



Joy to the World BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street Hoover, AL 35226 205.822.0910

December 4, 2016

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

Worship Services

Sunday Morning Worship

Sundays @ 8:45am and 11:00am

Lessons & Carols Service

Sunday, December 4th @ 8:45 am and 11:00 am

Advent Morning Prayer

Wednesday Mornings @ 7:30am

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

December 24th @ 4:00pm and 6:00pm

Christmas Day Sunday Worship

December 25th @ 11:00am

No Sunday School or Nursery

Holiday Events and Activities

Advent Wreath Family Workshop

Sunday, November 27th @ 4:45pm

Children's Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 4th @ 5:00pm

Christmas on the Bluff Choir Concert

December 11th @ 6:30pm

www.ChristmasInBluffPark.com

Dear friends, this Sunday we have a full day of special events from the Lessons and Carols service at both morning worship services to the Children's Christmas Pageant and Christmas Party that afternoon. In the Lessons and Carols service, we will hear nine Scripture verses read by nine church members that help us truly understand God's hand at work through the course of history leading up to the coming of the Christ child. We will also have many musical elements and carols to sing in this special worship service! At the Children's Christmas Pageant, you will see our children tell the Christmas story while they also sing for us their favorite carols. A new menu and fun party for all ages follows!

On Sunday, December 11, we have our annual Christmas on the Bluff scheduled at 6:30 pm in our main Sanctuary. Lonnie Parsons, Jay Tumminello, and our choir are ready to put on a spectacular event that should help us all encounter the reason for the season – a reason for us to live with thanksgiving and generosity because of what God has done for us all! While this event does have limited season, we hope that you will invite your friends and neighbors to attend this not-to-miss event!

Finally, I hope you will also invite your friends and neighbors to spend Christmas Eve and Christmas morning with us at Bluff Park UMC. Our Christmas Eve worship services are at 4:00 and 6:00 pm. And on Christmas morning, we will have worship as it is a Sunday morning. However, we will not be holding Sunday school and we will not have an 8:45 am worship service. Instead, we will all worship together at 11:00 am with a shortened order of worship that will be meaningful and enjoyable for all ages as we sing with celebration that Jesus Christ is born! We will all be challenge to go and tell it on the mountain (or in our case – go and tell it on the Bluff – that Jesus Christ is born). Share with all you know that they are invited to Christmas In Bluff Park – www.ChristmasInBluffPark.com.

Mike



News of the Week

A CELEBRATION OF BETTY HOTTENSTEIN'S MINISTRY AT BPUMC

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

CHRISTMAS ON THE BLUFF CONCERT

The Bluff Park United Methodist Church Choir presents their seventh annual Christmas holiday concert at the church on Sunday, December 11, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. This year's concert is titled "Would I Miss the Miracle" and will take place, as in past years, in the church's main Sanctuary. Lonnie Parsons, Director of Worship Music for the church, will direct and special guest Amy Johnson will join the choir.

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

ADVENT MORNING PRAYER

Advent Morning Prayer has begun. Join us on Wednesday mornings at 7:30 AM in the sanctuary. This is a service of Prayer, Scripture and Holy Communion. The service will be held on each Wednesday morning of Advent. The service lasts approximately 30 minutes.

SPECIAL HOLIDAY WORSHIP TIMES

Christmas Day and New Year's Day both fall on a Sunday this year. We will have a single worship service at 11:00 am both days and no Sunday School hour Christmas day. Make sure to mark your calendar.

HOLY LAND TRIP INFO MEETING

If you are interested in joining Bluff Park UMC and Canterbury UMC on an exciting 10-day trip to the Holy Land in May 2017, there will be an informational meeting Dec 4, 2016 at 6 pm in the new Seekers

class across from the library. We will be joined by Stephen Ingram from Canterbury UMC to discuss details of the trip, the itinerary, cost, and any other questions you might have. For more information, contact jchas-tings@bpumc.org.

FESTIVAL OF THREE KINGS REMINDER

Festival of Three Kings gifts are due by Sunday, December 4th? Please bring them to the church office.

Memorials

BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Elaine Clinton by The Shepherd's Center
Howard Sisson by Jim and Leigh Anne Freeman
Laverne Boles by Randall and Joan Clemons
Mary Louise Ballard by Joseph and Gayle Leal

BUILDING FUND

Mary Louise Ballard by Margie Thompson
Dr. Demetrius Morros by Margie Thompson
Laverne Boles by Margie Thompson

FOOD PANTRY

Octavia Dunn Franklin by JB and Frankie Thrasher
Fraulein Adams Farr by Tim and Ellen Finley, Mike and Sandy Miller, Roy and Charlotte Shanlever

CHOIR FUND

Mary Louise Ballard by Gene and Jean Brown

YOUTH FUND

Barbara Ezell by Preston and Jo Ann Huddleston

Honorariums

BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Charlie Trucks by The Shepherd's Center
Carole Armistead by The Shepherd's Center
Leonette Slay by The Shepherd's Center

BUILDING FUND

Dixie Youngblood by Margie Thompson
Bill and Joy Shultz by Margie Thompson
Butch and Lynda Powell by Margie Thompson

Please Note: Some Memorials and Honorariums are not listed by the request of the donors.



