



733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Newsletter June 26, 2016

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org



This coming Sunday is going to be a big day in the life of our church family. Rev. Tom Duley will be preaching at both morning worship services and our guest organist will be Jamie Davis, our former organist. We will welcome Rev. John Carl Hastings into the clergy team at Bluff Park UMC this coming Sunday as well. Finally, we will have a wonderful opportunity Sunday evening for our church family to gather in friendship and fellowship at the Ice Cream Social in the Fellowship Hall. We have invited John Carl's wife, Tori, and their 11-month-old son to join us. I hope you will come by and greet them into our church family!

I shared with several Sunday school classes over the past three weeks a few reflections from my visits to every Sunday school class in our church family three years ago when I first arrived. Many across our church celebrated the "hometown feel" that our church has. Our church is comprised of warm and friendly people who have become a close-knit family over the years. We celebrate birthdays and anniversaries in worship, we gather together for Wednesday night meals and the Legacy Gala, and we serve together side-by-side in Days of Service for our community. Each Sunday school class seemed to celebrate the way we are a church family, but hoped that we would be able to invite more people into our fold.

Part of Rev. John Carl Hastings' ministry will be working with young people in our community to help them understand who they are, why they matter to God, and how they can serve the world in love. Hopefully, they will find a place among us in the Bluff Park UMC church family. This vision requires more than just Rev. Hastings working in the community. It will also require each of us to invite our friends and neighbors to see our church family as open to them. So, I hope you will invite some people to worship and other special events this summer (including our Ice Cream Social).

Diaper Drive

- ⇒ Did you know that diapers are not covered by any government program such as SNAP (formerly known as food stamp assistance) or WIC?
- ⇒ Did you know there are more than 14,500 children under the age of five in Birmingham?
- ⇒ Did you know that 29% of our community lives below the poverty line - \$24,250 for a family of four?
- ⇒ Did you know that a baby can go through 8-10 diapers a day?
- ⇒ Did you know that the BPUMC food pantry has distributed over 55,000 diapers since October 2015?

During the month of July, United Methodist Women will be sponsoring a diaper drive for the **Bundles of Hope** diaper bank. Beginning in March, we were able to begin giving 50 diapers to each child - that is about 1 week's worth. We are now distributing, on average, 9,000 diapers each month.

Please help us by donating either diapers or making a monetary donation during the month of July. Bins will be in the narthex and on the 1st floor in the hallway by the fellowship hall/nursery entrance. While all sizes of diapers are needed, **we have the largest demand for the large sizes - 4, 5 and 6.** Monetary donations will be used to purchase diapers through the National Diaper Bank Association where we can make a dollar go a bit farther!

The diapers collected will be distributed exclusively through the BPUMC Food Pantry.

Mile



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



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.

available dates. Please sign up in the main office or call (205) 822-0910.

COFFEE RECEPTION

On Sunday, July 3rd, there will be a come & go coffee in the Parlor from 10:00-11:00 am for Penny and Jay Burns. If you have worked with Penny, or been involved in church activities with her in any way, bring a thank you card and stop in to visit with her.

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. Printed copies are also available in the Narthex on Sunday mornings. Post a copy of your picture on the church Facebook page and use the hash tags #wanderingwesley and #bpumcsummer. Wandering Wesley has already made an appearance at Camp Sumatanga and the Still Burn Center in Au-

gusta Georgia. Where will he turn up next?

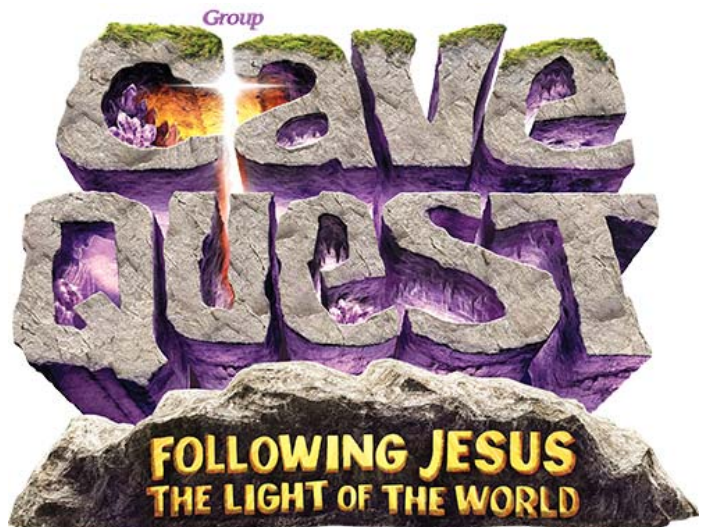
IN THE HOSPITAL...

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

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

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

FIELD TRIP Our next mission trip/field trip for our rising Kindergarten-5th graders will be on Thursday, July 7th. We will be shopping for school supplies for children who need them in our community and then going to a church member's farm for a pool party and pizza lunch! There will be a trained life guard on site for this field trip! 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 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 is our Mission Sunday! We will be putting together Christmas Shoe Boxes! We will be in Hudson Hall all summer.

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 22ND - NINE SQUARE IN THE GYM & GAMES IN THE FIRESIDE ROOM! Nine Square is a Bluff Park Youth tradition, especially after working all day on our ASP Mission Trips. We'll have a big game going in the gym with Apples to Apples 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 this Sunday. 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

Sunday, June 26, 10:00am	Sunday School in the Youth Wing
Sunday, June 26, 5:00pm	Ice Cream Social in the Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, June 29th, 12:00pm	HS Lunch Bunch Location TBD
Wednesday, June 29th, 6:00pm	Gaga Ball Pit & Tether Ball Tourney outside the Youth Wing

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

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.

THURSDAY JULY 14

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Program by Leonette Slay—Chile Mission Trip

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



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
John Carl Hastings, jchastings@bpumc.org, ext. 120
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
Preschool Director,
Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org

The Week of June 26—July 2

Sunday, June 26

8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
5:00 pm Ice Cream Social

Monday, June 27

10:00 am Prayer Shawl
10:00 am UMW Hope Circle

Wednesday, June 29

9:30 am Garden Camp
6:00 pm Handbell Choir
6:00 pm Communion Service
6:30 pm Choir

Thursday, June 30

9:30 am Shepherd's Center
6:30 pm Fisherman Class Social

SUNDAY, June 26th, 2016

8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship

Luke 9:51-62

"Two Mistakes... Two Sins"

Rev. Tom Duley

Lectionary Scripture Readings

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14
Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20
Galatians 5:1, 13-25
Luke 9:51-62

SERVING SUNDAY

Ushers

8:45am Montz 11:00am Lawson

Acolyte

8:45 Jackie Fort 11:00 Kate Ryan Black

Greeters: Wesley Forum

Meals on Wheels: Moore

Food Pantry July 6th: Penny Burns

Last Week's Record

June 19, 2016

Children	73
Morning Worship	438
Weekly Contributions Expected*	\$27,212.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$13,423.00
Annual Contributions Expected*	\$1,415,000.00
Contributions Expected to Date*	\$680,295.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$711,235.50
New Members in 2016	15

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$387.00
Received to Date	\$967,551.87

**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.