



733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226  
205.822.0910

# BLUFF PARK

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## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Newsletter September 20, 2015*

*Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life*

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



**A**lmost twenty years ago, I attended the Walk to Emmaus; a 72-hour retreat that focuses on spiritual renewal. If you remember the story of the walk to Emmaus from the 24th chapter of Luke, you know this was the occasion just after the resurrection where two disciples were walking between Jerusalem and Emmaus, talking over the events of the past few days when they were joined by a stranger. As they sat around the table that evening, as the “stranger” broke and blessed the bread, their eyes were opened and they recognized the stranger as Jesus. (Luke 24:13-35)

If you desire spiritual renewal, if you long to learn about God’s grace in such a way that it allows you to recognize Jesus in a way you might never have before, I encourage you to attend an Emmaus retreat.

*The retreat includes 15 talks that are given by lay people and clergy on the themes of God’s grace, disciplines of Christian discipleship, and what it means to be the church. The course is wrapped in prayer and meditation, special times of worship, and daily celebration of Holy Communion. The “Emmaus community”, made up of those who have attended the weekend, support the experience with a prayer vigil, by preparing and serving meals, and other acts of love and self-giving. (“What is Emmaus”, Stephen Bryant)*

I’ve never known anyone who attended the Walk to Emmaus to be disappointed; in fact, quite the opposite is true. People return with a joy and enthusiasm to serve that did not exist before. They are excited about their own discipleship, and helping others see Jesus in a renewed way. I loved my experience and believe that you would too! Pray and consider attending your own walk. If you desire more information go to [www.alaemmaus.org](http://www.alaemmaus.org) or talk with me. I’ll be happy to answer any questions you might have.

*Angela*

### **Living Our Legacy Campaign**

December 31, 2015 marks the end of our three-year campaign for renewed ministry space for Children and Youth, as well as the construction of a new Fellowship Hall. Please remember that it is vital for everyone to be faithful to their pledges for these renovations to move forward. We are getting so close to our goal, and you can be of assistance in making our dreams a reality. If you did not have a chance to make a pledge three years ago, we encourage you to consider making a special gift to the Living Our Legacy campaign. To check on the status of your gifts, please feel free to contact Joe Pitard, or Jason McCrory, in our Office of Finance at BPUMC.

### **Children of God Sermon Series**

This Sunday, we will continue our sermon series on our new Vision Statement as Rev. Tom Duley explores “Why We Matter.” Tom will help us understand our worth to God and our worth to one another. Join us for another special morning in worship at BPUMC! Rev. Mike Holly will not be in worship on Sunday morning as he has been invited to preach at the Church in the Pines, an extension of Children’s Harbor at Lake Martin near the Kowaliga Bridge.

# News of the Week

## IMPORTANT MEETINGS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

There are a number of very important meetings happening this Sunday, September 20th. At 3:00pm the Worship Committee will be meeting in the Library. At 4:00pm the Board of Stewards will be meeting in Hudson Hall. And, at 5:30pm there will be a Vision Steering Team meeting in the Fellowship Hall.

## 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 meets on Wednesdays at 4:30pm. This weekly study meets in Hudson Hall and will focus on the Sermon on the Mount.

## FALL DAY OF SERVICE

On October 17th the Church Life team is sponsoring a day of service. Volunteers from the church will go out into our community to help people needing assis-



## screamfree Marriage

Marriage and family therapist Daniel Seigel will be leading this special scream-free 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.

tance with yard work, painting, etc. If you know someone in need, please contact the office and let us know.

## 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.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Stephanie and Stanley Davidson on the birth of a 6lb. 14oz. daughter, Kathryn Reese on September 2nd.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Leslie and Danny Pair on the birth of a 8lb. 11oz. daughter, Lily Kathryn on September 9th.

