



# BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226  
205.822.0910

*Newsletter May 24, 2015*

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



Let me tell you what kind of person Rev. Peter von Herrmann is. When I first arrived at Bluff Park UMC, he voluntarily jumped into action and took over a couple of major areas of ministry that the wonderful Rev. Reid Crotty had previously covered, so that I could get to know our church and its wonderful people. Peter made sure that those areas were covered so that I could go and visit Sunday school classes, so that I could meet with church leaders, and so that I had time to visit people in the hospitals. He has served in a myriad of ways at Bluff Park as a sort of “jack of all trades” pastor, and we are thankful for his ministry here. We will miss Peter, Amanda and their children, but we are confident that God will use them in His kingdom and in the Center Point United Methodist Church.

Now, let me tell you about our brand new associate pastor, Rev. Angela Martin. One day, I called Angela and asked if she would be interested in visiting some of our church members in an independent living facility here in Birmingham. Even though her time with us had not started, Angela jumped in and joined Rev. Tom Duley and I on the lunch visit. In that first visit, it was clear that Angela is a person of deep faith and with gifts for loving and serving others. I am very excited about her ministry here at Bluff Park!

This is a time of transition for our congregation and in times of transition we experience a range of emotions. We have sadness. We have excitement, and we have hope. What is promised to each and every one of us is that God walks with us in all of our transitions. God empowers us to navigate change with courage and to patiently wait for what will be.

If we are really honest about it, we are always in transition. That is why the Scriptures encourage us to continually trust in the very God who walks beside us through it all.

## MEMORIAL DAY

"Memorial Day is an opportunity to pause and **reflect** on the **sacrifices** of the more than one million Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, Airmen/Airwomen, and Coast Guardsmen/Coast Guardswomen who have made the ultimate sacrifice to **secure** our **freedoms**."

—General Norton Schwartz



# News of the Week

## BLOOD DRIVE

On Sunday, May 24th, from 7:30am-12:30pm, we will host a Blood Drive in the gym. Our goal is to collect 30 units of blood. Please make plans to share the gift of life! You can make an appointment to donate by visiting the Red Cross website: [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and use the keyword BPUMC.

## WE DID IT AGAIN!

The annual spring planting faced possible rain and a delayed flower delivery... but it happened! Many thanks to Julie Adams, Jimmy Ashworth and his brother-in-law Wayne Hamlin, Frances Bellows, Cathy Braswell, Patsy and Bob Cummings, Joan Davis, Lynn Jackson, Evelyn Lawrence, Jan Rogers, and Thelma Stichweh. Thank you for being there, for all your good ideas, and for working so hard. You are wonderful!

-Wayne Freeman

## CAR WASH FUNDRAISER

Bring your dirty car to church on May 31, and our youth will redeem it with a little soap and water. They will be setup in the parking lot by the youth wing. Proceeds from the car wash help pay for summer youth trips.

## 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](mailto:dunnst@bellsouth.net)) and leave the phone number you wish to be contacted on so he can follow-up with you.



## Ice Cream Social

Special Farewell Event for the  
von Herrmanns  
June 7th, 2015 @5pm

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.

## HAVE YOU SEEN THE ADVENT WREATH?

While doing some recent house-keeping, it was discovered that the Advent Wreath has been mislaid. If you know where it is, please contact the church office.

## SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION...

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Dorothy 'Dot' Copeland who passed away on Wednesday, May 13th. Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.

## SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION...

Our sympathy is extended to Susan Cummings on the death of her husband Joe who passed away on Sunday May 10th. Please keep her and her family in your thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.

## IN THE HOSPITAL...

Ann Travis—Lakeshore  
Gaile Ketchersid—Aspire Rehab

## DISTANT, BUT NOT DISCONNECTED!

Memorial Day marks the traditional beginning of the summer season. Weekends will soon be filled with cookouts, trips to the lake, and vacations. Even though you might find yourself away from home on Sundays, you don't have to be disconnected from your church family. Every week we post the Sunday sermon audios and a videos on the church website. You can listen in the car or watch on your tablet and stay connected. You can keep up with the life of the church through our Facebook page and by reading the weekly newsletter on our website.



