



# BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226  
205.822.0910

*Newsletter October 8, 2017*

*Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life*

[www.BluffParkUMC.org](http://www.BluffParkUMC.org)



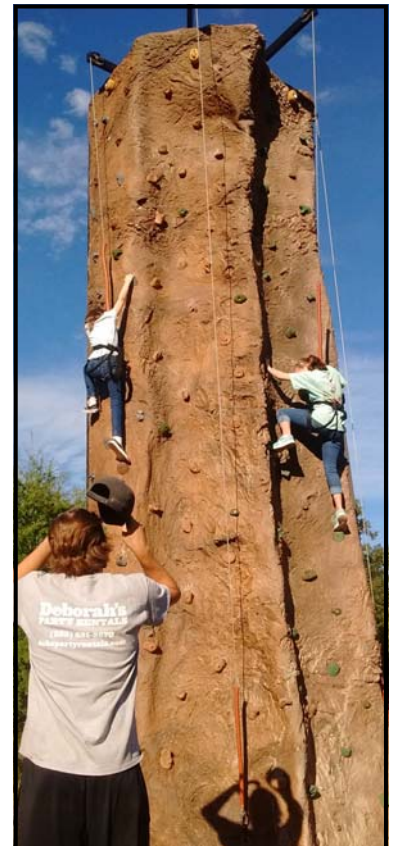
**A**s we move into the final three months of this year, we are beginning to plan for 2018! Our staff is working hard to plan new adventures for our church family as we begin a new year and as we prepare to open a brand new building for ministry and mission to the community. I hope and pray that each and every one of you will begin to look into your own heart and into your own life to see where God is working and how God is preparing you for a new year at Bluff Park UMC!

The month of October will be dedicated to “Questions God Asks Us” as well as to how God can use our gifts, skills and resources to bring about what God desires for us and God’s world. We believe that God is constantly at work and that God can use what we have to do amazing things. Like the buckets that we purchased from the hardware store that became vessels for needed cleaning supplies in Houston, Texas. Or the new blankets that we will donate that will become a source of warmth to those in the cold. Or how a portion of our income becomes the very ministry that reaches one new person with the life that God offers. God is at work: in us and through us.

*Mike*

## **Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!**

600 carnival prizes, 400 hotdogs, 5 attractions, 1 Neverthirst Fun Run and a gigantic crowd of friends and neighbors later... Block Party 2017 is in the books! And what a wonderful block party it was. A big thank you goes out to so many: the Church Life team for organizing the event; the pit crew for getting the food ready, setting it up and providing the generators; the Friendship class for serving the food; the youth for manning the carnival games and providing the Gaga ball game; the children’s department for putting together the boy’s and girl’s prize baskets; and all of you that pitched in to pick up trash or direct traffic, etc. All of your efforts combined to give us a great time of fun and fellowship. Let’s do it again next year!!



# News of the Week

## OFFERING OF BLANKETS

During the month of October we will once again be collecting blankets to share with our homeless neighbors this winter. There will be a table set up in the Narthex on Sunday mornings to receive blankets or you can bring yours by the church office during the week. The Offering of Blankets is sponsored by the Bluff Park United Appeal Fund.

## YOGA CLASS

Would you like to increase your flexibility, muscle tone, circulation, and more? Join us for yoga on Thursday evenings at 6:30 in Hudson Hall. Taught by Suki Akins. \$3 per class. We look forward to seeing you Thursdays!

## "WHAT'S YOUR STORY?"

We all want to live a great story. Through the story of Joseph, Sara Heath leads us to envision our lives as an adventure we are co-writing with God. Taught by Angela Martin on Wednesday mornings, Oct. 18 - Nov. 8 at 10:00 in room 265. To sign up, email [amartin@bpumc.org](mailto:amartin@bpumc.org). Student book is \$9.

## CHARGE CONFERENCE

The members of the Board of Stewards will be gathering on Sunday, October 22, 2017 at 4:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

## HAM MOUNTAIN IS COMING

During the month of November, we will be collecting canned hams for Ham Mountain. These hams will be distributed through the Bluff Park UMC food bank on December 6th. Look for the Ham Mountain display in the Narthex beginning November 5th. Ham Mountain is sponsored by the Bluff Park United Appeal Fund.

## SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION...

Our sympathy is extended to Sara Laughlin on the passing of her husband Euel on September 27th. Our prayers are with the family in their time of sorrow.

## IN THE HOSPITAL...

Butch Powell—Brookwood



United Methodist Committee On Relief

## FLOOD BUCKETS

In addition to receiving much needed financial offerings to help people recovering from recent hurricanes, we continue to collect "Flood Buckets" for distribution to people cleaning up after the storms. Visit the church website to download instructions for creating a flood bucket, or pick up a printout from the church office or Welcome Center in the narthex.



## ATTENTION: PARENTS!

### "Living Missionally as a Super Busy Parent"

Special Guest Speaker Rachel Estes

Wednesday, October 11th @ 6:30pm

Rachel Estes will give a special presentation to parents about ways to live a mission-focused life as a busy parent. There will be a special 'magical' program for kids during Rachel's presentation.



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL:** The annual Bluff Park UMC Halloween Carnival will be held on Wednesday, October 25th, from 6:00-8:00! There will be carnival games, raffle baskets, prizes, a haunted house, inflatables, a cake walk, food, Steel City Pops, and so much more. New this year: \$8 wristbands that allow children to partake in everything at the Carnival! Come in costume and have a great night of fellowship and fun with your friends and neighbors in Bluff Park!

**CHILDREN'S MISSION OPPORTUNITY:** For the month of October, the Children's Ministry will be holding a book drive for the Children's Hospital in Birmingham! These books will be given to children to read during their stay at the hospital, and will hopefully bring a smile to their faces during a hard time. The following types of books are on the hospital's wish list: Touch and Feel (Sensory books), Board Books, I-Spy/Look and Find Books, Superhero Books, Beverly Cleary Books, Dr. Seuss Books, Dork Diaries Books, Diary of a Wimpy Kid Series, Biscuit the Dog, I can Read series, and the Harry Potter Series. These donated books have to be new, and can be dropped off in Hudson Hall anytime throughout the week!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** The Elementary Sunday School lesson will be on the life of Moses!

**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](mailto:mhendon@bpumc.org).

## STUDENT MINISTRY

**THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8TH:** Hunger Games Are Back! After our free snack supper, we'll have Nerf guns onsite, but you can bring yours from home (labeled with your name, please). Things will get crazy... this is a fun night you won't want to miss! May the odds be ever in your favor!

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT SMALL GROUPS ARE IN FULL SWING!** For our students to be able to connect and get to know each other better, we encourage them to plug into a small group before Holy Ground Worship from 6 'til 6:30. They can choose from girls only, guys only or coed groups which are each led by our fantastic adult volunteers!

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11TH, 6:30PM: HOLY GROUND WORSHIP** The Youth Wing is open after school for all 6th-12th graders who want to come hang out, eat dinner together, play games, or do homework. Then we'll worship together in the Holy Ground Room. Our monthly worship theme for October is Old Testament Lives where we'll get to know some of the unique folks from scripture! Each week will feature worship and some awesome guest speakers like the Rev. Deb Welsh!

**DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP & KEEP UP WITH THE FAST-MOVING 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** Wednesday, October 25th: *Halloween Carnival*, Thursday-Friday, November 9-10: *One Night for the Homeless*, Friday-Sunday, November 17-19: *Fall Retreat at Sumatanga*.

### THIS WEEK

Sunday, October 8th, 10:00am	Sunday School in the Youth Wing
Sunday, October 8th, 4:00pm-5:00pm	Holy Ground Team Rehearsal
Sunday, October 8th, 5:00pm-7:00pm	Hunger Games
Wednesday, October 11th, 4:30pm	Holy Ground Team Rehearsal
Wednesday, October 11th, 6:00pm-6:30pm	Small Groups
Wednesday, October 11th, 6:30pm - 7:30pm	Holy Ground Worship

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

### 55+ AND FRIENDS

#### FALL TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

October 10 Trip to the Montgomery Home of Zelda and F. Scott Fitzgerald. Visit Old Alabama Town - Lunch at Central Restaurant 10 AM - 4 PM. Meet in Hudson Hall.

#### WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES

**BEGINNING COMPUTER:** This class is taught by Pat Goff of Technology with a Twist 4 PM in the Seekers Classroom.

**TECHNOLOGY TECH:** BPUMC Youth will meet you in the Fireside Room at 5 PM to personally assist you with your cell phone, iPad, laptop or other technology.

**DINNER FOR 55+:** The 55+ crowd is invited to eat in the Faith Classroom.

**INTERIOR DESIGN:** Taught by our own, Joan Dunn. Learn the basics of great interior design. Meet in the Parlor at 6 PM.

### SHEPHERD'S CENTER SCHEDULE

Programs - 10 AM - Thursdays - Fireside Room - All are Welcome!

Learning Opportunity 11 AM - Hudson Hall - Beginning Computer Class - Pat Goff - 4 Thursdays in October

October 12 Columbus Day Celebration - Niki Sepsas - Discovery of America

October 19 Reverend John Carl Hastings - Singing and playing guitar



**Bluff Park United Methodist Church**

733 Valley Street  
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
- Brenda Atkins, batkins@bpumc.org
- Director of Worship Music**,
- 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 October 8—14**

**Sunday, October 8**  
8:45 am Morning Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Morning Worship Service  
4:00 pm ????

**Monday, October 9**  
7:30 am Children's Field Trip  
9:00 am UMW  
10:00 am Prayer Shawl

**Tuesday, October 10**  
8:00 am Holie Walkamolies  
8:30 am Maintenance  
9:30 am Moses Bible Study  
6:00 pm Under the Bridge

**Wednesday, October 11**  
4:00 pm Technology with a Twist  
4:30 pm The Bible, UMC, and Politics  
5:00 pm Youth Tech Hour  
5:00 pm Midweek Meetup  
5:30 pm Men's Chorus  
6:00 pm Handbell  
6:00 pm Designing Interiors  
6:00 pm Moses Bible Study  
6:30 pm Living Missionally as a Super-Busy Parent  
6:30 pm Holy Strollers  
6:30 pm Choir

**Thursday, October 12**  
9:30 am Shepherd's Center  
6:30 pm Yoga

**Friday, October 13**  
12:00 pm Friendship Class Luncheon

**SUNDAY, October 8, 2017**  
8:45 and 11:00am Morning Worship  
John 1:35-42  
*"Questions God Asks Us:  
What Are You Looking For?"*  
Rev. Mike Holly

**LIFETRACK**

Sunday—Acts 12:1-17 and Psalm 145  
Monday—Matthew 8:28-34  
Tuesday—Matthew 9:1-8  
Wednesday—Matthew 9:9-17  
Thursday—Matthew 9:18-26  
Friday—Matthew 9:27-34  
Saturday—Matthew 9:35-10:4

**SERVING SUNDAY**

**Ushers**  
8:45 Adams 11:00 Alley  
**Acolyte**  
8:45 Natalie Self 11:00 Rebecca Rice  
**Cross**  
8:45 Ella Bowles 11:00 Miller Rice  
**Greeters:** Canterbury  
**Meal on Wheels:** Shanlever  
**Food Pantry November 1st:** Theresa and Bob  
**Midweek Volunteers**  
Woodie Comer, Ashley Smith, Wesey Forum, Julie White  
**Midweek Meetup October 11th:** Menu - Taco Salad, baked chicken, baked potato, and salad bar. Corn dogs for the kids.

**Last Week's Record**

October 1, 2017

Children/Youth	92/52
Morning Worship	509
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$27,137.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$41,754.31
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,411,109.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$1,085,480.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$1,093,081.05
New Members in 2017	24

**10,000 REASONS CAMPAIGN**

January 1, 2017—December 31, 2019

Amount Pledged	\$1,099,621 .00
Received Last Week	\$3,193.00
Received to Date	\$392,480.66

**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.