



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter July 16, 2017

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org



There are so many good things to report this week. Our senior adult director, Fran Gatch, and her team of servants have put on two exciting summer events including a movie night and a dance. The Fellowship Hall was transformed into a movie theater one week and then another it was a decked out for a dance party with a live band! Don't miss out on the summer fun because we have more coming on the calendar!

Not only that, but our Lovingthe35226 ministry is growing. Our church was able to assist a local teacher and our summer intern in the youth department, Ben, is working on new ways for our church to help children in our schools. We are so very blessed to have so many caring and passionate members willing to donate time and resources!

We are just a week away from Vacation Bible School where around 260 children will be with us as we teach them about God's love and grace and what God hopes for their lives. So many people have volunteered and I want to thank you all. Hopefully, you will experience what a joy and blessing it is to be a part of the formation of the hearts and minds of young disciples and you will be ready to sign up next year!

This is going to be my fifth year with you at Bluff Park United Methodist. I am so very excited about what is happening and what is about to happen. You will soon see changes on our property and I know you will be as excited as I am about what lies around the corner!

Mike

Farewell to Catherine Ward

Catherine Ward, who has served as our church secretary since 2014, is leaving to start a new job as the Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director of The Center For Executive Leadership. This is a Christian organization whose mission is to get men into the Word and the Word into the world.

Catherine has been a valued colleague and friend over the years. We wish her well as she begins her new work.

Catherine has made many friends here at Bluff Park UMC and wanted to share this message with you:

"I have so enjoyed serving the congregation here at Bluff Park. I will truly miss everyone."



News of the Week

DISASTER RELIEF BUCKETS

Recent storms produced extensive flooding and wind damage across our state. UMCOR has been distributing buckets filled with relief supplies in response, and now we need to help them re-stock the shelves and prepare for the next time. On Saturday, July 29th, from 9:00am–5:00pm a group from our church will travel to the Decatur UMCOR warehouse to help them prepare to respond to future needs. To sign up call the church office or Carol Westbrook (205-401-5515.)

BLOOD DRIVE

There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive in the Bluff Park UMC gym on Sunday, July 30th, from 7:30am–12:30pm. Please make time to stop by and give the gift of life. A Red Cross Donor Card or photo ID is required to make a donation. To schedule an appointment to donate call 1-800-Red-Cross or visit their website at RedCrossBlood.org and use the keyword BPUMC.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

The deadline for scholarship applications for the 2017-18 school year is August 1st. All Bluff Park United Methodist college students who would like to apply must have their forms submitted to the church office by the deadline. Application forms are available on the forms page of the church website, or in the church office. If you need more information, please contact the church office.

SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION...

The sympathy of the congregation goes out to the family of Opal Humphrey who passed away on July 7th. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family in their time of loss.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

George Singleton—UAB
Bill Rabb—Brookwood



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

On Monday, August 14th, at 6:30pm there will be a special program in the BPUMC Chapel on the topic of "Feeding the Hungry." Special guests Kathryn Strickland, from Community Food Bank, and Greg Bishop, from Hoover Helps, will talk about what is happening in our community and how you can help.



Youth ASP Trip



Bundles of Hope Diaper Drive

During the month of July, Bluff Park United Methodist Women are partnering with Bundles of Hope to ensure that families experiencing financial hardship have an adequate and reliable supply of diapers for their infants and toddlers.

How you can help:

- Donate disposable diapers (sizes newborn - 6)
- Make a financial donation

Designated drop-off bins will be in the narthex and on the 1st floor by the fellowship hall/nursery entrance. For financial donations, place checks in the offering plate or leave them in the church office.

All diapers collected will be distributed exclusively through the BPUMC Food Pantry.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

PRAY FOR VBS: Vacation Bible School: Maker Fun Factory starts Monday, July 17th and runs through Friday, July 21st! We currently have 260 children and over 100 volunteers attending VBS this year! Would you please join us in praying for all the kids who will be at our church next week and for all of our wonderful volunteers who make VBS so special for those kids? We can't wait to see what amazing things are going to happen next week at Vacation Bible School, and we look forward to sharing them with you in the coming weeks!

