



733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Newsletter October 25, 2015

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org



For the past three weeks, the Stewardship Committee which is led by Joe Campbell has been demonstrating in worship the vast array of missions, ministries and programs at Bluff Park UMC. Our church has long been vital to the Bluff Park community in providing education, mission and grace. And as we saw this past Sunday in worship, we have become a hub for the community as well, particularly with ministries in music and scouting. We also saw how our missional emphases of food, water and shelter are already impacting our community and city. As we continue to dream new ways for our church to grow in new ministries and mission, your involvement and generosity is essential.

On Sunday, October 25th, each and every household will have the opportunity to come forward and pledge our financial support of the 2016 church budget so that our church leadership and committees may begin planning. 2016 Pledge Cards are being mailed this week and some will be available in the Sanctuary and Welcome Desk in the Narthex on Sunday. If you are not able to participate in worship on the 25th, we hope that you will consider bringing in your 2016 pledge card either to the main office or in the offering plate during worship. You will also be able to complete a pledge on our website or through EasyTithe.

I believe that 2016 will be an important year in the life of our church family as we begin to implement some of these new ideas and ministries. Please be in prayer for the Board of Stewards, the Vision Steering Team, and for all of those working in new ministries. And please pray for our church as we plan for a new year at Bluff Park!

Mike

New Children's Church Format

On Sunday, October 25th, we will offer Children's Church in a brand new way! All Kindergarten thru 5th grade students are invited to a children's worship service on non-communion Sundays that will begin immediately following the Prayer of Confession in both our 8:45 and 11:00 worship services. Children who would like to attend will be led by Mr. Stanley, and a volunteer to Hudson Hall, where they will participate in a worship service geared toward them at their age and level. This worship service will consist of prayer, hymns, offering, a children's sermon, and life application of that sermon. The children will then be led by Mr. Stanley and a volunteer back to the Narthex, where they can be picked up as their parents/grandparents exit the sanctuary. It is our hope and prayer that this way of offering Children's Church will be more spiritually nourishing and exciting than the way it is currently offered. We hope to see all the children there!

In order to abide by the Safe Sanctuary Policy of our church, we are in need of one adult volunteer for each session of Children's Church. This person will assist Mr. Stanley in crowd control and leading the worship service. There is no pre-planning required for this volunteer spot. Simply show up and worship with Mr. Stanley and the children! If you would like to volunteer in Children's Church, please sign up here: <http://vols.pt/22XY7w>.



News of the Week

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour this Sunday and enjoy that extra hour of sleep. Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 1st.

VETERANS DAY SPECIAL EVENT

On Sunday, November 8th, we will have a very special Veterans Day celebration. The evening begins at 5:00 pm with dinner and at 6:00 pm there will be music by the Hoover High School Jazz Band.

HABITAT ADVENT BUILD

Bluff Park UMC will take part in Habitat for Humanity's Advent Build during which Habitat intends to build two homes. We will participate by contributing \$5,000 toward the cost and providing volunteers on the weekend of November 5-7. You can volunteer all day, on all three days, one day, or a few hours. Please set aside some time during the weekend to put your hands to work on behalf of others.

HAM MOUNTAIN

During the month of November, we will be collecting canned hams for Ham Mountain. These hams will be distributed through the Bluff Park UMC food bank on December 2nd. Look for the Ham Mountain display in the Narthex beginning November 1st. Ham Mountain is sponsored by the Bluff Park United Appeal Fund.

OFFERING OF BLANKETS

We will receive blankets on Sunday, November 15th and Wednesday, November 18th. On November 18th, at our Midweek Meetup we will have our church-wide



Thanksgiving meal. As a part of our time together on November 18th we will offer a prayer of blessing for the blankets and give thanks to God who enables us to share generously with others.

GET READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Get inspiration for holiday decorations and entertaining: Tabletops and Trends, Holiday Foods, and Holiday Centerpieces. Bring a favorite piece of your holiday china to the social, and share its history. Presentations by Julia Glass from Bromberg, Rosemary Dallam, RD, and Karen Jenkins from Hoover Florist. The social takes place on Monday, November 9 @ 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Dinner is \$8.00. RSVP by November 2 to Sylvia Sumners: ssumners@bellsouth.net or (205) 824-9902.

FESTIVAL OF THREE KINGS

Each year we participate in the Festival of Three Kings event which provides Christmas gifts for local children who might not otherwise have presents under the tree. If you would like to sponsor a child this year, please contact Debi Whitcomb at (205) 979-7626. Information sheets will be available in early November and gifts will need to be turned in by Sunday, December 6th. The Festival of Three Kings event will be held on December 12th, at Birmingham Southern College. You are welcome to help at the festival as well.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Elaine Clinton—University
Charlotte Word—Aspire

Pledge Online With EasyTithe

Bluff Park United Methodist Church has implemented a new set of online giving tools, powered by easyTithe.com. They provide the ability to make a pledge electronically and track your online giving.

To create your online account, visit the church website and select 'Donate Online' under the 'Give' link in the top menu. Step-by-step tutorial videos are available on the main 'Give' landing page.

www.BluffParkUMC.org



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

MIDWEEK MEETUP: Midweek Meetup happens every week from 5:00-7:30. The children will enjoy dinner, choir, recreation, Bible Study/Classroom time, and more.

