



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter July 12, 2015

www.BluffParkUMC.org



As we celebrated July 4th this past weekend, I was reminded of all the troubles we have faced as a nation. Turbulent years, separated by times of plenty, peace and opulence. Every now and then, pain, sorrow, and loss enter into our national story, and we as a people are left to mourn and reflect and finally seek a way forward. From the evil of slavery we, regrettably slowly, moved forward toward equality. From the financial loss of the thirties, we learned to place checks and balances on financial institutions and found ways to live more sensibly, and from the pain of terrorism, we sought to bond together in unity.

However, we as a nation have long term memory loss. We fall back into problems as we forget the lessons of the past. People of faith can be a tremendous asset during troubling times as we are a people formed by corporate memories set in place for millennia. We are trained to remember the words of Scripture and the stories of Jesus through Holy Communion and Baptism. We are, also, a people of peace and mercy. We seek to bring justice, hope and love to all people. My prayer is that the Church may always remember that we are here for a reason: to remind the nation and the world about God's love.

Vision Sharing Meeting

Since late January, a team of wonderful volunteers from our church has been working on a new vision statement for our church. We have been working prayerfully to consider the nature of who we are as a congregation and why we exist. We talked about the needs of the community around us and how we hoped to be both a blessing to the community and a means by which people could find the kind of life we all experience through Jesus Christ.

Now that we have finished the first stage of our work, we are ready to share this new vision with the church and with the Board of Stewards. The Board of Stewards will vote on this vision on July 26th at 4:00 pm. Mike Holly will lead a special meeting to talk through the vision during the Sunday School hour on Sunday, July 19th, in the Fellowship Hall. Anyone who would like to know more is invited and we ask that all of you pray for this process as we renew our identity in and our relationship with God as a congregation!

New Members



Wendell and Joan Andrews

News of the Week

NEW MEMBER CLASS

For anyone interested in becoming a member at Bluff Park UMC, we are having a new member class on Sunday, July 12th at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall. Come and visit with our new associate pastor, Rev. Angela Martin, as well as with our senior pastor, Rev. Mike Holly. Coffee will be served and we will share with you a little about our church and about each pastor. If you're interested in getting more involved in the church, or in a Sunday School class, or even in joining our congregation, this is a great way to find out more about the possible next steps.

BUNDLES OF HOPE DIAPER DRIVE

During the month of July, Bluff Park United Methodist Women are partnering with Bundles of Hope to provide diapers for families experiencing financial hardship. You can help by donating disposable diapers, sizes newborn - 6, or making a financial contribution. Diapers should be placed in designated bins. For financial contributions, make checks payable to "Bundles of Hope", and place them in the offering plate or leave them in the church office.

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: July 26, August 16 and 23, and September 6 and 13. Check with the office for other available dates. Please sign up in the main office or call (205) 822-0910.

IT'S WATERMELON TIME!

Nothing says summer like watermelon on a hot afternoon. On Wednesday, July 15th, there will be free watermelons available outside the church office on a first-come-first-serve basis. They are courtesy of 'The Vegetable Man!'

BPUMC KID'S GARDEN

If you have an elementary aged child who would enjoy working in the garden, join us on Mondays from 9-10am in the Kid's Garden to harvest, weigh, and record veggies; we'll also talk about soil, worms, bees, composting, day lilies, birds and more. Bring an adult. If you can't make it Mondays, join Olivia Howard on Thursdays from 5:30-6:30. Questions, call Julie Adams 822-6516 or Olivia Howard 942-4157.

STAY IN TOUCH

The summer season is filled with cookouts, weekends at the lake, and much needed vacations. When you are away from home on Sunday morning you can stay connected through our weekly sermons online on the church website. Audio and video recordings are published each week, and we have an extensive archive so you can find a favorite and listen again.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Durwood Freeman-Brookwood
Marilyn Williams-University
Louise White-Lakeshore

Memorials

BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Dot Copeland by Myra Gray, Bank of Tuscaloosa, Elsie Medders, Sally and James Johnson, Marshall and Joan Mezzell, Ellen Ferrell, John and Rebecca Cook
Dimple Sherman by M.J. Sherman, Elsie Medders, Marshall and Joan Mezzell, Evelyn Lawrence
Aubrey Baugh by Robert Lee and Shirley Thornburg, Joan Simmons
Laura Boren by Marshall and Joan Mezzell, Odessa Harbor, Alanna Ralph, Ellen Ferrell
Fred Teaford by Albert and Peggy Bruner
James Northington by Roberta Northington
PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND
Sam Reeder by Sally Holland
PASTORS DISCRETIONARY FUND
Ray Glaze by Wayne and Jackie Walton, Bill and Paulette Pearson, Employees of Southern Food Service Management, Diane Broome, Betsy Delionback, Diane and David Hazlett, Sylvia Thaggard, Elizabeth Davis
FOOD PANTRY
Aubrey Baugh by Jeff Andrews
Bobby Jo Ashworth by Leland and Katherine Ashworth
Ray Glaze by the Vitality Class, Julia Dunne, Sally Holland, Dianne and David Hazlett

YOUTH

Aubrey Baugh by Jeff Andrews
BUILDING FUND
Laura Boren by Myra Gray
Dimple Sherman by the Ladies Auxiliary of Concordia
NEVER THIRST
Sam Reeder by Andy and Ann Holder
IMAGINE NO MALARIA
Sam Reeder by the Covenant Class
FOOD PANTRY
Ray Glaze by Bickie Boozen

Honorariums

SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Evelyn Harper by Pony Thompson
CHILDREN'S FUND
Georgia Pearson by Amanda von Herrmann
FOOD PANTRY
The Faith Class by Amanda von Herrmann
Jimmie Ashworth by Leland and Katherine Ashworth
Mike Holly by Mahala McKinney
Tina Hardy by the Canterbury Class

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

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

VBS DECORATIONS NEEDED! We are looking for the following items to help us decorate the church for VBS: Hiking Rope, Sleeping Bags, Back Packs, Camping Lanterns, Hiking Boots, Hiking Poles, Shovels, Wood Crates, and Christmas Trees. If you have any of these items that you would like to lend us for the week, you can drop them off at the church office, Mr. Stanley's office, or Mrs. Melissa's office ASAP! Please just let us know what you have dropped off so that we can return it to you at the end of VBS. We appreciate your help!



