



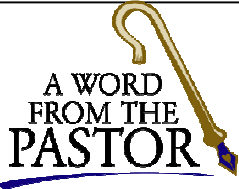
# BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226  
205.822.0910

*Newsletter, April 15, 2014*

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



It is Holy Week at Bluff Park UMC. We waved palm branches in worship yesterday and we are preparing worship experiences on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday both at 7:00 pm. These services will be meaningful and contemplative and hopefully they will help you prepare your heart, mind and soul for Easter Sunday.

On Easter morning, we will hear the Good News that Jesus Christ rose from the dead. Scholars like former Bishop of Durham, Tom Wright, suggest that these Easter stories are so unlike other religious writings at the time and even before that time. They are unique. Wright believes that this points to their validity.

The disciples shared the news that Jesus of Nazareth who had died a tragic death upon a cross had now risen on the third day. People were amazed that these once frightened followers were now speaking with conviction and passion. What changed?

Many have concluded that when the surprise of resurrection became real to Mary and the disciples, they realized that Jesus was truly the Messiah -- the promised one from God. They also came to realize over time that nothing any longer will have the final word for our lives. Not sin, not evil, not hate, nor hurt, wounds, suffering, tragedy -- not even death. The only final words left are hope, joy and life.

That's the power of Easter.

*Mike*



## LOVING LARGE: A New Sermon Series

**April 27 through May 18, 2014**

Join us each Sunday during the Sundays after Easter to learn more about Jesus' commands that we love God and love our neighbor as ourselves. Love is the greatest thing we can do. It is the most courageous thing we can do. And that's why, for Jesus, everything hangs upon love.

The Sunday after Easter join us for the first sermon from Rev. Mike Holly: "True Love Is Not Easily Distracted."

## Upcoming Events And Holy Week Schedule

April 17	Maundy Thursday Communion Service 7:00 pm
April 18	Good Friday Worship Service 7:00 pm
April 19	Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt 9:00 am
April 20	Easter Sunday, 8:45 and 11:00 am
	No Evening Worship



**THE EASTER EGG HUNT and BREAKFAST** is Saturday April 19, 9a.m.-10:30a.m. Breakfast will be served at 9 a.m. Your child needs to bring a basket because The Easter Egg Hunt will start at 10a.m. Children can have their picture made with the Easter Bunny! The entire church family is invited to attend. Donations will be accepted for breakfast.



**Bring Flowers to put on the Cross in front of the sanctuary Easter Sunday.**

**Member of our Church Family in the Hospital:**  
**Hanover House-Shirley White**

**Sympathy** of the congregation is extended to Jimmy Ashworth in the death of his wife, Bobby Jo on April 7. Our prayers are with the family in their time of sorrow.

**Memorial Service:** Saturday, April 19 at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary for Bobby Jo Ashworth.

**Thank you:** I received notification that Sumatanga has received a gift in my honor. Thank you so much! This truly touches my heart., Please convey to the people of Bluff Park UMC how appreciative I am of their generosity and thoughtfulness. You are doing wonderful ministry at Bluff Park UMC. Keep up the great work!

Blessing, Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett

**Thank you** to the Pit Crew and the UMW for another successful BBQ and Bake Sale after 18 years! On Wednesday night John Whitcomb will sell 1 lb. frozen packages of BBQ for \$8. He will be outside the Fellowship Hall. If you haven't turned in your money, please do so as soon as possible.

**Update Membership:** It is not too late to update your **membership information**. You can do this on line (<http://bluffparkumc.org/updateinfo/>) or call the office at 822-0910.

**NEW MEMBER CLASS:** Our next new member class will begin on April 27 at 9:45 in the church parlor. Whether or not you are planning to join our church, we encourage you to come. We will find out more about this congregation, about our denomination, and about what it means to be a member at Bluff Park UMC. There will be two class sessions, April 27 and May 4. For more information, talk to Peter at [petervh@bpumc.org](mailto:petervh@bpumc.org)

Tom Duley and Bill Pearson will hold a **Promise Home wrap-up meeting** on Wednesday, May 7 from 4:30 to 5:30 pm and from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. in the Opportunity Classroom. Each session will cover the same information so pick the time that is best for you. Tom and Bill will cover all aspects of the Promise Home story including building, financing, current status and more. There will be a time for questions and answers as well. If you have any remaining questions or need more information about the Promise Home we would love for you to join us.

We are **receiving two mission offerings during Lent** this year. The Easter Love Offering will support ministries and missions that we as a church are involved in.

