



# BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226  
205.822.0910

*Newsletter February 22, 2015*

[www.BluffParkUMC.org](http://www.BluffParkUMC.org)



In Jerusalem, there is a well known path called the Via Dolorosa that tracks the final journey of Jesus within the old city walls. Markers along the path remind you of the trial of Jesus, of the times he fell as he carried his cross, and the encounters with others along the way. Via Dolorosa translates as "the way of pain" or "the way of sorrows."

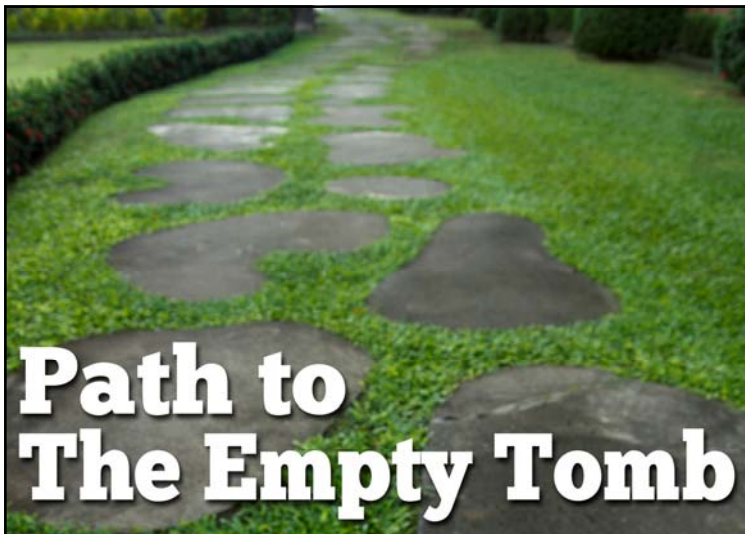
In the summer of 2013, Julie and I walked along the Via Dolorosa with a group of Christians from Birmingham. With each step, I tried to imagine what the path to the cross was like for Jesus and for those who loved him. The Via Dolorosa demonstrates the worst of humanity ~ that we turn to hate and violence more than love and forgiveness.

Jesus' steps along this path are a guide for each and every one of us. With each step, Jesus paves a way forward for us, guiding us through life. On the Path to the Empty Tomb, we find a journey of spiritual transformation that provides us with life abundant. During this season of Lent, we invite you to walk with us along in the footsteps of Jesus.

## Lent and Easter

### 2015 Schedule

Lenten Morning Prayer	February 26, 7:30am
Lenten Morning Prayer	March 5, 7:30am
Lenten Morning Prayer	March 12, 7:30am
Lenten Morning Prayer	March 19, 7:30am
Lenten Morning Prayer	March 26, 7:30am
Palm Sunday Worship	March 29, 8:45am & 11:00am
Lenten Morning Prayer	April 2, 7:30am
Maundy Thursday Worship and Foot Washing	April 2, 6:30pm
Good Friday Worship	April 3, 6:30pm
Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast	April 4, 9:00am
Easter Sunday Worship	April 5, 8:45am & 11:00am



# News of the Week

## 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](mailto:megan.f.wise@gmail.com) or 978-2907.

## ROCK-A-THON AND SILENT AUCTION

Saturday, February 28th, the McCoy Adult Day Care Center will be hosting its annual fundraising event. This includes a Rock-a-thon and silent auction. This year's event will be held at Morgan United Methodist Church in Bessemer. The Bluff Park Rocking Team is already in training (you may have seen the video.) 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.

## ADVENT MORNING PRAYER

During the season of Advent, we gather together each Thursday morning at 7:30 am for a service of prayer. We invite you to join us in the Sanctuary as we prepare ourselves to meet the risen Christ on Easter Sunday.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Meridith and Ed Collari on the birth of a 7 lb. 13 oz. son, Colvin Henry Collari on February 11th.

## SPECIAL THANKS

The family of Luther Murphy would like to thank the wonderful church family at BPUMC who have served our family for over half a century and who have been very present in our lives over the last few months with cards and phone calls, continuous visits from Mike, Tom and Peter; constant prayers from so many members, a very delicious lunch on Thursday before Luther's service, and a very blessed service given by Mike and Tom. This church meant so much to our parents and we thank every one for being a loving, caring, uplifting congregation. We also thank Andrew for coordinating the video for us. Lisa Avant, Charlie Murphy and Linda Viljamaa.

## LITTLE IMAGINATIONS PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2015-16 school year has begun. If you, or someone you know, is looking for a wonderful preschool program for their little one, visit the website for more information about how to sign up for next fall.

[bluffparkumc.org/children/little-imaginations](http://bluffparkumc.org/children/little-imaginations)

## IN THE HOSPITAL...

Shirley White—Golden Living  
Joe White—Golden Living  
Charlotte Word—Brookwood  
Joe Cummings—St. Vincents



## ORGAN RECITAL

Sunday February 22

4:00pm

Reception Following the Performance

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 marks the 50th anniversary of Dr. Cook's first recital, which he played on this same organ when it was located at McCoy Methodist Church!

