



Joy to the World

BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street Hoover, AL 35226 205.822.0910

November 26, 2017

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

Worship Services

Sunday Morning Worship
Sundays @ 8:45am and 11:00am
Lessons & Carols Service
Sunday, December 3rd @ 8:45 am and
11:00 am
Advent Morning Prayer
Thursday Mornings @ 7:30am
Christmas Eve Sunday Morning Worship
December 24th @ 10:00am
No Sunday School or Nursery
Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship
December 24th @ 4:00pm and 6:00pm

Holiday Events and Activities

Advent Wreath Family Workshop
Sunday, November 26th @ 4:45pm
Children's Christmas Pageant
Sunday, December 3rd @ 5:00pm
Christmas on the Bluff Choir Concert
December 10th @ 6:30pm

www.ChristmasInBluffPark.com

Jesus instructs his disciples to “love one another as I have loved you.” A recurring theme in our worship is that we are a church family that should care for one another. We already have caring Sunday school classes and groups of friends. We spend time together across the table at Wednesday night’s Midweek Meetup. We gather together around God’s table on Sunday mornings in worship.

But there are ways in which we can even do more to care for one another. In early 2018, Bluff Park UMC is going to work on developing a Stephen Ministry program. Stephen Ministry is “Christ caring for people through people.” Servant leaders go through intensive training with biblically-based and psychologically sound approaches to caring ministries. Stephen Ministry has been a highly successful ministry in thousands of congregations from more than 170 denominations since 1975.

If you are interested in learning more about serving in Stephen Ministry or if you would simply like to know more about the training that will become available, please contact either Rev. Mike Holly or Rev. Tom Duley at the church’s main office. If you are wanting to become involved in a less intensive form of care, we would also like to talk to you about ways you can care for others in our church family.

Mike



News of the Week

HAM MOUNTAIN IS HERE!

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

BLANKET DRIVE REPORT

Our 2017 Blanket Drive was a big success. We collected over 125 blankets to share with area homeless and people in need. They are being delivered through ministry partners First Light, Church of the Reconciler, Aletheia House, and United Community Center.

SHOP ONLINE AND SUPPORT BPUMC

Bluff Park United Methodist is an available charity on the Amazon Smile program. Visit the smile.amazon.com website and select BPUMC as your designated charity. Then, when you order products, a donation will be made to support our ministries. Visit the Smile website for more details.

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:

BluffParkUMC.org/AdventWreathFamilyWorkshop

FESTIVAL OF THREE KINGS REMINDER

Festival of Three Kings gifts are due by Sunday, December 3rd! Please bring them to the church office.

ADVENT MORNING PRAYER

Advent Morning Prayer will begin on Thursday, December 7th at 7:30 AM in the sanctuary. This is a service of Prayer, Scripture and Holy Communion. The service will be held on each Thursday morning of Advent (December 7, 14 and 21). The service lasts approximately 30 minutes.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Ed Cox—Brookwood
Bill Rabb—Brookwood



FRESH, FALL, PECANS FOR SALE

Just in time for Holiday Baking or Giving
One Pound Bags (Whole and Pieces) \$15.
BPUMC Fundraiser for 55+ and Friends Ministry
Available in the Narthex Sunday Mornings and at the
Christmas on the Bluff Concert



CHRISTMAS ON THE BLUFF

The Bluff Park United Methodist Church Choir presents their Eighth Annual Christmas concert on Sunday, December 10th, at 6:30 pm. This year's concert is titled "*Come and See What's Happenin' in the Barn*" and will take place in the church's main Sanctuary. Lonnie Parsons, Director of Worship Music for the church, will direct. The performance features the BPUMC Choir and Orchestra with Carole Armistead and Marcus Chatterton. Special Guests: 3 on a String, Kelli Dodd, and Anthony Hardin.



Christmas Poinsettias

Reserve your beautiful poinsettia now to remember or honor a loved one at Christmas. The cost is \$15.00 per plant payable to the church. Deadline for ordering is December 10th.

In Honor Of: _____ by _____
In Memory of: _____ by _____

Return order form and payment to the church office.

