



733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
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BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Newsletter November 13, 2016

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org



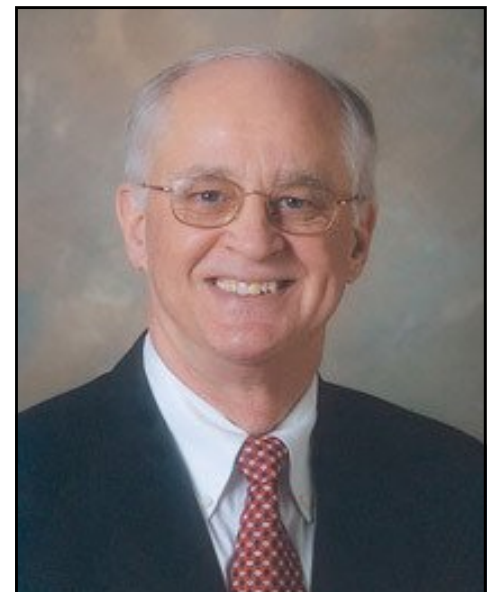
Dear friends of Bluff Park UMC, we have had a wonderful response to the 10,000 Reasons, 1,500 Pieces, One Vision campaign. Commitment Sunday was on October 30th and that Sunday was our second highest attended Sunday of 2016 (only behind Easter Sunday). As I write to you on November 7th, we have had two Sundays for our church family to respond with pledges for our 2017 Annual Budget as well as to the 10,000 Reasons Capital Campaign. Our goal for the Capital Campaign was a three-year total pledge of \$1.6 million. In the first two Sundays of our commitment responses, we have received 173 pledges for the 10,000 Reasons Capital Campaign with a three-year total pledge of \$1,009,611. We are well on our way to our goal but all of us will need to respond if we are to reach our goal!

Also, we have received 215 pledges for our 2017 Annual Budget with \$900,323 pledged to the budget. Compared to this time last year, we are \$50,000 ahead in pledged giving to the annual budget with only six additional pledges. We are off to a wonderful start but we will still need everyone to respond to the campaign so that we will be able to appropriately budget for our ministries next year. As our children's ministry continues to grow and as we prepare to launch a new worship service, we will have new expenses in 2017 to include in our budget.

I also wanted to share with all of you that our Board of Stewards unanimously approved our Phase 1 building project at the Charge Conference on Sunday evening, November 6th. This was a very important step for us as we prepare for construction next year of a new space for youth ministry, community ministry, and a new gymnasium. I am so very thankful that our church family is supporting our shared future and vision together. May God continue to fill us all with dreams and empower us to live them out together!

VETERANS DAY SPECIAL EVENT

On Sunday, November 13th, we will have a very special Veterans Day celebration. The evening begins at 5:00 pm with dinner followed by the program at 6:00 pm. There will be music by the Hoover High School Jazz Band. The program features guest special guest speaker Lt. Jim Lawrence, USA Ret. He is a Decorated Vietnam War veteran and will speak on the topic of "Faith in the Foxhole."



News of the Week



HAM MOUNTAIN

This is last year's mountain! During the month of November, we will be collecting canned hams for Ham Mountain. These hams will be distributed through the Bluff Park UMC food bank on December 7th. Our goal this year is 500 1 pound hams. Look for the Ham Mountain display in the Narthex beginning November 6th. Ham Mountain is sponsored by the Bluff Park United Appeal Fund.

POTATO DROP

We are having a Society of St. Andrew Potato Drop on Saturday, December 3rd from 8 AM to Noon. The drop will be in the parking lot of the church in front of the columbarium (close to where the vans are parked). We will be bagging up 1,500 pounds of potatoes into 5 pound bags that will be distributed through the Food Pantry on Wednesday, December 7th. This is a family friendly mission project. The work is appropriate for children as well as adults so plan to bring the whole family.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Sunday, November 20th at 5:00 pm at Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian, 2269 Chapel Road. Ministers from Bluff Park Baptist, Bluff Park Community, Bluff Park Methodist, Chapel in the Pines, Shades Crest Baptist, and St. Alban's Episcopal will be participating in the service. A nurse will be available and a reception will follow the worship service.

