



## **A Ministry and Mission Guide for Bluff Park UMC**

### **Winter and Spring 2014**



## **SAVE THE DATE!**

Look ahead to a wonderful new year at Bluff Park!

January 5 A Time of Prayer and Dreaming Forward  
in Morning Worship

January 8 Midweek Ministries Starts Back

January 24-26 Discovery Weekend (Youth)

January 26 Board of Stewards and Annual Chili Cookoff

February 9 Scout Sunday

February 16 Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett preaches  
in Morning Worship

February 23 Care N' Contact Breakfast

February 23 Organ Recital

March 2 Rev. Julie Holly (Mike's wife) preaches in Morning Worship

March 5 Lent begins with Ash Wednesday services

March 16 Skate Party

March 21–April 6 UMVIM Chile Trip

April 19 Easter Egg Hunt

April 20 Easter Sunday

April 27 Confirmation Sunday

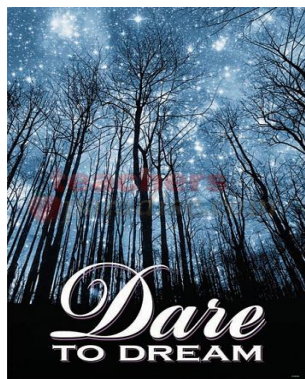
May 1 Ladies Day

May 11 Mother's Day

May 18 Senior Recognition Sunday

## **Winter and Spring Sermon Series**

### **January—February**



#### **DARE TO DREAM**

During the first two months of 2014, we will be dreaming together about the future of our lives together as a church. We will be encouraged to dream "God-sized dreams" and to consider how God can use us individually and as a community of faith to make a difference in God's world.

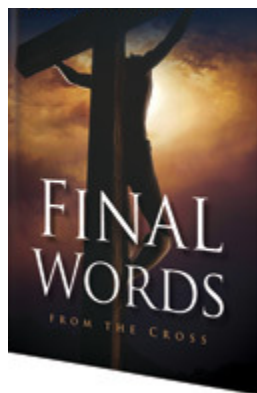
### **February 16 and March 2**



#### **SPECIAL GUEST PREACHERS**

February 16 - Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett  
March 2 - Rev. Julie Holly

### **March 9 –April 20**



#### **THE FINAL WORDS FROM THE CROSS:**

*The Last Words of Jesus on Good Friday*

During the holy season of Lent, we will prepare for the good news of Easter by focusing on the seven final phrases uttered by Jesus from the cross at Calvary, as recorded in the Gospels. These special words have the potential to shape how we approach God and how we live our lives for Him!

### **Beginning April 27**



After we hear about the good news of Easter, we will hear for the next four weeks about God's world-changing love and how we can take it into our community and world. We are already a church that makes a difference in our community. We will focus on why we do this and explore how we can further grow in mission and ministry to God's world.

## MIDWEEK

The Midweek meal is served in the fellowship hall from 5:00 – 6:30.  
**Adults \$6.00 / Children (6-12) \$2.00 / Children (under 6) FREE**  
**Family maximum \$18.00 / Takeout orders are available**

### Midweek Ministries for Adults

#### **Pastor's Bible Study 4:30 PM—with Mike, Tom and Peter**

We will study the final 12 sessions of Dr. James "Mickey" Efrid's *From Genesis to Revelation*. We will be meeting in the Opportunity Classroom

#### **Becky Walker's Bible Study 6:00–7:30 pm**

Becky Walker will begin her Wednesday night class in February, after the church-wide study on February 12. The curriculum will be announced later. Meeting in the Friendship Classroom

#### **Chile Preparation Class**

Meeting in the Footsteps Classroom at 6:30

January 29 - March 19 (except Ash Wednesday March 5)

This class is for members of the 2014 Chile Volunteers In Mission (VIM) team. It is also for anyone who is interested in being a member of an international VIM team in the future. The class will address international travel, basic Spanish, Chilean culture and the work of the El Vergel Methodist Mission. If you have been, are or ever will be a member of an international VIM team -this class is for you.

#### **Mike Holly's Bible Study 6:00–7:00 pm**

Meeting in the Opportunity Classroom

January 8-February 5 - UMW Mission Study - *The Call: Living Sacramentally, Walking Justly*

February 12 - 19 - BPUMC Dream Workshop - sharing our God-sized dreams together

February 26 - April 23 - *The Final Words from the Cross* study by Rev. Adam Hamilton

#### **Believe it or Not with Peter von Herrmann 6:00–7:00**

Meeting in the Seekers Classroom—starting February 12

A primer on world religions and Christianity. We will examine the Apostles' Creed, what it means, and how it came to be a statement of core beliefs of Christianity. We will then move to discuss various other eastern and western religious traditions. We will then consider how we might learn from others and what are the peculiar characteristics of Christianity as a religion.

#### **Winter Olympics 2014—Russia by Peter Kirchikov—6:00**

Meeting in the Church Parlor

The 2014 Winter Olympics will be held in Sochi, Russia from February 7 - February 23. Peter Kirchikov will lead a class on January 29 and February 5 to share his knowledge about Sochi and other Olympic sites from his native Russia.

