



# BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226  
205.822.0910

*Newsletter May 10, 2015*

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



**W**e'll be concluding our study on Methodism this Sunday, May 10th, as we turn our attention to the mother who raised two of the main leaders in the Methodist movement. Susanna Wesley was the wife of Samuel Wesley who was a priest in the Church of England. It is said that "...although she never preached a sermon or published a book or founded a church, (she) is known as the Mother of Methodism. Why? Because two of her sons, John Wesley and Charles Wesley, as children consciously or unconsciously will, applied the example and teachings and circumstances of their home life."

Susanna was the primary source of her children's education. She ran a tight ship and made sure that they used proper speech at home and studied more than they played. She practiced daily devotions throughout her life. She would conduct family worship services each Sunday where they would sing a psalm and Susanna would read a sermon. She really encouraged her children to be engaged in the faith and to grow in their service to others. She wanted her children to understand that faith that is alive and healthy is lived out in service and love to others in good works. And that will be the topic for us this Sunday in worship: the relationship between faith and good works through the lens of Susanna Wesley.

This Mother's Day, we invite you to see the influence a mother has on her children as well as how the little lessons throughout the raising of a child can lead to life-shaping and world-changing results.

*Mike*

## **Transform Lives This Summer**

Imagine the peace of mind that comes from knowing you no longer have to navigate your child's wheel chair around a hole in the floor, or worry whether today is the day that the deck at your front door will finally collapse. Thanks to the efforts of students and adults from Bluff Park over the past eight years, dozens of people in rural Appalachia no longer have to worry about those problems. We want you to join the effort this summer.

Each year volunteers from our student ministry travel to east Tennessee to serve families and individuals in need. We are looking for adults over the age of 25 who would like to join us July 5-11. You do not have to be the parent of a student to participate, and the more adults we have the more students we can bring.

This year we have been asked to help winterize homes. The past winter was especially hard on families living in drafty and poorly insulated homes. Help us bring more student work teams by volunteering to be an adult leader.

To learn more about getting involved, contact Bart Styes at (205) 790-1803 or email [barts@bpumc.org](mailto:barts@bpumc.org)



**2015 Appalachia Service Project Volunteers at Work**

# News of the Week

## A VERY SPECIAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Mark your calendar. On June 7th at 5pm we will have our annual Ice Cream Social in the Fellowship Hall. This year's event is going to be a special time for us as a church family to gather with the von Herrmanns and wish them well as Peter leaves to take on his new role as the pastor of Center Point First United Methodist Church.

## HABITAT BUILDING BLITZ REPORT

On May 1st and 2nd, 13 people from Bluff Park UMC donated 104 volunteer hours building homes in Clay, Alabama. Thanks to John Irwin and Tom Duley for coordinating this effort.

## BECOME A CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER

The Children's Ministry (Preschool-5th grade) is recruiting Sunday school teachers for the coming school year (August 2015-May 2016). They are also in need of volunteers for Children's Church during the 8:45 and 11:00 worship services. If you are interested in volunteering in either of these settings, please contact Melissa Hendon at mhendon@bpumc.org.

## BUNDLES OF HOPE DIAPER BANK

Last October ladies from Mountain Chapel UMC wanted to help families with diaper need in the Birmingham area. Bundles of Hope Diaper Bank began from their commitment to help meet this need. The mission is to raise community awareness and provide

families experiencing financial hardship with an adequate and reliable supply of diapers free of charge. In just 2 short months, over 6000 diapers were donated by church members to meet the needs of families screened by the United Way Community Food Bank. Come to dinner and hear their story and see what we can do to help with this timely issue. Monday, May 18, 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall. RSVP to Sylvia Sumners by May 12. 824-9902 or ssumners@bellsouth.net



## Mother's Day

We wish all of the mothers at Bluff Park United Methodist Church a very happy Mother's Day. Sunday morning we will have carnations for all the mothers attending worship with us.

## VETERANS MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

Bluff Park UMC is in the early planning stage of a new ministry reaching out to War on Terror Veterans (WOTV). While we will always embrace everyone as a guest, our journey to provide a Promise Home for autistic adults has proven our willingness to be a safe haven of hope, love, and compassion for those with unique needs. Our War on Terror Veterans are a group who need such special attention. We are looking for members of the congregation interested in helping

"birth" this new community outreach program to welcome all veterans—specially those with physical or invisible wounds. If you are interested in learning more about this new ministry opportunity, please contact Stretch Dunn by email (dunnst@bellsouth.net) and leave the phone number you wish to be contacted on so he can follow-up with you.

