



# BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226  
205.822.0910

*Newsletter February 26, 2017*

*Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life*

[www.BluffParkUMC.org](http://www.BluffParkUMC.org)

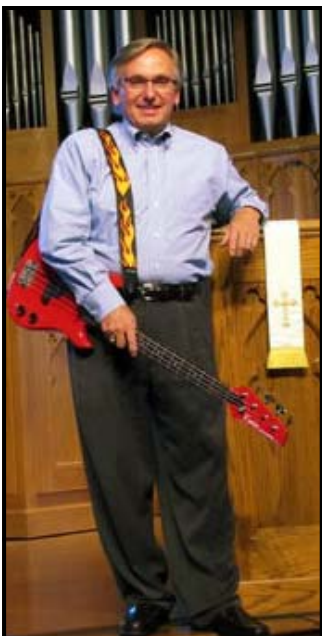


“Staying in love with God” is how United Methodist Bishop Rueben Job describes the last of the three general rules for Methodist Societies as John Wesley designed them. We stay in love with God by following the third and final rule: “attending upon all the ordinances of God.” These are the things that God has commanded us to do as His people and such we are developed and formed to be His people for the world.

These ordinances include attending worship, reading Scripture both as a group and personally in devotion, praying individually and as a community, celebrating Holy Communion and fasting. Each one of these requires one important thing: time. We are called and commanded to make time to spend with Him and with others devoted to Him so that we can learn His beautiful story and what it means for all of us.

Each and every person desiring to have a meaningful relationship with a spouse, a child, or even a close friend has to invest the exact same thing: time. Each and every relationship requires time spent with one another so that we grow closer together. It is the exact same thing with our time with God. The good news from Bishop Job is that the more time we spend with God, honestly reflecting upon His love and character, the more we will fall in love with God.

## GUEST PREACHER: DR. RICK OWEN



On Sunday, February 26th, Dr. Rick Owen will be the special guest preacher at Bluff Park UMC. Dr. Owen is the District Superintendent of the Central District in North Alabama. He has served as a United Methodist pastor in the North Alabama Conference in churches from 15 members to 4,500 members. He is an experienced teacher serving with the School of Christian Missions in seven United Methodist conferences as well as resourcing churches throughout the annual conference when he served on the

North Alabama Conference Connectional Ministries staff. He has most recently served as the senior pastor at Trinity UMC in Huntsville, AL, and as a consultant with Resource Ministry Partners.

## 15TH ANNUAL ORGAN RECITAL

Lester Seigel, the Joseph Hugh Thomas Professor of Music at Birmingham-Southern College, will perform an organ recital at Bluff Park United Methodist Church on March 5th, at 4:00 pm. A reception will follow the performance.



The performance features selections from the 19th-century Romantic era, with works by John Stainer, Johannes Brahms, Cesar Franck, Camille Saint-Saens, Clarence Dickinson, and Julius Reubke, from England, Austria, Germany, France and the USA. The music was chosen specifically for the Moller organ at Bluff Park.

# News of the Week

## SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER



Make plans to join us, Tuesday, February 28th 5-7pm in the Fellowship Hall for this annual Youth fundraiser with entertainment from the students. Proceeds support summer youth trips. Prices: adults \$7, Children 6-12 \$2, Children under 6 FREE, Family Maximum \$20

## INVITATION TO OBSERVE A HOLY LENT

For centuries, Christians have begun a forty day season of spiritual preparation for Easter by observing a holy Lenten season. The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which this year begins on March 1, 2017. For forty days (not counting Easter), we spend time dealing with the reality of our lives and contemplating the ways we separate ourselves from God. The hope lies at the end of Lent - where we find that Jesus defeats death and sin and allows us the opportunity to renew our faith. During this Lenten season, we will provide weekly prayers, daily Scripture readings and other ideas for spiritual disciplines. We hope that for this season of Lent, you will join us on this journey!

## LENTEN STUDIES COMING IN MARCH

Beginning March 8th and running through April 12th, two Lenten studies will be offered. *On the Road to the Cross* by Rob Burkett will be taught during the Pastor's Bible Study at 4:30pm on Wednesday afternoons. This class will be taught by Mike Holly and Angela Martin in room 268. *Restored: Finding Redemption In Our Mess* by Tom Berlin will be taught on Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm. This class will be taught by Angela Martin in room 140. There is a book for this class so if you plan to participate, kindly email [amartin@bpumc.org](mailto:amartin@bpumc.org) so that enough books can be purchased.

## LENTEN SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Beginning March 5th and running through April 9th, *Restored: Finding Redemption in our Mess* by Tom Berlin will be offered during the Sunday School hour in the Parlor. Everyone is welcome, especially those who are not already part of a Sunday School class.

