



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter August 13, 2017

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org



We are beginning a new year at Bluff Park UMC in prayer and mission! On Sunday morning, we will bless the backpacks of the children of our church and community as they get ready to go back to school. We will also have a time of prayer for the students, teachers, and staff! Our children will be introduced to their brand new educational space on the first floor on Sunday morning! I know they are all very excited to see what has been done!

In terms of mission and outreach, our children's ministry staff worked with area churches to provide a meal and prayer to the staff and teachers at Bluff Park Elementary. We are also in the middle of a school supply drive for the Room 35226 project for local schools and for Little Imaginations Preschool. In addition to this, our church has already picked up close to 200 shoeboxes for Christmas gifts to children. We have many more boxes so come by on Sunday to pick them up from the Narthex!

Finally, we are finishing the summer sermon series on the Apostles' Creed this weekend. I hope it has been a blessing to all of you as I know it has been to me. I have been so amazed at how the Creed tells the story of our faith and how it helps us to put into a few words the grand and wonderful way in which God has shown love and poured out grace upon us all. Over and over again, I see the connection between who God is and how God has worked in the world and in our lives to give us life. When we meet on Sunday morning, we will hear about the resurrection of our bodies and the life everlasting (eternal life). This is a hope and promise that we lean towards; however, it is also a gift for the here and now. It is true life connecting to the Source of Life – being in a deep and meaningful relationship with God, a caring and uplifting relationship with others, and a pathway of finding our own way to live out our calling in ways that make a difference in the world.

May you enjoy the fullness of life that God offers to each and every one of us!

Mike

FEEDING THE HUNGRY

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, in our schools, and how you can help.



News of the Week

MIDWEEK MEETUPS RETURN FOR FALL

On Wednesday, August 16th, the our Midweek Meetups begin for the fall semester. We'll have sign-ups for classes and programming for kids and youth. Dinner starts at 5pm!

CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES!

During the month of August we are putting together Christmas Shoe Boxes to be distributed to children throughout Latin America at Christmas time. The Shoe Boxes have small items that many of the children our missionaries work with have a hard time getting. The list of needed materials is provided when you pick up a box. We provide the boxes and you can get them in the Narthex on Sunday morning. This is a project in partnership with the United Methodist Committee on Relief and our United Methodist missionaries working in the region.

AUGUST SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

During the month of August, Bluff Park UMC is doing a school supply drive for local schools! This is a way to help with needed resources for our Little Imaginations preschool program and the Room 35226 project, which places healthy snacks, school supplies, clothing and shoes right in schools like Gwin, Bluff Park and Simmons! The school counselors make sure

that any child with a need finds their way to Room 35226 supplies! A list of donation needs is available at the welcome center and on the church website.

LAY SERVANT MINISTRY CERTIFICATION CLASSES

The Central District of the North Alabama Conference is offering several classes for Lay Servant credit on Saturday, August 19th, from 8:00 AM until 6:00 PM. The classes will be held at the Methodist Center on the campus of Birmingham Southern College. The classes which will be offered are Methodist Beliefs, Spiritual Gifts, and Polity & Organization. Download registration forms online: bluffparkumc.org/forms/

BPUMC BLOCK PARTY—SAVE THE DATE

On October 1st, from 4:00-6:00pm, we will be hosting a party here at BPUMC. There will be free hotdogs, chips and drinks; carnival games and prizes, inflatables, a Velcro wall, a race car train, music, face painting and a Fun Run! Invite your friends and neighbors.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Mary Lee Monroe—Bethany House
Robert Weaver—VA
Harry Hill—Lakeshore



VBS Reunion/Science Experiment Show

This year's VBS was the largest we have ever had at BPUMC, and it wouldn't have been the same without each and every child that attended! We are not quite ready for the fun to end, so we're having a special event on Wednesday, August 23rd, from 6:30-7:30pm in the Children's Wing for all the kids in our community (even if you didn't to attend VBS!)

We will sing some of our favorite VBS songs, play games, get to see our favorite VBS invention (THE TOILET PAPER GUN!!!) We will also have a special Science Experiment based program by **Jan Mattingly: The Science Lady.**



"15 Ways to Save Your Sanity in a New School Year!"

Kari Kampakis
Special Guest Speaker

Wednesday, August 23rd, from 6:30-7:30pm

While the kids are enjoying the VBS Reunion/Science Experiment Show in our Children's Wing, parents are invited to the Sanctuary to hear local Christian speaker and author Kari Kampakis, who will be speaking on "15 Ways to Save Your Sanity in a New School Year!" Come learn some new strategies to help navigate the beginning of another school year!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS: On Sunday, August 13th, we will be blessing the children and their backpacks in both the 8:45 and 11:00 services. As part of this blessing, the children will receive a backpack tag that they can wear on their book bags throughout the year.

