



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter April 12, 2015

www.BluffParkUMC.org



Looking out into the congregation on Easter Sunday, I was able to see a beautiful sight: families were reunited. Parents came into town to see their children and grandchildren. Adult children came to worship where they grew up, running through the halls of Bluff Park UMC when they were in the youth program. College students gathered into the parlor to reconnect and update one another on their lives. While the celebration of Easter is that Jesus rose from the dead and thus gives us new life and new paths, I will also glean from this past Easter the importance of community and relationships in our lives as people of faith.

One thing we have to remember is that our community and our relationships in that community do not happen in a void. We are influenced by all sorts of factors such as the neighborhood around us, the shared experiences we have had, and especially what kind of church we which we are a part. We are United Methodists, formed almost by accident by a group of college students in Oxford, England, as they sought to rejuvenate the Church of England and help it return to a more primitive faith.

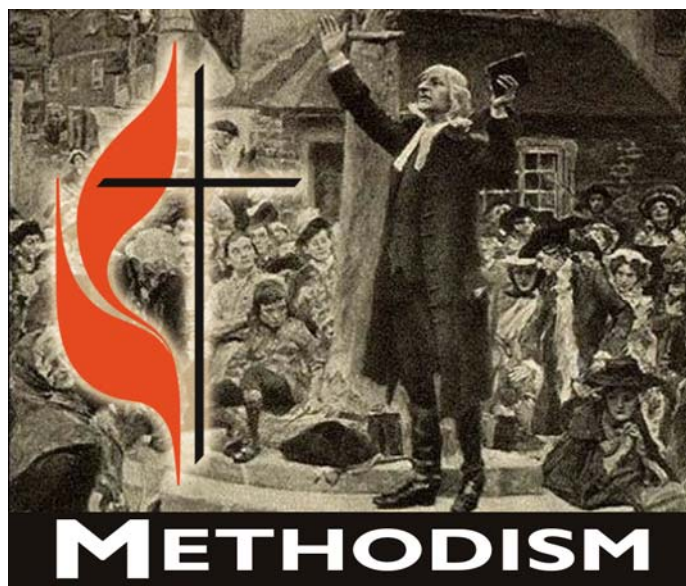
Now, that term “primitive faith” might seem odd to us (thinking that it has to do with Neanderthals!). What reformers like John and Charles Wesley meant by this term is that they wanted the church in their day to more closely resemble the church they read about in the Gospels and the Book of Acts in the New Testament. Over the next five weeks, we are going to explore what the Wesley brothers and their cohorts understood about the church as well as what they thought was important and essential about living out our faith as disciples. We hope you will come and learn more about the influence that the United Methodist Church has had on our church community as well as in your own lives.

Methodism Sermon Series

Over the past 40 days, we took a journey together on the path to the empty tomb. We reached the end of that path and met the risen Jesus on Easter Sunday. Over the next 5 weeks, we will turn our attention to what it means to be a Methodist.

The Methodist movement derives its inspiration from the life and teachings of John Wesley. It began as a revival within the 18th-century Church of England, and later became a separate denomination.

Through this new sermon series we will look at what Wesley had to say about Communion, how all things begin with grace, why our intellect is critical to our beliefs, the tension of free will versus predestination, the influence of Susanna Wesley, and the united nature of faith and works.



News of the Week

FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

On Sunday, April 26, at 11:00 am there will be a luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. All current food pantry volunteers, and those who want to volunteer, are invited. RSVP to Theresa Richerson at 637-4760 or theresaricherson@gmail.com

by April 20. If you need childcare please let us know.

LADIES DAY RETREAT

The Ladies Day Retreat is coming Saturday, May 2nd, from 9:00am-12:30pm. Purchase your ticket in the Narthex on Sundays or contact Betty Hottenstein.

UMW MISSION STUDY: ROMA OF EUROPE

You are invited to join the UMW on April 13th, from 10am-2pm in the Fellowship Hall to learn about the Roma people of Europe.

DAY OF SERVICE

Our Church Life Committee is organizing a work day to help out neighbors in Bluff Park who have spring cleaning needs in their homes and yards and need assistance to get them done. On, April 25th, from 8:00-11:00 am we'll meet at the church, receive work assignments, and then spread out in teams. Sign-up on the website at BluffParkUMC.org/dayofservice or call the office. **Do you know someone who needs help, please contact the office and let us know.**

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: May 10 and 31 and June 14, 21, and 28. Check with the office for other available dates. Please sign up in the main office or call (205) 822-0910.

THIS IS MY WAR, THIS IS MY WOUND...

April 15th and 22nd, BPUMC member Peter Kirchikov will be leading a special MidWeek history study in the church Parlor. This will be an exploration of the effects of war seen through the experiences of I. Z. Postalovsky, a military translator, interpreter, tank crew member, Master Sergeant and sharp shooter from 1942-1946. He is also the grandfather of Tosh, Maxim, and Ilya Kirchikov.



STOP HUNGER NOW.

On April 13th and 14th, Bluff Park UMC will join with several other churches, schools, and civic organizations from the Vestavia/Hoover area to pack 250,000 nutritious meals to be sent overseas to relieve hunger. This project will be carried out in conjunction with Stop Hunger Now, an organization dedicated to eradicating world hunger.

