



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter May 8, 2016

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org



This Sunday is Mother's Day and it is always a special time in the life of our church family. What is interesting is that Mother's Day, which is celebrated around the globe, traces its roots to the Methodist Church. Ann Marie Reeves Jarvis and her daughter, Anna, were both Methodists and after Ann's passing in 1905, Anna led a successful campaign to have Mother's Day recognized in the United States as a national holiday. On the first official Mother's Day service in Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in Pennsylvania, Anna sent 500 carnations to be given out to participating mothers. In that tradition, our Children's Ministry Staff and their volunteers will be handing out carnations this coming Sunday, May 8th, in worship. Mothers, grandmothers, and those

who are like mothers to us are a gift from God and we are excited to express our thanks to God for those who nurture us!

I also would like to invite you all to begin praying for our church members who are about to embark on an overseas journey to trace the footsteps of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism. Rev. Tom Duley is leading a group with Educational Opportunities to explore important cities and landmarks of Methodism in England and Ireland. The team leaves just after Mother's Day and returns later in May. They will be able to visit several important sites, such as the home where Samuel and Susanna Wesley lived with their children to the site of the Bible Study where John Wesley felt his "heart strangely warmed"! Our hope is to continue to offer spiritual pilgrimages like this to help members of our church and community to connect with history and with God.

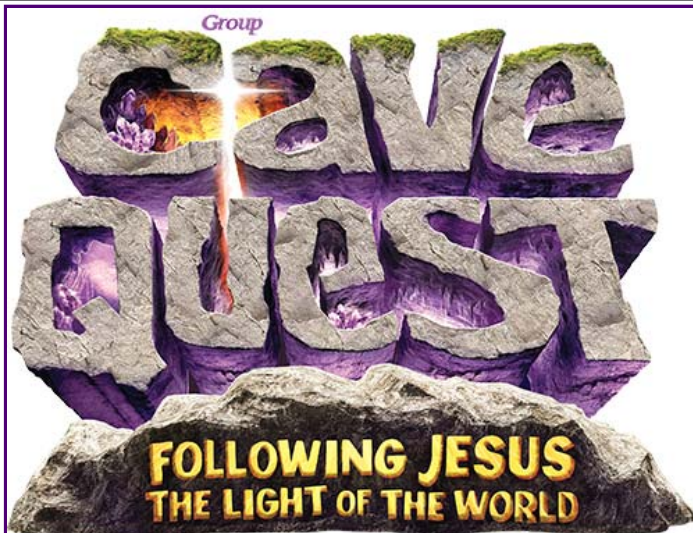
May God bless each and every one of you as we enter into the final days of Spring.

Mike

Mike,
Please convey our family's sincere and deep appreciation to the entire Bluff Park UMC congregation. The prayers, support and gifts have provided great comfort to us during this challenging time. As we look forward to Christian's improvement, continued prayer for him is the key. Thank you again.
The Cooper Family



News of the Week



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

THANK YOU!

Running the Wednesday night Meetups here at Bluff Park United Methodist Church requires the dedicated efforts of a team of volunteers. We would like to thank all the people who volunteered each week during the 2015/2016 season. Have a restful summer and we look forward to seeing you again in the fall.

LADIES DAY RETREAT TICKETS

Tickets for the Ladies Day Retreat can be purchased on Sunday morning 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: June 12, 19, and 26 and July 10, 17, and 31. Check with the office for other available dates. Please sign up in the main office or call (205) 822-0910.

URBAN MINISTRY NEEDS A VAN

Urban Ministry is looking for a van to be donated (or sold at a reasonable price) for their mission and ministry. If you can help, please contact the church office.



GROW IT 2 EAT IT

Grow It 2 Eat It is a four day camp experience. Each day we will work in the garden and learn something new. 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/

FAST AND SECURE ONLINE DONATIONS 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 donate on our website and through a mobile app! After creating an account, you're able to give a donation or schedule a series of donations directly using your debit or credit card. You can also make a pledge 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.