VBS REUNION/SCIENCE EXPERIMENT SHOW: On Wednesday, August 23rd, from 6:30-7:30, all of our elementary aged children are invited to a night of VBS songs, games, an appearance by the toilet paper gun, and a special science experiment based program by Jan Mattingly! While the kids are enjoying this event, parents are invited to the sanctuary to hear local Christian speaker and author Kari Kampakis, who will be speaking on "20 Ways to Save Your Sanity in a New School Year!" We look forward to seeing you all there!

SUNDAY SCHOOL: For the month of August and September, we will be studying the life of King Saul and King David!

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: This Sunday we will be finishing our series on the Apostle's Creed!

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!

STUDENT MINISTRY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13TH, 5:00PM: SKY ZONE Meet us at Skyzone Trampoline Park on Highway 31. We'll bounce and then walk over to Wingzone for dinner. Students are responsible for transportation and event costs.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16TH, 6:30PM: HOLY GROUND Worship Midweek Meals return and the Youth Wing will be open for students. Then we'll worship together in the Holy Ground Room. Our monthly worship theme will focus on keeping faith first and foremost as we head back to school. Optional small groups will begin in September.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19TH, 1:00-5:00PM: BAND CAMP! Join Our Student Worship Team. Our worship leader, Jake Smith, is organizing a 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.

SAVE THESE DATES Thursday-Friday, November 9-10: *One Night for the Homeless*, Friday-Sunday, November 17-19: *Fall Retreat at Sumatanga*.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, August 13th, 10:00am	Sunday School in the Youth Wing
Sunday, August 13th, 4:00pm	Holy Ground Team Rehearsal
Sunday, August 13th, 5:00pm	Sky Zone & Wings
Wednesday, August 16th, 4:30pm	Holy Ground Team Rehearsal
Wednesday, August 16th, 6:30pm	Holy Ground Worship

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

55+ AND FRIENDS

WELCOME CHILDREN!!! Children who would enjoy reading with a BPUMC Tutor for an hour once a week are welcome! Children benefit from reading aloud in a quiet and judgement free setting. Volunteer tutors will listen and encourage children who need to strengthen their reading skills. Please contact Fran Gatch at the Welcome Center Sunday mornings and sign up.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Are you a retired teacher or someone interested in helping children read? Please consider volunteering to listen to children read afterschool at BPUMC! Just one hour each week this fall. Contact Fran at 822-0910 or email fgatch@bpumc.org Thank you!

COMMUNITY CONCERT: Sunday Afternoon, September 24th Concert ~ Dr. Joseph and Suzanne Hopkins, Dean School of the Arts Samford University ~ will perform a variety of vocal variations. You are invited to enjoy these exquisite vocalists for your enjoyment and inspiration. Free Event. Reception in Parlor to Follow! Sign up with Fran at the Welcome Center.

SHEPHERD'S CENTER SCHEDULE

August 17	Gary Sanders, UAB Director of Broadcasting ~ Stories and Jokes from My Life at Work
August 24	Shades Mountain Air Concert ~ Enjoy this blue grass, gospel and humorous Band
August 31	Dolores Hydock, Actress, Storyteller, Yale Grad ~ Shares Stories of Aging



Bluff Park United Methodist Church

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Hoover, AL 35226
(205) 822-0910

**NON-PROFIT ORG.
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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
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Lonnie Parsons
- Organist**,
Jay Tumminello, jtumminello@bpumc.org
- Preschool Director**,
Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org
- Facilities Manager**,
Chad Malcom, cmalcom@bpumc.org



The Week of August 13—19

Sunday, August 13
8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
Monday, August 14
10:00 am Prayer Shawl
6:30 pm UMW Special Presentation:
Feeding the Hungry
Tuesday, August 15
7:00 am US Senate Primary Election
6:00 pm Under the Bridge
Wednesday, August 16
5:00 pm Midweek Meetup
5:45 pm Men's Chorus
6:30 pm Choir
Thursday, August 17
9:30 am Shepherd's Center

SUNDAY, August 13, 2017
8:45 and 11:00am Morning Worship
Galatians 6:7-10
"Creed: What Happens Next?"
Rev. Mike Holly

Daily Scripture Readings
Sunday—Galatians 6:7-10
Monday—Luke 23:32-43
Tuesday—Isaiah 2:1-4
Wednesday—1 John 18-28
Thursday—Matthew 7:13-29
Friday—Psalm 30
Saturday—Ephesians 2

SERVING SUNDAY
Ushers
8:45 Adams 11:00 Alley
Acolyte
8:45 Andrew Pitts 11:00 Penny Rose Pearson
Greeters: Home Improvement
Meal on Wheels: Britain
Food Pantry September 6th: Sumners
Midweek Meetup August 16th: Menu - TBA.

Last Week's Record

August 6, 2017

Children/Youth	48/63
Morning Worship	456
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$27,137.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$68,291.00
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,411,109.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$868,384.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$906,779.62
New Members in 2017	21

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

Amount Pledged	\$1,099,621 .00
Received Last Week	\$4,894.00
Received to Date	\$349,339.31

**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.