



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter May 21, 2017

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org

REAL PRESENCE



On Sunday, May 14th, we celebrated Mother's Day in worship and we finished our series called "Real Presence." For four Sundays, we looked into the ways in which Jesus' relationships with his disciples changed after his resurrection as well as what these encounters teach us about how to carry out our relationships. We learned that we should not give up too quickly with one another as Thomas almost did when he doubted Jesus' resurrection. We learned that we should not waste the precious time that we have with one another. There are so many temptations that take us away from the very people that God has blessed us with. We also learned that Jesus thought forgiveness was too important to skip over even after his resurrection. He and Peter found reconciliation at a breakfast by the Sea of Galilee.

After worship, my family went to lunch at a local restaurant in Vestavia Hills to celebrate my wife, Julie. It was such a pretty day that we decided to sit outside. Another family came and dined at a table behind us and as you can imagine you can sometimes hear the conversations of others when you are packed into tight spaces. About four times (that I heard), the discussion between a husband and wife descended into an argument right in front of their child. Each time one of them said, "we just don't need to keep talking about this on Mother's Day because we will just keep arguing." My heart broke for them and I prayed that the rest of the day would be better for them.

Friends, Jesus Christ models for us what our relationships can be like. Intimate friendship with his disciples; honest discussions with people like Nicodemus and a Samaritan woman at a well; and forgiveness offered to people seeking God. By investing in your relationship with him, you will be changing each and every relationship in your life and hopefully, as you do – the marvelous light of Christ will shine on others through you!

Mike

MOTHER'S DAY LUNCH



News of the Week



THE GATHERING— SUNDAY FUNDAY!

The Gathering at Bluff Park is hosting a Sunday Funday community event at the Preserve Town Hall on May 21 from 3-6pm. It will be an afternoon of outdoor games, food, and fun. We'll have stuff for everyone from small kids all the way to those

hyper-competitive adults. We would love for you to invite a friend that might be interested in what God is doing in Bluff Park!

BABY SHOWER FOR TORI AND JOHN CARL HASTINGS

The whole congregation is invited to a baby shower honoring Tori and John Carl Hastings. Join us on June 11th from 2-3:30pm in the parlor. A registry has been created for them at babylist.com.

SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendar for BPUMC Night at the Ballpark. Join us on the evening of June 16th for a night of baseball, hot dogs, and fellowship. Sign up for tickets in the Narthex on Sunday mornings or call the office to reserve your spot!

TRAVEL TO THE HOLY LAND

It is not too late to go to the Holy Land. The dates for the trip are January 30th to February 8th 2018. If you want to take the Nile Cruise extension the return date will be February 15th. This promises to be the trip of a lifetime. We will see what Jesus saw and walk where Jesus walked. If you have interest in learning more contact Tom Duley@822-0910 ext.112 or tduley@bpumc.org.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Morris Dillard—Brookdale



Registration Is Open for VBS 2017!

Excitement is building in Children's Ministry! Vacation Bible School for summer 2017—*Maker Fun Factory*—takes place July 17th-21st. Daily sessions will run from 8:30am-12:30pm. There will be games, activities, singing, and a whole lot of fun. Our VBS program registration is free and open to all rising 4k-5th grade children in our community.

This is a great opportunity to invite friends and neighbors with kids to come to our church. Online registration is now open.

To register visit:

bluffparkumc.org/vbs2017



Fast and Secure Online Donations With EasyTithe

Bluff Park United Methodist Church has implemented a set of online giving tools, powered by easyTithe.com. This provides the ability to make donations on our website and through a mobile app! After creating an account, you're able to give a donation or schedule a series of donations directly using your debit or credit card. You can also make a pledge and track your online giving throughout the year. You can also use this service to make Midweek Meetup meal payments.

To create your online giving account, visit the church website and select 'Donate Online' under the 'Give' link in the top menu. Step-by-step tutorial videos are available on the main 'Give' landing page.

www.BluffParkUMC.org/give-online

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

VBS VOLUNTEER NEEDS: Did you know we already have over 140 children signed up for Vacation Bible School this year and are expecting record breaking numbers!!!! We are in need of VBS volunteers the week of July 17-21 from 8:30-12:30 to help us show the love of Jesus Christ to the children of our church and our community.! You can see all of the available volunteer spots and sign up for them at <http://bluffparkumc.org/vbs-2017-volunteer-page/>, or by emailing Melissa Hendon at mhendon@bpumc.org.