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

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 dinner, Santa (!!!!), crafts, and a mission project! We hope to see you there!

DID YOU KNOW: 32 families gathered this past Sunday in the gym to celebrate the beginning of Advent by eating dinner together, making advent wreaths, and participating in an Advent Wreath devotional! If you missed it, make sure to join us next year for this fun, family friendly event!

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Our Preschool and Elementary Sunday School lessons will be on the Christmas story!

STUDENT MINISTRY

STUDENT MINISTRY DURING ADVENT With Midweek Meals on hiatus until January, holiday responsibilities and our students approaching their final exams, we change up the pace for December. We will not have Wednesday small groups but Holy Ground will continue for a 3 week Advent message series. We will take two Sunday nights off for church-wide events and then will go caroling and have a Christmas party on December 18th.

FESTIVAL OF THREE KINGS - SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10TH We will help distribute Christmas gifts to deserving children on the campus of Birmingham-Southern College. We'll meet at the Portico Entrance by the playground at 8am, load a truck with toys, and then take buses to BSC. From 10am-12pm, we'll hand out toys. Students should bring money for lunch at Niki's West! Contact Kathryn kdavis@bpumc.org to sign up. Space is limited.

DISCOVERY WEEKEND - FEBRUARY 3-5, 2017 Registration is now open for our annual Spiritual Formation Retreat. All 6th-12th graders are welcome to attend. Our high school students will give their testimonies, lead discussions and games, and guide our middle school students throughout the weekend. Contact Kathryn kdavis@bpumc.org for registration info.

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

DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP & KEEP UP WITH THE FAST-MOVING WINTER SCHEDULE. There's so much going on as we move closer to 2017: Holy Ground Worship, Discovery Weekend 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 2-8, 2017 (tentative): *Appalachia Service Project Mission Trip*. (Contact Kathryn Davis kdavis@bpumc.org if you have any issues.)

THIS WEEK

Sunday, Dec 4, 10:00am	Sunday School
Sunday, Dec 4	No Afternoon/Evening Youth Programming
Wednesday, Dec 7, 4:30pm	HG Team Rehearsal
Wednesday, Dec 7, 5:30pm	Pizza & Hangout (bring \$5 for dinner)
Wednesday, Dec 7, 6:30pm	Holy Ground Worship
Saturday, Dec 10	Festival of Three Kings
Sunday, Dec 11, 10:00am	Sunday School
Sunday, Dec 11	No Afternoon/Evening Youth Programming

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY DECEMBER 8

SHEPHERD'S CENTER—Delores Hydock—Christmas Stories

THURSDAY DECEMBER 15

SHEPHERD' CENTER—Christmas Party with Mystery Guest???? Bring a white elephant gift and a can of food for the food pantry.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

NO SHEPHERD'S CENTER—Merry Christmas

SPECIAL MOMENT WITH JESUS

In all things, God works for the good of those who love Him.

Romans 8:28—NIV



Bluff Park United Methodist Church

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

**NON-PROFIT ORG.
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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
- Organist**,
- Jay Tumminello, jtumminello@bpumc.org
- Preschool Director**,
- Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org
- Facilities Manager**,
- Chad Malcolm, cmalcolm@bpumc.org



The Week of December 4—10

Sunday, December 4
8:45 am Lessons & Carols Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Lessons & Carols Service
5:00 pm Children's Christmas Pageant
6:00 pm Israel Trip Info Meeting

Monday, December 5
9:00 am UMW Joy Circle
10:00 am UMW Hope-Love Circles
10:00 am Prayer Shawl

Wednesday, December 7
7:30 am Advent Morning Prayer
9:00 am Food Pantry
5:45 pm Men's Chorus
6:00 pm Handbell Choir
6:30 pm Choir
6:30 pm Youth Holy Ground Worship

Thursday, December 8
9:30 am Shepherd's Center

Friday, December 9
12:00 pm Friendship Class Luncheon
4:00 pm Canterbury Christmas Party

SUNDAY, December 4, 2016
8:45am and 11:00am Morning Worship
Service of Lessons and Carols

Lectionary Scripture Readings
Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Romans 15:4-13
Matthew 3:1-12

SERVING SUNDAY
Ushers
8:45am Thompson 11:00am Vitality
Cross
8:45 Ella Bowles 11:00 Avery Edwards
Acolyte
8:45 Spencer Schillaci 11:00 Riley Jones
Greeters: Opportunity
Meals on Wheels: Adams/Pearson
Food Pantry December 7th:
Steve Lawson

Last Week's Record

November 27, 2016

Children	88
Morning Worship	443
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$27,212.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$21,141.52
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,415,000.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$1,278,959.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$1,243,198.36
New Members in 2016	23

LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013–December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,083,250.00
Received Last Week	\$300.00
Received to Date	\$985,417.87

**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.