



733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226  
205.822.0910

# BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Newsletter October 22, 2017*

*Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life*

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



**O**n Sunday, October 29th, we will officially break ground on the new Youth and Community Ministry building. Construction is already underway and you will notice major changes in the last two months of this year! We are so very excited about the possibilities for ministry and mission in this new space! Please do not miss out on this important day in the life of our church family!

Be looking in the mail this week for a letter about our 2018 Ministry Budget and Pledge Card. I hope you will prayerfully consider how your household will generously return blessings to God next year through the ministry budget at Bluff Park UMC! I see so many things going well from children's ministry to worship to new programs for mature adults. As we see growth in these areas I

know that we will need the generosity of the entire church family to ensure that we have the resources to fund new ideas and to reach new people.

May God give you peace and clarity as you prayerfully consider your generosity for 2018!

*Mike*

**BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**HALLOWEEN**  
**CARNIVAL**  
**OCTOBER 25 • 6:00pm-8:00pm**  
**“There will be carnival games, prizes, a haunted house, inflatables, a cake walk, food and more.”**  
Come in costume and celebrate with your friends and neighbors in Bluff Park  
Carnival-wide passes \$8 -- Free access and food for parents.  
All proceeds support the children's ministry at the church.

# News of the Week



## OFFERING OF BLANKETS

During the month of October we are once again collecting blankets to share with our homeless neighbors this winter. There is 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.

## UMW COMPASSION CIRCLE

The UMW Compassion Circle will be “packing the bags” for the food pantry on October 29th. We will meet at 4pm in the pantry and this usually takes about 1 1/2 hours. Ladies and your children are welcome to join us. Please let Jennifer McEuen know if you plan to participate, [rmceuen@bham.rr.com](mailto:rmceuen@bham.rr.com).

## 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.

## THE FESTIVAL OF THREE KINGS

The Festival of Three Kings is an annual opportunity for us to help others experience the joy of Christmas by providing gifts to children. These children will most likely not receive any Christmas gifts without our help. If you would like to sponsor a child, you will receive a

"wishlist" to assist you in shopping. You may sponsor a child individually or as a Sunday School class, family or other group. Each sponsor is asked to spend no more than \$100 per child. If you prefer, you can sponsor a child with a contribution by bringing a check marked Festival of Three Kings to the Finance Office at the church and leave the shopping to us. The gifts will be due back to Bluff Park UMC no later than Sunday, December 3. Sign up lists will be in each Sunday School Class and at the Narthex Welcome Center this Sunday and the wishlists will be available in early November. Please call Debi Whitcomb (979-7626) if you have any questions.

## YOGA CLASS

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

## UMCOR UPDATE

Since Hurricane Harvey struck Texas on August 25th, our congregation has responded by taking up special offerings for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). To date, our church family has generously given \$25,885 to assist of people affected by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria.

## COMMITMENT SUNDAY 2017

On Sunday, October 29th, join us for Commitment Sunday during morning worship at 8:45am and 11:00am. At 10:30am we will have a special Groundbreaking Ceremony for our new Youth Ministry and Community Ministry Building. Following the groundbreaking we will have a Celebration Meal in the Fellowship Hall from 11:00am–1:00pm. We look forward to celebrating with you!



## Pledge Online With **easyTithe**™

Bluff Park United Methodist Church has implemented a set of online giving tools, powered by [easyTithe.com](http://easyTithe.com). This provides the ability to quickly and easily make pledges and donations on our website and through a convenient mobile app! You can make your pledge electronically and track your online giving throughout the year.

After creating an EasyTithe account, you're able to give directly or schedule a series of donations using your debit or credit card.

To get started, visit the church website and select 'Donate Online' under the 'Give' link in the top menu. Step-by-step video tutorials are available on the main 'Give' landing page.

[www.BluffParkUMC.org/give-online](http://www.BluffParkUMC.org/give-online)



## 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 all carnival activities and food (except Steel City Pops)! Free access and food for parents! 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, 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 and the Preschool Sunday School lesson will be on "David and Goliath!"

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** The Children's Church lesson this week is on "Telling others about Jesus!"

