



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

January 14, 2018

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org



As we begin a new year of ministry and mission at Bluff Park UMC, I want to share with you the names of some of our leaders for the upcoming year. Some people are continuing in leadership and some people are just starting out in their ministry areas. Please feel free to contact our leadership to ask questions, but also please pray for each and every person!

Lay Leader: Becky Walker
Church Treasurer: John Whitcomb
Chair of Staff Parish: Debra McCallum
Lay Members to Annual Conference: Becky Walker, Tina Hardy and Leonette Slay
Chair of Trustees: Bob Walker
Chair of Finance: Rick Hardy
Chair of Scholarship Committee: Paulette Pearson
Chair of the Permanent Endowment Committee: Paul Pocopanni
Chair of the Church Council: Georgia Pearson (formerly called the Board of Stewards)

Education: Carol Johnson
Missions: Mike Patrick
Worship: Diane Moore
Church Life: Randy and Judy Smith
Communications: Sara Perry
Food Pantry: Sylvia Sumners
Bundles of Hope: Betsy Guy
Children's Ministry Team: Kristen Fountain
Youth Ministry Team: Bethany Dover
Scouting: Doug Hardy
Blood Drives: Robin Martin
****for more leaders, feel free to contact the church office.*

DISCOVERY WEEKEND

February 2-4, is an important time in the Student Ministry at Bluff Park UMC. High school and college students come together to lead middle school students on a spiritual formation retreat. Together, they will worship, talk, pray, and play together. Young people who have matured in their faith through the ministries of our church are coming together to encourage the students following behind them.

Discovery Weekend is an opportunity for the middle school students to experience the love that our congregation has for them. They are reminded, in very tangible ways, that they are an important part of the church. Church members are providing snacks, volunteering time, participating in a prayer service, and more.

The weekend closes on Sunday morning as the students participate in the morning worship service and then return home.

Online registration is open for both middle school and high school students. Visit the website to sign up.



News of the Week

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.

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.

COAT DRIVE UPDATE

We had a tremendous response to the church-wide coat drive on December 31st. Members of the congregation donated 140 coats to be distributed at the downtown warming station. Many thanks to all of you who contributed to this effort.

STATE OF THE CHURCH

Save the date. On January 28th @ 4:00pm we will have a State of the Church meeting in the Sanctuary.

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 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!



SKATE NIGHT! Church -Wide Skate Party

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

@ Roller Motion
2474 Morgan Road
Bessemer, Alabama

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!

UPCOMING BAPTISM

This Sunday, January 14th, we celebrate the baptism of Mailey Katherine Byrnside at the 11:00am worship service.

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. 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

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.

EXIT 456: We would love to take a group of 4th and 5th graders to Exit 456 at Camp Sumatanga again this year! This retreat is scheduled for Friday, March 9th (we will leave at 4:30) and Saturday, March 10th (we will return at approximately 5:00). It is a one night retreat full of fun, food, worship, and speakers. The cost for the retreat includes lodging at Camp Sumatanga, 3 meals, all snacks, and a T-shirt. The cost is \$75 per child and we need to know who is going by Wednesday, February 14th. We do have scholarships for anyone who would like to attend but is unable to pay the fee. Please email Stanley Davidson at sdavidson@bpumc.org as soon as possible if your child would like to attend as we only have 26 spots available!

MIDWEEK MEETUP: Midweek Meetup 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 CHURCH: We will be studying the Fruits of the Spirit in Children's Church over the next few months. This week we will be focusing on Love!

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Our Elementary Sunday School lesson this week will be on "Jesus Feeds the 5000" and our Preschool Sunday School lesson this week will be on "Zaccheaus!"

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

DISCOVERY WEEKEND IS ALMOST HERE! 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 with questions on registration/fees or Bethany Dover bddover4@yahoo.com to volunteer. If you haven't already, please get your students registered for Discovery Weekend 2018. Registration, payment and required waivers can all be completed online.

CHURCH-WIDE SKATE NIGHT This Sunday, January 14th from 5pm-7pm, join us for a skating party at Roller Motion on Morgan Road, this is always a fun night. We can't wait to see you there!!!