PRESCHOOL SPLASH PARTY: There will be a Preschool Splash Party for all Preschool aged children and their families will be on Thursday, June 1st from 10:00-12:00 on the playground! Come out and enjoy sprinklers, kiddie pools, squirt guns, snow cones, juice boxes, and more! Please register at bluffparkumc.org/preschoolsplashparty. We look forward to seeing you all there!

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Elementary Sunday School will be participating in our monthly Mission Sunday and the Preschool Sunday School lesson will be on "God Makes a Beautiful World!"

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Our lesson in Children's Church this week will be "Saul Becomes Paul!"

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

SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY - MAY 21ST We will honor our 2017 graduating seniors with a special breakfast in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30am. All current students are invited to join us. Afterwards there will be time for pictures in front of the chapel and then we will recognize our seniors with special Bibles during the 11:00am worship service.

SUMMER TRIP REGISTRATIONS! Students can now register online for our Adventure Camp (June 9-11.) The ASP Mission Trip (July 2-8) is full but we are accepting students on our wait list. 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: 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 Sunday, May 21st: *Senior Recognition Sunday*, Friday-Sunday, June 9-11, 2017: *Adventure Camp Summer Trip*, Sunday-Saturday, July 2-8, 2017: *Appalachia Service Project Mission Trip*.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 21st, 10:00am
Sunday, May 21st, 11:00am

Senior Recognition Brunch
Senior Recognition in Worship
No Midweek Meal or Holy Ground Worship in May!

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY, MAY 23

TRIP TO VIEW CAHABA DAY LILIES ~ 10 AM ~ - Elevator Tower Entrance.
Lunch @ Bright Star Restaurant ~ To reserve a seat on the bus contact Fran 822-0910
fgatch@bpumc.org

THURSDAY, MAY 25

SHEPHERD'S CENTER ~ Fireside Room ~ Rosemary Dallum, Dietician ~ Cooking Demonstration

THURSDAY, JUNE 8

SHEPHERD'S CENTER ~ Dr. Lowell Vann, Retired Professor of Art, Samford University ~ A Chalk Drawing ~ See an Astonishing Work of Art created Before your eyes.

"Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." Philippians 4:8



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Hoover, AL 35226
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**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
- 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 May 21—27

Sunday, May 21
8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:30 am Senior Recognition Brunch
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
Senior Recognition

Monday, May 22
10:00 am Prayer Shawl
10:00 am UMW Joy Circle
10:00 am UMW Hope-Love Circles

Tuesday, May 23
10:30 am Cahaba Lilies Day Trip
6:30 pm Church Life Team Meeting

Wednesday, May 24
5:45 pm Men's Chorus
6:00 pm Handbell Choir
6:30 pm Choir

Thursday, May 25
9:30 am Shepherd's Center
9:30 am UMW Friendship Circle
6:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting

SUNDAY, May 21, 2017
8:45 and 11:00am Morning Worship
John 14:15-21
Rev. John Carl Hastings

Lectionary Scripture Readings
Acts 17:22-31
Psalm 66:8-20
1 Peter 3:13-22
John 14:15-21

SERVING SUNDAY
Ushers
8:45 McDonald 11:00 Lawson
Cross
8:45 Caroline Marshall
11:00 Emma Ruth Cooper
Acolyte
8:45 Lena Holly 11:00 Mary Lynn Williamson
Greeters: New Light

Meal on Wheels: McCrary
Food Pantry June 7th: Summers/Lawson

Last Week's Record

May 14, 2017

Children	81
Morning Worship	550
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$22,579.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$27,162.08
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,174,109.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$451,580.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$521,999.75
New Members in 2017	12

10,000 REASONS CAMPAIGN

January 1, 2017–December 31, 2019

Amount Pledged	\$1,099,621 .00
Received Last Week	\$4,398.33
Received to Date	\$220,958.65

**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.