



# BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226  
205.822.0910

*Newsletter May 1, 2016*

*Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life*

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



**L**ena, Julie and I participated in the Steeple 2 Steeple 5K Run last weekend to raise money for the United Methodist Children's Home. At the conclusion of the race, I saw that Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett was there and she and I had a brief conversation. I thanked our Bishop for re-appointing Rev. Angela Martin to Bluff Park and for appointing Rev. John Carl Hastings to Bluff Park to work with young adults and start a new worship service. Bishop Wallace-Padgett praised both pastors and shared that she was excited for what is ahead for our church and community!

I want to also share with you how excited I am personally with where we are as a church family and where we are going together. I consider myself honored and blessed to be here with you at Bluff Park UMC. This is such a wonderful church! My hope is that in the coming months, we will be making important decisions about how we want to open up our wonderful church to new people. Partly, we plan to become even more hospitable while creating new ways and experiences for people to connect to our church and to one another.

Secondly, we plan to send people out into our community to be in ministry with others in our community. Our shared desire, based on the Purpose and Vision Statements that we adopted last summer, is to help each and every person in our church and in our community to become a disciple of Jesus Christ and to learn how they can uniquely make a difference in the world as God works in and through them. This summer and this fall will be important times in the life of our church as we begin to lay the foundation for our future and for our new ministries!

*Mike*

## Stopping Hunger and More...

Members of Bluff Park UMC showed up ready to serve during the Stop Hunger Now meal packing event at Vestavia Hills UMC. More than 50 members worked shifts April 17th, 18th, and 19th. Their efforts—combined with volunteers from other area churches, schools, and civic organizations—helped to prepare more than a quarter of a million meals to be shared with children overseas.

These meals are primarily distributed through schools where they may be the only food a child gets to eat all day. By partnering with schools, Stop Hunger Now not only feeds children suffering from malnutrition, but also helps to break the cycle of poverty in communities around the world by encouraging school attendance. Learn more about the impact of this work:

[StopHungerNow.org](http://StopHungerNow.org)



# News of the Week

## GROW IT 2 EAT IT

Grow it 2 Eat it is a four day camp experience. We will work in the garden and learn something new each day. Kids will harvest fresh produce and cook it for lunch followed by a craft or activity that reinforces all that we've learned that day. Camp dates are June 13th-16th from 9:30am-12:30pm. The cost of the camp is \$10 per child with a family max of \$15. Register online at: [bluffparkumc.org/grow-it-2-eat-it-registration/](http://bluffparkumc.org/grow-it-2-eat-it-registration/)

## VBS 2016 - CAVE QUEST!

Excitement is building in Children's Ministry!! Vacation Bible School for summer 2016 takes place July 18th-22nd. Daily sessions will run from 5:15-7:50pm. Dinner will be available each night of VBS, from 4:45pm-5:15pm, in the Fellowship Hall, at a cost of \$2 per plate. This is not part of the programming but a service to our students and volunteers. Parents must stay with their kids during dinner as programming begins in the Sanctuary at 5:30pm. Online registration is now open. To register visit:

[bluffparkumc.org/VBS2016](http://bluffparkumc.org/VBS2016)

## 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!

## 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 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  
Durwood Freeman—Brookwood  
Cary Moore—Aspire Rehab  
Julia Hughes—Brookwood

## Memorials

### BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Faye Sims** by Stan and Jane Shepherd  
**Shirley Smith** by Bill Adair, Sharon Higbee  
**Peggy Campbell** by Xanthi Hahamis

### PASTORS DISCRETIONARY FUND

**Roselyn Welton** by Elizabeth Davis  
**Barbara Brannum** by JB and Frankie Thrasher

### FOOD PANTRY

**Barbara Brannum** by Mike and Sandy Miller

### BUILDING FUND

**Trudy Lawyer** by Bill Lawyer

### CHOIR FUND

**Elaine Clinton** by Wayne and Jackie Walton

## Honorariums

### PASTORS DISCRETIONARY FUND

**Pat and Carol Westbrook** by John and Betsy Guy  
**Bill Garwick** by Pony Thompson

### FOOD PANTRY

**Randy Patterson** by Pony Thompson  
**Bill Garwick** by Pony Thompson

### ORGAN FUND

**Bill Shultz** by Steve and Karen Copper  
**Suzanne Scivley** by Steve and Karen Copper  
**Harry and Peggy Hill** by Margaret Cook

### EASTER LOVE OFFERING

**Jim Perry** by Pony Thompson  
**Pat Westbrook** by Pony Thomson

*Please Note: Some Memorials and Honorariums are not listed by the request of the donors.*

## 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). Jennie Alley is coordinating the orders for BPUMC. Please email her ([medplanjda@aol.com](mailto:medplanjda@aol.com)) or text her (205-835-8020) your name and size (child - XXL). She will pick up your payment when she delivers your T-shirt.

