



733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Newsletter September 18, 2016

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org



Pastor and author John Stott says that for any church to be a “living church,” it must also be a learning church. He points out that the Acts of the Apostles states that early Christians “devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching” (Acts 2:42). These early Christians understood that the pursuit of understanding as it relates to God and His revelation to us is of the utmost importance. I know in my own life, the study of the Scriptures and learning about how the faith is being lived by others has helped me to creatively analyze how I should live my own life in relation to God and His purposes.

Sunday school classes are a great starting point for this kind of learning. All of our Sunday morning classes have wonderful teachers and lively discussion about the Scriptures and about relevant topics in Christianity today. If you are ready to join a Sunday morning class, please contact the church office and our pastors will be able to assist you! In addition to Sunday morning learning, we also offer small groups and Bible studies on Wednesday evenings and Sunday evenings and details about these classes is in the Fall 2016 Mission and Ministry Guide. Several of our classes are already filling up, but a few others still have room and we would love for you to find a place to plug in and grow.

Our plan for this fall as a church family is to offer three different styles of learning opportunities to our church. The first are Discover Groups which include Sunday school classes and traditional Bible studies. Next, we are offering Life Groups which include walking and running groups, healthy eating classes and a parenting class. Finally, we are hoping to start several Grow Groups which are brand new to our church family. These groups of 6-12 people meet together to study together, pray together and build one another up in faith and life. If you would like to participate in one of these pilot groups, please let one of the pastors know!

Remember, a living church is a learning church!



BPUMC Fun Run

The New Light Sunday school class has chosen a mission goal to provide clean drinking water to people around the world in partnership with Neverthirst, an organization dedicated to bringing clean and Living water to the poor through the local church in India, Sudan and the Central African Republic. As part of this effort, they are organizing the 3rd annual BPUMC Fun Run, on September 25th @ 5:45pm. This is the same day as our Block Party, so you can enjoy the party first, and then come for the run! Registration opens at 4:00pm.

The money raised from previous Fun Runs was used to provide a well for the 32 families of the village of Kako, in the Indian state of Bihar.

To register online for the 2016 BPUMC Fun Run, visit our website:

BluffParkUMC.org/funrun

News of the Week

PRAY FOR CHILE MISSION TRIP

Our mission team, led by Rev. Tom Duley, continues serving in Chile this week. Please keep them in your prayers.

BUILDING TEAM REPORT

This coming Sunday, September 18th at 3:00 pm, the building team will be making a presentation in the Sanctuary. All church members are invited to come and see the results of their hard work planning to meet the current and future needs of our congregation.

TAILGATE TENTS NEEDED

We are in need of some tailgate tents for the upcoming church Block Party. If you have one that we could use, please email Angela at amartin@bpumc.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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

OFFERING OF BLANKETS

We will once again be collecting blankets to share with our homeless neighbors during the month of October. There will be a table set up in the Narthex on Sunday mornings to receive blankets or you can bring yours by the church office during the week. We will have a Blessing of the Blankets during worship on Sunday, October 30th.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WORK DAYS

We will have Habitat work days on Thursday, October 27th and Friday, October 28th. You can join us for both days or one day, the entire day or part of a day as your schedule allows. You can sign up by sending an email to Tom Duley at tduley@bpumc.org. The location of the house is not yet known. Marvin Broome will be catering lunch on both days.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

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

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: November 6 and 20, and December 4 and 11. Check with the office for other available dates. Please sign up in the main office or call (205) 822-0910.

CORRECTION

The Mission and Ministry Guide incorrectly listed the Prayer Shawl Ministry meeting schedule. They meet Mondays from 10:00am-12:00pm in room 270.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Laverne Boles—Aspire
Julia Hughes—Brookwood

Block Party
September 25
4:00-6:00pm

Free hotdogs, chips and drinks;
carnival games and prizes,
inflatables, velcro wall, trackless
train, music, and facepainting.

