



733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Newsletter March 12, 2017

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org

Lent and Easter Schedule

Lenten Morning Prayer

Wednesday Mornings @ 7:30am

Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast

Saturday, April 8 @ 9:00am

Palm Sunday Worship

Sunday, April 9 @ 8:45am &
11:00am

Maundy Thursday Worship and Foot Washing

Thursday, April 13 @ 6:30pm

Good Friday Worship

Friday, April 14 @ 6:30pm

Easter Sunday Worship

Sunday, April 16 @ 8:45am &
11:00am



Friends, we have the joy of sharing with you that Fran Gatch is our new Director of Senior Adult Ministry at Bluff Park United Methodist Church! Fran has many years of successful experience in ministry including seven years as the Director of Mature Adults at her previous church. Fran is married to Mike Gatch who is a pastor at two United Methodist Churches and they have an adult

daughter, Lauren, who is also in ministry. Fran is one of the kindest and loving people I have ever encountered and I am thrilled that she is going to be in ministry here at Bluff Park UMC! Fran will be working with our senior adults and the Shepherd's Center ministry each Thursday.

I also wanted to share with you that two wonderful things happened this past week in the life of our church family. Last week, a wonderful group of members of our church went on a mission trip to North Charleston, South Carolina, to help repair homes damaged by the floods in 2016. The men repaired homes and tiled the floors of a home for a disabled Veteran. I know that they were used by God to bring healing and hope in South Carolina.

Finally, we had 16 fifth grader girls at the church all day long on Saturday, March 4th. Our Children's Ministry at BPUMC put together a wonderful program to help these girls gain confidence, to encourage one another and to meet wonderful mentors from our church family. They were told that they are a masterpiece and are so very loved by God and their church! We hope that this event was a great chance for them to grow in friendship and faith before they transition to middle school.

News of the Week



WELCOME NEW STAFF MEMBER FRAN GATCH

Fran Gatch has joined the staff of Bluff Park UMC as our Director of Senior Adult Ministry. We are blessed to have her with us.

School class. Contact Angela Martin at amartin@bpumc.org or stop in on Sunday morning!

LENTEN MORNING PRAYER

The Lenten Morning Prayer service has begun. We meet in the sanctuary for this service of Prayer, Scripture and Holy Communion. These services take place 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. The cost is \$20.00 per year per bed.

CORRECTION:

There was a misprint in the flower dedication in the Sunday bulletin for March 5th. Jim and Joan Crocker celebrated their 60th anniversary and we as a church family are so excited to have shared that wonderful milestone on Sunday in morning worship!

MISSING KITCHEN ITEMS

Items are being removed from the kitchen and not returned. Please return any items you have temporarily borrowed from the church kitchen as soon as you are able. Thank you!

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Linda Bailey—UAB West

NEW LENTEN STUDIES THIS 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 so that enough books can be purchased. Mike Holly will also be teaching a class on Wednesday nights at 6:30pm in room 237.

LENTEN SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

A new Lenten Sunday school class has begun and will continue through April 9th, *Restored: Finding Redemption in our Mess* by Tom Berlin. This class takes place during the Sunday School hour in the Parlor. It's not too late to join up. Everyone is welcome, especially those who are not already part of a Sunday

Easter Love Gift

At Bluff Park UMC, the Lenten season is the time of year when we receive our Easter Love Gift Offering for missions. The Easter Love Offering supports several ministries and missions that we, as a church, are involved in. Your generosity allowed us to do a great many things in 2016. We would like to do as much, or more, in 2017. We want to make a difference in the lives of many people as we support projects that are consistent with the "food, water, shelter" mission emphasis that the church has established.

Please mark your check 'Easter Love Offering' so that we can make sure that it goes to the right place. Your generosity will make a great difference for many people.

Thank you for all the ways that you support the mission outreach of Bluff Park UMC.

The Easter Love Gift is sponsored by the BPUMC United Appeal Fund.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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 lesson this week will be on "Lazarus" and the Preschool Sunday School lesson will be on "Zacchaeus!"

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Our Children's Church lesson this week is on "The Parable of the Good Samaritan!"

CHILDREN'S WEEKLY EMAIL: If you would like to start receiving our Children's Weekly Email to find out all of the fun and exciting things that are going on in the Children's Ministry at BPUMC, please email Melissa Hendon at mhendon@bpumc.org and let us know!

