



# BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226  
205.822.0910

January 7, 2018

*Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life*

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



**A**uthor Steve Harper reminds us that buildings “last because they rest upon solid foundations.” Think about those great buildings that have lasted throughout history. They endure because they have been built to last. Jesus taught that buildings that are built upon the rock will endure the storms that life throws our way while buildings built upon sand will crumble and tumble as those same storms unleash their chaos upon the structure. Dr. Harper believes, along with Jesus, that our lives are similar to buildings. We need a solid foundation to build our life upon.

John Wesley taught that Methodists should be the kind of Christians who love God and love their neighbor. Notice the upward and outward focus for our lives as disciples: love goes upwards to the God who grants us mercy and love goes outward to the people we need to show mercy. A life well-built is a life that has daily practices of loving God and loving our neighbor. The last dimension is the journey inward as we are reminded within our own minds and hearts that man cannot live on bread alone. Just as much as we should be focused on loving God and neighbor, we should learn to love ourselves enough to spend time developing our own heart and mind.

Starting on Sunday, January 7, 2018, our church is offering a 21 Day Spiritual Formation opportunity linked to a popular book: *The Wesley Challenge* by Chris Folmsbee. This is a great book to purchase or you can sign up for our daily e-mail devotionals at our website: [www.bluffparkumc.org](http://www.bluffparkumc.org). Either way, you will have a chance over the next few weeks to develop the foundation of your life as a disciple of Jesus Christ: Upward, Inward, and Outward.

## Memorials

### GENERAL OPERATING FUND

**Chuck & Kammy Cain**, by Charles Cain

**Geoff Huddleston**, by Michael Brymer, Keith and Sylvia Harper, Sandra Harris, Dr. Mary Kathryn Huddleston, G.B. and Ann Patton, Joe & Carole Pitard, Dr. T. Tydings Robin, Jr., Judy Sansom, Ben & Jami Sheets, Mr. & Mrs. Roy Sims, Jim Stevenson, Lois Truss, Joan M. Welch, Dr. Kathryn Welch

### FOOD PANTRY

**Geoff Huddleston**, by John and Sylvia Summers

### PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY

**Dorothy Burks**, by J.B. and Frankie Thrasher

**Jewell Garner**, by J. B. and Frankie Thrasher

**Geoff Huddleston**, by Sain Associates, Janet Frondren, Curtis & Paula Thompson

**Josephine Nix**, by J.B. and Frankie Thrasher

**Naomi Thrasher**, by J.B. and Frankie Thrasher

### GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

**Geoff Huddleston**, by Dyer & Ronda Carlisle

### WHITE CHRISTMAS

**John Pearson**, by Jack & Sue Pearson

**Michael Thompson**, by Pony Green

## Honorariums

### OPERATING FUND

**Margaret McLeod Helton**, by Earl & Kay Cooper

### CHRISTIN CROCKETT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

**Ted & Margaret Cook**, by Mr. & Mrs. Harry Hill

*Please Note: Some Memorials and Honorariums are not listed by the request of the donors.*

# News of the Week

## MIDWEEK MEETUP RETURNS

Midweek Meetup returns on Wednesday, January 10th and happens every Wednesday night from 5:00-7:30 in the Spring.

## BECOME A VOLUNTEER IN MISSIONS

We are currently recruiting team members for two 2018 VIM teams. The first team will return to South Carolina to help folks who still haven't recovered from the effects of a major flood and two hurricanes. The dates for this trip are March 25-31, 2018. This will be a combined youth and adult team. The Chile team will return to Talca, Chile for the second year. We will continue work started last year as we help the Methodist Church of Talca with remodeling and an addition. The dates for this trip are June 29 - July 14, 2018. If you would like to be a member of either of these teams please speak to Tom Duley. He can be reached at 205-822-0910 ext 112 or [tduley@bpumc.org](mailto:tduley@bpumc.org).

## VIM MEETING

You are invited to a meeting of all those interested in being a part of the 2018 domestic Volunteers in Mission team to South Carolina. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 17, 2018 at 5:30 PM in the Fireside room. Anyone who is interested in being a member of the 2018 team should plan to attend this meeting. If you can't be there and want to be on the team please let Tom Duley know at 205-822-0910 or [tduley@bpumc.org](mailto:tduley@bpumc.org).

## BLOOD DRIVE

There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive in the Bluff Park UMC gym on Sunday, January 7th, from 7:30am-1:00pm. Please make time to stop by and give the gift of life. 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](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and use the keyword BPUMC.

## LOST AND FOUND

A man's watch has been found. Anyone who can correctly identify it can come claim it. Contact the church office.

## CELEBRATION SUNDAY!

Make sure to attend a very special morning of worship at BPUMC on Sunday, January 28th! We will have



## SKATE NIGHT! Church -Wide Skate Party

January 14th from 5:00-7:00pm

@ Roller Motion  
2474 Morgan Road  
Bessemer, Alabama

guest preachers in all our morning worship services and we will have many other ways to celebrate 110 years as a church family. Stay tuned for more details!