## IN THE HOSPITAL...

Anne Travis—St. Vincent's

## Memorials

BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Doyle Shaw by Peggy Ogilvie, Sue Noto, Laura Boren, Wayne and Jackie Walton, Elvine K. Fowler  
Faye Sims by Stan and Jane Shepherd  
Luther Murphy by Dan and Carol Cartledge  
Bill White by James and Patricia Andrews  
Francoise Yoe Schneider by Xanthi Hahamis  
Edith Helen Wade (Hinkle) by Xanthi Hahamis  
FOOD PANTRY  
Bill White by James and Patricia Andrews  
YOUTH MINISTRY  
Luther Murphy by Dan and Carol Cartledge  
Bill White by James and Patricia Andrews  
MISSIONS  
Luther Murphy by Betty Margaret Elliott

## MUSIC FUND

Frank Love by The James L. Roberson Family  
EASTER LOVE OFFERING  
Michael Thompson by Pony Thompson

## Honorariums

## FOOD PANTRY

Ryan and Judy Gibson by Pony Thompson

## CHOIR

Choir by Paula and Curtis Thompson

## MISSIONS

Olivia Howard by Leonette Slay

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

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!** We need your kid's help. This Sunday (5/10) during the children's moment and after the service we will be passing out flowers to all the women in our church. We need each child to grab a handful and help us to make our Mom's happy.

**VBS 2015 "EVEREST!" WE NEED YOUR HELP TO REACH THE TOP!** With a 5 member leadership team and an increased budget this year's VBS will be the best we've ever had! 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! Training videos for most positions!

**LOOKING AHEAD TO 2015/2016.** Recruitment for Elementary and Preschool Sunday School is under way. If you would like to volunteer please go to <http://vols.pt/PFzJ4t> to sign up. Thank you for your help!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS WEEK:** This week we will continue our Unit on "Pentecost." This week we will literally be drawing a connection between a clip from "The Empire Strikes Back" and the Pentecost. One of the questions we will ask, "What is the Force for Christians." Thank you to the "New Light Class" for leading!

**4K GRADUATION TO THE THIRD FLOOR WILL BE MAY 31ST.** 4K Parents and kids will meet in the 4K Sunday School classroom at 9:50am. They will be taken on a tour of the third floor where they will see a sample of our Science, Art, and Cooking lessons. They will also go over the sign-in process and receive a "goodie bag" from the store. After the tour is over 4K (rising kindergarten) kids will be invited to attend Sunday School on the third floor starting the following Sunday June 7th. They may also choose to join the elementary floor for Sunday School at any time during the Summer but will be officially promoted on August 16th.

**LET'S GO TO CAMP!** This year BPUMC will provide free transportation to those rising 1st-3rd graders who would like to attend Day Camp at Sumatanga. The week will be June 8th-12th, this is "Day Camp 1." The Camp last from 9am-5pm. Meet times TBA. You will need to register you kids for camp through Sumatanga at <http://www.sumatanga.org/2015-camper-registration-information.html>. Once you have registered and paid, you send Melissa an email at [mhendon@bpumc.org](mailto:mhendon@bpumc.org) to request transportation.

**THE PRESCHOOL SPLASH PARTY IS ALMOST HERE!** It is June 9th at 10am-12pm. All preschoolers and their families are invited. Bring a chair and join us for some popsicles, snow cones, and fun on the playground. To register just go to: <http://bluffparkumc.org/children/preschool-splash-party/>. Or, you can email Ms Marcie at [nursery@boumc.org](mailto:nursery@boumc.org).

**VBS 2015-EVEREST IS COMING!** Let's get excited!! VBS is July 13th-17th and will be 8:30am-12:30pm. *NEW this year- Registration will be online ONLY.* Go to [BluffParkumc.org/VBS2015](http://BluffParkumc.org/VBS2015) to register! Cost is \$10 per child for up to two children. Three or more children is just a flat \$25 family rate. Payment is due the first day of the event.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

May 10	Second Week of Pentecost	May 31	5th Grade to start worship with the youth
May 10	2nd-5th grade to pass out a Mother's Day surprise	June 9	Preschool Splash Party!
May 31	4K Graduation to the Third Floor	July 13-17	VBS "Everest"

## STUDENT MINISTRY

**MAY STUDENT MINISTRY UPDATE.** The month of May presents unique opportunities for students to celebrate time with their families on Mother's Day and over Memorial Day Weekend but also includes the added stress of lots of tournaments and recitals, exams and graduation exercises. We will continue to have Sunday School as we do year-round. But we will take a break from Sunday evening fellowship activities until June and from Holy Ground Worship on Wednesday nights until September. Our student ministry team will spend this time without programming to prepare for our jam-packed summer calendar.

**SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY IS COMING SOON.** We will recognize our graduating high school seniors on Sunday, May 17th with a breakfast in the fellowship hall at 9:30am and during worship at 11am. Make sure that your student is included in our program by contacting Becky McCrary at [mccrary.becky@gmail.com](mailto:mccrary.becky@gmail.com) if you have not yet confirmed your participation.

**PICK UP YOUR SUMMER CALENDAR.** There's so much going on in June, July and August. The Ice Cream Social, Band Tour, Mission Trips, Magic City Tribes, Beach Retreat and more. Be sure to pick up your four-page, color-coded Student Ministry Calendar in the Youth Wing so you don't miss a thing.

**SAVE THESE DATES:** *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, May 10, 10:00am	Sunday School in the Youth Wing No Afternoon/Evening Youth Programing on Mother's Day
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## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**THURSDAY MAY 14**  
**SAT-SUN JUNE 6-7**

**SHEPHERD'S CENTER** - Niki Sepsas, slide presentation.  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL** with Jimmy Carter, our 39th President Plains, Ga. Over-night at the Historical Windsor Hotel In Americus, Ga. Join us for a week-end with the Carter Family. Cost: \$220.00pp. Includes everything but Saturday lunch. Payment due Friday 15. Call Betty.

**TUESDAY JULY 14**

**TUPELO, MS** - Elvis's Hometown Tour. Church, School, Hardware Store, Auto Museum and much more. Cost: \$80.00pp includes Breakfast, Lunch, Admissions, Tour Guide, and Bus.

**AUGUST 30-SEPTEMBER 5**

**MACKINAC ISLAND** - A week of Fun, Excitement, Tours, Ferry Rides, and Surprises. Cost: \$950pp with a \$150 deposit. Call Betty.

### SPECIAL THANKS

Thank you to our ladies that attended our Ladies Day Retreat - what a wonderful time we had with Frances, Becky, Jamie, Betsy, Sally, Doreen and Delores. Special thanks to Marvin for our breakfast and to Ellen Finley and Jan Bailey for the beautiful table decorations and Joan Davis for preparing Communion.



## Bluff Park United Methodist Church

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

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
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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  
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**Director of Children's Ministries**, ext. 105  
Stanley Davidson, sdavidson@bpumc.org  
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Joe Pitard, jpitard@bpumc.org  
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Catherine Ward, cward@bpumc.org  
**Director of Worship Music**,  
Lonnie Parsons  
**Organist**,  
Jamie Davis  
**Preschool Director**,  
Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org



## The Week of May 10—May 16

### Sunday, May 10—Mother's Day

8:45 am Morning Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Morning Worship Service  
5:00 pm Evening Worship  
7:00 pm ISN'T Bible Study

### Monday, May 11

9:00 am Men's Bible Study  
10:00 am Prayer Shawl  
6:00 pm UMW Board Meeting

### Tuesday, May 12

7:00 am Becky Walker's Bible Study  
8:30 am Maintenance  
6:00 pm Under the Bridge  
6:30 pm Building Committee

### Wednesday, May 13

5:30 pm Disciple 1  
6:00 pm Men's Chorus  
6:30 pm Choir

### Thursday, May 14

9:30 am Shepherd's Center

### Friday, May 15

10:30 am Preschool Graduation

### SUNDAY, May 10, 2015

8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship  
*"METHODISM: A Mother's Influence"*  
(Scripture - James 2:14-26)  
Rev. Mike Holly

5:00pm Evening Worship Service  
Rev. Peter von Herrmann

### Lectionary Scripture Readings

Acts 10:44-48  
Psalm 98  
1 John 5:1-6  
John 15:9-17

### SERVING SUNDAY

**Ushers**  
8:45 Nelson 11:00 Dover  
**Cross**  
8:45 Jonathan Kerns 11:00 Emily Toth  
**Acolytes**  
8:45 Will Thompson 11:00 Andrew Pitts  
**Greeters:** Friendship  
**Communion Set-Up 5pm:**  
Janet and Charlie Trucks  
**Meals on Wheels May 13:** Thomas  
**Food Pantry April 3:** Julie Adams

## Last Week's Record

May 3, 2015

Children/Youth	77/58
Morning/Evening Worship	436/26
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$26,673.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$26,716.00
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,386,978.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$480,114.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$502,298.66
New Members in 2015	9

### LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$1,935.00
Received to Date	\$751,634.87

**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.