CHURCH LIBRARY

You may have noticed that our church library has been renovated and that we have been working on obtaining curriculum and books for study for our staff and for our congregation. There is a wonderful resource for studying the Lectionary Scripture passages, but the 12-volume set of the series Feasting on the Word costs \$360.00. Please consider donating to our Library to help us purchase the things that will help make our sermons and our small groups even better!

HOLY COMMUNION AND EVENING PRAYER

Because of a busy November schedule, we will not hold Sunday evening Holy Communion and Prayer in the Sanctuary during the month of November. Events on Sunday evenings during the month of November include Charge Conference on November 6th, a Veterans Day Program on November 13th at 5:00 pm, and a Community Thanksgiving Service in Bluff Park on November 20th.

HALLOWEEN CANDY

Need a place for your excess Halloween candy? Bring it to the church and drop it off in the office. We'll use it to stuff stockings for Christmas families.

UPCOMING BAPTISM

This Sunday, November 13th, we celebrate the baptism of Henry Charles Averette at the 11:00am worship service.

CONGRATULATIONS...

Congratulations to Rachel and Seth Robinson on the birth of a son, Breckan on November 2nd.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Jackie Walton—Aspire
JB Dover—Brookwood



HOLY LAND TOUR

Would you like to walk in the footsteps of Jesus and the disciples? Join Bluff Park UMC and Canterbury UMC for "Journey through the Bible in the Land of Israel," a 10-day excursion through the Holy Land from May 27 through June 10, 2017. Witness holy sites such as the Church of the Holy Sepulcher (Jesus' assumed burial site), the Upper Room, the Garden of Gethsemane, and several locations of Old Testament significance. The cost per person will be about \$5300, including all transportation, lodging, meals, and experiences. Stay tuned for an informational meeting in the near future, or email John Carl Hastings at jchastings@bpumc.org.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

ADVENT WREATH FAMILY WORKSHOP: Start a new family tradition and join us on November 27th from 4:45-6:00 for an evening of family fellowship at BPUMC's Annual Advent Wreath Family Workshop. We will be making Advent Wreaths, eating dinner, and doing a short Advent Wreath devotional together. Cost is \$20 per family and includes Advent Wreath, Dinner, and a family devotional book centered around your newly made wreath that can be used by your family throughout the Christmas season. Register online at BluffParkUMC.org/AdventWreathFamilyWorkshop. We hope to see you there!

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT AND PARTY: The Children's Christmas Pageant and Party will be held on Sunday, December 4th. The Pageant will begin at 5:00 in the chapel and will be immediately followed by a Party in the gym that will include snacks, Santa (!!!!), crafts, and a mission project! We hope to see you all there!

MIDWEEK MEETUP: 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?!?!?!?

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Our Preschool Sunday School and our Elementary Sunday School lesson will be on "Daniel and the Lion's Den."

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Our Children's Church lesson will be on "David and Goliath."

STUDENT MINISTRY

SERVE NIGHT - SUNDAY, 5-7PM - NOVEMBER 13TH We will have several opportunities to serve on Sunday night, including visiting people with memory loss at Rittenhouse and sorting, labeling and packing clothing and supplies for Room 35226 and the homeless. We will eat Snack Supper in the Youth Wing due to the Veterans Day Program in the Fellowship Hall.

FALL SMALL GROUPS Continuing on Tuesdays at the Dover home (4743 Marywood Circle), our HS Girls small group meets and on Wednesdays, 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.

MAKING BIG DECISIONS - WEDNESDAY, 6:30-7:30PM - NOVEMBER 16TH Bart Styes will be giving the message at Holy Ground Worship as we finish up our "Permanent Record" series on the big decisions that our students face.

