



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter June 18, 2017

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org



WE BELIEVE

The Apostles' Creed begins with the claim that there is one God who is Father Almighty and the maker of heaven and earth. When you first open up a Bible to the book of Genesis, you find a grand story about how God created the expanse of the universe. By the second chapter of Genesis, the focus of creation lands upon one human individual: Adam. God breathes life into him and thus begins a grand saga of the God of the universe loving His creatures and bringing them back home to Him. It's a story that proves, in theologian Karl Barth's mind, that if we even know that God exists then that proves that God loves us all.

While God loves us just the way we are, the old preacher says, God loves us too much to let us stay that way. The story of humanity is a continued story of turning in upon ourselves rather than turning towards God. Yes, there have been moments along the way of holy alignment with heaven. But there are so many more times in which we are opposed to heaven. And yet, the story goes that God continues to turn back to creation and back to His people urging them to return. There is a project afoot – a work from Heaven being done to transform us into who God calls us to be as His creatures.

God's project begins by showing us the way. And then, God provides God's own self in Jesus Christ to lead us the rest of the way. For the next four Sundays, we turn to the third of the Triune God whose story takes up the majority of the Apostles' Creed: Jesus Christ.

Mike

New Members at BPUMC



Jonathan and Kristen Face



Becky Blankenship Natalie and David Gray Ella and Alyssa

News of the Week

SUMMER UNDER THE STARS

The Senior Adult Ministries of Bluff Park UMC are sponsoring a fun series of summer events for the everyone 55+ in our community. Things start off with a free movie night on June 21st. You can Dance Under The Stars on July 8th with live music from the George Winter Band, and then join us for a relaxing Starry Night Concert featuring toe-tapping bluegrass music, on August 16th. Make plans to join us and bring a friend. Check the Senior Adult Ministry section of the newsletter for more details.

THANK YOU!

To our friends at Bluff Park UMC, on behalf of the entire Vestavia Hills UMC Rise Against Hunger Team we thank you for all you did to make the 2017 event so successful. You packed 300,024 meals that are on the way to children and families in Nicaragua. We so appreciate all the time, energy, monetary donations and prayers that you all offered. It was an honor to work beside so many of your members. Please contin-

ue to pray for the Rise Against Hunger ministry and each person it touches. Hope to see you all again in 2018. May God richly bless Bluff Park UMC.

—The Vestavia Hills UMC Rise Against Hunger Team 2017

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...

Jim Wible—Brookwood

Billie Crain—UAB



Keep Up With Summer Giving Online

Bluff Park United Methodist Church has implemented a set of online giving tools, powered by easyTithe.com. This provides the ability to quickly and easily make donations on our website and through a mobile app! After creating an account, you're able to give directly 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 in the Fall.

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



FREE

MAKER FUN FACTORY

Created by **GOD**
Built for a Purpose

BLUFF PARK UMC VBS

July 17-21

8:30am - 12:30pm

Rising 4k-5th Grade

BluffParkUMC.org/vbs2017

Registration Ends June 30th

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

VBS VOLUNTEER NEEDS: Did you know we already have over 210 children signed up for Vacation Bible School this year!!! That's more than we have ever had attend VBS at Bluff Park UMC! However, we are still in need of 13 more VBS volunteers on the week of July 17-21 from 8:30-12:30 to help us show the love of Jesus Christ to these children from our church and our community! These volunteers have the easiest, but most rewarding, job at Vacation Bible School: they simply shepherd children from station to station each day of VBS and get to know the children they are assigned! You can sign up at <http://bluffparkumc.org/vbs-2017-volunteer-page/>, or by emailing Melissa Hendon at mhendon@bpumc.org.

FIELD TRIP/MISSION TRIP: On Wednesday, June 21st, will be going to Desoto Caverns for the day, where we will take a cave tour and participate in some other fun activities! Because of the length of this trip, our mission project will occur in the gym before and after we leave and will consist of creating artwork to share the love of Jesus with others. Drop off will begin at 7:30, we will leave the church at 9:30, and pickup will be at the church between 5:00-5:30. Please RSVP with Melissa Hendon at mhendon@bpumc.org as soon as possible as there are limited spots available and they fill up fast!