SMALL GROUPS & HOLY GROUND WORSHIP ARE BACK! 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? We hope this will be an eye opening topic for our students!

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

THIS WEEK

Sun, Jan 14th @ 10am	Youth Sunday School
Sun, Jan 14th @ 4pm	Holy Ground Rehearsal with Bart
Sun, Jan 14th from 5-7pm	Skate Party at Roller Motion on Morgan Road
Wed, Jan 17th @ 4:30pm	Holy Ground Rehearsal With Bart
Wed, Jan 17th @ 5:00pm	Dinner & Regular Wed Evening Church Activities
Wed, Jan 17th from 6-6:30pm	Small Groups in the Youth Wing
Wed, Jan 17th from 6:30-7:30pm	Holy Ground Worship

55+ MINISTRY

55+ AND FRIENDS

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS IN JANUARY

5 - 6:30pm **Conversation and Candlelight Dinner** in the Faith Classroom

6:30pm **"Answering the Tough Questions"**
Dr. Dennis Sansom, Chair of Philosophy at Samford University, will explore the human condition and God's interaction. Church Parlor—January 17,24,31

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 11 **Make Your Reservation for "CHICAGO"** at the Virginia Samford Theater, Starring Kristi Tingle Higginbotham and Jan

Hunter -Tickets - \$36 (includes transportation from church.) Deadline is Sunday, January 28. Call Sylvia Sumners @ 824-9902

February 11 **Valentine's Lunch** in the Fellowship Hall on at Noon ~\$7. RSVP Fran @822-0910 ext. 103 or fgatch@bpumc.org

SHEPHERD'S CENTER SCHEDULE

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

January 18 **"Spiritual Journey"** - Cole Arn, Director of Creative Music, BPUMC



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Hoover, AL 35226
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**NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
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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
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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 January 14-20

Sunday, January 14

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
5:00 pm Church-Wide Skate Party

Monday, January 15

10:00 am Prayer Shawl

Tuesday, January 16

8:00 am Holie Walkamolies
9:30 am Becky Walker's Bible Study
6:00 pm Under the Bridge

Wednesday, January 17

5:00 pm Midweek Meetup
5:00 pm UMW/Green Team Meeting
5:30 pm VIM Mission Trip Meeting
5:30 pm Men's Chorus
6:00 pm Handbell
6:30 pm Choir
6:30 pm Answering the Tough Questions w/Dr. Dennis Sansom

Thursday, January 18

6:30 pm Holy Strollers
9:30 am Shepherd's Center
10:00 am Sewing Group

SUNDAY, January 14, 2018
8:45 11:00am Traditional Worship
John 1:43-51
"Give Us A Break!"
Rev. Mike Holly

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

LIFETRACK

Sunday—John 3:1-21
Monday—John 16:25-33
Tuesday—Mark 1:29-39
Wednesday—Philippians 2:12-18
Thursday—1 Timothy 6:6-10
Friday—2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Saturday—Philippians 2:1-11

SERVING

Ushers
TBA
Acolyte
8:45 Natalie Self 11:00 Mary El Neal
Cross

8:45 Cadence Ward
11:00 Mary Lynn Williamson
Meal on Wheels: Adams
Food Pantry February 7th: Lawson
Midweek Meetup January 17th: Menu - Ham-
burger steak with gravy, rice, black eyed peas,
baked chicken, baked potato, and salad bar.
Chicken fingers for the kids.

Last Week's Record

January 7, 2018

Children	60
Traditional Worship/Gathering	423/109
Weekly Contributions Expected*	\$27,137.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$22,247.00
Annual Contributions Expected*	\$1,411,109.00
Contributions Expected to Date*	\$27,137.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$22,247.00
New Members in 2018	0

10,000 REASONS CAMPAIGN

January 1, 2017—December 31, 2019

Amount Pledged	\$1,099,621.00
Received Last Week	\$6,109.00
Received to Date	\$491,672.65

**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.