CENTERED FALL RETREAT - FRIDAY-SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH-20TH We will be joining students from other area churches for a weekend retreat at Camp Sumatanga. Our goal will be to "re-center" our lives on Christ during a time set aside and a place set apart for rest and vision. For students not attending the retreat, we will still have Sunday School but we will NOT have Sunday evening programming.!

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 Friday-Sunday, November 18-20: *Fall Retreat at Sumatanga*. Online Registration is open, Friday-Sunday, February 3-5, 2017: *Discovery Weekend*, Sunday-Saturday, July 9-15, 2017 (tentative): *Appalachia Service Project Mission Trip*. (Contact Kathryn Davis kdavis@bpumc.org if you have any issues.)

THIS WEEK

Sunday, Nov 13, 10:00am

Sunday, Nov 13, 4:00pm

Sunday, Nov 13, 5:00pm

Tuesday, Nov 15, 7:00pm

Wednesday, Nov 16, 6:00pm

Wednesday, Nov 16, 6:30pm

Friday-Sunday, Nov 18-20

Sunday School

Worship Team Rehearsal

FREE Snack Supper & SERVE Night

HS Girls Small Group @ Dover Home (4743 Marywood Circle)

Small Groups

Holy Ground Worship

Fall Retreat at Sumatanga (Registration CLOSED)

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 10

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 13

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 17

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 24

SHEPHERD'S CENTER—Niki Sepsas Veterans Day Program.

VETERAN'S DAY PROGRAM—Special guest speaker Lt. Jim Lawrence, USA Ret., Hoover High School Jazz Band, Dinner served at 5pm program at 6pm.

SHEPHERD'S CENTER—Thanksgiving traditions.

THANKSGIVING DAY DINNER—Bring a covered dish and join us! 11:00am-2:00pm. We furnish the turkey and ham. Invite a friend!

SPECIAL MOMENT WITH JESUS

Every word of God is pure, He is a shield unto them that put their trust in Him. Proverbs 30:5



Bluff Park United Methodist Church

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Chad Malcolm, cmalcolm@bpumc.org



The Week of November 13—19

Sunday, November 13

8:00 am Blood Drive
8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
2:30 pm Disciple II
4:00 pm Children's Council Meeting
5:00 pm 1st Corinthians Bible Study
5:00 pm Veterans Day Program

Monday, November 14

9:00 am UMW Executive Committee
10:00 am Prayer Shawl

Tuesday, November 15

9:30 am Covenant Bible Study
6:00 pm Church Life Meeting

Wednesday, November 16

9:30 am 1st Corinthians Bible Study
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 Handbell Choir
6:00 pm Youth Small Groups
6:30 pm Walk/Run with Laura Ann Pitts
6:30 pm Choir
6:30 pm Young Adult Bible Study
6:30 pm Holy Communion
6:30 pm Holy Ground Worship

Thursday, November 17

9:30 am Shepherd's Center
6:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting

SUNDAY, November 13, 2016

8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship

Isaiah 65:17-25

Rev. Mike Holly

Lectionary Scripture Readings

Isaiah 65:17-25

Psalms 118

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Luke 21:5-19

SERVING SUNDAY

Ushers

8:45am Nelson 11:00am Dover

Cross

8:45 Lena Holly 11:00 Mary Lynn Williamson

Acolyte

8:45 Lily Matheson 11:00 Rebecca Rice

Greeters: Faith Builders

Meals on Wheels: McCrory

Food Pantry December 7th:

Adams/Pearson

Midweek Meetup Menu—November 16:
Thanksgiving Dinner

Last Week's Record

November 6, 2016

Children/Youth	68/42
Morning Worship	481
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$27,212.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$39,136.14
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,415,000.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$1,197,323.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$1,185,195.02
New Members in 2016	20

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$500.00
Received to Date	\$984,392.87

**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.