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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21ST, 6:00PM: HUNGER GAMES We'll play one of our classic Nerf Night games where the church becomes our arena. We'll provide the pool noodles, Nerf blasters and foam darts. You bring \$5 for dinner. Meet us on the first floor (by the gym.)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21ST, 8:15PM: ASP MISSION TRIP TEAM MEETING All student and adult leaders going on our trip to Cocke County, Tennessee are asked to attend. We'll go over travel details like the packing list, potential projects, pay outstanding balances and more. Parents of students going on the trip are invited to attend as well..

DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP & KEEP UP WITH THE FAST-MOVING SUMMER SCHEDULE. There's so much going on as we move further into 2017: fun weekly events, big trips 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-Saturday, July 2-8, 2017: *Appalachia Service Project Mission Trip.*

THIS WEEK

Sunday, June 18th, 10:00am
Sunday, June 18th
Wednesday, June 21st, 6:00pm

Sunday School in the Youth Wing
No Afternoon/Evening Youth Events (Happy Father's Day!)
Hunger Games in the Church

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

THE BPUMC 55+FOCUS GROUP PRESENTS: SUMMER UNDER THE STARS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

FREE MOVIE NIGHT ~ Choose from two wonderful movies to enjoy with family or friends. Gather for light refreshments in the Fellowship Hall at 6 PM. "What about Bob?" and "The Intern" will be shown at 6:30 PM. No reservation needed.

SATURDAY EVENING, JULY 8

DANCING UNDER THE STARS ~ 6:30 - 8:30 PM BPUMC Fellowship Hall. Enjoy live music from the George Winter Band, refreshments and friends. Dance "under the stars". This event is sponsored by Sylvia and John Summers.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16

STARRY NIGHT CONCERT—6:30 PM in the Bluff Park UMC ~ Sanctuary Relax and "beat the heat" with toe tapping Bluegrass tunes. Dr. Garry Furr, is a pastor, a musician and the leader of this group. The band is comical and enjoyable as is the band. Refreshments will be served in the foyer. No reservation needed. Call Fran @ 822-0910 or email fgatch@bpumc.org with questions about events.

SHEPHERD'S CENTER EVENTS

THURSDAY, JUNE 22

THE RILEY CENTER QUILTERS ~ 10 AM in the Fireside Room. Gorgeous quilts will be on display in the Fellowship Hall. A quilter tells her family history through her art.

THURSDAY, JUNE 29

NIKI SAPSAS - "Down the Coast of Maine" ~ view enigmatic lighthouse landscapes, coastal scapes and learn about Maine and the best places for dining lobster. 10 AM Fellowship Hall



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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
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Fran Gatch, fgatch@bpumc.org
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Organist,
Jay Tumminello, jtumminello@bpumc.org
Preschool Director,
Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org
Facilities Manager,
Chad Malcolm, cmalcolm@bpumc.org



The Week of June 18—24

Sunday, June 18—Father's Day
8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
4:00 pm Board of Stewards Meeting
Monday, June 19
9:00 am Preschool Summer Camp
10:00 am Prayer Shawl
Tuesday, June 20
9:00 am Preschool Summer Camp
6:00 pm Under the Bridge
Wednesday, June 21
9:00 am Preschool Summer Camp
7:30 am Children's Ministry Fieldtrip
5:45 pm Men's Chorus
6:00 pm Senior's & Friends Movie
Night
6:00 pm Handbell Choir
6:30 pm Choir
Thursday, June 22
9:00 am Preschool Summer Camp
9:30 am UMW Friendship Circle
9:30 am Shepherd's Center
6:30 pm Finance Committee
7:00 pm Book Club
Friday, June 23
9:00 am Preschool Summer Camp
5:00 pm Fisherman Class Social

SUNDAY, June 18, 2017
8:45 and 11:00am Morning Worship
Matthew 16:13-20
"Creed: One Lord"
Rev. Mike Holly

Lectionary Scripture Readings
Genesis 18:1-15
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
Romans 5:1-8
Matthew 9:35-10:8 (9-23)

SERVING SUNDAY
Ushers
8:45 Footsteps 11:00 Davis
Acolyte
8:45 Cadence Ward 11:00 Kate Ryan Black
Greeters: Vitality

Meal on Wheels: Britain
Food Pantry July 5th: Theresa Richerson

Last Week's Record

June 11, 2017

Children	55
Morning Worship	537
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$27,137.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$51,953.00
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,411,109.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$651,288.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$674,534.75
New Members in 2017	19

10,000 REASONS CAMPAIGN

January 1, 2017–December 31, 2019

Amount Pledged	\$1,099,621 .00
Received Last Week	\$51,055.00
Received to Date	\$289,551.65

**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.