## THE WESLEY CHALLENGE

You can be a part of Bluff Park UMC's 21 day spiritual growth challenge: The Wesley Challenge. Sign up in the Main Office or on our website to receive a daily devotional and scripture reading for the next 21 days!

## IN THE HOSPITAL...

Linda Bailey—UAB West



## Give 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

**SKATE PARTY:** We will be having a Church-Wide Skate Night on Sunday, January 14th, at Roller Motion (2474 Morgan Road in Bessemer.) The party goes from 5-7pm. All skate rentals and dinner are free! We encourage you to attend as a family and bring your friends.

**MIDWEEK MEETUP:** Midweek Meetup returns on Wednesday, January 10th and happens every Wednesday night from 5:00-7:30 in the Spring. The children will enjoy dinner, choir, recreation, age focused Bible Study/Classroom time, and more! We look forward to seeing you there!

**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

**DISCOVERY WEEKEND REGISTRATION IS OPEN** Discovery Weekend is a spiritual formation retreat held annually for our students, right here in the church. What makes this unique is that the talks and small group discussion are led by our high school students for the middle schoolers. The dates are Friday-Sunday, February 2nd-4th and the cost is \$75 for middle school and \$25 for high school registrations. This includes all meals, a fun outing on Saturday and a t-shirt. Contact Meghan Bohanan [mbohanan@bpumc.org](mailto:mbohanan@bpumc.org) with questions on registration/fees or Bethany Dover [bddover4@yahoo.com](mailto:bddover4@yahoo.com) to volunteer.

**DINNER & A MOVIE - SUNDAY, JANUARY 7TH** We will meet at Baumhower's Victory Grill at Patton Creek at 5pm for dinner and then head across the street for a movie. Transportation is NOT provided and you'll need money for your dinner, ticket, and snacks.

**SMALL GROUPS & HOLY GROUND WORSHIP RETURNS ON JANUARY 10TH** Our January worship series will focus on social media. We'll ask the question: what does God require of us when we live our lives online?

**SAVE THESE DATES** February 2-4, 2018: *Discovery Weekend* Register online with text and email sign up links!

### THIS WEEK

Sunday, Jan 7, 5:00pm	Dinner and a Movie at Baumhower's Victory Grill
Wednesday, Jan 10, 4:30pm	HG Team Rehearsal
Wednesday, Jan 10, 5:30pm	Dinner & Hangout
Wednesday, Jan 10, 6:30pm	Holy Ground Worship

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

### 55+ AND FRIENDS

**Happy New Year to all persons 55+ and Friends!**

Tremendous gratitude to the 55+ and Friends Team:

Sylvia and John Sumners, Jan Harris, Ann and Bob Nelson, Gail and Bill Cooch, Debi and John Whitcomb, Theresa Richardson, Rosemary Dallum and Jan Bailey.

### SHEPHERD'S CENTER SCHEDULE

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

January 11 Rev. Tom Duley - "Mission Trip to Chili"



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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 January 7-13**

**Sunday, January 7**  
7:30am-1:00pm Blood Drive in the Gym  
8:45 am Traditional Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
11:00 am The Gathering at Bluff Park  
11:00 am Traditional Worship Service

**Monday, January 8**  
9:00 am UMW  
10:00 am Prayer Shawl

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

**Wednesday, January 10**  
11:30 am Permanent Endowment Committee  
5:00 pm Midweek Meetup  
5:30 pm Men's Chorus  
6:00 pm Handbell  
6:30 pm Choir  
6:30 pm Holy Strollers

**Thursday, January 11**  
9:30 am Shepherd's Center  
10:00 am Sewing Group

**Friday, January 12**  
12:00 pm Friendship Class Luncheon

**SUNDAY, January 7, 2018**  
8:45 11:00am Traditional Worship  
Mark 1:4-11  
*"The Voice That Calls Up"*  
Rev. Mike Holly

11:00am The Gathering at Bluff Park  
Rev. John Carl Hastings

**LIFETRACK**  
Sunday-Acts 8:26-40  
Monday-Luke 11:1-4  
Tuesday-Philippians 4:4-9  
Wednesday-John 15:1-8  
Thursday-Deuteronomy 5:28-33  
Friday-Luke 12:13-21  
Saturday-Hebrews 4:9-13

**SERVING**  
Ushers  
8:45 Carlisle 11:00 Lawson  
Acolyte  
8:45 Ian Chatterton 11:00 Ellie Blanchard  
Cross  
8:45 Ella Bowles 11:00 Emma Ruth Cooper  
Meal on Wheels: McCrary  
Food Pantry February 7th: Lawson

**Last Week's Record**

December 31, 2017

Children	N/A
Traditional Worship	206
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$27,137.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$74,998.66
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,411,109.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$1,411,124.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$1,464,972.73
New Members in 2017	32

**10,000 REASONS CAMPAIGN**

January 1, 2017-December 31, 2019

Amount Pledged	\$1,099,621.00
Received Last Week	\$24,532.00
Received to Date	\$485,563.65

**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.