*"I am in South Korea now...I enjoy your sermons that are posted on the church website. They are a good way for me to start my Monday mornings!"*

~Tim Mosley

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**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 celebrate school being out with games and refreshments. Parents are invited to join us if they wish.

**NEVERTHIRST-** This Sunday (May 24th) will be the last Sunday to bring in all your donations for NEVERTHIRST. Thank you to all the kids that helped make this happen!

**FIELD TRIPS ARE BACK!** We will be going to a movie, to eat Pizza, and bowling on June 10th, and the Springville Splash Pad on June 24th. Cost is \$30 per child. Drop off begins at 7:30am, pick up ends at 5:30pm. Email Melissa at [mhendon@bpumc.org](mailto:mhendon@bpumc.org) if you would like to register. The field trips are for Rising 1st-6th grades.

**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 your 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@bpumc.org](mailto:nursery@bpumc.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 24	School's Out! Party	June 7	Movie and Popcorn Day Movie Title "TBA"	June 14	Lesson 2 Kidmo
May 31	4K Graduation to the Third Floor	June 8	First Day of Day Camp at Sumatanga	June 21	Father's Day Project
May 31	5th Grade to start worship with the youth	June 9	Preschool Splash Party!	June 24	Field Trip!
May 31	Lesson 1 Kidmo	June 10	Field Trip!	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.

**CAR WASH FUNDRAISER, SUNDAY, MAY 31, 11AM-3PM.** We'll be in the youth parking lot on Sunday, May 31 from 11am to 3pm raising funds for summer trips through a car wash. Students: Be sure to come to church that morning with a change of clothes. We'll provide lunch and sunscreen.

**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:** *Youth Carwash Fundraiser*, May 31, *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 24, 10:00am  
Sunday School in the Youth Wing  
No Afternoon/Evening Activities

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

### UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY MAY 28

TUESDAY JUNE 2

SAT-SUN JUNE 6-7

TUESDAY JUNE 9

WEDNESDAY JULY 1

TUESDAY JULY 14

**SHEPHERD'S CENTER - MYSTERY???**

**CHURCH TOUR** And Mystery Luncheon.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** with Jimmy Carter, our 39th President. A week-end in Plains, Ga with the Carter Family.

**CROSSVILLE, TN** Cumberland Playhouse - Ring-of-Fire Johnny Cash story of love, faith, struggle, success.

**LUNCHEON BOAT CRUISE**—Join us on the Montgomery Harriott II.

Traveling by tour bus. \$20pp-\$10pp for Shepherd's Center members.

Call Betty.

**TUPELO, MS - Elvis's Hometown Tour.** Cost: \$80.00pp.

**MACKINAC CITY and MACKINAC ISLAND**

August 30-September 5

A week of Fun, Excitement, Tours, Ferry Rides, and lots of Surprises. Cost: \$975pp double. Call Betty.

"For the word of the Lord is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness." Psalm 33:4





## Bluff Park United Methodist Church

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

Address Service Requested

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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 Children's Ministries**, ext. 105  
Stanley Davidson, sdavidson@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 May 24—May 30

### Sunday, May 24

7:30am-12:30pm Blood Drive in Gym  
8:45 am Morning Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Morning Worship Service

### Monday, May 25

**Office Closed for Memorial Day Holiday**

### Wednesday, May 27

6:00 pm Men's Chorus  
6:30 pm Choir

### Thursday, May 28

9:30 am Shepherd's Center

### SUNDAY, May 24, 2015

8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship

*"The Power of Memory and Hope"*

(Scripture - Romans 8:22-27)

Rev. Mike Holly

**No Evening Worship Service**

### Lectionary Scripture Readings

Acts 2:1-21

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Romans 8:22-27

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

### SERVING SUNDAY

#### Ushers

8:45 Chatterton 11:00 Youth

#### Cross

8:45 TBA 11:00 TBA

#### Acolytes

8:45 Ethan McGriff 11:00 Preston Scott

**Greeters:** New Light

**Meals on Wheels May 20:** McCrary

**Food Pantry June 3:** Penny Burns

## Last Week's Record

May 17, 2015

Children	57
Morning/Evening Worship	454/22
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$26,673.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$19,808.00
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,386,978.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$533,460.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$554,529.29
New Members in 2015	9

### LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$1,372.00
Received to Date	\$756,635.20

**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.