\*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](http://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](mailto:sdavidson@bpumc.org), or sign up through Volunteer Spot at <http://vols.pt/22XY7w>.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** This Sunday our theme will be "Putting Others First."

## STUDENT MINISTRY

**PRAY THIS MAY** Last Sunday evening, one of our high school juniors Leslie Norris gave a great devotion on probably the number one issue facing our students right now - **STRESS!** Whether they are finishing up basketball and starting baseball or cramming for ACT's and final exams or trying to work a job around their school day, our students are short on sleep and loaded with responsibilities until the last day of classes. So please pray for our 6th-12th graders especially over the next month and give them words of encouragement when you see them on our church campus.

**NO HOLY GROUND OR REACH EVENTS IN MAY** We will take a hiatus from evening programming, except for worship team rehearsal, and then start back in June with our summer calendar of events. Instead our staff and volunteers will use this month for planning and training.

**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*. Friday, August 12: *Legacy Gala & Silent Auction*.

### THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 1, 10:00am  
Sunday, May 1, 4:00pm

Sunday School  
Holy Ground Team Rehearsal  
**No Wednesday Evening Programming**

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

### UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY APRIL 28

SHEPHERD'S CENTER—Fun Bingo

THURSDAY MAY 5

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Miracles of God, a book of poetry to glorify God, by Emily McElhane Dawson Baptist Church. Everyone's invited.

TUESDAY MAY 10

LAKE MARTIN GARDEN TOUR/ **Water Falls/Lunch** 9:00a-3:00p. Call Betty to sign-up

THURSDAY MAY 12

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Brian Hale, Hoover, Police Dept will be here - "Neighborhood Watch, Personal Safety, Home Security" and much more.

SATURDAY MAY 14

**LADIES DAY RETREAT - Amazing Grace for a Woman's Heart.** 9:00a-2:00p  
Tickets \$15.00. Call Betty for one or pick-up one or two up at the Welcome Center....join us for Worship, Bible Study, Music, Story Time, Fun, Laughter, Excitement, Lunch and maybe a surprise or two. A special day for all of our ladies and visitors.

### CANNING JARS FOR UPPER SAND MOUNTAIN

We are once again collecting **CANNING JARS** for Upper Sand Mountain. We will deliver the end of May. So save those **CANNING JARS**. Bring to Betty's office.

### Special Moment with Jesus

Commit your work to the LORD, and your plans will be established. Proverbs 16:3



## Bluff Park United Methodist Church

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

**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 May 1—7

**Sunday, May 1**  
8:45 am Morning Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Morning Worship Service  
5:00 pm Building Team Meeting  
**Monday, May 2**  
10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry  
**Tuesday, May 3**  
9:30 am Becky Walker Bible Study  
**Wednesday, May 4**  
9:00 am Food Pantry  
6:00 pm Handbell Choir  
6:00 pm Men's Chorus  
6:00 pm Communion Service  
6:30 pm Choir  
**Thursday, May 5**  
9:30 am Shepherd's Center

**SUNDAY, May 1st, 2016**  
8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship  
John 21:1-19  
"TBD"  
Rev. Angela Martin  
**Lectionary Scripture Readings**  
Acts 16:9-15  
Psalm 67  
Revelation 22:10, 22-22:5  
John 14:23-29  
**SERVING SUNDAY**  
Ushers  
Carlisle 8:45 Lawson 11:00  
Cross  
8:45 Jackie Fort 11:00 Kate Ryan Black  
Acolyte  
8:45 Annabelle Eaton 11:00 Rebecca Rice  
Greeters: Fisherman  
Meals on Wheels: Agent  
Food Pantry May 4th: Steve Lawson

## Last Week's Record

April 24, 2016

Children/Youth	105/50
Morning Worship	453
Weekly Contributions Expected*	\$27,212.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$24,195.12
Annual Contributions Expected*	\$1,415,000.00
Contributions Expected to Date*	\$462,599.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$501,137.86
New Members in 2016	13

### LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013–December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$495.00
Received to Date	\$960,532.87

**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.