BluffParkUMC.org/give-online

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Christian Cooper—Still Burn Center, Augusta GA

Durwood Freeman—Aspire Rehab

Cary Moore—Aspire Rehab

Rollina Oglesbay—Columbiana Rehab

The BPUMC Men's Chorus will be performing for the residents of Chateau Vestavia on Sunday, May 15. Performances will be at 2:00pm and at 3:15pm.



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!

FIELD TRIP: The Children's Ministry will be offering a field trip for our rising Kindergarten-5th graders on Thursday, June 2nd. We will be going to Desoto Caverns for the day, where we will take a cave tour and participate in some fun activities! Drop off will begin at 7:30, we will leave the church at 10:00, and pickup will be at the church between 5:00-5:30. Please RSVP with Melissa Hendon at mhendon@bpumc.org as soon as possible as we only have 26 spots available.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH 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 our theme will be "Helping Others."

STUDENT MINISTRY

PRAY THIS MAY Until we reach the last day of the spring semester, 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 8, 10:00am

Sunday School

No Sunday Afternoon or Evening Programming
No Wednesday Evening Programming

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY MAY 10

LAKE MARTIN GARDEN TOUR/ Water Falls/Lunch 9:00a-3:00p. Call Betty to sign-up
SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Brian Hale, Hoover, Police Dept will be here - "Neighborhood Watch, Personal Safety, Home Security" and much more.

THURSDAY MAY 12

LADIES DAY RETREAT - Amazing Grace for a Woman's Heart. 9:00am-2:00pm—Chapel
MC - Frances Bellows

SATURDAY MAY 14

MUSIC - Dr. Rocket Curtis

DEVOTIONAL/WORSHIP - Tina Hardy

BIBLE STUDY - Becky Walker

MEMORY CANDLE - Betsy Brittain

LUNCHEON PRAYER - Sally Frederickson

STORY TIME - Delores Hydock and Bobby Horton

LUNCHEON GUEST SPEAKER - Harmony Mendoza, Metrologist Channel 13 WVTM TV NBC
Tablescapes, Lunch, Fun, Laughter, Excitement, Door Prizes and maybe a Surprise or two. Tickets, \$15.00, at the Worship Center or Office. One for yourself one for a friend.

THURSDAY MAY 19

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Ginny Lacey, Lakeshore will be here.

THURSDAY MAY 26

SHEPHERD'S CENTER- Season Performers, What is Baseball?

AUGUST 28-SEPTEMBER 3

NEW YORK CITY TRIP—Details Coming Soon!

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



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NON-PROFIT ORG.
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BIRMINGHAM, AL
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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 8—14

Sunday, May 8—Mother's Day
8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
10:00 am Membership Class
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
Monday, May 9
9:00 am UMW Executive Meeting
10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
Tuesday, May 10
Wesley Tour Group Departs
8:30 am Maintenance
9:30 am Becky Walker Bible Study
6:00 pm Under the Bridge
Wednesday, May 11
6:00 pm Handbell Choir
6:00 pm Men's Chorus
6:00 pm Communion Service
6:30 pm Choir
Thursday, May 12
9:30 am Shepherd's Center
Friday, May 13
11:00 am Friendship Class Luncheon
Saturday, May 14
9:00 am Ladies Day Retreat

SUNDAY, May 8th, 2016
8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship
1 Corinthians 13:4-7
"The Heart of a Child and a Mother's Care"
Rev. Mike Holly
Lectionary Scripture Readings
Acts 16:16-34
Psalm 97
Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21
John 17:20-26
SERVING SUNDAY
Ushers
8:45 Nelson 11:00am Dover
Cross
8:45 Natalie Self 11:00 Mary Lynn Williamson
Acolyte
8:45 Andrew Pitts 11:00 Charlie Redding
Greeters: Friendship
Meals on Wheels: Davis
Food Pantry June 1st: Penny Burns

Last Week's Record

May 1, 2016

Children/Youth	104/45
Morning Worship	368
Weekly Contributions Expected*	\$27,212.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$50,095.30
Annual Contributions Expected*	\$1,415,000.00
Contributions Expected to Date*	\$489,811.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$551,233.16
New Members in 2016	13

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$1,230.00
Received to Date	\$961,762.87

**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.