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 (7/12) will be a VBS related Sunday School that encourages the children to become excited about Vacation Bible School! Next week (7/19) we will continue our summer Kidmo series with lesson 4: Caring for others!

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 12	VBS Related Sunday School
July 13-17	VBS "Everest"
July 19	Kidmo Lesson 4 Sunday School

STUDENT MINISTRY

DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP & KEEP UP WITH OUR FAST-MOVING SUMMER SCHEDULE.

There's so much going on in July and August. The ASP Mission Trip, Magic City Tribes, Beach Retreat and more. You can keep track of things via your smartphone or tablet by going to your app store and downloading our app. Just search the key words Youth Wing to find it. As well, be sure to pick up your four-page, color-coded Student Ministry Calendar in the Youth Wing so you don't miss a thing...

BEACH RETREAT REGISTRATION IS OPEN. We'll be taking our students to Laguna Christian Retreat again this year, from Friday, July 31st through Monday, August 3rd. The cost is \$175 and includes transportation, accommodations, most meals and a t-shirt. You can register by making a full or partial payment on our church website by clicking on the GIVING tab at the main page. This trip is open to all rising 6th graders through 2015 high school graduates.

GREAT JOB ASP MISSION TEAM! Our high school students returned on Saturday, July 11 from Washington County, Tennessee where they served for a week in rural Appalachia making repairs and winterizing homes. We are very grateful for our church family who made this trip possible through your gifts, service and prayers. God is good!

SAVE THESE DATES: Beach Retreat: Friday-Monday, July 31-Aug 3.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, July 12, 10:00am	Sunday School in the Youth Wing
Sunday, July 12, 5-7pm	VBS Training/Setup & Fellowship Supper
Monday-Friday, 8:30am-12:30pm	Vacation Bible School
Wednesday, July 15, 1pm	HS Lunch Bunch
Wednesday, July 15, 6-8pm	Magic City Tribes at Loch Haven Park (check-in starts at 5:30pm)

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY JULY 14

ELVIS' HOMETOWN TOUR - His Home, his Church, his School, his Hometown. Bus arrives at 6:30am departs at 7:00am. Come prepared for a day of fun, excitement and maybe a surprise or two. Bring a snack to share with 40 folks. water/cokes will be on the bus.

WEDNESDAY JULY 15

FINAL PAYMENT for our MACKINAC Trip...don't forget.

THURSDAY JULY 16

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - The fun starts at 9:30am with refreshments and catch-up time.

THURSDAY JULY 23

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Season's Performers will be here. Everyone invited.

THURSDAY JULY 30

SHEPHERD'S CENTER, Jenny Breland, St. Vincents', will present a program on COPD and Asthma.

MACKINAC CITY and MACKINAC ISLAND

August 30-September 5

Carriage Rides, Ferry Fides, Guided Tours, Grand Hotel, Fort Mackinac and much more.

SENIOR FUN DAY WITH MIKE, ANGELA and TOM

Friday September 25 - save the date - mark your calendar

A morning of fun, special guests, good food, good fellowship, lots of laughter and a few surprises. The fun starts at 10:00am.

SPECIAL MOMENT WITH JESUS:

"Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and shield. Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name."

Psalm 33:20,21



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Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
AUTO
BIRMINGHAM, AL
PERMIT NO. 1816

Pastors

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

Angela Martin, amartin@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

Director of Finance and Administration, ext. 117

Jason McCrory, jmcrrory@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 July 12—July 18

Sunday, July 12

8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
10:00 am New Members Class
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
5:00 pm VBS Volunteer Training
5:00 pm Evening Worship

Monday, July 13

8:30 am Vacation Bible School
10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
5:00 pm VBS Rally Night Meeting

Tuesday, July 14

8:30 am Vacation Bible School
8:30 am Maintenance
6:00 pm Under The Bridge

Wednesday, July 15

8:30 am Vacation Bible School
6:00 pm Men's Chorus
6:30 pm Choir

Thursday, July 16

8:30 am Vacation Bible School
9:30 am Shepherd's Center
6:30 pm Finance Committee

Friday, July 17

8:30 am Vacation Bible School

SUNDAY, July 12, 2015

8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship

"Destiny"

(Scripture - Ephesians 1:3-14)

Rev. Mike Holly

5:00pm Evening Worship Service

Rev. Angela Martin

Lectionary Scripture Readings

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19

Psalm 24

Ephesians 1:3-14

Mark 6:14-29

SERVING SUNDAY

Ushers

8:45 Nelson 11:00 Dover

Acolytes

8:45 Lauren Gates 11:00 Carolyn Hecklinski

Greeters: Canterbury

Communion Setup 5pm:

Janet and Charlie Trucks

Food Pantry August 5:

Theresa Richerson

Last Week's Record

July 5, 2015

Children	37
Morning Worship	500
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$26,673.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$54,214.
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,386,978.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$746,834
Contributions Received to Date	\$737,292.50
New Members in 2015	15

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013–December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$3050.000
Received to Date	\$771,073.87

**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.