Bluff Park UMC purchased the organ when McCoy Methodist Church closed and refurbished and expanded it before installing it in the new sanctuary.

This recital is a fundraiser to support the ongoing maintenance of our organ. To make a donation, simply designate your contribution to the 'Organ Fund' and place it in the offering plate, bring it to the concert, or drop it off in the church office.

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**MISSION SUNDAY THIS WEEK!** This week we will have our mission Sunday. We will be working on a collection container to house our donations to Never Thirst. We will be collecting money for this organization through May. We may also work on our Silent Auction projects.

**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 at [Bluff-parkumc.org/childrens\\_ministries/preschool\\_pajama\\_party](http://Bluff-parkumc.org/childrens_ministries/preschool_pajama_party), or email [nursery@bpumc.org](mailto: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](mailto:nursery@bpumc.org) to find out how you can help. And don't forget your jammies!

**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 FABU-LOUS 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](mailto:kacibrasher@gmail.com) to get the registration process started.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

February 22	Mission Sunday
February 27	Preschool Pajama Party 6:00pm.
March 15	Church Wide Skate Party—5-7 Roller Motion
March 13-14	Exit 456
July 13-17	VBS "Everest"

## STUDENT MINISTRY

**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](mailto: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 22, 10:00am	Sunday School & Confirmation Class in the Youth Wing
Sunday, February 15, 4:00pm	Holy Ground Team Rehearsal
Sunday, February 15, 6:00pm	Bowling @ Vestavia Bowl (\$10 gets bowling + dinner)
Wednesday, February 25, 5:30pm	Hang Out Time in the Youth Hall & Gym
Wednesday, February 25, 6:30pm	Holy Ground Worship

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

### UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 26

THURSDAY MARCH 5

TUESDAY MARCH 10

**SHEPHERD'S CENTER – MYSTERY program???** Earlybird Fellowship at 9:30am.  
**SHEPHERD'S CENTER – "BONANZA" Bible Study** with Charlie Trucks.

Everyone invited

**MYSTERY DAY TRIP???** Fun and lunch...call Betty .

### APRIL EVENTS

Cooking Classes each Wednesday starting April 8th with Jon McClure, Author and Publisher of Alabama's Best Restaurants CookBook and maybe a surprise or two.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE STUDY WITH JIMMY CARTER, OUR 39TH PRESIDENT

Saturday June 6 – Sunday June 7. Maranatha Baptist Church, Plains, Ga. Tour his Museum, School, Family Home, Peanut Farm, plus a side trip to Andersonville. Overnight at the historical Windsor Hotel in Americus, Ga. Traveling by tour bus. Cost: \$220.00 includes everything but Saturday lunch

### Special Moment with Jesus

"O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever ." -Psalm 118:29



## Bluff Park United Methodist Church

733 Valley Street  
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(205) 822-0910

Address Service Requested

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U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
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### 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 February 22—February 28

### Sunday, February 22

8:45 am Morning Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Morning Worship Service  
4:00 pm Organ Recital  
5:00 pm Evening Worship Service

### Monday, February 23

9:00 am Men's Bible Study  
10:00 am UMW Hope-Love Circle  
10:00 am UMW Joy Circle  
6:30 pm UMW Friendship Circle

### Tuesday, February 24

9:30 am Becky Walker's Bible Study

### Wednesday, February 25

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

### Thursday, February 26

7:30 am Lenten Morning Prayer  
9:30 am Shepherd's Center  
6:30 pm Handbell Choir

### Friday, February 27

4:00 pm Preschool PJ Party  
5:00 pm Fisherman Class Dinner

### SUNDAY, February 22, 2015

8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship  
*"Letting Go"*  
(Scripture - Mark 8:31-38)  
Rev. Mike Holly

5:00pm Evening Worship Service  
Sam Vogt

### Lectionary Scripture Readings

Genesis 9:8-17  
Psalm 25:1-10  
1 Peter 3:18-22  
Mark 1:9-15

### SERVING SUNDAY

**Ushers**  
8:45 Montz 11:00 Lawson  
**Cross**  
8:45 Jonathan Kerns 11:00 Graham Coltrane  
**Acolytes**  
8:45 Lena Holly 11:00 Ruskin Gold  
**Greeters:** New Light  
**Communion Set-Up 5pm:**  
Lois Truss  
**Meals on Wheels February 25:**  
Adams/Pearson  
**Food Pantry March 4:**  
Kay Adams

### MIDWEEK MENU: February 25th

Lasagna, garlic bread, corn on the cob, baked chicken, baked potato, and salad bar. Chicken Fingers for the kids.

## Last Week's Record

February 15, 2015

Children/Youth	104/43
Morning /Evening Worship	502/
Weekly Operating Needs*	\$29,189.36
Operating Receipts	\$34,731.30
2015 Operating Budget*	\$1,517,847.00
Expected to Date*	\$189,175.00
Received to Date	\$184,324.67
New Members in 2015	5

### LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$1600.33
Received to Date	\$717,470.87

*\*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.