



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter February 15, 2015

www.BluffParkUMC.org



On Sunday evening, a significant group of congregation members gathered in our beautiful Sanctuary for the State of the Church meeting. We heard in that meeting how our Elementary Sunday School attendance average has turned a corner and begun growing slowly, but steadily. We also heard that our Building Team is moving forward with a new architectural firm, Davis Architects. They are working on designing ideas for renovating space for our children and youth, while still offering space for a new Fellowship Hall.

We did hear on Sunday evening that the number of households pledging to the annual budget is down. While we still have a healthy balance sheet, including funds designated by donors for specific purposes, a thriving permanent endowment fund, and a large building fund, we do not have the revenue we need to balance the 2015 budget. Everyone present at the State of the Church meeting was asked to reconsider their 2015 pledges and gifts, and the initial response was very promising.

Within 24 hours, 43 people turned in a 2015 pledge card, or a State of the Church additional pledge. There were 6 new pledges and 37 increases, so we are well on our way. We will need more gifts than those in order to help us continue to offer mission and ministry opportunities to our congregation. Soon, each household will receive a letter giving you the opportunity to help. Please prayerfully consider how you can help Bluff Park UMC continue to be God's blessing to the people of our church and to the people in our community and world.

Memorials

PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Bernie Thompson by Bill and Peggy Fields

Chris Delionback by Bill and Peggy Fields

Reid Rodgers by Bill and Peggy Fields

BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Bernie Thompson by Annabelle Bradley, Alice Singleton, Shelia D Wade, Martha Mclemore, The Opportunity Class, James and Sara Perry, Wayne and Jackie Walton, Phillip and Elizabeth Nichols, Betty Hottenstein

Chris Delionback by Paul and Evelyn Graham, Vance Holder, James Best, William and Nancy Law, Wayne and Jackie Walton, Betty Hottenstein, John and Carolyn West

Reid Rodgers by Alice Singleton, Betty Hottenstein

Betty Lou Hager by William and Paulette Pearson, Betty Hottenstein

Jim Northington by The Opportunity Class, Betty Hottenstein
Nan Moore by Michael and Lucy Hawkins, Jan Harris, James and Joyce George, James and Glenda Sparacio, Samuel and Ruth Pointer. Kinsey Dental Associates

Rudy Schaefer by Arlene Stuckey

FOOD PANTRY

Bernie Thompson by Bill and Peggy Fields

Chris Delionback by Bill and Peggy Fields

Reid Rodgers by Bill and Peggy Fields

BUILDING FUND

Reid Rodgers by Pat Reeder

Chris Delionback by Pat Reeder

HANDBELL CHOIR

Betty Lou Hager by Paul and Trudy Newman, Mountain View Group-Thomas Gonyeau, Renee Wilson. Martin and Lara Bu-

chanan, Alice Singleton, Anne Easterly, Walter and Jeannette

Watford, Mahala McKinney

UNDER THE BRIDGE MINISTRIES

Jim Northington by Mahala Mckinney

MUSIC FUND

Reid Rogers by Bill and Joy Shultz

ORGAN FUND

Raymond and Nancy Bailey by Bob and Marianna Sturdivant

PERMINANT ENDOWMENT FUND

Louise Sturdivant by Bob Sturdivant

LIVING OUR LEGACY

Chris Delionback by Marilyn Williams

GREEN TEAM

Bernie Thompson by Olivia Howard

Honorariums

PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

All Past and Present Members by the Roy Gilbert Fellowship Class

Robert and Rachel Tolston's Wedding by Curtis and Paula Thompson

BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Marvin Broome by The Opportunity Class

Andrew Seltz by James and Rebecca McCrary

Christian Riesenber by James and Rebecca McCrary

FOOD PANTRY

Sara Perry by Pony Thompson

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Sue Crunk by the Roy Gilbert Fellowship Class

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

News of the Week

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Join us on Wednesday, February 18th, at 6:30 pm as we mark the beginning of the Lenten season with an Ash Wednesday worship service. Normal MidWeek activities will resume next week.