MIDWEEK MEETUP MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE: Each week a Bible verse will be given to everyone who attends. A prize will be given every week to anyone who has memorized their weekly verse. Then, on the last Midweek Meetup of the fall, any child who has memorized all of their Bible verses will get to dump a large bucket of slime on Mr. Stanley's head! Will you accept the challenge?!?!?! Congratulations to the following 25 children who memorized their Bible Verse for last week! I am so proud of you all: Alisha Cain, Lauren Gaites, Lily Matheson, Emily Toth, Harrison Winter, Patrick Williamson, Penny Rose Pearson, Ava Holden, Sophia Merchant, Rosa Bouranis, Julie Cate Gray, Miller Rice, Owen Chatterton, William Pearson, Rebekah Rice, Jack Hendon, Abby Gray, Tate Terry, Annabelle Eaton, Keely Chadha, Mary El Neal, Ellise Blanchard, Ian Chatterton, Natalie Self, and Mary Lynn Williamson.

HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL: The annual Bluff Park UMC Halloween Carnival will be held on Wednesday, October 28th, from 6:00-8:00! There will be carnival games, raffle baskets, prizes, a haunted house, inflatables, a cake walk, food, Steel City Pops, and so much more. Each event requires tickets and each ticket costs 25 cents. All proceeds support the children's ministry, youth ministry, and Little Imaginations Preschool. Come in costume and have a great night of fellowship and fun with your friends and neighbors in Bluff Park!

SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS WEEK: This Sunday (10/25) will be our Mission Sunday! We will be making cards to attach to Christmas Presents that will be given out by the Food Pantry!

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 28 Halloween Carnival

STUDENT MINISTRY

HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL IS COMING! Students who are volunteering in our Haunted Youth Wing need to arrive as soon after school as possible. As well, it is extremely important that all student volunteers stay for thirty minutes after we shut down to help take down our decorations and take out any trash. Do not ask to leave early if you are a volunteer!

FALL RETREAT REGISTRATION IS OPEN: www.bpumc.org/fallretreat Our youth group will be joining students from Trussville FUMC, Mountain Chapel UMC in Vestavia and Cullman FUMC for a weekend at Camp Sumatanga next month. Cost is \$125 per person (with a discount for students of parents who attended our August training event). This price includes transportation, 2 nights stay, 5 meals and a t-shirt. Dates are Friday, November 20th through Sunday, November 22nd. Reserve your student's spot now with a \$25 online deposit.

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: Friday-Sunday, November 20-22: *Fall Retreat at Camp Sumatanga*; Saturday, December 12: *Festival of Three Kings*.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, October 25, 10:00am	Sunday School in the Youth Wing
Sunday, October 25, 4:00pm	Holy Ground Team Rehearsal
Sunday, October 25, 5:00pm	MS Girls, MS Guys & HS Coed Small Groups
Sunday, October 25, 6:00pm	Snack Supper in the Youth Wing
Sunday, October 25, 6:30pm	Haunted Youth Wing Preparation
Wednesday, October 28	Halloween Carnival & Haunted Youth Wing Fundraiser

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY OCTOBER 27
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 28
THURSDAY OCTOBER 29
MONDAY NOVEMBER 30
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 2

MYSTERY FUN TRIP??????? 9:00am - 3:00pm. Call Betty
HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL
SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Charlie Trucks Bible Study: It's A Wonderful Life.
CHRISTMAS TRIP Nashville, TN. 3/days 2/nights. Opryland Hotel, Carriage Ride, Hotel River Boat, Gatlin Brothers Christmas Dinner Show, ICE Fantasy, The General Jackson, Dinner Cruise Christmas Show, Holiday Treasures, MYSTERY. Stops????? Cost: \$495.00pp includes breakfast each morning at the hotel, shows, dinners, rides, Atrium, motor coach and much more. Lunch on your own each day. Balance due Nov.20. Call Betty.

Special Moment with Jesus

May grace and peace be yours in abundance in the knowledge of God and Jesus our Lord. 2 Peter 1:2



Bluff Park United Methodist Church

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Hoover, AL 35226
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**NON-PROFIT ORG.
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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 October 25—31

Sunday, October 25—Commitment Sunday
 8:45 am Morning Worship Service
 9:45 am Sunday School
 10:00 am Veterans Leadership Meeting
 10:00 am Special Needs Sunday School Training
 11:00 am Morning Worship Service
 11:00 am-1:00 pm Appreciation Luncheon
 4:00 pm SPRC Meeting
 5:00 pm Evening Worship
 6:00 pm Board of Stewards

Monday, October 26
 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
 10:00 am UMW Hope Circle
 10:00 am UMW Joy Circle
 6:30 pm UMW Friendship Circle

Tuesday, October 27
 9:30 am Becky Walker's Bible Study
 6:00 pm Finance Committee

Wednesday, October 28
 6:00 pm Halloween Carnival

Thursday, October 29
 9:30 am Shepherd's Center
 5:00 pm Festival of 3 Kings Meeting

SUNDAY, October 25, 2015
8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship
"The Good Confession"
 (Scripture - 1 Timothy 6:11-12)
 Rev. Mike Holly

5pm Evening Worship Service
 Rev. Mike Holy

Lectionary Scripture Readings
 Job 42:1-6, 10-17
 Psalm 34:1-8 (19-22)
 Hebrews 7:23-28
 Mark 10:46-52

SERVING SUNDAY
Ushers
 8:45 Montz 11:00 Lawson
Cross
 8:45 Jonathan Kerns 11:00 Preston Scott
Acolyte
 8:45 Charlie Redding 11:00 Rebekah Rice
Greeters: Faith
Communion Set-Up 5pm: Lois Truss
Meals on Wheels: McCrary
Food Pantry November 4:
 Becky McCrary/Rosemary Dallam

Halloween Carnival—Wednesday, October 28

Last Week's Record

October 18, 2015

Children/Youth	103/54
Morning Worship	444
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$26,673.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$27,060.00
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,386,978.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$1,120,226.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$1,128,018.76
New Members in 2015	15

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$1,217.00
Received to Date	\$900,968.87

**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.