



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter June 19, 2016

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org



“Our country is hemorrhaging, literally, and drastic triage is required.”

United Methodist pastor, James Howell, wrote these words this week about the tragedy in Orlando, Florida, on Sunday. Over 100 people were killed or wounded in this act of terror and hate. In the midst of a tragedy like this, that should not have ever happened, we want answers and action. We look to our leaders to explain the reasons why something like this happened as well as to tell us what they are going to do in order to prevent this kind of thing from ever happening again.

Online we have seen people pray and lament. We have seen people lecture and criticize. I have been moved by some of the posts almost as much as I have been troubled by the words of others. Last month, according to news outlets, a spokesman for ISIS stated that so-called homegrown terrorists should act and terrorize Americans “so that the neighbor fears his neighbor.” Notice that the end result that ISIS hopes to achieve is for the people of the United States to live in a state of distrust and fear. And in the process of living within this state, we would then turn on one another.

Jesus emphasized both praying for our enemies and loving our neighbor, which seem to be even more difficult to do at times like these. But they are even more necessary. We must learn to pray and we must learn to stay connected with our neighbors and to live in peace. This itself will free us from becoming seized by fear. And then we must turn to God, fervently asking God to help us to stop the hemorrhaging of people and our country.

Mike

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Special Welcome Event for
Rev. John Carl Hastings
June 26th, 2016 @5pm

Mark your calendar. On June 26th at 5pm we will have our annual Ice Cream Social in the Fellowship Hall. This year's event is going to be a special time for us, as a church family, to welcome Rev. John Carl Hastings and his Family to Bluff Park United Methodist Church. Dinner will be provided.

The Student Ministries hosts this event and it also serves as a fundraiser with all donations going to Student Ministry Summer Trips.



News of the Week

SILENT AUCTION TICKETS

The date has been set for the 2016 Legacy Gala and Silent Auction. It will be held on August 12th, at The Club. Tickets are now on sale. You can purchase tickets on Sunday mornings or online. Reserve your spot early. We look forward to seeing you there!

Bluffparkumc.org/gala2016

SHOE BOXES ARE HERE!

This summer we are putting together Shoe Boxes to be distributed to children throughout Latin America at Christmas time. The Shoe Boxes have small items that many of the children our missionaries work with have a hard time getting. We are setting aside the months of June and July to collect the items and assemble the Shoe Boxes. The list of needed materials is provided when you pick up a box. We have ordered more boxes and you can get them in the Narthex on Sunday morning. This is a project in partnership with the United Methodist Committee on Relief and our United Methodist missionaries working in the region.

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: July 17 and 24, and August 14 and 28. Check with the office for other available dates. Please sign up in the main office or call



CALLING ALL ICE CREAM MAKERS...

Do you have an ice cream maker and a good recipe? The BPUMC Student Ministries is looking for members to donate some home made ice cream for the upcoming Ice Cream Social. The students will provide the tasty toppings and serve up the treats.

If you can bring ice cream, please contact Bart at barts@bpumc.org and let him know what flavors and how much you plan to bring.

(205) 822-0910.

TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Jo Ann and I want to thank you all for your prayers, your visits, cards, and calls while I was in the hospital and at Aspire. It meant so much to us and our family. Thanks for what you did, what you said, and who you are. We will always be grateful to you for your thoughtfulness and consideration. Thank you!
-Durwood & Jo Ann Freeman

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Christian Cooper—Still Burn Center, Augusta GA
Butch Powell—Walker County Hospital

WANDERING WESLEY RETURNS

Looking for a fun way to share your summer travels with your friends and family at

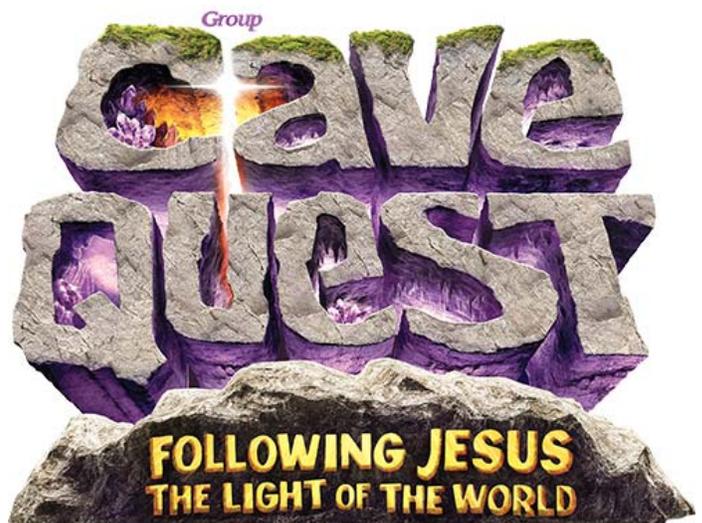
Bluff Park UMC? Download a copy of 'Wandering Wesley' from the church website and take a 'vacation' picture of him wherever you go. There is a line art and full color version available. Post a copy of your picture on the church Facebook page and use the hash tags #wanderingwesley and #bpumcsummer. We can't wait to see where he turns up.



REGISTER FOR VBS 2016!