## LENTEN MORNING PRAYER

Lenten Morning Prayer will begin on Wednesday, March 8th. We will meet in the sanctuary for this service of Prayer, Scripture and Holy Communion. These services will happen weekly throughout the season of Lent. The last service will be Wednesday, April 12th. The service begins at 7:30 AM and lasts for approximately half an hour. This is a great way to focus on spiritual growth during the season of Lent.

## GARDENS ON THE BLUFF

Bluff Park United Methodist Church has a community

garden and you are invited to garden with us. The garden is located between the columbarium and the Korean Catholic Church. For several years a small group of church members has been preparing the space while conducting educational garden programs for children. Now, we are ready to invite the whole community to join us. If you would like to reserve one or more beds for your own personal garden you can do so by contacting Tom Duley at 822-0910 ext. 112 or [tduley@bpumc.org](mailto:tduley@bpumc.org). The cost is \$20.00 per year per bed.

## 2017 ALTAR FLOWERS

There are dates left on the 2017 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: March 12, 26, and April 2, 9, 23, and 30. Check with the office for other available dates. Please sign up in the main office or call (205) 822-0910.

## TROOP 21 YARD SALE

Scout Troop 21 is hosting it's 5th Annual Yard Sale on Saturday, March 4th, 2017, from 8:00 a.m. 'til 2:00 p.m. in the church parking lot. They would love to have you come and shop! Also, if you are cleaning out for Spring and would like to donate items, they would love to be your donation center! Please contact Laura Lewis at 205-492-2930 or email at [lauralewis.crop@gmail.com](mailto:lauralewis.crop@gmail.com) to schedule a pick up.

## IN THE HOSPITAL...

Linda Bailey—UAB West



Our annual Children's Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast will be held on Saturday, April 8th from 9-11. One of our goals is to invite as many children from the community as possible! We have set an ambitious goal of collecting and hiding 10,000 Eggs, and we need your help!

If you would like to help, you can do so in one of two ways:

**Way #1:** Bags of plastic eggs can be picked up at both entrances on the first floor or in the Narthex. Fill them with candy and return them to the same spots when completed.

**Way #2:** Make a monetary donation to help us offset the price of purchasing Easter Eggs and candy. Make donations to BPUMC with "Easter Eggs" placed in the memo line.

Thank you for helping us make this an exciting and fun event for both our children and those of our community!

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**PRESCHOOL PAJAMA PARTY:** We will be having a Pajama Party and Dinner for all of our Preschool aged children and their families on Friday, March 3rd. This years theme will be "The Farm" and the kids who attend will enjoy a farm themed dinner, crafts, and storytime. Dinner will be from 5:30-6:00 in the Fellowship Hall and the Party will happen from 6:00-7:30 in Hudson Hall. Please register online at [BluffParkUMC.org/preschoolpjparty](http://BluffParkUMC.org/preschoolpjparty) or e-mail Marcie Walters at [nursery@bpumc.org](mailto:nursery@bpumc.org) if you plan to attend. Don't forget to wear your pajamas!

**5TH GRADE GIRLS DAY:** All of our 5th grade girls are invited to a "Girls Day" on Saturday, March 4th from 10:00-4:00 in Hudson Hall. Girls that attend will participate in fun activities designed specifically for them and hear short talks from women in our church about how special they are to God, how loved they are by God, and how they are a masterpiece created by God. This event will be led by Stephanie Davidson and Susan Prueter, and is free! Please RSVP with Melissa Hendon at [mhendon@bpumc.org](mailto:mhendon@bpumc.org) if your child would like to attend!

**EASTER EGG HUNT:** Our annual Children's Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast will be held on Saturday, April 8th from 9-11. Again this year, one of our goals is to invite as many children from the community as possible! Because of this, we have set an ambitious goal of collecting and hiding 10,000 Easter Eggs at the hunt, and we need your help!

If you would like to help, you can do so in one of two ways:

**Way #1:** Bags of plastic eggs can be picked up at both entrances on the first floor or in the Narthex. Fill them with candy and return them to the same spots when completed.

**Way #2:** Make a monetary donations to help us offset the price of purchasing Easter Eggs and candy. Make donations to BPUMC with "Easter Eggs" placed in the memo line.

Thank you for helping us make this an exciting and fun event for both our children and those of our community!

**MIDWEEK MEETUP:** Midweek Meetup happens every Wednesday night from 5:00-7:30. The children will enjoy dinner, choir, recreation, age focused Bible Study/Classroom time, and more.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** The Elementary Sunday School will be participating in our monthly Mission Sunday.

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** The lesson this week will be on "Mary and Martha."

## STUDENT MINISTRY

**MIDWEEK MINISTRIES - MARCH - THE POWER OF PRAYER** Our theme for the next month focuses on prayer and includes guest speakers Christian Cooper and Doris who makes all of our meals! As always, students are welcome to bring their meals down to the youth wing and visit with friends, play games, do homework or just relax. Small groups will meet at 6:00pm with Holy Ground worship at 6:30pm.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH - GUYS & GIRLS HOUSE DINNERS** We're doing something completely different tonight! At 5pm, all 6th-12th grade girls will meet at the Pearson home (504 Park Ave) and all 6th-12th grade guys will meet at the Styes home (2209 Farley Road) for dinner, conversation and games. Families are encouraged to send a side or a dessert to share. You can pick up your student at 7pm.