JOIN US FOR
BISCUITS
ON THE **BLUFF**

AT BLUFF PARK UMC

CELEBRATING THE KICKOFF
FOR OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

10,000 REASONS
1,500 PIECES
ONE VISION

ROMANS 8:28 BLUFF PARK UMC

10.02.16

9AM-11AM | FELLOWSHIP HALL

FEATURING

- ★ Southern Style Gravy
- ★ Local Syrup & Honey
- ★ Fresh Eggs & Cheese
- ★ Ham
- ★ Homemade Jams, Jellies & Preserves

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

MIDWEEK MEETUP RETURNS: Midweek Meetup programming for children happens every Wednesday night from 5:00-7:00! The children will enjoy dinner, choir, recreation, Bible Study/Classroom time, Bible Memory Verse Challenges, and more. Each week this Fall at Midweek Meetup a Bible verse will be given to everyone who attends. A prize will be given every week to anyone who has memorized their weekly verse. Then, on one of the last Midweek Meetups of the Fall, any child who has memorized all of their Bible verses will get to have an ice cream (with all the toppings)/pizza party with Mr. Stanley! Will you accept the challenge?!?!?!?

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Our children's church lesson this week will be on "Moses and Pharaoh!"

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Our Preschool Sunday School lesson will be on "Joshua and the Battle of Jericho" and our Elementary Sunday School lesson this week will be on "Forgiveness!"

STUDENT MINISTRY

FALL SMALL GROUPS Continuing on Wednesday, September 14th, we will have Coed, Boys, and Girl small groups meeting in the youth wing from 6:00-6:30pm before Holy Ground. Groups will share how their week is going, what they are excited or stressed about and pray for each other.

ANTHEM: FIREWORKS Our student worship service continues tomorrow night - Wednesday, September 14th at 6:30pm. Our Wednesday night 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.

OUR MONTHLY YOUTH SERVE NIGHT IS THIS COMING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH AT 5:00PM. Teams of students and adult volunteers will leave after fellowship supper for one of the following opportunities: singing for and visiting residents at Rittenhouse, doing landscaping and yardwork at Bluff Park Elementary School, or packing snack bags for the homeless in our Fellowship Hall.

HS GIRLS SMALL GROUP Our 9th-12th grade girls are invited to a weekly small group on Tuesdays 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 18, 10:00am	Sunday School
Sunday, Sept 18, 4:00pm	Worship Team Rehearsal
Sunday, Sept 18, 5:00pm	Serve Night (meet in Fellowship Hall)
Tuesday, Sept 20, 7:00pm	HS Girls Small Group (at Dover home)
Wednesday, Sept 21, 5:00pm	Hang Out Time on the Youth Wing & the Gym
Wednesday, Sept 21, 6:00pm	Small Groups in the Youth Wing (Coed, Boys & Girls Groups)
Wednesday, Sept 21, 6:30pm	Holy Ground Worship

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 15

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

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 22

SHEPHERD'S CENTER—Charlie McAfee, fun music.

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 29

SHEPHERD'S CENTER—Dr. Larry Lee, a healthy active you.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 5TH

ENCORE SPECIAL PROGRAM—Valerie and Kristen, from Canterbury UMC, will be here from 6-7pm in the Fireside room. Come see, come hear how we can help our friends and loved ones with Alzheimer's.

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.

SPECIAL MOMENT WITH JESUS

Give thanks in all circumstances. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 NIV



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(205) 822-0910

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Preschool Director,
Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org



The Week of September 18—24

Sunday, September 18
8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
2:30 pm Disciple II
3:00 pm Building Team Report
5:00 pm Boundaries for Kids Class
5:00 pm Divorce Care
6:00 pm Holy Communion
Monday, September 19
10:00 am Prayer Shawl
5:30 pm Capital Campaign
Tuesday, September 20
9:30 am Covenant Bible Study
6:00 pm Under the Bridge
Wednesday, September 21
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
6:30 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 22
9:30 am Shepherd's Center
Friday, September 23
6:30 pm Fisherman Class Social

SUNDAY, September 18th, 2016
8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship
Romans 10:14-17
"Recenter: The Kingdom of God"
Rev. Mike Holly

Lectionary Scripture Readings
Jeremiah 8:18-9:1
Psalm 79:1-9
1 Timothy 2:1-7
Luke 16:1-13

SERVING SUNDAY
Ushers
8:45am McDonald 11:00am Lawson
Cross
8:45 Ella Bowles 11:00 Tate Turner
Acolyte
8:45 Natalie Self 11:00 Mary El Neal
Greeters: Vitality
Meals on Wheels: Shultz/Hardy
Food Pantry October 5th:
Becky McCrary and Rosemary Dallam

Midweek Meetup Menu—September 21
Ice Cream Time Machine: Menu TBA

Last Week's Record

September 11, 2016

Children	119
Morning Worship	516
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$27,212.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$22,780.06
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,415,000.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$979,627.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$967,344.85
New Members in 2016	19

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$200.00
Received to Date	\$973,599.87

**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.