STUDENT MINISTRY

MIDWEEK MINISTRIES - MARCH - THE POWER OF PRAYER Our theme this 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, MARCH 12TH - BLUFF PARK RODEO Meet us in the Youth Parking Lot where we'll have snack supper, country music playing, friends over from Trussville UMC AND a mechanical bull! Be sure to wear your boots, hat and denim. Cost is \$10 and two students will go home with 2017 Bluff Park Rodeo Champ belt buckles.

SUMMER TRIP REGISTRATIONS! Students can now register online for our Adventure Camp (June 9-11) and ASP Mission Trip (July 2-8). Check with Kathryn Davis (kdavis@bpumc.org) for the links or more details.

DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP & KEEP UP WITH THE FAST-MOVING SPRING SCHEDULE. There's so much going on as we move further into 2017: Holy Ground Worship, Confirmation, Senior Recognition 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, June 9-11, 2017: *Whitewater Express Summer Trip*, Sunday-Saturday, July 2-8, 2017: *Appalachia Service Project Mission Trip*.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 12, 10:00am
Sunday, March 12, 4:00pm
Sunday, March 12, 5:00pm
Monday, March 12, 7:00pm
Tuesday, March 14, 7:00pm
Wednesday, March 15, 6:00pm
Wednesday, March 15, 6:30pm

Sunday School
Holy Ground Team Rehearsal & Confirmation Class
Bluff Park Rodeo
All Guys Small Group at Hearn Home
HS Girls Small Group at Dover Home
Guys/Girls/Coed Small Groups
Holy Ground Worship

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY, MARCH 16 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

TUESDAY, MARCH 21 DAY TRIP - 9:30 AM - 4:30 PM - Pell City, The Ark Restaurant, Catfish, Pink Barn, Antiques and more.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23 SHEPHERD'S CENTER - 10:00 AM - Dr. Geoffrey Dye - Maintenance of Feet.
A LENTEN STUDY, led by Bob Nelson 11:00AM - Week 4 - Condemned by the Righteous - Mark 14:53 - 72.

SPECIAL MOMENT WITH JESUS

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:33



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 Senior Ministries, ext. 103

Fran Gatch, fgatch@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 March 12—18

Sunday, March 12—Daylight Saving Time
8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
9:45 am Lenten Sunday School Class
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
4:00 pm Confirmation
5:00 pm Gospel of Mark Study
5:00 pm Youth Snack Supper

Monday, March 13
9:00 am UMW Friendship Circle
9:00 am UMW
10:00 am Prayer Shawl

Tuesday, March 14
9:30 am Covenant Bible Study
6:00 pm Under the Bridge
6:30 pm Building Team Meeting

Wednesday, March 15
7:30 am Lenten Morning Prayer
4:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study
5:00 pm Midweek Meetup
5:45 pm Men's Chorus
6:00 pm Handbell Choir
6:00 pm Gardening Class
6:00 pm Half Truths
6:00 pm Youth Small Groups
6:30 pm Holy Strollers
6:30 pm Choir
6:30 pm Lenten Bible Studies
6:30 pm Young Adult Bible Study
6:30 pm Youth Holy Ground

Thursday, March 16
9:30 am Shepherd's Center
6:30 pm Finance Committee

Friday, March 17
1:00 pm Ladies' Sewing Group
3:30 pm Exit 456 (Departs)
5:00 pm Fisherman Class Social

Saturday, March 18

Exit 456

SUNDAY, March 12, 2017
8:45 and 11:00am Morning Worship
John 3:1-17
"Self-Imposed Limitations"
Rev. Mike Holly

Lectionary Scripture Readings
Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalm 121
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17

SERVING SUNDAY
Ushers
8:45 Nelson 11:00 Dover
Cross
8:45 Andrew Pitts 11:00 Tate Turner
Acolyte
8:45 Matthew Pitts 11:00 Beverly Redding
Greeters: Seekers

Meal on Wheels: Martin
Food Pantry April 5th:
Adams/Richerson
Midweek Meetup March 15th: Menu - Fried
Lasagna, corn, baked chicken, baked potatoe,
and salad bar. Corn dogs for the kids.

Last Week's Record

March 5, 2017

Children/Youth	101/48
Morning Worship	557
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$22,579.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$34,461.63
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,174,109.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$225,790.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$231,558.88
New Members in 2017	6

10,000 REASONS CAMPAIGN

January 1, 2017—December 31, 2019

Amount Pledged	\$1,099,621.00
Received Last Week	\$4,290.00
Received to Date	\$186,258.66

**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.