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: Elementary Sunday School will be participating in its monthly Mission Project and the Preschool Sunday School lesson will be on "An Angel Visits Mary."

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

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 26TH, THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY BREAK: Sunday School will be in the Youth Wing at the regular time Sunday morning (10am), however there will be no Sunday evening Student Ministry activities.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH: Join us at Holy Ground as we begin a fun three week series themed around some awesome Christmas movies like Elf, The Grinch and even Christmas Vacation! Rev. John Carl Hastings and others will be sharing their perspectives on what we can learn from these fun Holiday Flicks!

AT THANKSGIVING TIME... We want to take a moment to say Thank You on behalf of the entire Student Ministry to everyone who has worked hard to make November such an awesome month for us! We love our hard working volunteers and greatly appreciate all you've done to make our special events extra special! At One Night For The Homeless and Veterans, we collected over 25 large boxes full of coats, blankets, clothing and other items that have already been delivered to local shelters and ministries. Then our annual Fall Retreat at Camp Sumatanga provided some much needed time away to guide our students into a time of rest and vision. They found respite from the many stresses that they face (whether that is in their school work, extracurricular responsibilities, friend groups, family situations, etc) and learned how to discern what God desires of them in discipleship and his calling on their lives. Again, thank you for giving of yourselves to build up our students in Christ!

SAVE THESE DATES Saturday, December 9: *Festival of Three Kings*, Sunday, December 17: *Christmas Caroling and Party!*

THIS WEEK

Sunday, November 26, 10:00am Sunday School
Wednesday, November 29, 6:30pm Holy Ground

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

55+ AND FRIENDS

HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER

FRESH, FALL, PECANS FOR SALE

Just in time for Holiday Baking or Giving

One Pound Bags (Whole and Pieces) \$15.

BPUMC Fundraiser for 55+ and Friends Ministry

SHEPHERD'S CENTER SCHEDULE

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

November 30 Shanna Black, Fairhaven Sales Director—New Buildings and Housing Options

December 7 Alabama Ballet—dances from the Nutcracker Ballet



Bluff Park United Methodist Church

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
(205) 822-0910

**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
- 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 November 26—December 2

Sunday, November 26
8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
4:30 pm Family Advent Wreath Workshop

Monday, November 27
9:30 am UMW Hope/Love Circles
10:00 am Prayer Shawl
10:00 am UMW Joy Circle

Tuesday, November 28
3:00 pm Tutoring Program

Wednesday, November 29
5:30 pm Children's Pageant Rehearsal
5:30 pm Men's Chorus
6:00 pm Handbell
6:30 pm Choir

Thursday, November 30
9:30 am Shepherd's Center
10:00 am Sewing Group
6:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting

Friday, December 1
5:30 pm Preschool Christmas Story Time

SUNDAY, November 26, 2017
8:45 and 11:00am Morning Worship
Ezekiel 34:11-24
"Sheep Syndrome"
Rev. Mike Holly

LIFETRACK

Sunday—Luke 19:11-27 and Psalm 118
Monday—1 Peter 1:1-12
Tuesday—Matthew 19:13-22
Wednesday—1 Peter 2:1-10
Thursday—John 1:35-42
Friday—Matthew 20:17-28
Saturday—Matthew 20:29-34

SERVING SUNDAY

Ushers
8:45 Chatterton 11:00 Youth
Acolyte
8:45 Cadence Ward 11:00 Miller Rice
Cross
8:45 Spencer Schillaci 11:00 Rebecca Rice
Meal on Wheels: Adams
Food Pantry December 6th: Kay and Sylvia

Last Week's Record

November 19, 2017

Children/Youth	90/60
Traditional Worship/Gathering	377/44
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$27,137.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$21,173.19
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,411,109.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$1,275,439.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$1,243,598.44
New Members in 2017	32

10,000 REASONS CAMPAIGN

January 1, 2017—December 31, 2019

Amount Pledged	\$1,099,621 .00
Received Last Week	\$2,413.33
Received to Date	\$423,565.32

**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.