The second offering will support the construction of the **Bluff Park Habitat for Humanity House**. For each dollar that you donate to the Habitat House a donation in the amount of \$2.66 will be made from matching funds donated by an anonymous donor. This will be our local Volunteers in Mission project for 2014. The Bluff Park Habitat for Humanity House is sponsored by the BPUMC United Appeal Fund.

When you write your checks please remember to designate where your gift should be directed by writing either Easter Love Offering or Bluff Park Habitat House in the memo line.

**EASTER LOVE GIFT UPDATE**

To date, we have received \$ 12,046 for the Easter Love Offering and \$ 12,424 for the Habitat House offering!

*Mother's Day*



Support our local mission projects

**Semi-Annual  
Charity Sale**  
**Saturday**  
**May 3<sup>rd</sup> 6-10 AM**

*Graduation*



*Weddings*



It's a **Win-Win**. You save \$5.00  
Money stays here

**Pre-sale begins April 27<sup>th</sup>**

**\$5.00 Discount tickets available from UMW members  
And the Church office**

*Just for Me !!!*



The month of April we will celebrate **Earth Day** and here at Bluff Park United Methodist. We need to join together to take care of the earth God provided for us. (Psalms 65:9-13). As part of the **Green Team's mission** to recycle you should be able to locate one of the 10 blue recycling trash cans around the church to place the following items:

Paper, Aluminum Cans and Plastic (water bottles).  
Thank you Otis Bibb for attaching easy to empty handles for collection and signage to remind everyone what to place in the recycling bins.



## CHILDREN'S NEWS

**SPAGHETTI FUND RAISER** Was a great success!!! We raised a \$823.50 for new gym equipment. A huge thank you goes to Ivy Holmes for coordinating this event and help making it so successful. Another huge thank you goes to our Childrens' Council which worked so well together and made it go as smoothly as possible.

**VBS VOLUNTEERS** will have a meeting in the New Light Classroom on Wednesday April 16 at 6:30p.m.

**THE EASTER EGG HUNT and BREAKFAST** is Saturday April 19, 9a.m.-10:30a.m. Breakfast will be served at 9 a.m. Your child needs to bring a basket because The Easter Egg Hunt will start at 10a.m. Children can have their picture made with the Easter Bunny! The entire church family is invited to attend. Donations will be accepted for breakfast.

**THANK YOU** parents and children for making the Palm Parade last Sunday so meaningful! It was a delight to see the faces of children saying "Hosanna! Jesus is King!"

**CHILDREN'S COUNCIL** will meet on Wednesday April 30 in the New Light Classroom at 6:30p.m.

## STUDENT MINISTRY

### THANK YOU

Our student worship team raised around \$200 at their Evening of Prayer & Worship on Sunday night. This money will go to offset the costs of their summer tour, during which time they will lead worship across North Alabama. We're very grateful for your support.

### SAVE THE DATES

Confirmation Sunday, April 27th. Our Confirmands will "firm up" their commitment to God and to the Church during 11am worship.

Senior Recognition, May 18th. Our graduating seniors will be honored with a breakfast at 10am and during worship at 11am.

**Wednesday, April 16, 5:30pm:** MS Girls Small Group & MS Guys Recreation

**Wednesday, April 16, 6:30pm:** Holy Ground Worship in the Youth Wing

**Sunday, April 20, 10:00am:** Sunday School & Confirmation Class

**Sunday, April 20:** NO AFTERNOON/EVENING ACTIVITIES

**Wednesday, April 23, 5:30pm:** MS Girls Small Group & MS Guys Recreation

**Wednesday, April 23, 6:30pm:** Holy Ground Worship in the Youth Wing

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

**THURSDAY, APRIL 17:** **SHEPHERD CENTER** - Alice Marie and Randy Morrison—Easter Program

**SUNDAY, APRIL 20:** **FLOWERS** for the Cross outside in front of the sanctuary.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23:** **COOKING CLASS** with Tom Duley—Spiritual Foundation of Passover

**THURSDAY, APRIL 24:** **SHEPHERD CENTER**

**SATURDAY, MAY 3:** **LADIES DAY**—Join us for a day of fun, excitement, and surprises.



Devotion by Yvonne Sellers (Dawson Baptist Church),

Special Music by Alice Marie and Randy, Bible Study with Becky Walker, and

Music/Love Story by Delores Hydock and Bobby Horton.

Sign up for Tablesapes. 1st. 2nd, 3rd prizes awarded.