SUNDAY SCHOOL: This week we will be concluding our study of "Joseph" in elementary Sunday School!

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Throughout the Summer, we will be learning about the "Apostle's Creed" in Children's Church!

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

ASP MISSION TRIP UPDATE Our Appalachia Service Project team returned on Saturday, July 8th, from Cocke County, TN after a week of home repairs. Twenty students and eleven adults from Bluff Park served alongside students from two churches in the suburbs of Philadelphia, PA. We cannot wait to tell you more about our experience. Thank you for the prayers that sustained us and the generosity that allowed us this opportunity.

SUNDAY, JULY 16TH, 10:00AM & 5:00PM: VBS TRAINING There are two training options for students who plan to volunteer at Vacation Bible School: During the Sunday School hour (10:00am) or during Sunday Night Youth (5:00pm.) A free meal will be provided. Meet in the Fellowship Hall.

BAND CAMP! JOIN OUR STUDENT WORSHIP TEAM Our worship leader, Jake Smith, is organizing a multi-day fun training and rehearsal event for students who want to be part of our Wednesday night worship team this fall. No experience is required and there is no cost. You don't even have to know how to sing or play an instrument. Students will learn some of our favorite songs along with the basics of running our lighting, video, and sound for Holy Ground. Contact Jake at jdsmith94@gmail.com for more details.

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.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, July 16th, 10:00am
Sunday, July 16th, 12:30pm
Sunday, July 16th, 5:00pm
Sunday-Friday, July 17th-21st

Sunday School in the Youth Wing
Youth Council Meets in the Seekers Classroom
Vacation Bible School Training
Vacation Bible School

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

55+ AND FRIENDS: SUMMER UNDER THE STARS

TUESDAY, JULY 25

TRIP TO BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM OF ART Travel with friends to the Birmingham Museum of Art. We will have lunch at the Award Winning Café, Oscar's at 11 AM. View the art and treasures of the museum at your own pace and taste. Visit the unique Museum Gift Shop for rare items to take home. Church Bus leaves at 10 AM from the Elevator Tower Entrance. Return at 2:30 PM. Tickets: Free. RSVP Fran for a reservation @ 822-0910 or Email fgatch@bpumc.org

SHEPHERD'S CENTER EVENTS

THURSDAY, JULY 27

CINDY MONK, REALTOR—Moving Expert, Older Adult Moves will present, "Downsizing Made Easy." Cindy is fun and has great director for persons needing more order in their homes. 10 AM Fireside Room ~ Games and exercise at 11 AM.



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**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 July 16—22

Sunday, July 16	VBS Training 8:45 am Morning Worship Service 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Morning Worship Service
Monday, July 17	8:30 am Vacation Bible School 10:00 am Prayer Shawl
Tuesday, July 18	8:30 am Vacation Bible School 6:00 pm Under the Bridge 6:00 pm Education Team Meeting
Wednesday, July 19	8:30 am Vacation Bible School 5:45 pm Men's Chorus 6:30 pm Choir
Thursday, July 20	8:30 am Vacation Bible School 9:30 am Shepherd's Center
Friday, July 21	8:30 am Vacation Bible School

SUNDAY, July 16, 2017
8:45 and 11:00am Morning Worship
Matthew 25:31-46
"Creed: Everyday Matters"
Rev. Mike Holly

Lectionary Scripture Readings
 Genesis 25:19-34
 Psalm 119:105-112
 Romans 8:10-11
 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

SERVING SUNDAY
Ushers
 8:45 McDonald 11:00 Youth
Acolyte
 8:45 Ella Bowles 11:00 CJ Lorino
Greeters: Covenant
Meal on Wheels: Adams
Food Pantry August 2nd:
 Dallum and Lawson

Last Week's Record

July 9, 2017

Children/Youth	56/31
Morning Worship	449
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$27,137.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$35,697.87
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,411,109.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$759,836.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$779,115.62
New Members in 2017	19

10,000 REASONS CAMPAIGN
 January 1, 2017–December 31, 2019

Amount Pledged	\$1,099,621 .00
Received Last Week	\$6,539.00
Received to Date	\$307,776.98

**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 en-
 trance near the nursery and Fellowship Hall.