



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter March 20, 2016

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org



On Sunday, we will gather together in worship and sing and shout a certain word together, while children wave palm branches. That word is "Hosanna!" This word has great significance on Palm Sunday, which we will celebrate together on March 20th. So many years ago, a large crowd gathered along the road waving palm branches to greet Jesus as he entered into Jerusalem during the festival of Passover. They greeted Jesus as a kingly figure or at least as a revolutionary who might be able to free them from Roman oppression and rule. Hosanna literally means "Save Now!" This large crowd hopes that Jesus is entering into Jerusalem to begin the process of saving God's people.

When we celebrate Palm Sunday together, we do as saved people. We are the very people that God through Jesus Christ saved from slavery to sin and death. Others cried out Hosanna! for themselves and we are the beneficiaries. This Palm Sunday, I invite you to consider who Jesus could save next. Is there a situation or a group of people that need healing or restoration or even liberation? Will you pray Hosanna! for them? Let us join together in worship to wave our palm branches, adorn our garments with palm crosses, and pray Hosanna for those in need.



Easter Love Gift

At Bluff Park UMC, the Lenten season is the time of year when we receive our Easter Love Gift Offering for missions. The Easter Love Offering supports several ministries and missions that we, as a church, are involved in. Your generosity allowed us to do a great many things in 2015. We would like to do as much, or more, in 2016. We want to make a difference in the lives of many people as we support projects that are consistent with the "food, water, shelter" mission emphasis that the church has established.

Please mark your check 'Easter Love Offering' so that we can make sure that it goes to the right place. Your generosity will make a great difference for many people.

Thank you for all the ways that you support the mission outreach of Bluff Park UMC.

The Easter Love Gift is sponsored by the BPUMC United Appeal Fund.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday Worship

March 20, 8:45am & 11:00am

Lenten Morning Prayer

March 24, 7:30am

Maundy Thursday Worship

March 24, 6:30pm

Good Friday Worship

March 25, 6:30pm

Easter Sunday Worship

March 27, 8:45am & 11:00am

News of the Week

SPRING SERVE DAY

The BPUMC Serve Team is looking for people in our neighborhood who could use a helping hand with Spring cleanup on April 16th. If you know someone who could use help with yard work or light exterior projects, call the church office or email serveteam@bpumc.org.

LENTEN MORNING PRAYER

Our final Lenten Morning Prayer service will be on Thursday morning, March 24th, at 7:30 am. We invite you to join us in the Sanctuary as we prepare ourselves to meet the risen Christ on Easter Sunday.

LADIES DAY RETREAT TICKETS


Tickets for the Ladies Day Retreat can now be purchased on Sunday mornings at the Welcome center. Tickets are \$15.00. The event takes place Saturday, May 14, from 9:00am - 2:00pm.

2016 CHILE TRIP

If you are interested in finding out more information about the 2016 Chile VIM trip there will be an information meeting on Wednesday, April 13th at 5:30 PM in the church library. You will not be asked to make a commitment at the meeting. If you have any interest at all in being a member of the team please make plans to attend. The dates for our 2016 trip are September 7-21.

JULIA GLASS MISSION REPORT

March 23rd, at 6:00pm in the Fireside room, Julia Glass will give a talk and slide show on the trip she took to Africa with a medical team last year. Several ladies from our church made baby receiving blankets for her to present to the new mothers getting treat-



STOP HUNGER NOW.

On April 17th–19th, Bluff Park UMC will join with several other churches, schools, and civic organizations from the Vestavia/Hoover area to pack 285,120 nutritious meals (one full shipping container) to be sent overseas to relieve hunger. This project will be carried out in conjunction with Stop Hunger Now, an organization dedicated to eradicating world hunger.

We are encouraging groups from the church to volunteer together, but *each individual must register separately*. If you have any problems accessing the website to register, contact the church office for assistance.

To sign-up as a volunteer visit:
BluffParkUMC.org/stophunger

ment. This will prove to be a very eye opening talk. Hope to see you there.

PAMPERED CHEF FUNDRAISER PARTY

Join us, March 28th at 6:00pm, for a Pampered Chef Fundraiser party for Bluff Park United Methodist Women's local missions at the home of Alice Chase! We'll have fun making a couple of easy recipes while supporting a great cause. Up to 20 percent of our total sales will go towards this fundraiser plus an extra \$3 for every Show booked from the event. Bring a friend- the more the merrier! If you can't make it to the party, you can still order products through this link and we will still get credit for the sale: pamperedchef.com/go/rF86z3

SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION

Our sympathy is extended to Elsie Medders on the passing of her brother Bill Walling, on February 29th. Our prayers are with her in her time of sorrow.

2016 ALTAR FLOWERS

There are dates left on the 2016 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: April 1, and May 1 and 8. Check with the office for other available dates. Please sign up in the main office or call (205) 822-0910.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Dorothy Quinnelly—Grandview
Christian Cooper—Still Burn Center, Augusta GA
Barbara Brannum—St Vincents
Shirley White—Brookwood



Easter Lilies

Reserve your beautiful Easter Lily now to remember or honor a loved one at Easter. The cost is \$15.00 per plant payable to the church. Deadline for ordering is March 21st.

In Honor Of: _____ by _____
In Memory of: _____ by _____

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

FIELD TRIP/MISSION TRIP: Our next field trip/mission trip will be on Wednesday, March 30th. We will be helping the community garden on our church campus get ready to plant in the morning and going to see the movie Zootopia in the afternoon! Drop off will begin at 7:30, and pickup will be at the church between 4:30 and 5:30. Please RSVP with Melissa Hendon at mhendon@bpumc.org as soon as possible as we only have 26 spots available.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Did you know that we have been averaging 25 children in Children's Church since we started in November, with a high mark of 36 children one Sunday! The children have loved having a service specifically geared towards them, learning how much God loves them, and talking about ways they can put their faith into action! We would love for some of you to come and worship with us! Would you prayerfully consider volunteering in Children's Church at some point soon?