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 17-23:** **SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**—Riverwalk, Boat Tour, The Alamo, LBJ Ranch, Alamo Missions, Museum, San Fernando Cathedral, Mexican Market Square, Fredericksburg—National Museum of the Pacific War. Cost \$675 –Deposit \$100

\*\*\*\*\***EASTER BASKETS** for Sick/Shut-ins/Care n' Contact—

**pick up a basket in Betty's office—fill and deliver at your convenience.**

**Special Moment with Jesus!**

Cast your burden on the LORD, And He shall sustain you; He will never permit the righteous to be moved.

**Psalms 55:22**

# Bluff Park United Methodist Church

733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226

**NON-PROFIT ORG.**  
**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
**AUTO**  
**BIRMINGHAM, AL**  
**PERMIT NO. 1816**

## Pastors

Mike Holly, mholly@bpumc.org, ext. 104  
Peter von Herrmann, petervh@bpumc.org, ext. 105  
Tom Duley, tduley@bpumc.org, ext. 112

## Dir. of Seniors, ext. 103

Betty Hottenstein, bhottenstein@bpumc.org

## Director of Student Ministries, ext. 118

Bart Styes, barts@bpumc.org

## Dir. of Children, ext. 107

Leigh Delashaw, ldelashaw@bpumc.org

## Director of Finance and Administration, ext. 117

Ben Sheets, bsheets@bpumc.org

## Financial Manager, ext. 101

Joe Pitard, jpitar@bpumc.org

## Secretary, ext. 111

Cindy Myers, cmyers@bpumc.org

## Director of Chancel Choir and Special Programs,

Lonnie Parsons

## Organist, Jamie Davis

## Preschool Director

Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org

## The Week of April 20—26

### Sunday, April 20

8:45 a.m. Morning Worship Service  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
9:45 a.m. Confirmation Class  
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service

### Monday, April 21

#### Office Closed

6:00 p.m. Permanent Endowment

### Tuesday, April 22

9:30 a.m. Bible Study

### Wednesday, April 23

4:30 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study  
5:00 p.m. Dinner  
6:00 p.m. Men's Chorus  
6:00 p.m. Final Words Study  
6:00 p.m. Daniel Plan  
6:00 p.m. Cooking Class

### Wednesday, April 23

6:00 p.m. Becky Walker's Bible Study  
6:30 p.m. Children's Musical (FH)  
6:30 p.m. Coffee and Conversation  
6:30 p.m. Choir

### Thursday, April 24

9:30 a.m. Shepherd Center  
6:30 p.m. Fishermen Class Dinner

### Friday, April 25

### Saturday, April 26

## Ushers

8:45: Lawson 11:00: Davis

## Cross

8:45: Carolyn Thompson 11:00: Emily Toth

## Acolytes

8:45: Will Thompson 11:00: Rory Edwards

## Children's Church

8:45 Mann 11:00 Blanchard

Meal on Wheels April 23: Chambers

Greeters April 20: Covenant Class

Food Pantry: May 7: Becky McCrary

## BPUMC FOOD PANTRY

1st Wednesday each month

We are serving 200+ families a month.

We appreciate all donations!

## Last Week's Record

April 13, 2014

Youth/Children	60/87
Morning Worship	648
Weekly Operating Needs	29,189.36
Operating Receipts	\$22,586.00
2014 Operating Budget	\$1,517,847.00
Expected to Date	\$405,375.00
Received to Date	\$371,436.95
Building Fund Receipts	\$2,954.00
Building Fund in 2014	\$5,682.33
New Members in 2014	12

## LIVING OUR LEGACY

January 1, 2013—December 31, 2015

Amount Pledged	\$1,080,950.00
Received Last Week	\$5,378.33
Received to Date	\$455,802.58

**BLUFF PARK UNITED  
METHODIST COLUMBARIUM**  
Information Sheets in Narthex and Church  
Office

## Men's Free Play Basketball In the Gym

Sunday & Thursday: 7:00pm (church members)	Wednesday: 7:00pm (community)
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**Sermon, April 20, 2014**  
**8:45 and 11:00 Morning Worship**  
**"Joy Comes in the Morning"**  
**(John 20:1-20)**  
**Mike Holly**

## VALET PARKING

Every Sunday morning! Drive to the covered entrance near the nursery and Fellowship Hall.

## MIDWEEK MEAL: April 23

Fried chicken, rice/gravy, lima beans or baked chicken, baked potato bar, roll and dessert.

## April 30

Pork loin, dressing, green beans or baked chicken, baked potato bar, roll and dessert.