



733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
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BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Newsletter September 11, 2016

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org



Reaching out in love to our community is a part of being a church and it has been a long-standing piece of how we have operated as a church for many years. The consignment sale preparations begin this week. Hundreds of people in our community come into our building to find affordable clothing for their children as they prepare for changing of the seasons. We also have one of the most popular Halloween Carnivals on the Bluff and have blessed many children with a safe place to come in their costumes in the days leading up to trick or treating. This year, we are adding a new way of blessing the people in our community by offering a fall block party for the people in our area.

The fall block party will be in our parking lot on September 25th from 4:00 - 6:00 pm. There will be MANY attractions for all ages including inflatable bounce houses, entertainment, and food. This will be a great way for people to come together for fun and fellowship and get to know their neighbors. We are asking each and every church member to do two things: 1) attend the block party; and 2) invite your neighbors to attend! Not only will we be having fun at the block party; attendees will also have the opportunity to register for a fun run to benefit NeverThirst and help us get one step further into digging a well for people in a village overseas who do not have easy access to clean drinking water. It will be a day of fun for sure, but it will also be an opportunity for our church family to witness to our neighbors about the love and grace of God.

The fall will be full of relational opportunities for us all to engage in learning and loving together. Don't miss any opportunity to get plugged in!

Mike



The fall consignment sale is coming on Friday, September 16th, from 9:00am-6:00pm and Saturday, September 17th, from 9:00am-2:00pm. This sale is not only a great blessing to the families who take part in it, but it also raises money to support the children's ministry here at the church. For more information, visit the website:

BluffParkUMC.org/both



October 2—30, 2016

News of the Week

SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM UPDATES

If you have checked in on the church's Facebook page recently you know that renovation work on the 3rd floor of the education building is complete, and classroom moving is underway. A number of Sunday School classes will be moving. The Seekers class has moved into room 265. The Wesley Forum class has moved into room 270. The Cornerstone class has moved to room 134 under the Chapel. The new Faith Builders class has settled into room 370. The Footsteps class has moved into room 368, and the Vitality class has moved into room 367. Additional class moves will take place over the coming weeks and those room changes will be announced as they are completed.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know you may be able to make a tax-free charitable contribution directly from your IRA?

Individuals 70 ½ or older may donate to a church or charity up to \$100,000 annually through their traditional Individual Retirement Accounts. Qualified Charitable Distributions (also called IRA Charitable Rollovers) are made from the IRA directly to the non-profit organization and can count toward the IRA owner's "required minimum distribution" (RMD), which would normally be taxable when distributed to the IRA's owner.

These contributions can be especially beneficial to those unable to itemize their charitable deductions and those whose charitable gifts are limited or reduced by certain tax provisions. These gifts cannot be made from other forms of tax-deferred retirement accounts, such as a 401k, 403b, SEP or Simple IRA.

Tax laws are complex and subject to change. You are encouraged to consult your tax advisor to determine whether this is appropriate for you and to discuss the process. Please notify the church finance office if you intend to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution to Bluff Park United Methodist Church.

PRAY FOR CHILE MISSION TRIP

Our mission team, led by Rev. Tom Duley, is serving



in Chile this week. Please keep them in your prayers.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteer dinner servers are needed for 4th Wednesday evenings. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the office.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The worship committee will meet on September 25th at 3:30 in the Library.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Julia Hughes—Brookwood



United Methodist Committee On Relief

Louisiana Flooding Offering

August 28, September 4 and 11, 2016

LOUISIANA FLOOD RELIEF DONATIONS

The worst disaster to hit the United States since Superstorm Sandy has devastated the people of southeast Louisiana. On August 28th we began gathering financial donations to support the recover efforts. Sunday, September 11th, is the final day to make a contribution to this special offering. All of the donations we receive will be distributed through the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR.) 100% of all donations will go directly to the relief efforts. To make a contribution, either visit our website or write a check to Bluff Park UMC and put 'Louisiana Flooding' in the memo line to designate the money to flood relief. Thank you for your generosity.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

ANNUAL CHILDREN'S PARENT MEETING: The Children's Ministry's annual parent meeting to discuss the upcoming calendar year of children's events and update children's contact/medical information will be held on Sunday, September 11th from 10:00-10:45 in the Fellowship Hall. If you have a child between birth-5th grade, please plan on attending this very important meeting!

BIBLES FOR 3RD GRADERS: We will be presenting Bibles to all of the children who have entered the 3rd grade this year on Sunday, September 18th at both the 8:45 and 11:00 services. If your child plans on participating that Sunday, could you please Melissa Hendon atmhendon@bpumc.org letting us know which service they will be attending and giving us their full names?

NEW ACOLYTE TRAINING: On Wednesday, September 14th, there will be a new acolyte training meeting for any elementary students 3rd grade or older who would like to begin serving as acolytes in our Sunday morning worship services at BPUMC this Fall. This training will be held from 6:00-6:20 in the sanctuary. This is a great way for our children to serve in their church! We hope to see you there!