We are in need of volunteers for Children's Church on the following dates and times over the next two months: 8:45 on April 10, and 8:45 and 11:00 on April 17, and April 24. There is no pre-planning for this volunteer spot: this person will simply worship with Mr. Stanley and the children and assist if necessary! If you would like to volunteer in Children's Church, please contact Stanley Davidson at sdavidson@bpumc.org.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: For the month of March we will be learning about Easter in Sunday School through discussion, science, and cooking! We will be in Hudson Hall this week!

STUDENT MINISTRY

SUNDAY, MARCH 21 - DINNER & A MOVIE We will meet for dinner at Baumhower's Wings in Patton Creek at 5:30pm. Afterwards we will walk over to the movie theater to watch "Risen" as a group. Students will need to bring money for dinner, the movie and snacks, as well arrange their own transportation.

HOLY GROUND IN MARCH Our Lenten-themed worship service wraps up on Wednesday night, March 23rd.

DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP & KEEP UP WITH THE FAST-MOVING WINTER/SPRING SCHEDULE. There's so much going on as we move deeper into 2016: Confirmation Class, Senior Recognition 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 Sunday, April 10: *Confirmation Sunday*; Sunday, May 15: *Senior Recognition Sunday*; Sunday-Friday, July 10-15: *Urban Ministries Middle School Mission Trip*; Sunday-Saturday, July 24-30: *ASP High School Mission Trip*.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 20, 10:00am	Sunday School in the Youth Wing
Sunday, March 20, 4:00pm	Holy Ground Team Rehearsal
Sunday, March 20, 5:30pm	Dinner & A Movie at Patton Creek
Wednesday, March 23, 5:30pm	Hang Out & Dinner
Wednesday, March 23, 6:30pm	Holy Ground Worship

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY MARCH 17

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - St Patrick Day Program—Ireland, The County, The People with Bob and Phyllis Henson, world travelers/members of the Fisherman Class.

THURSDAY MARCH 24

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Special Guest from Prince of Peace Catholic Church. Maundy Thursday.

SUNDAY MARCH 27

EASTER SUNDAY - Bring Flowers for the Cross.

THURSDAY MARCH 31

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Niki Sepsas will be here—Cape Horn Passage.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 1

COOKING CLASS - WE HAVE DOUGHNUTS, with owner Sandy McKay. A company started by 4/friends - doughnuts made from scratch and sold at a doughnut stand downtown Birmingham. 6:00-7:00pm, Fireside Rm.

FRIDAY APRIL 1

RATTLESNAKE SALOON, Helen Keller Museum, Historical Church Tour and much more. Trip is Full...waiting list.

TUESDAY APRIL 12

GEE'S BEND, Quilting Ladies, Gaine Ridge Plantation, Museum, Ferry Ride to Camden and so much more. Tour Bus - \$65.00pp - Call Betty.

LADIES DAY RETREAT

Saturday May 14 9:00am - 2:00pm.

Plan to join us for a morning and afternoon of Bible Study with Becky Walker, Special Music by Dr. Lorna Lee Curtis (Rocket), Story time with Delores Hydock and Bobby Horton, Special Luncheon Guests and Entertainment, Tablescares. Save the date **SATURDAY MAY 14**. Invite a friend! Tickets, \$15.00. Sign-up for Tablescares at the Welcome Center... you may win a prize.

Special Moment with Jesus

Cast all you anxiety on him, because he cares for you
1 Peter: 5:7



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 March 20—26

Sunday, March 20—Palm Sunday
8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
Monday, March 21
10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
Tuesday, March 22
9:30 am Becky Walker Bible Study
Wednesday, March 23
4:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study
4:30 pm Children's Handbell Choir
5:00 pm Midweek Meetup
5:30 pm Children's Choir
6:00 pm Becky Walker Bible Study
6:00 pm Julia Glass Mission Report
6:00 pm Handbell Choir
6:00 pm Men's Chorus
6:30 pm Choir
6:30 pm Communion Service
7:00 pm 30 Minute Theology
Thursday, March 24
7:30 am Lenten Morning Prayer
9:30 am Shepherd's Center
6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Worship
Friday, March 25
6:30 pm Sanctuary Open All Day
Good Friday Worship

SUNDAY, March 20th, 2016
8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship
Luke 22:14-23:56
"Leap of Faith: From Ideal to Reality"
Rev. Mike Holly

Lectionary Scripture Readings

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Luke 22:14-23:56

SERVING SUNDAY

Ushers
8:45 McDonald 11:00am Lawson
Cross
8:45 Andrew Pitts 11:00 Rebekah Rice
Acolyte
8:45 Michael Lagan
11:00 Penny Rose Pearson
Greeters: Vitality
Meals on Wheels: Shultz/Hardy
Food Pantry April 6th:
Becky McCrary and Rosemary Dallam

Midweek Meetup March 23rd: Holy Week.
Spaghetti, corn on the cob, baked chicken,
baked potato, and salad bar. Chicken fingers
for the kids.

Last Week's Record

March 13, 2016

Children	103
Morning Worship	538
Weekly Contributions Expected*	\$27,212.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$21,288.50
Annual Contributions Expected*	\$1,415,000.00
Contributions Expected to Date*	\$299,327.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$319,377.02
New Members in 2016	6

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$342.00
Received to Date	\$953,830.87

**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.