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH - SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE FUNDRAISER** We'll be serving a pancake supper as a fundraiser for summer trips. Students can earn shares of the money raised by working up to 3 hours from 4:30-7:30pm helping with setup, serving, cleanup and entertainment. Contact Jake Smith if you want to perform and/or need an accompanist.

**DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP & KEEP UP WITH THE FAST-MOVING WINTER SCHEDULE.** There's so much going on as we enter 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** Tuesday, February 28th, 2017: *Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper Fundraiser*, Friday-Sunday, June 9-11, 2017: *Whitewater Express Summer Trip*, Sunday-Saturday, July 2-8, 2017: *Appalachia Service Project Mission Trip*. (Contact Kathryn Davis [kdavis@bpumc.org](mailto:kdavis@bpumc.org) if you have any issues.)

### THIS WEEK

Sunday, Feb 26, 10:00am	Sunday School
Sunday, Feb 26, 4:00pm	Holy Ground Team Rehearsal & Confirmation Class
Sunday, Feb 26, 5:00pm	House Dinner Night
Tuesday, Feb 28, 5:00pm	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (prep begins at 4:30pm)
Wednesday, March 1	Ash Wednesday (No Holy Ground Worship)

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 2

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 9

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 16

**SHEPHERD'S CENTER** - Riverchase Community Gospel Choir

**SHEPHERD'S CENTER** - 10:00 AM - Dr. James Irwin, Veterinarian - Interesting Animal Stories; Auburn University's contributions to Science and Technology

**A LENTEN STUDY**, led by Bob Nelson 11:00 AM - "24 Hours that Changed the World" by Adam Hamilton - Week 1: The Last Supper - Mark 14:12, 22-25

**SHEPHERD'S CENTER** - 10:00 AM - Rev. Angela Martin, "My Life in Music and Faith"

**A LENTEN STUDY**, led by Bob Nelson 11:00 AM - Week 2: The Garden of Gethsemane - Mark 14:32-36.

### **SPECIAL MOMENT WITH JESUS**

Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord. Psalm 31:24



## Bluff Park United Methodist Church

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

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
AUTO  
BIRMINGHAM, AL  
PERMIT NO. 1816

### 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 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 February 26—March 4

### Sunday, February 26

8:45 am Morning Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Morning Worship Service  
4:00 pm Confirmation  
5:00 pm Gospel of Mark Study

### Monday, February 27

10:00 am Prayer Shawl  
10:00 am UMW Joy Circle  
10:00 am UMW Hope-Love Circles

### Tuesday, February 28

9:30 am Covenant Bible Study  
5:00 pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

### Wednesday, March 1—Ash Wednesday

9:00 am Food Pantry  
9:30 am Gospel of Mark  
5:00 pm Midweek Meetup  
5:45 pm Men's Chorus  
6:00 pm Handbell Choir  
6:30 pm Choir  
6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Worship

### Thursday, March 2

9:30 am Shepherd's Center

### Friday, March 3

1:00 pm Ladies' Sewing Group  
5:30 pm Preschool PJ Party

### Saturday, March 4

9:30 am 5th Grade Girls' Day

### SUNDAY, February 26, 2017

8:45 and 11:00am Morning Worship  
Exodus 24:12-18 and Matthew 17:1-17

*"Optimus Prime Jesus"*

Dr. Rick Owen

### Lectionary Scripture Readings

Exodus 24:12-18  
Psalm 99  
2 Peter 1:16-21  
Matthew 17:1-9

### SERVING SUNDAY

#### Ushers

8:45 Montz 11:00 Lawson

#### Cross

8:45 Caroline Marshall 11:00 Abby Gray

#### Acolyte

8:45 Cadence Ward 11:00 Ellie Blanchard

#### Greeters: New Horizons

Meal on Wheels: David & Robin Martin

#### Food Pantry March 1st:

Sumners/McCrary

Midweek Meetup March 1st: Ash Wednesday. Menu - Baked ham, mac and cheese, fried okra, and corn dogs for the kids.

## Last Week's Record

February 19, 2017

Youth	62
Morning Worship	521
Weekly Contributions Expected*	\$27,212.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$28,573.00
Annual Contributions Expected*	\$1,415,000.00
Contributions Expected to Date*	\$217,696.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$181,928.25
New Members in 2017	6

### 10,000 REASONS CAMPAIGN

January 1, 2017—December 31, 2019

Amount Pledged	\$1,099,621.00
Received Last Week	\$3,967.33
Received to Date	\$180,689.66

*\*Provisional figures pending approval of 2017 budget.*

**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.