**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.

## STUDENT MINISTRY

**THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22ND, 5:00PM-7:00PM: CONVERT YOUTH WING INTO HAUNTED HOUSE**  
The free snack supper starts at 5pm... then we'll be getting to work to convert the Youth Wing into our "It" themed Haunted House. This is going to be fun... and scary, we can't wait to show "It" off at the Halloween Carnival Wednesday Night!

**THIS WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25TH, IS OUR CHURCH WIDE HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL FROM 6:00-8:00 PM:** Students do need to bring \$8 for a wristband that gives them unlimited access to all the activities including our Student Ministry hosted "It" themed Haunted House. There will also be carnival games, prizes, inflatables, a cake walk, food and more. New this year is a special Preschool-Only Zone where little ones can have fun in a space geared toward them. Come in costume and celebrate with your friends and neighbors in Bluff Park. The folks from Steel City Pops will be here again this year selling their amazing popsicles (they were a huge hit last year!) Remember: Carnival-wide passes are available for \$8 each. Free access and food for all parents.

**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 22nd, 10:00am

Sunday School in the Youth Wing

Sunday, October 22nd, 5:00pm-7:00pm

Convert Youth Wing Into "It" Themed Haunted House

Wednesday, October 25th, 6:00pm-8:00pm

Halloween Carnival!!!

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

### 55+ AND FRIENDS

#### WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES

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

**DINNER FOR 55+:** The 55+ crowd is invited to eat in the Faith Classroom starting at 5 PM.

**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 26 **The Alabama Ballet School** performs excerpts from "Sleepy Hollow"

November 2 **Holiday Decorating Demonstration** ~ Ray Jordan, Owner of "Flowerbuds" will demonstrate decorating ideas for the Holidays.



## Bluff Park United Methodist Church

733 Valley Street  
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(205) 822-0910

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
AUTO  
BIRMINGHAM, AL  
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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  
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**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 22—28

### Sunday, October 22

8:45 am Morning Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Morning Worship Service  
4:00 pm Charge Conference

### Monday, October 23

9:30 am UMW Hope-Love Circles  
10:00 am Prayer Shawl  
10:00 am UMW Joy Circle

### Tuesday, October 24

8:00 am Holie Walkamolies  
9:30 am Moses Bible Study

### Wednesday, October 25

10:00 am What's Your Story Study  
6:00 pm Halloween Carnival  
6:00 pm Sewing Group

### Thursday, October 26

9:30 am Shepherd's Center  
9:30 am UMW Friendship Circle  
6:30 pm Yoga  
6:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting  
7:00 pm Book Club

### Friday, October 27

5:00 pm Fisherman Class Social

### SUNDAY, October 22, 2017

8:45 and 11:00am Morning Worship

Exodus 4:1-8

*"Questions God Asks Us:  
What Is That In Your Hand?"*

Rev. Mike Holly

### LIFETRACK

Sunday—Acts 16:6-15 and Psalm 148

Monday—Psalm 112

Tuesday—Matthew 11:25-30

Wednesday—Matthew 12:1-14

Thursday—Matthew 12:15-21

Friday—1 Corinthians 16:10-24

Saturday—John 14:15-31

### SERVING SUNDAY

#### Ushers

8:45 Montz 11:00 Lawson

#### Acolyte

8:45 Ian Chatterton

11:00 Mary Lynn Williamson

#### Cross

8:45 Matthew Pitts 11:00 Tate Turner

#### Greeters: Faith

Meal on Wheels: Slay

Food Pantry November 1st: Theresa and Bob

#### Midweek Volunteers

Woodie Comer, John Whitcomb, Covenant Class

Midweek Meetup October 25th: Halloween Carnival: Hot dogs, popcorn, and a popsicle cart from Steel City Pops!

## Last Week's Record

October 15, 2017

Children/Youth	113/41
Morning Worship	454
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$27,137.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$21,400.09
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,411,109.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$1,139,754.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$1,129,319.94
New Members in 2017	24

### 10,000 REASONS CAMPAIGN

January 1, 2017—December 31, 2019

Amount Pledged	\$1,099,621 .00
Received Last Week	\$3,885.33
Received to Date	\$402,620.99

**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.