## IN THE HOSPITAL...

Rollina Oglesbay—Columbiana  
Elaine Clinton—University



## 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](http://BluffParkUMC.org/funrun)

*The Fun Run is sponsored by the New Light Sunday school class and the BPUMC United Appeal Fund.*

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**MIDWEEK MEETUP HAS BEGUN!** 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/PFzJ4t> 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](mailto:Mhendon@bpumc.org) or go to the above link to sign up. Thank you for your help!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS WEEK:** This week (9/20) we will be doing lesson four of our Sunday School Series Spy Chase.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

October 12                      Field Trip for 5K-5th grade                      October 28                      Halloween Carnival

## 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, 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 20, 10:00am	Sunday School in the Youth Wing
Sunday, September 20, 4:00pm	Holy Ground Team Rehearsal
Sunday, September 20, 5:00pm	MS Girls, MS Guys & HS Coed Small Groups
Sunday, September 20, 6:00pm	Snack Supper in the Fellowship Hall
Sunday, September 20, 6:30pm	Hunger Games
Wednesday, September 23	Hang Out & Dinner in the Youth Wing (after school)
Wednesday, September 23, 6:30pm	Holy Ground Worship in the Youth Wing

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

### UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 22  
THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 24

**MYSTERY TRIP/CHURCH TOUR** - 9:00-3:00pm Call Betty  
**SHEPHERD'S CENTER** - Rick Karle Fox6 Sports Time - 10:00am  
Everyone's invited.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 25

**SENIOR FUN DAY** with Mike, Angela and Tom The fun starts at 10:00am with special entertainment??? followed by lunch.

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 29  
THURSDAY OCTOBER 1

**CARDS to our Sick/Shut-ins** - 11:00am - Come to Library.  
**SHEPHERD'S CENTER** - Vonceil, Baptist Princeton will be here at 10:00. Exercise with Valerie and Kristen at 11:00. Fun BINGO after lunch. Everyone's invited.  
**Our first fun COOKING CLASS** with DELORES HYDOCK 6-7:00pm in the Fireside Rm. A good Story with a sample of something gooooood.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 7

### Special Moment with Jesus

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

James 1: 17

**MACKINAC TRAVELING GROUP:** Thank you for taking the trip to Mackinac City and Mackinac Island. For your love, patience, kindness, and support. Just a wonderful week filled with fun, excitement, good friends, new friends and lots of good food. The love gift was donated to the Pastors Discretionary Fund. Blessings, Betty.



## Bluff Park United Methodist Church

733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226  
(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  
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Andrew Seltz, aseltz@bpumc.org  
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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 20—26

### Sunday, September 20

8:45 am Morning Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Morning Worship Service  
3:00 pm Worship Committee  
4:00 pm Board of Stewards Meeting  
5:30 pm Vision Steering Team

### Monday, September 21

9:00 am UMW Executive Committee  
10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry

### Tuesday, September 22

9:30 am Becky Walker's Bible Study  
6:30 pm Building Team Meeting

### Wednesday, September 23

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  
6:00 pm Handbell Choir  
6:30 pm Choir

### Thursday, September 24

9:30 am Shepherd's Center  
5:30 pm Fisherman Class Dinner  
7:00 pm Book Club

### Friday, September 25

10:00 am Senior Fun Day

### SUNDAY, September 20, 2015

8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship  
*"If You Can't Believe Anything Else, Believe This"*

(Scripture - Luke 12:6-7)  
Rev. Tom Duley

**No Evening Worship Service**

### Lectionary Scripture Readings

Proverbs 31:10-31  
Psalm 1  
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a  
Mark 9:30-37

### SERVING SUNDAY

**Ushers**  
8:45 McDonald 11:00 Footsteps  
**Cross**  
8:45 Jackie Fort 11:00 Carlyne Hecklinski  
**Acolyte**  
8:45 Lena Holly 11:00 Penny Rose Pearson  
**Greeters:** Vitality  
**Meals on Wheels:** Shanlever  
**Food Pantry October 7:**  
Penny Burns/Kay Adams

### Midweek Meetup Menu—September 23

Ice Cream Time Machine: Main course TBA,  
baked chicken, baked potato, and salad bar.  
Chicken Fingers for the kids.

## Last Week's Record

September 13, 2015

Children	96
Morning Worship	453
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$26,673.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$26,426.92
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,386,978.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$986,901.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$989,292.15
New Members in 2015	15

### LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$2,133.33
Received to Date	\$802,497.87

**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.