



733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Newsletter March 19, 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



As a church family, we are mourning the passing of our friend, Betty Hottenstein. Betty will not be forgotten at Bluff Park United Methodist Church due to her tireless service to others, her friendship, and her witness. Betty led our church into excellence in senior adult ministries as well as in our ministry to others through the Shepherd's Center and the Medical Supply ministry. Betty directed memorable trips and welcomed members and visitors every Sunday at the Welcome Desk.

As Christians, we are bound together by the waters of our baptism into God's blessed family. Through the font, we become brothers and sisters in Christ. The more time that we spend together, the stronger this bond becomes. Throughout her years of service, she became a centerpiece of our church family and cared for many just as though we were her family. And now it is time for our congregation to care for her family as they grieve.

While we mourn with Betty's family, we are also thankful for her life and know that she is healed, whole and at peace. A memorial service is scheduled for Saturday, March 18, 2017, at 10:30 am at Bluff Park UMC's main sanctuary.

Mike



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.

News of the Week

ANNUAL CHURCH WIDE BBQ

The Bluff Park UMC annual barbecue has raised funds for over 20 years to help with the maintenance and expansion of our church building and grounds. The event is happening Friday, April 7th from 4-6pm and Saturday, April 8th, from 10am-3pm (Boston Butt pickup on Saturday.) It's time for Sunday school classes to sell BBQ tickets. You can help by giving door prizes to the church office, or by purchasing tickets from your Sunday school class or at the main office! To reserve a Boston Butt, call Catherine in the Church Office..

LADIES & GENTLEMEN, PREHEAT YOUR OVENS

The spring bake sale (in partnership with the church BBQ) will be held on April 7-8th. You can help by baking and bringing baked goods for the sale to the Fellowship Hall by noon on Friday, April 7th, and by purchasing sale items to compliment your BBQ on Friday night and Saturday morning. Bring your special cake, pie, cupcakes, cookies, candy, breads or other items packaged for sale and ready to share.

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

LENTEN MORNING PRAYER

The Wednesday morning Lenten Morning Prayer services have 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.

UPCOMING BAPTISMS

This Sunday, March 19th, we celebrate the baptisms of Thomas Johnson and Brita Moller in the 8:45am worship service...

SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION...

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Anne Travis who passed away on March 13th. Our prayers are with the family in their time of sorrow.

SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION...

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Betty Hottenstein who passed away on March 10th. A memorial service is scheduled for Saturday, March 18, 2017, at 10:30 am at Bluff Park UMC's main sanctuary. Our prayers are with the family in their time of sorrow.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Linda Bailey—UAB West



On April 23rd–25th, Bluff Park UMC will join with several other churches, schools, and civic organizations from the Vestavia/Hoover area to pack 300,024 nutritious meals (one full shipping container) to be sent overseas to relieve hunger. This project will be carried out in conjunction with Rise Against Hunger (formerly Stop Hunger Now), an organization dedicated to eradicating world hunger.

We are encouraging groups from the church to volunteer together, but *each individual must register separately*. If you have any problems accessing the website to register, contact the church office for assistance.

To sign-up as a volunteer visit:

BluffParkUMC.org/riseagainsthunger



Easter Lilies

Reserve your beautiful Easter Lily now to remember or honor a loved one at Easter. The cost is \$15.00 per plant payable to the church. Deadline for ordering is April 10th.

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

Return order form and payment to the church office.

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 "Jesus Washing the Disciples Feet!"

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

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 (March 15th) and Doris (March 22nd) 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 19TH - SERVE NIGHT Meet us in the Fellowship Hall for Snack Supper at 5pm. Then we'll divide up into Serve Teams - praying for Simmons Middle School, making sandwiches for the homeless, organizing Room 35226 supplies and more. Then, when everyone gets done, we'll meet up at Bluff Park Ice Cream Shoppe. Bring money for your treat!

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 19, 10:00am
Sunday, March 19, 4:00pm
Sunday, March 19, 5:00pm
Tuesday, March 21, 7:00pm
Wednesday, March 22, 6:00pm
Wednesday, March 22, 6:30pm

Sunday School
Holy Ground Team Rehearsal & Confirmation Class
Serve Night
HS Girls Small Group at Dover Home & Guys Group at Blake Shultz Home
Guys/Girls/Coed Small Groups
Holy Ground Worship

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

Pink

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

THURSDAY, MARCH 30

THURSDAY, APRIL 6

DAY TRIP - 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM - Pell City, The Ark Restaurant, Catfish, Barn, Antiques and more.

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

SHEPHERD'S CENTER 10:00 AM - Rosemary Dallum, Registered Dietitian - "Food Shopping for One or Two"

A LENTEN STUDY, led by Bob Nelson 11:00 AM - Week 4 - Jesus, Barabbas, and Pilate - Mark 15:1-5

SHEPHERD'S CENTER - 10:00 AM - Jason Cooper, Horticulturist, "Sweetspire Gardens"

A LENTEN STUDY, led by Bob Nelson 11:00 AM - Week 5 - Torture and Crucifixion - Mark 15:16-39



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**NON-PROFIT ORG.
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Jay Tumminello, jtumminello@bpumc.org

Preschool Director,

Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org

Facilities Manager,

Chad Malcolm, cmalcolm@bpumc.org



The Week of March 19—25

Sunday, March 19

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 Youth Snack Supper

Monday, March 20

10:00 am Prayer Shawl

Tuesday, March 21

9:30 am Covenant Bible Study
6:00 pm Under the Bridge
6:00 pm Education Team Meeting

Wednesday, March 22

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 Half Truths
6:00 pm Youth Small Groups
6:30 pm Gardening Class
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 23

9:30 am Shepherd's Center
9:30 am UMW Friendship Circle

Friday, March 24

1:00 pm Ladies' Sewing Group

SUNDAY, March 19, 2017
8:45 and 11:00am Morning Worship
Romans 5:1-11
"The Root Of Hope"
Rev. Mike Holly

Lectionary Scripture Readings

Exodus 17:1-7

Psalms 95

Romans 5:1-11

John 4:5-42

SERVING SUNDAY

Ushers

8:45 McDonald 11:00 Lawson

Cross

8:45 Natalie Self 11:00 Mary El Neal

Acolyte

8:45 Vivi Shanlever

11:00 Emma Ruth Cooper

Greeters: Vitality

Meal on Wheels: Chambers

Food Pantry April 5th:

Adams/Richerson

Midweek Meetup March 22nd: Menu - Baked pork chop, field peas with snaps, rice, baked chicken, baked potato, and salad bar. Chicken fingers for the kids.

Last Week's Record

March 12, 2017

Children/Youth	88/52
Morning Worship	458
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$22,579.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$19,271.00
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,174,109.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$248,369.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$250,829.88
New Members in 2017	6

10,000 REASONS CAMPAIGN

January 1, 2017–December 31, 2019

Amount Pledged	\$1,099,621.00
Received Last Week	\$3,260.00
Received to Date	\$189,518.66

**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.