



# BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226  
205.822.0910

Newsletter September 6, 2015

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



**O**n July 26, 2015, the Board of Stewards at Bluff Park UMC adopted the following purpose statement for our church.

*PURPOSE STATEMENT: Bluff Park United Methodist Church exists to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world around us. We seek to guide, develop, and nurture persons to deepen their faith and service to God through vibrant worship and dynamic opportunities for learning, growth, and life-giving mission.*

You will notice that our core purpose is to be a Church and a Church's main purpose is to make disciples of Jesus Christ. This is also the purpose of the United Methodist Church as a global entity. We are all instructed to do whatever is needed or necessary to help God reach and transform people.

Our church understands that people today desire to be active in their faith, not just instructed in their faith. And so, we will look at ways to help folks deepen their faith and discover the ways that they feel called to serve God and others. We also understand that people need venues for their exploration of faith and service and so, we will need to have: 1) vibrant worship, 2) dynamic opportunities for learning and growth, and finally 3) life-giving mission.

In next week's article, I will share with you the vision statement and the words that will accompany our church logo. May each and every one of you be blessed this holiday weekend.

*Mike*

## Baptism

On Sunday, September 13th, in both morning worship services, we will offer every worshiper the option of coming forward to remember their baptism as we discuss our identity as a child of God in worship. If you cannot actually remember your baptism, these services are a great way to reconnect with that graceful act and your subsequent profession of faith.

If you have not yet been baptized, this can be an opportunity for you to do so. In order for you to be baptized, you must talk with one of the pastors of the church. Feel free to contact Rev. Mike Holly at 822-0910 or at [mholly@bpumc.org](mailto:mholly@bpumc.org).



# News of the Week

## MIDWEEK MEETUPS BEGIN

Our Midweek Meetups kick off this week with Tailgate Night on September 9th. We'll have burgers and hotdogs. Come in your team colors, hang out, and have some fun with your church family.

## COVENANT BIBLE STUDY

Would you like to learn how to love God—and each other—better? Then join Becky Walker as she leads a unique Bible study focused on "Living" our relationships. The study is offered twice each week on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am (starting on September 15th) in the Fellowship Hall and Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm (starting September 9th) in the Friendship classroom. Call Becky for more information 987-0404 or 531-7237.

## PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

The pastor's Bible study returns on Wednesday, September 9th at 4:30pm. This weekly study meets in Hudson Hall and will focus on the Sermon on the Mount.

## NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS STARTING

Young professionals from Bluff Park UMC are starting a new Sunday school class meeting each week at 10:00 am. If you're a young adult, or young professional,



## Back to Church Sunday

Sunday, September 13th, will be a special day. We are asking every Sunday school class to encourage members to attend and have perfect attendance. Each class will have refreshments as they reconnect with each other after summer travels. For those who are not members of a Sunday school class, we will have a special gathering in the Fellowship Hall. During worship, there will special music and also an opportunity for each and every person to come forward and remember their baptism with water from the baptismal font in the Sanctuary.

consider joining this new class on our special kick-off Sunday on September 13, 2015, in the Parlor.

## BARGAINS ON THE BLUFF

The fall consignment sale is coming on Friday, September 18th, from 9:00am-6:00pm and Saturday, September 19th, from 9:00am-2:00pm. For more information visit the website:

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

## SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION...

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Sue Crunk on the passing of her sister on August 23rd in Troy, AL. Our prayers are with the family in their time of sorrow.

## SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION...

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Mike Bahr on the passing of his father, Harold Lloyd Bahr, on August 27th. Our prayers are with the family in their time of sorrow.