STAFF CHANGE

Ben Sheets, who has worked in our Finance Office for the past two and a half years, will be leaving Bluff Park UMC on Friday, February 13th. Ben will be taking a position in a location closer to his home. We wish Ben well and thank him for his years of service here at BPUMC!

ORGAN RECITAL

James Cook, the chancel choir director at Birmingham's First United Methodist Church, and an emeritus professor of music at Birmingham-Southern College, will perform an organ recital at Bluff Park United Methodist Church on February 22 at 4:00 pm. A reception will follow the performance. This performance is the 50th anniversary of Dr. Cook's first recital, which he played on this same organ when it was located at McCoy Methodist Church!

ROCK-A-THON AND SILENT AUCTION

Saturday, February 28th, the McCoy Adult Day Care Center will be hosting its annual fundraiser event. The Bluff Park Rocking Team is already in training. McCoy provides a variety of services to allow fragile and frail adults to maintain the highest level of independence with dignity, and this event provides the support they need to serve these seniors. To sponsor our Rock-a-Thon team, contact Elizabeth Davis 823-9093.

IT'S AUCTION TIME!

This year's Legacy Gala Silent Auction will be held on March 6th at The Club of Birmingham! This year's

proceeds will be going towards Youth Missions, Children's Missions and one overall Mission project. We look forward to announcing these projects closer to the auction date. If you would like to be a part of the auction planning team, or would like to donate an item to the auction, please contact Megan Wise at megan.f.wise@gmail.com or 978-2907.



SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

Make plans to join us, Tuesday, February 17th, from 5-7pm in the Fellowship Hall for this annual Youth fundraiser. Proceeds support summer youth trips.

Adults: \$7

Children 6-12: \$2

Children under 6: FREE

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Laci and Chase Holden on the birth of a 6 lb. 3 oz. daughter, Olivia Rose Holden on February 2nd.

Congratulations to Anna and Joel Cash on the birth of a 7 lb. 22 oz. daughter, Blair Katherine Cash on February 5th.

Congratulations to Jessica and Micah Kaufhold on the birth of an 8 lb. 5 oz. Son, Micah Lane Kaufhold, Jr. on February 6th.

SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION

Sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of Opal Miller Bonner who passed away on February 6th. Our prayers are with

the family in their time of sorrow.

SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION

Sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of Luther Murphy who passed away on February 8th. Our prayers are with the family in their time of sorrow.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Doyle Shaw—Brookwood
Shirley White—Golden Living
Marjorie Dulin—Lakeshore
Joe White—Golden Living
Opal Humphrey—Brookwood
Charlotte Word—Brookwood

BARGAINS ON THE BLUFF THE COUNTDOWN BEGINS

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. Set-up takes place this week, and we need your help to spread the word. Please tell your family and friends. 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 website:

BluffParkUMC.org/both



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

MARY HAS CHOSEN THE RIGHT THING AND IT WILL NOT BE TAKEN FROM HER. (LUKE 10:42) We will continue our study of Mary and Martha this week. This week, during the opening, we will play a game of charades and try to guess what activity we are doing to prepare for Jesus' visit to our "home." Thank you to Beth and Nathan Blanchard, Leslie and Danny Pair, Jennifer Chadha, Anna Samuels, Marcus Chatterton, John Bowles, Chris and Kristen Fountain, Kelli Schillaci, Crystal Bowles, Kelly Andringa, India Gold, Brian Samuels and the rest of the New Light Class for leading this month. Thank you to Jamie Robinson and Lori Green 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). Registration for consigning and volunteering is now open! Please go to BluffParkumc.org/both to sign up.

