



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter April 24, 2016

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org



From the very moment that I arrived at Bluff Park United Methodist Church almost three years ago, I was told that we are a serving church. We care deeply about our community and we are always looking to see what needs need to be met. Several years ago we began to realize the issue we have in our city with hunger and ministries such as our Food Pantry and Under the Bridge were established to help feed those who were hungry. There are many different monthly service opportunities that you can take part in ~ just look at our website under Mission.

This past weekend was another experience of the Bluff Park UMC who serves those in need as we sent about fifty volunteers to clean up yards and gardens, fix small problems in homes, and share the love of Christ with our neighbors. Our Day of Service was an amazing experience proving that you do not have to go far to be in mission to others. And then there was the Blood Drive in honor of Christian Cooper. The response was amazing as we nearly doubled the usual donation of life-giving blood. Thank you for serving and thank you for sharing the love of God with the community. Each and every time we do so, we are being the Church that God calls us to be!

Mike

The Hands and Feet of Jesus

“Jesus showed up at my house and he brought 2 friends.” That was what one of the people we helped during our Spring Serve Day had to say. On the morning of April 16th, 9 teams gathered in the Fireside room, put on their bright orange Serve Team t-shirts, and got their work assignments. They visited 8 homes in our community to help with spring cleanup and repair projects. We also had a team visit Bluff Park Elementary to help clean-up the playground and outdoor classroom, pressure wash portions of the building, and trim hedges.

This was a great opportunity to put our love into action in our community and also to spend time together as a church family. As pastor Angela said, “It wasn’t just the people we were serving who got a blessing!”



News of the Week

THANK YOU...

Doris Smith, our Kitchen Manager, wants to express her heartfelt gratitude to the congregation and staff of Bluff Park UMC for all they did following the death of her daughter. Many of her family and friends have commented on the love and generosity shown during the funeral, which was held in our Sanctuary.

SAVE THE DATE!

The date has been set for this year's Silent Auction. It will be held on August 12th, at The Club. Watch for details this summer. We look forward to seeing you there!

KONSENSUS MAY BE GOOD...

Peter Kirchikov, author of "Konsensus May Be Good But Still You Need To Have a Common Sense", will be making presentations based on his book Wednesday evenings during April at 6pm in the Vitality Classroom. This latest book is a book of Soviet-era political humor and satire.

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 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: May 1 and 8, June 5, 12, 19, and 26. Check with the office for other available dates. Please sign up in the main office or call (205) 822-0910.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Christian Cooper—Still Burn Center, Augusta GA
Vicki Burnett—Brookwood Rehab
Rollina Oglesbay—Columbiana Rehab
Cary Moore—Aspire Rehab



Veterans Leadership Meeting

We welcome all current members and invite new volunteers to an important meeting in the Fellowship Hall this Sunday, April 24th at 2:00 pm. You will learn about our veterans' contacts to date, meet new volunteers, and hear from Team Leaders about important actions underway.

We have a lot of great information to share and you will have a chance to reaffirm the team you want to be on. We look forward to seeing you!



**American
Red Cross**

**Blood
Drive**



THANK YOU!

The blood drive this past Sunday, in honor of Christian Cooper, was a big success. We collected a total of 45 units of blood, which exceeded our normal goal of 30 units.

Christian continues his recovery at the Still Burn Center in Augusta, GA. This past week he took his first steps since the accident! Please continue to keep him in your prayers.

COURAGE 4 COOPER TSHIRT ORDER



Courage 4 Cooper T-Shirts

Help us honor Christian Cooper who was in a horrific car accident on 2/27/16. Christian suffers from 3rd degree burns over 75+% of his body, and has a long period of recovery and healing ahead of him.

Show your support by purchasing and wearing this t-shirt. You can wear your t-shirt as a testament to others of his courage as well as a sign of our collected constant prayers! The t-shirt is designed with words used often throughout Christian and the Cooper family's journey.

The t-shirt is \$20.00 (comfort color sizes) and is available by contacting Claire Finley (clairefinley24@gmail.com) or Sarah Salzmänn (sarahsalzmänn@gmail.com)

*NOTE: All proceeds from these shirts will be donated to the Cooper family to help with their medical bills.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

DOLLY AND ME PAR-TEA: Girls of all ages: You are cordially invited to a Dolly and Me ParTEA in the Courtyard and Fireside Room on Sunday, May 15th from 12:30-2:30! There will be a light lunch, activities, crafts, and more! If you would like to attend, please register online at www.bluffparkumc.org/dollyandme. We hope to see you all there!

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 40 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?