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 parents, 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



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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CHILDREN'S CHURCH VOLUNTEERS: 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! If you would like to sign up to join our rotating volunteer schedule or sit in with us one Sunday, please email Stanley Davidson at sdavidson@bpumc.org.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: This Sunday we will be visiting the community garden behind our church with the Garden Team during Sunday school this week! Drop off and pick up will be in Hudson Hall.

STUDENT MINISTRY

MISSING SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS SUMMER? THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT. All of our student Sunday School lessons will have a corresponding Weekly Devo uploaded to our Youth Wing mobile app each week. So if your family is on the road or at the beach, your student can still have some quiet time in the Word. Each lesson follows the chronological story of God's people through the Old Testament with an everyday application. We've also kept up last summer's devos as well.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15TH - TEAM SPORTS IN THE GYM & ART NIGHT IN THE FIRESIDE ROOM! Our church is up for a city-wide beautification award this month and our previously scheduled Messy Games Night would not be conducive to taking first place. So we are moving that event to Wednesday, July 13th. Instead, this Wednesday we'll have team sports in the gym (kickball, wiffle ball, soccer, etc.) with arts and crafts activities across the hall in the Fireside Room from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Then we'll finish with dinner and a short devotion. Students need to bring \$5 for dinner.

SUNDAY, JUNE 26 - ICE CREAM SOCIAL IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL We are welcoming Rev. John Carl Hastings and his family to our church with an ice cream social from 5-7pm later this month. This is also a great fundraising opportunity for students going on trips this summer. Students and their parents can earn summer trip credits by bringing homemade ice cream, serving the ice cream and staying to clean up afterwards. Contact Kathryn at youth@bpumc.org to let us know you'll be helping and how.

DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP & KEEP UP WITH THE FAST-MOVING SUMMER SCHEDULE. There's so much going on as we move deeper into 2016: Summer Mission Trips, the Beach 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 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

Wednesday, 12:00pm, June 15
Wednesday, 6:00pm, June 15
Sunday, 10:00am, June 19

HS Lunch Bunch: El Gringo's
Team Sports in the Gym & Art Night in the Fireside Room
Sunday School, 10am in the Youth Wing
No Afternoon/Evening Activities on Father's Day

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY JUNE 21

SCOTTSBORO - Unclaimed Baggage, soda fountain. 8:00am-4:00pm

THURSDAY JUNE 23

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Tom Davis & Jack Erber History of the Gideon Bible.

THURSDAY JUNE 30

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Niki Sepsas will be here St Petersburg (Russia) : Treasures of Tsars.

THURSDAY JULY 7

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Artist-on-the-Bluff—Program and lunch at Capers on Park Avenue.

TUESDAY JULY 12

TALLADEGA MOTORSPORTS MUSEUM-9:00am-3:00pm admission charge.

NEW YORK, NEW YORK - AUGUST 28-SEPTEMBER 2

9-11 Memorial, St Patrick's Cathedral, Trinity Church, Empire State Bld, Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, Walk across the Brooklyn Bridge (or ride), Wall Street, Central Park Strawberry Fields, Window shopping, Ferry ride, Broadway, TT, Wall Street, Chinatown, Greenwich Village and much more. Over-night going and coming.

Cost: \$1,000-1,250.00pp/dbl. \$200.00 deposit - Balance due August 20.

ENCORE!

A Community Respite Ministry

Enriching the lives of adults of all faiths, with memory loss, to live fully and well meet each Tuesday and Thursday at Canterbury United Methodist Church for fellowship and activities, while providing resources and support for families and caregivers in the Birmingham community. For more information, or to volunteer, contact Kristen Snell at Canterbury. (205) 874-1525



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NON-PROFIT ORG.
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BIRMINGHAM, AL
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Tom Duley, tduley@bpumc.org, ext. 112
Director of Senior Ministries, ext. 103
Betty Hottenstein, bhottenstein@bpumc.org
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Bart Styes, barts@bpumc.org
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Andrew Seltz, aseltz@bpumc.org
Secretary, ext. 111
Catherine Ward, cward@bpumc.org
Director of Worship Music,
Lonnie Parsons
Preschool Director,
Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org



The Week of June 19—25

Sunday, June 19
8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
Monday, June 20
10:00 am Prayer Shawl
Tuesday, June 21
8:00 am Senior Day Trip
6:00 pm Church Life Committee
6:00 pm Investment Committee
Wednesday, June 22
9:30 am Garden Camp
6:00 pm Handbell Choir
6:30 pm Choir
Thursday, June 23
9:30 am Shepherd's Center

SUNDAY, June 19th, 2016
8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship
Luke 8:26-39
"Too Much Too Fast"
Rev. Mike Holly

Lectionary Scripture Readings
1 Kings 19:1-15a
Psalm 42
Galatians 3:23-29
Luke 8:26-39

SERVING SUNDAY
Ushers
8:45am Footsteps 11:00am Davis
Acolyte
8:45 Ella Bowles 11:00 Rebecca Rice
Greeters: Vitality
Meals on Wheels: Kaufhold
Food Pantry July 6th: Penny Burns

Last Week's Record

June 12, 2016

Children	76
Morning Worship	462
Weekly Contributions Expected*	\$27,212.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$25,577.41
Annual Contributions Expected*	\$1,415,000.00
Contributions Expected to Date*	\$653,083.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$697,812.50
New Members in 2016	15

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013–December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$675.00
Received to Date	\$967,164.87

**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.