



733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Newsletter September 13, 2015

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org



In last week's newsletter, we unveiled Bluff Park UMC's new Purpose Statement. It so beautifully states who we are and what we should do as a corporate church family. Today, I would like to share with you the church's new Vision Statement that was adopted by the Board of Stewards on July 26, 2015. It is important to understand that the Purpose Statement drives who we are and how we operate. The Vision Statement is more about how we will try to minister to our people and to our community. This Vision Statement is exciting and I think it will give our Vision Steering Team wonderful space for creativity in what new and renewed ministries and missions can come from this statement:

VISION STATEMENT: Bluff Park United Methodist Church seeks to be a community creating relational experiences that help all people find life and know through a relationship with God: who they are, why they matter, and how to serve the world in love.

I hope you notice that this Vision Statement is more about how our church can influence and transform the lives of all people that we reach. We want to be a church that creates open and inviting experiences that help people find the life that they desire (which we believe comes only from God). We want to be a church together that helps people develop a dynamic relationship with God, that helps them understand themselves as a child of God – a child who matters deeply to Him as well as to others in the Church, and we want to be a serving church that inspires and equips all people to serve the world in some form or capacity (which is our vocation as Christians “in the meantime” as Angela reminded us this past Sunday).

We have tried to sum up this vision with a short easy-to-remember phrase that will accompany our logo: Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life. As always, I would appreciate feedback, questions, and even ideas as we move forward with our Purpose and Vision Statements!

Mike

BPUMC Fun Run

The New Light Sunday school class has chosen a mission goal to provide clean drinking water to people around the world in partnership with Neverthirst, an organization dedicated to bringing clean and Living water to the poor through the local church in India, Sudan and the Central African Republic. As part of this effort, they are organizing the 2nd annual BPUMC Fun Run, on September 27th @ 3:00pm.

The money raised from last year's Fun Run was used to provide a well for the 32 families of the village of Kako, in the Indian state of Bihar.

To sign-up for the 2015 BPUMC Fun Run, visit our website:

BluffParkUMC.org/funrun



News of the Week

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. This sale is not only a great blessing to the families who take part in it, but it also raises money to support the children's ministry here at the church. For more information, visit the website:

BluffParkUMC.org/both

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.

SCREAM-FREE MARRIAGE CLASS

Marriage and family therapist Daniel Seigel will be leading this special marriage class on Wednesday nights from 6:00-7:15pm September 30th and October 7th, 14th and 21st. Cost is \$40 per couple and includes the book. Call the church office to sign-up. Class size is limited.

ORGAN RECITAL

On September 13th, at 2:30 pm, Adam Cobb will be performing an organ recital in the Sanctuary here at Bluff Park UMC. Adam has performed here previously as a Sunday morning guest organist.

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: October 11, and November 15, and 22. Check with the office for other available dates. Please sign up in the main office or call (205) 822-0910.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Rollina Oglesbay—Columbiana
Diane Guyton—Lakeshore
Elaine Clinton—UAB

Health Kit Report

Our August mission project was a huge success in two important ways. First, we collected 235 health kits, plus additional financial contributions, which will be distributed through the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Second, this was a truly church-wide project. Young and old, groups, families, and individuals all participated in this mission project. The children's ministry spent a Sunday school hour assembling health kits as did other adult Sunday school classes.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make this mission project a success.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

MIDWEEK MEETUP HAS BEGUN! Mr Stanley will be back next Wednesday (9/16) for our Midweek meetup! Our teachers this year are 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. The spots that are left open in Elementary are for team 1. Team 1 leads during the months of January and April. Email Melissa at Mhendon@bpumc.org or go to the above link to sign up. Thank you for your help!

SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS WEEK: This week (9/13) we will be doing lesson three of our Sunday School Series Spy Chase: we will be studying the prophet Jeremiah.

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 18-19	Bargains on the Bluff	October 28	Halloween Carnival
October 12	Field Trip for 5K-5th grade		

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.

STUDENT SMALL GROUPS START BACK THIS SUNDAY AT 5:00PM Our fall small groups will start back this weekend with a "get to know you" session. MS Guys will meet in the Bistro, MS Girls will meet in the Rec Room and HS Coed will meet in the Cave. This first session will be an opportunity to get to know group leaders, eat some snacks and discuss what the group will be doing for the next few months. So if you've been a part of our small group ministry or just want to learn more, you'll definitely want to come.

DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP & KEEP UP WITH THE FAST-MOVING FALL SCHEDULE. There's so much going on as we go 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, 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 13, 10:00am	Sunday School in the Youth Wing
Sunday, September 13, 4:00pm	Holy Ground Team Rehearsal
Sunday, September 13, 5:00pm	MS Girls, MS Guys & HS Coed Small Groups
Sunday, September 13, 6:00pm	Snack Supper in the Fellowship Hall
Sunday, September 13, 6:30pm	Dodgeball in the Gym
Wednesday, September 16	Hang Out & Dinner in the Youth Wing (after school)
Wednesday, September 16, 6:30pm	Holy Ground Worship in the Youth Wing

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 14
THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 17

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 22
THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 24

INVITE someone to Sunday School.
AARP SAFETY DRIVING and YELLOW DOT SIGN-UP in the Fellowship Hall.
SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Roberto Veridi, Flamenco Guitarist will perform, traditional music of Spain.
MYSTERY TRIP.
SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Rick Karle - Fox6 Sports Time.

SPECIAL MOMENT WITH JESUS

If you love me, you will keep my commandments.
John 14: 15



Bluff Park United Methodist Church

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

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, jmccrory@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,
Dr. Lorna Lee Curtis
Preschool Director,
Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org

The Week of September 13—19

Sunday, September 13 BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY
8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
2:30 pm Adam Cobb Organ Recital
5:00 pm Evening Worship
Monday, September 14
7:30 am AARP Safe Driving Class
7:30 am Yellow Dot Sign-Up
10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
Tuesday, September 15
9:30 am Becky Walker's Bible Study
Wednesday, September 16
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 17
9:30 am Shepherd's Center
6:30 pm Finance Committee
Friday, September 18
9:00 am Bargains on the Bluff
Saturday, September 19
9:00 am Bargains on the Bluff

SUNDAY, September 13, 2015
8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship
BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY
"Who We Are"
(Scripture - 1 John 3:1-10)
Rev. Mike Holly

5pm Evening Worship Service
Rev. Mike Holly

Lectionary Scripture Readings
Proverbs 1:20-33
Psalm 19
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38

SERVING SUNDAY
Ushers
8:45 Nelson 11:00 Dover
Cross
8:45 Lauren Gates 11:00 Harrison Winter
Acolyte
8:45 Jonathan Kerns 11:00 Caroline Owen
Greeters: Seekers
5pm Communion Setup:
Janet and Charlie Trucks
Meals on Wheels: McDonald
Food Pantry October 7:
Penny Burns/Kay Adams

Midweek Meetup Menu—September 16
Bingo Night: Catfish, collard greens, baked chicken, baked potato, and salad bar. Corn dogs for the kids.

Last Week's Record

September 6, 2015

Children	57
Morning Worship	375
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$26,673.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$25,193.00
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,386,978.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$960,228.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$962,865.23
New Members in 2015	15

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$1,887.00
Received to Date	\$800,364.54

**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.