



733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Newsletter November 12, 2017

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org



This past Sunday, we celebrated All Saints Sunday in both morning worship services. It was a moving service and an opportunity for us to realize the impact and witness of so many people in our church family. From former staff members like Betty Hottenstein to lay servants like Shirley White, we have celebrated their lives and thanked God for the opportunity to be in a Christian family with them all. It was particularly touching for me to see so many bells on the trees of the altar rail. These bells were hung by family members and friends of those who have passed away in the past year. Each tree was covered in bells. The saints are always with us thanks be to God!

On the next two Sunday mornings in the Chapel, Rev. John Carl Hastings and Director of Creative Worship Cole Arn will be leading preview worship services for The Gathering at Bluff Park at 11:00 am. Please join them and support this important worship outreach to our community! Also, if you know of anyone who is looking for a church home but who might also like a little more modern style of worship, this is the perfect venue and the right community! We are so very thankful for this opportunity and the leadership displayed by Rev. Hastings and the Launch Team for the Gathering!

On another note, our Birmingham-Southern College ministry intern, Noah Glover, will be participating in worship this Sunday and teaching a Sunday school class as well. Noah is a talented young man who has been called to serve in ministry. Bluff Park UMC is one training ground for him as he prepares for a life of service to God and others. Please pray for Noah and support him in anything he does! We are honored to have him.

STATE OF THE CHURCH MEETING

Join us for a State of the Church meeting on November 12th at 5:00pm. Make time this weekend to attend this important church meeting so that you will be informed on what we are doing to achieve our shared goals as a church family!



News of the Week

VETERAN'S DAY CELEBRATION LUNCH

Sunday, November 12 at Noon in the Church Parlor. Cost \$10. Reservations by Wednesday, Nov. 8th to fgatch@bpumc.org or 822-0910 ext.103. Veterans will be Honored! Uniforms Welcome!

HAM MOUNTAIN IS HERE!

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.

BLOOD DRIVE

There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive in the Bluff Park UMC gym on Sunday, November 12th, from 7:30am - 12:30pm. 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.

ADVENT WREATH FAMILY WORKSHOP

Join us on Sunday, November 26th from 4:45-6:00 for an evening of family fellowship at BPUMC's Annual Advent Wreath Family Workshop. We will be making Advent Wreaths, eating dinner, and doing a short Advent Wreath devotional together. Cost is \$20 per family and includes Advent Wreath, Dinner, and a family devotional book centered around your newly made wreath that can be used by your family throughout the Christmas season. We look forward to seeing you there! Register online:

BluffParkUMC.org/AdventWreathFamilyWorkshop

2018 ALTAR FLOWERS

The 2018 Flower Calendar is posted in the church office and the dates are starting to fill up already. Please sign up to remember a loved one or to commemorate a special occasion. One arrangement is \$50.00; both \$100.00. We have two arrangements each Sunday. Dates available include: January, 7, 14, and 21. Check with the office for other available dates. Please sign up in the main office or call (205) 822-0910.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Linda Bailey—UAB West



THE GATHERING

at Bluff Park

Preview Worship Service

Sunday, November 12th

@ 11:00am

In the Newly Renovated
Chapel!



Pledge Online With **easyTithe**

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 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

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

ADVENT WREATH FAMILY WORKSHOP: Join us on Sunday, November 26th from 4:45-6:00 for an evening of family fellowship at BPUMC's Annual Advent Wreath Family Workshop. We will be making Advent Wreaths, eating dinner, and doing a short Advent Wreath devotional together. Cost is \$20 per family and includes Advent Wreath, Dinner, and a family devotional book centered around your newly made wreath that can be used by your family throughout the Christmas season. Register online at BluffParkUMC.org/AdventWreathFamilyWorkshop. We hope to see you there!

PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS STORY TIME: All of our Preschool children and their families are invited to a Christmas Story time on Friday, December 1st from 6:00-7:30 in Hudson Hall. Children can come in their Christmas PJ's and enjoy making Christmas ornaments and crafts, decorating and eating Christmas cookies, and hearing Christmas stories and singing Christmas songs with Mrs. Clause! You don't want to miss it!

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT AND PARTY: The Children's Christmas Pageant and Party will be held on Sunday, December 3rd. The Pageant will begin at 5:00 in the sanctuary and will be immediately followed by a Party in the gym that will include snacks, Santa (!!!!), crafts, and a mission project! We hope to see you there!

SUNDAY SCHOOL: The Elementary Sunday School lesson this week will be on "Jonah" and the Preschool Sunday School lesson will be on "Elijah."

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Our lesson in Children's Church this week will be on "Prayer."