## IN THE HOSPITAL...

Louise White—Mount Royal Rehab  
Rollina Oglesbay—Columbiana  
Charlotte Word—Brookwood  
Gene Brown—UAB

## Memorials

BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Patrick Crotty** by James Roy and Marilyn Moncus

**John Steger** by Elizabeth Davis

**Sam Reeder** by Elizabeth Davis

**Laura Boren** by Richard and Robin Boren

**Dot Copeland** by Karen Wertymmer

**Ann Bass** by The Opportunity Class

PASTORS DISCRETIONARY FUND

**Ray Glaze** by James Roy and Marilyn Moncus, Curtis and Paula Thompson

**Elizabeth Bogart** by James and Olivia Howard

FOOD PANTRY

**Ray Glaze** by Robert and Nancy Moore, Jason Halsell,

**Bob Letson** by James Roy and Marilyn Moncus

BUILDING FUND

**Joe White** by James Roy and Marilyn Moncus

**Ann Bass** by Jack and Sue Pearson

**Gertrude Lawyer** by Bill Lawyer

YOUTH DEPARTMENT

**Sean Poole** by Preston and Jo Ann Huddleston

NEVER THIRST

**John Steger** by Andrew and Ann Holder

## VICTOR HARBOR SCHOLARSHIP

**Ann Bass** by Bill and Paulette Pearson, Alanna Ralph, Odessa Harbor

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

**Ann Bass** by DC and Suzanne Scivley

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**Elizabeth Bogart** by Stuart Brown

## Honorariums

BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Mike Holly** by Jacqueline Teaford

**Lane Kaufhold** in honor of his **Baptism** by Micah and Jessica Kaufhold

PASTORS DISCRETIONARY FUND

**Reid Crotty** by James Roy and Marilyn Moncus

**Jamie Davis** by Joe and Ellen Kerns, James and Olivia Howard

FOOD PANTRY

**Judy Gibson** by Pony Thompson

CHILDREN'S FUND

**Stanley Davidson** by Pat and Carol Westbrook

**Melissa Hendon** by Pat and Carol Westbrook

BUNDLES OF HOPE

**The Flower Ministry Ladies** by Anonymous

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

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**MIDWEEK MEETUP RETURNS:** Wednesday night programming will return on September 9th!!!! The children will enjoy dinner, choir, recreation, Bible Study/Classroom time, and more. Our teachers this year will be Lori Beasley with Kindergarten and 1st graders, Carole Roegner and Betsy Britain teaching a Bible Skills Class with the 2nd and 3rd graders, and Stanley and Stephanie Davidson with the 4th and 5th graders. New this year will be a Memory Verse Challenge, with prizes each week for those who memorize their weekly Bible verse and a grand prize for those who memorize all of their verses for the Fall. Be on the lookout for more information!

**LOOKING AHEAD TO 2015/2016.** Recruitment for Elementary and Preschool Sunday School is still under way. We have just a few more slots to fill! If you would like to volunteer please go to [http://vols.pt/PFz\]4t](http://vols.pt/PFz]4t) to sign up. Thank you for your help!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS WEEK:** This week (9/6) we will be doing a special mission project in conjunction with Bargains on the Bluff! Next week (9/13) will be lesson three of our Sunday School Series Spy Chase: we will be studying the prophet Jeremiah.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

September 9 Midweek Returns  
September 18-19 Bargains on the Bluff

## STUDENT MINISTRY

**WEDNESDAY NIGHTS THIS FALL** Our Holy Ground team members will meet for about an hour (arrive between 4:00-4:30pm) for warm-up and sound check for that night's worship. All students are welcome to join us and hang out on the youth wing after school. Most students choose to bring their meals downstairs and eat among friends. There will be hours posted on the door to the gym when students have the court as well. From 6:30-7:30pm we have student-led worship which we call Holy Ground. All ages are welcome to join us. We do want to remind families that students must either participate fully in programming, stay with their parents while on church property OR must check out with a student ministry staffer if they need to leave before 7:30pm. Students are not allowed to leave the premises and return during programming.

**THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY: WEDNESDAYS THIS SEPTEMBER** Each month at our Holy Ground Worship service we'll have a different theme. Starting out we'll spend our first four weeks exploring the main characters in one of 2014's biggest superhero films. We'll take a biblical approach to finding out what made them tick, what were their weaknesses or challenges, and how did they overcome them with the help of friends - just like God calls us to do as a church family or inside of our youth group. You won't have to have seen the movie to get it - but's definitely a film we'd recommend.

**DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP & KEEP UP WITH THE FAST-MOVING FALL SCHEDULE.** There's so much going on as we leave the summer and get ready for the fall: small groups, Holy Ground worship, Fall Retreat and more. You can keep track of things via your smartphone or tablet by going to your app store and downloading our free app. Just search the key words Youth Wing to find it!

**SAVE THESE DATES:** Wednesday, September 9: *Holy Ground Worship Returns!*; Wednesday, October 28: *Halloween Carnival*; Friday-Sunday, November 20-22: *Fall Retreat at Camp Sumatanga*; Saturday, December 5: *Festival of Three Kings*.

### THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 6, 10:00am Sunday School in the Youth Wing  
NO AFTERNOON/EVENING ACTIVITIES ON LABOR DAY WEEKEND  
Wednesday, September 9, 6:30pm Holy Ground Worship in the Youth Wing

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 3

**SHEPHERD'S CENTER**—A morning of Music with the Alexanders, Margaret & Wayne, of Pell City.

#### MONDAY SEPTEMBER 7

**LABOR DAY HOLIDAY**—Church offices closed.

#### WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 9

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT TAILGATE**—Come for dinner - wear you favorite school colors and join the fun.

#### THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 10

**SHEPHERD'S CENTER**—Leonette Slay will be here talking about her week in July at the Iona Community on the Scottish island of Iona and also about the 2016 mission trip to Chile.

#### SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13

**INVITE someone to Sunday School.**

#### MONDAY SEPTEMBER 14

**AARP SAFETY DRIVING and YELLOW DOT SIGN-UP** in the Fellowship Hall.

### MACKINAC CITY and MACKINAC ISLAND

Sunday August 30—Saturday September 5  
Please keep our group of 44 in your prayers as we travel each day.

### SPECIAL MOMENT WITH JESUS

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise. Psalm 66: 1-2



## Bluff Park United Methodist Church

733 Valley Street  
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(205) 822-0910

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### Pastors

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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, jmccrory@bpumc.org  
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Andrew Seltz, aseltz@bpumc.org  
**Secretary**, ext. 111  
Catherine Ward, cward@bpumc.org  
**Director of Worship Music**,  
Lonnie Parsons  
**Organist**,  
Dr. Lorna Lee Curtis  
**Preschool Director**,  
Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org



## The Week of September 6—12

### Sunday, September 6

8:45 am Morning Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Morning Worship Service

### Monday, September 7

Office Closed—Labor Day

### Tuesday, September 8

8:30 am Maintenance  
6:00 pm Under the Bridge  
6:00 pm Church Life Meeting

### Wednesday, September 9

4:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study  
5:00 pm Midweek Meetup  
6:00 pm Becky Walker's Bible Study  
6:00 pm Men's Chorus  
6:30 pm Choir

### Thursday, September 10

9:30 am Shepherd's Center

### Friday, September 11

6:00 pm Friendship Class Dinner

### SUNDAY, September 6, 2015

8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship

*"In the Meantime"*

(Scripture - Acts 1:6-14)

Rev. Angela Martin

No Evening Worship Service

### Lectionary Scripture Readings

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23

Psalms 125

James 2:1-10 (11-13) 14-17

Mark 7:24-37

### SERVING SUNDAY

Ushers

8:45 Carlisle 8:45 Moore 11:00

Acolytes

8:45 Lily Matheson 11:00 Avery Edwards

**Greeters:** Opportunity

**Meals on Wheels:** Kaufhold

**Food Pantry October 7:**

Penny Burns/Kay Adams

**Midweek Meetup Menu—September 9**

Tailgate Night: Hamburgers & Hot Dogs

## Last Week's Record

August 30, 2015

Children	74
Morning Worship	544
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$26,673.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$47,360.00
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,386,978.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$933,555.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$937,672.23
New Members in 2015	15

### LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$1,450.00
Received to Date	\$798,477.54

**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.