THE PRESCHOOL PAJAMA PARTY is the event of the year for our preschoolers! It will be February 27th at 6:00pm and is open to all 2k's-5k's and their families. There will be crafts, snacks, and entertainment! Register for this event online at BPUMC.org or email nursery@bpumc.org. We can still use some volunteers to help make this super fun event possible. Please contact Ms. Marcie at nursery@bpumc.org to find out how you can help. And don't forget your jammies!

4TH/5TH FELLOWSHIP will be having a field trip on February 16th. They will be going to Oak Mtn Lanes to do some Bowling and Chow Town for lunch. Meet in the children's wing by 9:45am and they will return by 2pm. A co-Chaperone is needed if a parent would like to join them. This event is \$15 and don't forget to bring socks! You can sign up by emailing Kaci at kacibrasher@gmail.com.

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 Feb 21st. Interested? Send an email to kacibrasher@gmail.com to get the registration process started.

UPCOMING EVENTS

| | | | |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------------|
| February 15 | 3rd Sunday in SS Rotation (Mary and Martha) | February 21 | Deadline for Exit 456 forms |
| February 16 | 4th/5th Fellowship to go Bowling and Chow Town | February 27 | Preschool Pajama Party 6:00pm. |
| February 17 | Pancake Supper (Benefits Youth) | March 15 | Church Wide Skate Party (more info to come) |
| February 18 | Ash Wednesday (no midweek activities) | March 13-14 | Exit 456 |
| February 20-21 | Bargains on the Bluff | | |

STUDENT MINISTRY

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE FUNDRAISER, Tuesday, February 17th. Student volunteers need to arrive between 4-5pm. Dinner will be served from 5-7pm. Students who assist with the fundraiser will earn shares of the total donations received. Anyone who would like to participate in providing entertainment for the event can sign up this week in the youth wing. We are doing a "talent show" format, with no prizes or judges. This is simply a time for students to show off their musical ability for our church family.

LEGACY GALA & SILENT AUCTION, Friday, March 6th. Proceeds from this year's Legacy Gala will go towards mission projects throughout our church. That means that if your child is going on the MS Mission or ASP Mission Trip this summer, then your family could have a significantly discounted trip cost! Here's how you can help make the fundraiser a success: **Buy a ticket to the Gala:** You can purchase individual tickets or a table in the narthex of the sanctuary before Sunday morning worship. **Donate Auction Items Needed:** Vacation rentals, art, sports memorabilia, etc. all make great auction items. Contact Megan Wise megan.f.wise@gmail.com if there is something that you'd like to donate. **Gift Cards Needed:** Each student who brings three gift cards (\$10 minimum value) will receive a free ticket to the Gala.

Please don't feel that your family is expected to buy a gift card. Consider asking businesses that you frequent and asking them for a donated gift card. Our church office has tax deduction letters that you can give to the business owner, as well. since this is a charitable donation.

SAVE THESE DATES: Confirmation Sunday, April 12, Senior Recognition Sunday, May 17, Band Tour (tentative): Friday-Tuesday, May 29-June 2, MS Mission Trip (tentative): Sunday-Friday, June 21-26, ASP Mission Trip: Sunday-Saturday, July 5-11, Beach Retreat: Friday-Monday, July 31-Aug 3.

THIS WEEK

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday, February 15, 10:00am | Sunday School & Confirmation Class in the Youth Wing |
| Sunday, February 15, 4:00pm | Holy Ground Team Rehearsal |
| Sunday, February 15, 5:00pm | HS Coed, MS Boys & MS Girls Small Groups |
| Sunday, February 15, 6:00pm | Snack Supper in the Fellowship Hall |
| Sunday, February 15, 6:30pm | Anti-Valentine's Day Party in the Youth Wing (wear black and bring a sense of humor!) |
| Wednesday, February 18, 5:30pm | Hang Out Time in the Youth Hall & Gym |
| Wednesday, February 18, 6:30pm | Holy Ground Worship |

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 12

SHEPHERD'S CENTER VALENTINE PARTY - program by Alice Marie and Randy Morrison and special friends. A great morning of music, fun, and surprises. Everyone invited.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 14

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

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 17

MYSTERY DAY TRIP????? 9:00-3:00pm Call Betty Cost: Gas donation/Lunch-on-your-own. **SHEPHERD'S CENTER** - Susan Webb will be here with an entertaining and informative program on The Apron. Did you know Ben Franklin belonged to an apron club and George Washington wore an apron?