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, NOVEMBER 12TH: SERVE NIGHT! After our free snack supper at 5pm, we will make food for the homeless, sort through Room 35226 and One Night donations, stock the food pantry AND enjoy a sweet treat.

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, NOVEMBER 15TH, 6:30PM: HOW FAITH PLAYS OUT IN SPORTS 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 with guest speakers including Katie Norris and Jake Smith to dive into the unique topic of how faith plays a role in various sports..

SAVE THESE DATES Friday-Sunday, November 17-19: *Fall Retreat at Sumatanga.*

THIS WEEK

Sunday, November 12th, 10:00am	Sunday School in the Youth Wing
Sunday, November 12th, 4:00pm-5:00pm	Holy Ground Team Rehearsal
Sunday, November 12th, 5:00pm-7:00pm	Serve Night
Wednesday, November 15th, 4:30pm	Holy Ground Team Rehearsal
Wednesday, November 15th, 6:00pm-6:30pm	Small Groups
Wednesday, November 15th, 6:30pm - 7:30pm	Holy Ground Worship

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

55+ AND FRIENDS

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES

VETERAN'S DAY CELEBRATION LUNCH: Sunday, November 12 at Noon in the Church Parlor. Cost \$10. Reservations by Wednesday, Nov. 8th to fgatch@bpumc.org or 822-0910 ext.103. Veterans will be Honored! Uniforms Welcome!

TRIP TO THE GREENERY NURSERY AND SHOP IN HUNTSVILLE, AL: Tuesday, November 14 we are heading to Huntsville for Shopping and Lunch. Meet at the Bus Stand at 9 AM.

DINNER FOR 55+: Enjoy conversation and candlelight in the Faith Classroom Wednesdays starting at 5 PM.

SHEPHERD'S CENTER SCHEDULE

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

November 16	Samford University String Quartet—Celebrate Thanksgiving with us! \$5 (non-members) lunch
November 23	Thanksgiving Day—Church Closed
November 30	Shanna Black, Fairhaven Sales Director—New Buildings and Housing Options



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NON-PROFIT ORG.
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BIRMINGHAM, AL
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Pastors

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John Carl Hastings, jchastings@bpumc.org, ext. 120
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Jay Tumminello, jtumminello@bpumc.org
Preschool Director,
Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org
Facilities Manager,
Chad Malcom, cmalcom@bpumc.org



The Week of November 12—18

Sunday, November 12
7:30 am—12:30 pm Blood Drive
8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am The Gathering Preview
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
12:00 pm Veteran's Celebration Lunch
5:00 pm State of the Church Meeting

Monday, November 13
9:00 am UMW
10:00 am Prayer Shawl

Tuesday, November 14
8:00 am Holie Walkamolies
8:30 am Maintenance
9:30 am Moses Bible Study
3:00 pm Tutoring Program

Wednesday, November 15
4:30 pm The Bible, UMC, and Politics
5:00 pm Midweek Meetup
5:30 pm Men's Chorus
6:00 pm Sewing Group
6:00 pm Handbell
6:00 pm Moses Bible Study
6:30 pm Sunday's Sermon Unpacked
6:30 pm Holy Strollers
6:30 pm Choir

Thursday, November 16
9:30 am Shepherd's Center
6:30 pm Yoga

Friday, November 17
Youth Fall Retreat

Saturday, November 18
Youth Fall Retreat

SUNDAY, November 12, 2017
8:45 and 11:00am Morning Worship
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
"Those Who Go Before"
Rev. Mike Holly

LIFETRACK

Sunday—Luke 14:12-24 and Psalm 93
Monday—Matthew 15:1-20
Tuesday—Matthew 15:21-28
Wednesday—Matthew 15:29-39
Thursday—Matthew 16:1-12
Friday—Matthew 16:13-20
Saturday—Matthew 16:21-28

SERVING SUNDAY

Ushers
8:45 Nelson 11:00 Dover
Acolyte
8:45 Matthew Pitts 11:00 Ellie Blanchard
Cross
8:45 Ian Chatterton
11:00 Emma Ruth Cooper
Meal on Wheels: Guy
Food Pantry December 6th: Kay and Sylvia
Midweek Volunteers
Woodie Comer, Jim Ketchersid, Fisherman
Class
Midweek Meetup November 15th: Menu—
Thanksgiving Dinner!

Last Week's Record

November 5, 2017

Children/Youth	87/48
Morning Worship	559
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$27,137.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$29,781.51
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,411,109.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$1,221,165.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$1,200,141.25
New Members in 2017	32

10,000 REASONS CAMPAIGN

January 1, 2017—December 31, 2019

Amount Pledged	\$1,099,621.00
Received Last Week	\$3,490.00
Received to Date	\$418,712.99

**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.