who have matured in their faith through the ministries of our church are coming together to encourage the students following behind them.

Discovery Weekend is also an opportunity for the middle school students to experience the love that our congregation has for them. They will be reminded, in very tangible ways, that they are an important part of the church. Church members are providing snacks, volunteering time, participating in a prayer service, and more.

The weekend closes on Sunday morning as the students sing in the morning worship service and then return home.

Please keep our students, and the student ministry at Bluff Park UMC in your prayers.



News of the Week

OPPORTUNITY CLASS ON THE MOVE

January 25th marks the first Sunday that the Opportunity Sunday School class will meet in their new room, room 235. This room was formerly used by the Roy Gilbert Fellowship Class.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

The worship committee will be meeting Sunday, January 25th, at 4:00pm in the Library.

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

On Wednesday evening, January 28, at 6:00pm, the final session of the United Methodist Women sponsored Social action study meets. We are exploring how the church is serving people with disabilities and how we can improve upon our current efforts. Mike Holly will lead the discussion in the Fireside Room. All members are encouraged to attend, even if you haven't had a chance to attend the earlier sessions.

CHILE PREPARATION CLASS

The Chile preparation class is underway for those who will be members of the Chile VIM team for 2015 and for anyone else who is interested in learning more about Bluff Park's work in Chile. The class is being led by Marigene Chamberlain our Chile VIM team leader for 2015. The class started on January 13th and ends on March 10th. We meet in the church library at 6:30 PM. Please join us.

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 has started, but there is still time to join. 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.



Sermon Videos Online

Since October 20th, 2014, we have been posting video recordings of the weekly sermons online. If there is a message you want to hear again, visit our Youtube Channel:

BluffParkUMC.org/youtube

2015 ALTAR FLOWERS

There are dates left on the 2015 Flower Calendar. Please sign up to remember a loved one or to commemorate a special occasion. One arrangement is \$50.00; both \$100.00. We have two arrangements each Sunday. Dates available include: March 8, 15, and 29 and April 19 and 26. Check in with the office for other available dates. Please sign up in the main office or call (205) 822-0910.

SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION...

Our sympathy is extended to Jean Valentine as she mourns the passing of her husband Walter on January 19th. Our prayers are with the family in their time of sorrow. A memorial service will be held at Bluff Park UMC on January 25th at 2:00pm.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Doyle Shaw—Brookwood
Betty Lou Black—Trinity
Shirley White—The Oaks Rehab
Opal Humphrey—Lakeshore Rehab
Marjorie Dulin—St. Vincent's



JOIN THE TEAM! BARGAINS ON THE BLUFF

The spring Bargains on the Bluff consignment sale is rapidly approaching. This sale is not only a great blessing to the families who take part in it, but it also raises money to support the children's ministry here at the church. Registration has opened for consigners and volunteers, and we need your help to spread the word. Please tell your family and friends. (We'd love to have you volunteer too!) The public sale is February 20th and 21st, but all volunteers and consigners get exclusive access to a Preview Sale on the 19th. For more details, and to sign up, visit the web-site:

BluffParkUMC.org/both

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

IT'S MISSION SUNDAY THIS WEEK! This Sunday we will dedicate our time to a mission project. We will be making personalized valentine's cards for our friends at the Promise Home. We hope to make several for each resident. If you would like to come upstairs and join us for this you are always welcomed to. Next month, the New Light class will be leading both Elementary and Preschool. We will be studying Mary and Martha.!

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). Registration for consigning and volunteering is now open! Please visit BluffParkUMC.org/botb for more information and to register online.

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 kacibrasher@gmail.com to get the registration started.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 25	Mission Sunday (Sunday School Hour)
February 1	1st Sunday in SS Rotation
February 17	Pancake Supper (Benefits Youth)
February 18	Ash Wednesday (no midweek activities)
February 20-21	Bargains on the Bluff
February 21	Deadline for exit 456 forms

STUDENT MINISTRY

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO...TAYLOR SWIFT!! We're wrapping up our first Holy Ground series of 2015. What can Taylor Swift songs help us learn about being new creations in Jesus Christ? Come find out!