CHILDREN'S CHURCH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are in need of volunteers for Children's Church on the following dates and times over the next two months: 11:00 on May 8, 8:45 on May 15, and 8:45 and 11:00 on May 22 and 29 and June 5, 12, 19, and 26. 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, or sign up through Volunteer Spot at <http://vols.pt/22XY7w>.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: This Sunday is our Mission Sunday! We will be making flowers for our church's shut-ins. We will be in Hudson Hall this week.

STUDENT MINISTRY

NINE SQUARE & NEW CHINA - SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 5-7PM A lot of our students are buckling down on their studies as the semester comes to an end. So we are postponing outings to the Autobahn Speedway and Grants Mill Station Adventure Park until the summer, so you can still participate this Sunday night without losing an entire evening of study time. So take a break from studying and join us for some recreation and inspiration as you move into the final stretch of the semester. We'll play Nine-Square in the gym, have a student devotion AND eat FREE New China!

HOLY GROUND IN APRIL We continue a worship series on change and transitions in April. Whether we are moving from middle school to high school, on to college, or are experience changes in our relationships, God is with us through all things. We'll explore scripture where we find God active through times of change and celebrate these moments in our own lives.

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, 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*; Friday-Monday, August 5-8: *Beach Retreat*.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 24, 10:00am
Sunday, April 24, 4:00pm
Sunday, April 24, 5:00pm
Wednesday, April 27, 6:30pm

Sunday School
Holy Ground Team Rehearsal
Nine-Square in the Gym, Student Devotion & FREE New China!
Holy Ground Worship

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY APRIL 21 SHEPHERD'S CENTER - MYSTERY ????? - You will love - come see, come hear, come prepared for a morning of fun. Invite a Friend.
TUESDAY APRIL 26 DAY TRIP/MYSTERY LUNCHEON?? 9:00a-3:00p
WEDNESDAY APRIL 27 COOKING CLASS—Fun with Stanley and his Kids. 6:00 - 7:00pm - Fireside room. Everyone invited.
THURSDAY APRIL 28 SHEPHERD'S CENTER—Fun Bingo

LADIES DAY RETREAT

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

AMAZING GRACE FOR A WOMAN'S HEART

Join us for a morning and early afternoon of Bible Study with **Becky Walker**, Music by **Dr. Lorna Lee Curtis (Rocket)**, Story Time with **Delores Hydock** and **Bobby Horton**, special Entertainment at lunch???? and special Luncheon Guest, **Harmony Mendoza**, Metrologist, WVTM 13 plus beautiful Tablescapes and lots of door prizes.

Special Moment with Jesus

I know, O LORD, that your judgments are right, and that in faithfulness you have humble me. Psalm 119:75



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**NON-PROFIT ORG.
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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 April 24—30

- Sunday, April 24**
- 8:45 am Morning Worship Service
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am Morning Worship Service
- 2:00 pm VLM Meeting
- Monday, April 25**
- 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 10:00 am UMW Joy Circle
- 10:00 am UMW Hope-Love Circle
- 6:30 pm UMW Friendship Circle
- Tuesday, April 26**
- 9:30 am Becky Walker Bible Study
- Wednesday, April 27**
- 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 Cooking Class
- 6:00 pm Konsensus Book Review
- 6:00 pm Handbell Choir
- 6:00 pm Men's Chorus
- 6:30 pm Communion Service
- 6:30 pm Choir
- Thursday, April 28**
- 9:30 am Shepherd's Center
- Friday, April 29**
- 9:00 am 3k-4k Movie Day

SUNDAY, April 24th, 2016
8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship
John 20:24-29
"Moment of Recognition"
Rev. Tom Duley

Lectionary Scripture Readings
Acts 11:1-18
Psalm 148
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35

SERVING SUNDAY
Ushers
8:45am Montz 11:00am Lawson
Cross
8:45 Ella Bowles 11:00 Mary El Neal
Acolyte
8:45 Emma Patton
11:00 Penny Rose Pearson
Greeters: Faith
Meals on Wheels: McCrary
Food Pantry May 4th: Steve Lawson

Midweek Meetup April 27:
Final Meetup 'til Fall—Chicken casserole, steamed broccoli, baked chicken, baked potato, and salad bar. Corn dogs for the kids.

Last Week's Record

April 17, 2016

Children/Youth	90/52
Morning Worship	531
Weekly Contributions Expected*	\$27,212.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$23,441.00
Annual Contributions Expected*	\$1,415,000.00
Contributions Expected to Date*	\$435,387.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$476,942.74
New Members in 2016	13

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$182.00
Received to Date	\$960,037.87

**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.