MIDWEEK MEETUP RETURNS: Midweek Meetup programming for children happens every Wednesday night! The children will enjoy dinner, choir, recreation, Bible Study/Classroom time, Bible Memory Verse Challenges, and more. Our teachers this year will be Lori Beasley and Susan Prueter with Kindergarten and 1st graders, Carole Roegner and Betsy Britain teaching a Bible Skills Class with the 2nd and 3rd graders, and Stanley and Stephanie Davidson with the 4th and 5th graders

STUDENT MINISTRY

FALL SMALL GROUPS Wednesday small groups have started. We have Coed, Boys, and Girl small groups meeting in the youth wing from 6:00-6:30pm before Holy Ground each week. Groups will share how their week is going, what they are excited or stressed about and pray for each other.

ANTHEM: FIGHT SONG Our student worship service continues on Wednesdays at 6:30pm. Our worship theme for the month of September is Anthems. We'll explore the songs, stories and scripture that inspire us to live fuller lives each day. So each Holy Ground will feature a different pop music "anthem" performed by our worship team that has a tie in to our Bible-based message.

YOUTH FAMILY TAILGATE PARTY this coming Sunday, September 11th at 5:00pm. We are inviting all 6th-12th graders and their families to join us for food, music, games and a devotion in the youth wing parking lot. Wear your team colors and bring your favorite game day food to share. We'll have a Punt/Pass/Kick competition and we'd love to find out who is our best corn hole player as well.

HS GIRLS SMALL GROUP Our 9th-12th grade girls are invited to a weekly small group starting on next Tuesday, September 13th at 7:00 pm. The group will meet in the home of Bethany Dover (4743 Marywood Circle). The fall group calendar will run for eight weeks and members will help develop the topics of study over the first couple of weeks. Contact Bethany at bddover4@yahoo.com if you'd like to learn more about the group or want to know how you can support their experience with snacks, etc.

DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP & KEEP UP WITH THE FAST-MOVING FALL SCHEDULE. There's so much going on as we move deeper into 2016: Holy Ground Worship, the Fall 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 Thursday-Friday, November 10-11: *One Night for the Homeless*; Friday-Sunday, November 18-20: *Fall Retreat at Sumatanga*.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, Sept 11, 10:00am	Sunday School
Sunday, Sept 11, 4:00pm	Worship Team Rehearsal
Sunday, Sept 11, 5:00pm	Tailgate Party in the Parking Lot
Wednesday, Sept 14, 5:00pm	Student Hangout & Dinner Time
Wednesday, Sept 14, 6:00pm	Small Groups
Wednesday, Sept 14, 6:30pm	Holy Ground Worship - Fight Song

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 8

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - The Alexanders: Wayne and Margaret—Musical program. Meet in the Fellowship Hall.

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 15

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Jinni Lacey, Lakeshore HealthSouth. Meet in the Fellowship hall due to consignment sale.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Dinner servers are needed for 4th Wednesday evenings. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the office

ENCORE!

A Community Respite Ministry

Our Mission: To enrich the lives of adults with memory loss meets each Tuesday and Thursday at Canterbury United Methodist Church for fellowship and activities. We could use a few good volunteers from BPUMC.

MESSAGE FROM BETTY:

"Thank you for your prayers, your cards, and phone calls. I miss you. Hope to be back soon. Love to all."

SPECIAL MOMENT WITH JESUS

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness... Galatians 5:22



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The Week of September 11—17

Sunday, September 11
8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
10:00 am Parent Meeting (Nursery-5th)
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
3:00 pm Capital Campaign
5:00 pm Boundaries for Kids Class
5:00 pm Divorce Care
5:00 pm Youth Tailgate Party
6:00 pm Holy Communion
Monday, September 12
9:00 am UMW Executive Committee
10:00 am Prayer Shawl
Tuesday, September 13
8:30 am Maintenance
9:30 am Covenant Bible Study
6:00 pm Under the Bridge
Wednesday, September 14
3:00 pm Fisherman Class Meeting
4:30 pm Pastors Bible Study
5:00 pm Midweek Meetup
5:45 pm Men's Chorus
6:00 pm Gospel of John Study
6:00 pm Communion Service
6:00 pm Handbell Choir
6:00 pm Youth Small Groups
6:00 pm Acolyte Training
6:30 pm Choir
6:30 pm Growing in the Christian Life
6:30 pm Healthy Eating
6:30 pm Young Adult Bible Study
6:30 pm Holy Communion
6:30 pm Holy Ground Worship
Thursday, September 15
9:30 am Shepherd's Center
6:30 pm Finance Committee
Friday, September 16
9:00 am Bargains on the Bluff
Saturday, September 17th
9:00 am Bargains on the Bluff

SUNDAY, September 11th, 2016
8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship
Luke 15:1-32
"Recenter: The People of God"
Rev. Mike Holly
Lectionary Scripture Readings
Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28
Psalm 14
1 Timothy 1:12-17
Luke 15:1-10
SERVING SUNDAY
Ushers
8:45 Nelson 11:00am Dover
Cross
8:45 Vivi Shanlever 11:00 Abby Gray
Acolyte
8:45 Caroline Marshall 11:00 Avery Edwards
Greeters: Seekers
Meals on Wheels: Chambers
Food Pantry October 5th:
Becky McCrary and Rosemary Dallam
Midweek Meetup Menu—September 14
Bingo Night: Menu TBA

Last Week's Record

September 4, 2016

Children	39
Morning Worship	370
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$27,212.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$26,444.00
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,415,000.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$952,415.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$944,564.79
New Members in 2016	19

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$460.00
Received to Date	\$973,399.87

**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.