We are encouraging groups from the church to volunteer together, but *each individual must register separately*. If you have any problems accessing the website to register, contact the church office for assistance. To sign-up as a volunteer visit:

BluffParkUMC.org/stophunger

KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY

April 16-19 a team from Bluff Park and other area churches will be headed to Donaldson Correctional Facility in West Jefferson County. We need your help in several ways. First for the cooks, please help by baking homemade cookies or brownies. Two dozen in gallon zip lock bags marked "Kairos". No fruit or powdered sugar on top. Please drop them off in the church office on Wednesday April 15 or bring them to the church dinner that night. Second, please sign up to pray during the Kairos weekend by going to the web site: wedkairos.org/Vigil.html. Lastly, please consider a monetary donation. \$5 buys a meal for a prisoner and \$25 buys the meals for his entire Kairos weekend. Please make checks out to "Kairos" and leave in the church office or bring to dinner on April 15.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Rebecca Mooney—St. Vincent's
Charlotte Word—Lakeshore
Bill Walker—Brookdale
Mark Adair—University
Olivia Howard—St. Vincent's
Elizabeth Bogart—University

Memorials

BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Luther Murphy by Larry and Wanda Richardson, Martha McLemore, Fred and Jane Stewart, Mr. and Mrs. William F Jones III
Chris Delionback by Martha Hastings
Reid Rogers by Martha Hastings
Walter K McAdory III by Libby Snow
William E Snow by Libby Snow
Butch Fadely by Xanthi Hahamis
George Stephens by Xanthi Hahamis
Venetia Cocoris James by Xanthi Hahamis
Bernie Thompson by Xanthi Hahamis, Randy and Judy Smith
Martha Dillard by Peggy and Harry Hill
FOOD PANTRY
Walter Valentine by Peggy Wyatt
Bernie Thompson by Bobbie Tohill, Bobbie Tohill
Ruby Kincaid Ryder by David and Jeannie Jenkins
Luther Murphy by Evelyn Lawrence

MISSIONS

Luther Murphy by Wayne and Jackie Walton, Bret Cloud, Randy and Judy Smith

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Bernie Thompson by Elsie Medders

Jim Northington by Elsie Medders

Luther Murphy by Elsie Medders

VISTOR HARBOR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Luther Murphy by Odessa Harbor, Alanna Ralph

Bernie Thompson by Odessa Harbor, Alanna Ralph

Honorariums

BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Frank Love by Olivia and Jim Howard

PASTORS DISCRETIONARY FUND

The Canterbury Class by JB and Frances Thrasher

FOOD PANTRY

Jim Perry by Pony Thompson

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

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS WEEK: This week we will begin our unit on the Seven Helpers. We will play a game where all the kids line up with a balloon in between them. We will then, without using our hands, work together to make it down the hall without letting any of the balloons drop. This game will teach us how we depend on other's help to reach our goals. Plus it will be hilarious to watch.

4TH/5TH FELLOWSHIP The end of the year is fast approaching. There will be an end of the year party on April 29th. All current 4th and 5th graders will be invited. This event will occur during mid-week. More details coming soon!

MAY 6TH we will have a special cross over event for 3rd/4th/and 5th. Charlotte McCrary will be having a special cooking class just for them. After, we will head down to Holy Ground to have mid-week with the youth.

OFF CAMPUS MISSION PROJECT- On April 18th we will have our first off-campus mission project. Ms Kaci and Ms Melissa will take 15 elementary kiddos to Camp Sumatanga to do some sprucing up for their Summer seasons. Sumatanga will provide lunch and open some activities for us as a thank you. If you would like to have your child participate, please email Ms Melissa at mhendon@bpumc.org to let her know. We will leave BPUMC by 8:30 and will return by 3:30. Parents are also invited and can ride the bus if room is available. *The last day to register for this event will be April 13th.*

VBS-EVEREST IS COMING! Let's get excited!! VBS is July 13th-17th and will be 8:30am-12:30pm. Recruitment for volunteers has already begun. Please contact mhendon@bpumc.org to sign up. We need teachers, team leaders, snack helpers, sign-in/out help, decorating help, prep help... We have a job for everyone and every schedule! Go to <http://vols.pt/fNszBT> to sign up. NEW this year- Registration will be online ONLY. Go to BluffParkumc.org/VBS2015 to register. Registration opens April 6th! Thank you to Sarah Chavez and Lori Beasley for being directors this year!

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 12 First Week of the "Seven Helpers"
April 13 Last Day to register for Off-Mission Project
April 15 MidWeek
April 18 Off-Campus Mission Project

April 25 Church Wide Mission Project
April 26 Children's Musical 5pm
April 29 Midweek end of year festivities
May 6 3rd/4th/5th crossover event

May 6 Elementary MidWeek on Holy Ground
July 13-17 VBS "Everest"

STUDENT MINISTRY

Download our New Mobile Phone App - Youth Wing. We now have a new tool for parents and students to stay informed about what's going on and connect to each other. Just go to your phone's app store and search for Youth Wing. You'll be able to scroll through youth events up to six months in advance and instantly get all the details you need without searching for old emails or newsletters. Plus you can check out our social presence on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. There are still edits to be made to improve this, so be patient. Eventually we'll have weekly summer devotions for students who are traveling, PLUS sign up and payment links. Youth Wing is available for FREE on both iOS/Apple and Android/Google devices such as phones and tablets.)

