



733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Newsletter November 20, 2016

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org



The Bluff Park Community Thanksgiving Worship Service is scheduled for this Sunday, November 20th, at 5:00 pm. This important community worship service unites Christians from many different denominations in worship together. We are so very blessed to be a part of a wonderful community in Bluff Park. And our vision is to continue to find ways to become a beacon of hope and a resource of faith to the community around us.

Our church family's response to the 10,000 Reasons, 1,500 Pieces, One Vision campaign has been amazing. Within three weeks, over one million dollars has been pledged to the capital campaign by 180 households. While this in itself is such a witness of commitment to God's purposes for our church, we do need each and every family to commit to the 10,000 Reasons campaign if we hope to reach our goal. I hope that you will quickly return your pledge card for the 2017 Annual Budget as well as the 10,000 Reasons campaign so that we can adequately plan for ministry in the coming years. Let us give thanks to God together as we plan for a new year together as a church family in mission to our community!

Mike

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING WORSHIP 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 nursery will be available and a reception will follow the worship service.

THANKSGIVING DAY DINNER

Thursday, November 24th, we are hosting a Thanksgiving Day Dinner for our Members, Community, and Friends in the Fellowship Hall from 11:00am until 2:00pm. The church is providing turkey, ham, and drinks. Bring a covered dish for 8 and join the fun and fellowship here if you don't have other plans for the day. Call the office to let us know if you are planning to join us.



News of the Week



A CELEBRATION OF BETTY HOTTENSTEIN'S MINISTRY AT BPUMC

Sunday, December 11th from 9:30 - 11:30 am in the Parlor we will have a special time of celebration to honor Betty. Please feel free to bring cards or gifts.

ADVENT WREATH FAMILY WORKSHOP

Come as a family and prepare for the Christmas season on November 27th from 4:45-5:30 in the gym. 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 centered around your newly made wreath that can be used by your family throughout the Christmas season. Register online at BluffParkUMC.org/AdventWreathFamilyWorkshop. We look forward to seeing you there!

ADVENT MORNING PRAYER

Advent Morning Prayer will begin on Thursday, December 1st at 7:30 AM in the sanctuary. This is a service of Prayer, Scripture and Holy Communion. The service will be held on each Thursday morning of Advent (December 1, 8, 15 and 22). The service lasts approximately 30 minutes.

HAM MOUNTAIN

During the month of November, we are 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. We are off to a good start, but need the support

of the whole congregation to reach our goal. 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.

WHITE CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Each Advent, our church takes up the White Christmas Offering in support of the United Methodist Children's Home. Their mission is to heal children, unite families, and change lives in northern Alabama. Through your support, children are placed in safe and loving foster homes and are able to continue to be cared for in college as they transition into independent adulthood. Simply assign checks or envelopes to "White Christmas Offering" in morning worship throughout Advent, or by dropping off your gift in our Financial Office.

FLOOD RELIEF REPORT

The total amount donated for our flood relief special offering for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is \$11,614.60. This is a wonderfully generous response from our church family and will be used by UMCOR to assist flood victims in Louisiana. Thank you for this most generous offering.

SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION...

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Laverne Boles who passed away on November 11th. Our prayers are with the family in their time of sorrow.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Ann Rabb—Lakeshore
JB Dover—Brookwood



Christmas Poinsettias

Reserve your beautiful poinsettia now to remember or honor a loved one at Christmas. The cost is \$15.00 per plant payable to the church.

Deadline for ordering is December 12th.

In Honor Of: _____ by _____
In Memory of: _____ by _____

Return order form and payment to the church office.

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!

PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS STORY TIME: All of our Preschool children and their families are invited to a Christmas Story time on Friday, December 2nd from 6:00-7:30 in Hudson Hall. Children can come in their Christmas PJ's and enjoy making Christmas ornaments and crafts, decorating and eating Christmas cookies, and hearing Christmas stories and singing Christmas songs with Mrs. Clause! You don't want to miss it!

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 there!

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Our Preschool Sunday School lesson will be on "Jonah and the big Fish" 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 "King David the writer of Songs."

STUDENT MINISTRY

CARRYING THE CROSS Last Thursday, students slept outside, collected donations for the homeless and handed out information on our church's veterans ministry. Then on Sunday night our students visited the elderly, made PB&J sandwiches for the homeless, sorted, labeled and packed boxes of donations for needy area students and the homeless AND built shelves for storing our supplies in the Dungeon! Our next Sunday night program specifically for students won't be until December 18th when we go Christmas Caroling, play Dirty Santa and eat dinner in the Youth Wing. But in the meantime, we will continue to worship, serve and study together. It is essential that our students know that even during fall breaks, long weekends, and holidays, we don't take a vacation from living out our faith!

FALL SMALL GROUPS Continuing on Tuesdays at the Dover home (4743 Marywood Circle), our HS Girls small group meets. Our Wednesday night small groups will take a break until midweek meal starts back in January.

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 Saturday, December 10: *Festival of Three Kings*, 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

Friday-Sunday, Nov 18-20
Sunday, Nov 20, 10:00am
Sunday, Nov 20
Wednesday, Nov 23

Fall Retreat at Sumatanga (Registration CLOSED)
Sunday School
NO AFTERNOON EVENTS/PROGRAMS
NO AFTERNOON EVENTS/PROGRAMS

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 17
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 24

SHEPHERD'S CENTER—Thanksgiving Traditions, by Karla Stamps.
THANKSGIVING DAY DINNER—Bring a covered dish and join us! 11:00am-2:00pm. We furnish the turkey and ham. Program by Jerry Ryan. Invite a friend!
SHEPHERD'S CENTER—Mystery?????
SHEPHERD'S CENTER—Delores Hydock—Christmas Stories
SHEPHERD' CENTER—Christmas Party with Mystery Guest???? Bring a white elephant gift and a can of food for the food pantry.

THURSDAY DECEMBER 1
THURSDAY DECEMBER 8
THURSDAY DECEMBER 15

SPECIAL MOMENT WITH JESUS

We love Him, because He first loved us. 1 John 4:19

Thank you to all of our volunteers who made our Veterans Day program so wonderful!



Bluff Park United Methodist Church

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
(205) 822-0910

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Chad Malcolm, cmalcolm@bpumc.org



The Week of November 20—26

Sunday, November 20

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 Christmas Tree Setup
5:00 pm Community Thanksgiving Service—Chapel in the Pines

Monday, November 21

10:00 am Prayer Shawl

Wednesday, November 23

5:45 pm Men's Chorus
6:00 pm Handbell Choir
6:30 pm Choir

Thursday, November 24—Thanksgiving

Office Closed
11:00 am Thanksgiving Day Luncheon

Friday, November 25

Office Closed

SUNDAY, November 20, 2016

8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship

Luke 23:33-43

"A Defining Moment"

Rev. Angela Martin

Lectionary Scripture Readings

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Luke 1:68-79

Colossians 1:11-20

Luke 23:33-43

SERVING SUNDAY

Ushers

8:45am McDonald 11:00am Lawson

Cross

8:45 Vivi Shanlever 11:00 Avery Edwards

Acolyte

8:45 Ian Chatterton 11:00 Charlie Redding

Greeters: New Light

Meals on Wheels: Adams

Food Pantry December 7th:

Steve Lawson

Last Week's Record

November 13, 2016

Children/Youth	105/55
Morning Worship	544
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$27,212.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$19,774.82
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,415,000.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$1,224,535.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$1,204,969.84
New Members in 2016	22

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$625.00
Received to Date	\$985,017.87

**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.