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 19

SUNDAY SCHOOL/BIBLE STUDY with former President Jimmy Carter, Maranatha Baptist Church, Plains, Ga. Over-night at the historical Windsor Hotel, guided tour of his Museum, School, Andersonville and more. Traveling by Bus. Cost: \$220.00pp includes everything except Saturday's lunch.

SATURDAY JUNE 6-

SUNDAY JUNE 7

Please note date change.

SHEPHERD'S CENTER BIBLE STUDY "Bonanza" TV series with Little Joe, Hoss, Adam and Ben Cartwright. Charlie Trucks, of the Fisherman SS Class, will teach this study starting Thursday March 5 and again March 12,19,26. Everyone invited.

Special Moment with Jesus

"Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise." -Psalm 66: 1,2



Bluff Park United Methodist Church

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

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
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- 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 February 15—February 21

- Sunday, February 15**
- 8:45 am Morning Worship Service
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am Morning Worship Service
- 4:00 pm Over The Mountain Festival
- Of Sacred Music Chorus
- 5:00 pm Evening Worship Service
- Monday, February 16**
- 9:00 am Men's Bible Study
- Tuesday, February 17**
- 9:30 am Becky Walker's Bible Study
- 5:00 pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- Wednesday, February 18**
- 4:30 pm Pastors' Bible Study
- 5:00-6:30pm Dinner
- 5:30 pm Disciple 1
- 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service
- 6:00 pm Men's Chorus
- 6:30 pm Choir
- Thursday, February 19**
- 7:30 am Lenten Morning Prayer
- 9:30 am Shepherd's Center
- 2:00-7:00 pm Bargains on the Bluff Preview Sale
- 6:30 pm Handbell Choir
- 6:30 pm Finance Committee
- Friday, February 20**
- 9:00 am- 6:00pm Bargains on the Bluff
- Saturday, February 21**
- 9:00 am- 2:00pm Bargains on the Bluff

SUNDAY, February 15, 2015
8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship
"Forgiving the Unforgivable"
 (Scripture - Genesis 45:1-15)
 Rev. Mike Holly

5:00pm Evening Worship Service
 Rev. Tom Duley

Lectionary Scripture Readings
 2 Kings 2:1-12
 Psalm 50:1-6
 2 Corinthians 4:3-6
 Mark 9:2-9

SERVING SUNDAY

- Ushers**
- Ushers 8:45 Lawson 11:00 Davis
- Cross**
- 8:45 John David Shanlever
- 11:00 Campbell Hecklinski
- Acolytes**
- 8:45 Vivi Shanlever
- 11:00 Carolyne Hecklinski
- Greeters: Home Improvement**
- Communion Set-Up 5pm:**
- JoAnn Huddleston
- Meals on Wheels February 18:**
- Thomas
- Food Pantry March 4:**
- Kay Adams

MIDWEEK MENU: February 18th
 Ham, mac & cheese, fried okra, baked chicken, baked potato, and salad bar. Corn dogs for the kids.

Last Week's Record

February 8, 2015

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Children/Youth | 109/56 |
| Morning /Evening Worship | 561/17 |
| Weekly Operating Needs* | \$29,189.36 |
| Operating Receipts | \$30,809.50 |
| 2015 Operating Budget* | \$1,517,847.00 |
| Expected to Date* | \$162,150.00 |
| Received to Date | \$149,593.37 |
| New Members in 2015 | 5 |

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013–December 31, 2015

| | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Amount Pledged | \$1,083,250.00 |
| Received Last Week | \$2,200.00 |
| Received to Date | \$715,870.54 |

**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.