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY. We have two Super Bowl Parties, across the street from each other. Both parties start at 5pm and end promptly at the conclusion of the game. Middle School students are invited to the Turner home at 3834 Carisbrooke Circle. High School students are invited to the Adams home at 3833 Carisbrooke Circle. Please send/bring a snack to share. We'll provide pizza and drinks. Students are responsible for their own transportation and, once they arrive, students may not leave the party and return later.

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 25, 10:00am	Sunday School in the Youth Wing
Sunday, January 25, 4:00pm	Holy Ground Team Rehearsal
Sunday, January 25, 5:00pm	Super Bowl Party
Wednesday, January 28, 5:30pm	Hang Out Time in the Youth Hall & Gym
Wednesday, January 28, 6:30pm	Holy Ground Worship

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY JANUARY 29
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 5

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 11
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 12

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 14

SHEPHERD'S CENTER BIBLE STUDY with Charlie Trucks coming soon...

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Dr. Segrest, Shelby Vein Center, will be here.

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Jack Owens, retired, FBI, will be here - Hoover, JFK, Selma, Cuba.

VALENTINE CARDS - to our sick/shut-in. Meet in the Library 11:00am.

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Valentine Party Celebration - program by Alice Marie and Randy Morrison. Bring a Valentine for your secret pal.

BPUMC RED HAT LUNCHEON with Mary Jane Wesler. Call Mary Jane, 979-8047, for reservations.

Special Moment with Jesus

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."
-Thessalonians 5: 16-18



Bluff Park United Methodist Church

733 Valley Street
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Address Service Requested

**NON-PROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
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 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, jpitard@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 25—January 31

- Sunday, January 25**
- 8:45 am Morning Worship Service
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am Morning Worship Service
- 12:00 pm Close of Discovery Weekend
- 4:00 pm Worship Committee Meeting
- 5:00 pm Evening Worship Service
- Monday, January 26th**
- 8:00 am UMW Hope-Love Circle
- 10:00 am UMW Joy Circle
- 6:30 pm UMW Friendship Circle
- Tuesday, January 27**
- 9:30 am Becky Walker's Bible Study
- Wednesday, January 28**
- 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 29**
- 9:30 am Shepherd's Center
- 6:30 pm Handbell Choir

- SUNDAY, January 25, 2015**
- 8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship**
- "Godly Parenting"**
- (Scripture - Genesis 25:19-28)**
- Rev. Mike Holly**
- 5:00pm Evening Worship Service**
- Rev. Tom Duley**
- Lectionary Scripture Readings**
- Jonah 3:1-5, 10
- Psalm 62:5-12
- 1 Corinthians 7:29-31
- Mark 1:14-20
- SERVING SUNDAY**
- Ushers**
- 8:45 Chatterton 11:00 Youth
- Cross**
- 8:45 Lena Holly 11:00 Matt Lagan
- Acolytes**
- 8:45 Davison Dover 11:00 Mikey Lagan
- Greeters: Faith**
- Meals on Wheels January 28: Agent**
- Food Pantry February 4: Becky McCrary**
- MIDWEEK MENU: January 28th**
- Fried fish, baked beans, coleslaw, baked chicken, baked potato, and salad bar. Chicken fingers for the kids.

Last Week's Record

January 18, 2015

Children/Youth	85/60
Morning/Evening Worship	531/19
Weekly Operating Needs*	\$29,189.36
Operating Receipts	\$25,122.61
2015 Operating Budget*	\$1,517,847.00
Expected to Date*	\$81,075.00
Received to Date	\$74,154.11
New Members in 2015	0

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$1,572.00
Received to Date	\$628,488.52

**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.