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE THIS SPRING. What better way to share the Good News of Jesus' resurrection than by serving others? We have two service opportunities next month for students and their families:

Stop Hunger Now—You can sign up for morning, afternoon and evening shifts. Want to serve as a family? With parental supervision, children as young as four years old can help. See details in the news of the week. To serve alongside Bart Styes, volunteer for Shifts 10 and 11, on Tuesday, April 14, from 4:00-7:30pm.

Day of Service—Were joining our church family on April 25th, from 8:00-11:00am to help our neighbors needing assistance with Spring chores around the house. See news of the week for details.

SAVE THESE DATES: *Evening of Worship*, April 19, *Senior Recognition Sunday*, May 17, *Band Tour: Sunday-Wednesday*, June 7-10, *MS Mission Trip: Sunday-Friday*, June 21-26, *ASP Mission Trip: Sunday-Saturday*, July 5-11, *Beach Retreat: Friday-Monday*, July 31-Aug 3.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 12, 10:00am
Sunday, April 12, 4:00pm
Sunday, April 12, 5:30pm
Sunday, April 12, 6:00pm
Wednesday, April 15, 4:30pm
Wednesday, April 15, 5:30pm
Wednesday, April 15, 6:30pm
Sunday, April 19, 10:00am
Sunday, April 19, 5:00pm

Sunday School & Confirmation Class in the Youth Wing
Holy Ground Team Rehearsal
Snack Supper in the Fellowship Hall
Hunger Games
Holy Ground Team Rehearsal
Hang Out Time in the Youth Wing & Gym
Holy Ground Worship in the Youth Wing
Sunday School & Confirmation Class in the Youth Wing
Evening of Praise & Worship in the Chapel (help us raise funds for our summer worship tour)

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY APRIL 14

STOP HUNGER NOW-Vestavia UMC 9:00-11:30. We will join other volunteers from our area to help pack 250,000 meals to be sent overseas to relieve hunger-returning to BPUMC for lunch. Call Betty.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 15

COOKING CLASS with Marvin Broome Something good will be cooking - ??? - come see.

THURSDAY APRIL 16

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Shanna, Town Village everyone Invited.

SATURDAY MAY 2

LADIES DAY RETREAT - 9:00-12:30pm. Tablesapes, Breakfast Bunch, Worship, Music, Bible Study with Becky Walker, Jamie Davis, Doreen Duley and Delores Hydock. Tickets \$10.00.

SUNDAY SCHOOL WITH JIMMY CARTER, OUR 39TH PRESIDENT

Saturday June 6 - Sunday 7 Maranatha Baptist Church, Plains, Ga.

Traveling by tour bus - cost: \$220.00pp includes overnight at the Historical Windsor Hotel in Americus, Ga, tours with step-on guides, transportation, all meals except Saturday lunch and a few surprises Everyone invited - call Betty.



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
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Pastors

Mike Holly, mholly@bpumc.org, ext. 104

Peter von Herrmann, 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

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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 April 12—April 18

Sunday, April 12—Sunday

8:30 am-12:30 pm Directory Pick-Up
8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
7:00 pm ISN'T Bible Study

Monday, April 13

9:00 am Stop Hunger Now
9:00 am Senior Outing
10:00 am Men's Bible Study
10:00 am UMW Roma Mission Study
10:00 am Prayer Shawl

Tuesday, April 14

8:30 am Stop Hunger Now
8:30 am Maintenance
9:30 am Becky Walker's Bible Study
6:00 pm Under the Bridge

Wednesday, April 15

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

Thursday, April 16

9:30 am Shepherd's Center

SUNDAY, April 12, 2015

8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship

"METHODISM: Communion

(Scripture - 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

Rev. Mike Holly

5:00pm Evening Worship Service

Rev. Peter von Herrmann

Lectionary Scripture Readings

Acts 4:32-35

Psalms 133

1 John 1:1-2:2

John 20:19-31

SERVING SUNDAY

Ushers

8:45 Adams 11:00 Alley

Cross

8:45 TBD 11:00 Mikey Lagan

Acolytes

8:45 Emma Patton 11:00 Jackson Boyd

Greeters: Canterbury

Communion Set-Up 5pm:

Janet and Charlie Trucks

Meals on Wheels April 15: White
Food Pantry May 6: Becky McCrary

MIDWEEK MENU: April 15th

Fried fish, scalloped potatoes, baked beans,
baked chicken, baked potato, and salad bar.
Corn dogs for the kids.

Last Week's Record

April 5, 2015

Children	108
Morning Worship	1058
Operating Receipts	\$40,122.00
Received to Date	\$405,133.84
New Members in 2015	5

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$2,005.00
Received to Date	\$736,782.87

**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.