#### **Starting April 2nd—One Does Not Live by Bread Alone** (Matthew 4:4a) Fireside Room 6:00-7:00

Cooking Class hosted by Betty Hottenstein

|               |          |                               |          |                                 |
|---------------|----------|-------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|
| Cooking with: | April 2  | Bill and Jennifer Tsantes     | April 9  | Stephanie Parker & Chicken Legs |
|               | April 16 | Sami, The Pita Shop           | April 23 | Martha Leard                    |
|               | April 30 | Wesley Lassen, The Cook Store |          |                                 |

#### **Coffee And Conversation — 6:30 pm**

Stay in the Dining Room after dinner for a pleasant conversation with friends. No agenda / No lesson / No schedule. Just "coffee and conversation."

#### **Choir Schedules**

Men's Choir, 6:00–6:30 pm

Adult Choir, 6:30–8:15 pm

Handbell Choir, 5:45 pm

## HOLY GROUND CALENDAR

### The Gospel According to Needtobreathe

Each week will feature a song by the Dove-award winning artists along with a message.

Jan 8, 15, 22, 29

### If Only They Knew...

A look at the past failures or present struggles that unnecessarily separate us from each other and from God.

Feb 5, 12, 19, 26

### Famous Last Words

What were Jesus' last words on the Cross and what do they mean for us?

March 12 & 19

### Watch the Throne

Life lessons from the kings, queens and wannabes of ancient Israel & Judah.

April 2, 9, 15, 22, 29

**When midweek meals end, we'll provide some food before we worship . Please bring \$5 to eat!!**

### Scripture to Study By

Messages of hope for students as we end the semester.

May 7, 14, 21

### Contact Lauren-Michael

Sellers at  
thelaurenmichaelsellers@gmail.com  
to join the worship team!

The Holy Ground Team meets and rehearses on Sundays at 4pm and is open to all students with a desire to sing, play instruments, build sets or run lighting, video and sound.

## SUNDAY NIGHT EVENT CALENDAR

### Sun, 1/5: BEST YEAR EVER!!

A trivia game testing students knowledge of 2013! 6-7:15pm

### Sun, 1/12: DODGEBALL

We'll play in the gym, rain or shine! 6-7:15pm

### Sun, 1/19: VISION NIGHT

Middle School students will learn more about the coming year. 6-7:15pm

### Sun, 1/26: CHILI COOK OFF

Starts at 5pm. No other programming due to Discovery Weekend ending that morning.

### Sun, 2/2: SUPER BOWL PARTY

Time and location TBD.

### Sun, 2/9: SERVE NIGHT

We'll make gifts for people in our community before Valentine's Day. 6-7:15pm.

### Sun, 2/16: ANTI-VALENTINE'S DAY

It'll be fun! You'll see... 6-7:15pm.

### Sun, 2/23: IMPROV GAMES

Students will participate in improv comedy with a message in the Holy Ground Room, 6-7:15pm.

### Sun, 3/2: HUNGER GAMES

This is a NERF NIGHT EVENT! 6-7:15pm

### Sun, 3/9: SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE

Videos, skits and music featuring our students in the Holy Ground room, 6-7:15pm.

### Sun, 3/16: SKATE PARTY

This is FREE a church-wide event. Transportation NOT provided.

### Sun, 3/30: HANG OUT NIGHT

In town over Spring Break? Come enjoy a night of fun and friendship in the Youth Wing, 6-7:15pm.

### Sun, 4/6: RISK!

This is a NERF NIGHT EVENT! 6-7:15pm.

### Sun, 4/13: YOUTH WORSHIP EVENT

Our Holy Ground Team will lead a church-wide worship service in the Chapel as a fundraiser for their summer tour.

### Sun, 4/20: EASTER (No Events)

### Sun, 4/27: SCAVENGER HUNT

Students will work in teams to find information about our church found throughout the building.

### Sun, 5/4: WIFFLE BALL TOURNEY

In the gym, rain or shine, 6-7:15pm.

### Sun, 5/11: MOTHER'S DAY (NO EVENT)

### Sun, 5/18: PRAYER NIGHT

The Youth Wing will be turned into an interactive prayer experience for students finishing the school year.

### Sun, 5/26: MEM DAY WKND (NO EVENT)

\*Unless otherwise noted, a free snack supper is served to all students from 5:30-6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

\*Off-site trips require a waiver to be signed by a parent/guardian. Please make sure that your student and their guests have a completed form on file or they will not be allowed to participate in off-site outings.

\*Events are subject to change. Sign up at [www.bpumc.org](http://www.bpumc.org) for regular email and text updates and more info.

## Big Stuff

### Discovery Weekend

Friday-Sunday, January 24-26  
High School and College students will lead Middle School Students through a weekend of spiritual formation, here at the church.

### Silent Auction

Friday, February 28  
Students are invited to attend this fun fundraiser for our summer interns. At The Club.

### Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

Tuesday, February 4  
Students will serve a pancake dinner in the Fellowship Hall as a fundraiser for summer trips.  
Details TBD

### Confirmation Class

Sundays, April 13  
10am in the Youth Wing

### Exit 456

Friday-Saturday, March 7-8  
Our 6th Graders will attend this retreat at Sumatanga as part of our Confirmation experience.

### Confirmation Sunday

Sunday, April 13  
11 am Worship Service

### Safe Sanctuary Training

Sunday, May 4  
10am in the Fellowship Hall  
For anyone who has not had or needs a refresher on safely working with children and students in our church.

### Senior Recognition Sunday

Sunday, May 18  
10am Brunch in Fellowship Hall  
11am Recognition in Worship

### SAVE THE DATE!!

### Appalachia Service Project

Sun-Sat, July 19-26  
\$400 per person  
Students must be 14 years old and have completed 8th grade to serve by the start of the trip.



## Senior Ministries Calendar

The Shepherd's Center meet each Thursday.

Earlybird Fellowship at 9:30am programs at 10:00am. Guest Speakers, Exercise, Knitting, Dominos, Bridge, Rummikue, This/That Bible Studies, Games, Lunch - something for everyone.

### Tuesday January 14:

Cullman Day Trip  
Church Tour- Lunch  
9:00am-3:00pm

### Thursday January 23:

Yellow Dot Sign-up (Gym)  
1:00pm - 2:00pm

### Tuesday February 11:

Camp Sumatanga  
Devotional/Bible Story/  
Lunch, Boaz  
9:30am - 4:00pm

### Wednesday February 5:

Valentines Day Cards/Sick &  
Shut-ins  
10:00am - Library

### Thursday, February 20

10:00 Gilligan's Island Bible  
Study taught by Charlie  
Trucks  
February 27, March 6 and 13  
at 11:00

### Sunday February 23:

Care N' Contact Breakfast  
10:00am - 10:45am  
Fellowship Hall

### Tuesday March 11:

MYSTERY TRIP ??

### Thursday April 3:

The Exploration in Antiquity  
Center - LaGrange, GA  
Easter Tour, Passover Meal  
Tour Bus 7:00am - 6:00pm

### Tuesday April 15:

Easter Cards - Sick/Shut-ins  
11:00am - Library

### Saturday May 2:

Ladies Day  
Bible Study with Becky  
Music, Lunch, Surprises,  
Special Guest??  
9:00am - 2:00pm

### Tuesday May 13:

Huntsville Day Trip  
Church Tour, Butterflies,  
Gardens & Hardware  
8:30am - 4:00pm

### Saturday May 24:

BPUMC Red Hat Luncheon -  
10 years together!  
Church Parlor  
11:00am - 2:00pm

### Tuesday June 10:

Mystery Trip???  
9:00am - 4:00pm

### Thursday June 19:

Yellow Dot Sign-up  
(Gym)  
1:00pm - 2:00pm

### Tuesday June 24:

Columbus Mississippi  
Antebellum Homes &  
Garden Tour  
Traveling by tour bus  
8:00am - 6:00pm

## Tuesday Morning Bible Study

### Becky Walker's Bible Study

Do your New Year's Resolutions include anything about growing in faith? Starting a new Bible Study is a wonderful way to learn more about God and enhance your spiritual life. The Tuesday Morning Bible Study will use Dr. J. Elsworth Kalas' book, *A Faith of Her Own*. In this study, Dr. Kalas focuses on different women of the Old Testament and how their faith, strength, courage and perseverance shape the lives of modern believers. We will examine scripture, and discuss what we can learn about them as well as from them. Our new session will begin on January 14th, at 9:30, in the Fellowship Hall. Come and join our group! All are welcome! If you need additional information, call Becky Walker at 987-0404, or email, [bwalker5129@yahoo.com](mailto:bwalker5129@yahoo.com).

## Lenten Morning Prayer

A service of Prayer, Scripture and Holy Communion - Wednesday mornings @ 7:30 a.m. during Lent. March 5, 12, 19, 26 and April 2, 9, 16 in the Sanctuary.

## Midweek for Kids!

We don't limit talking about God to just Sundays around here! On Midweek Wednesdays there are several activities that your child can plug into.

### The nursery opens at 5:30 pm

After your child eats dinner, infants, toddlers and ages 3-4 preschool children go to the nursery.

If you have an elementary age child, they will begin in the gym for open gym time from 5:15-5:50 pm.

There are several activities after open gym time!

The two elementary choirs meet from 5:50-6:25 pm in the rooms behind the Handbell room.

For Preschoolers there is preschool choir for children age 3-4 at 6-6:20 pm. From 6:30-7 pm they have supervised gym time. Then they go back to the nursery.

At 6:30, the 4<sup>th</sup>5<sup>th</sup> Fellowship meets on the elementary Sunday school hall in the Zoo Room on the 3rd floor.

The 5K-3<sup>rd</sup> graders meet on the elementary floor for M&M Kids. What are M&M Kids? It stands for Midweek and Ministries for children! We have Bible study from 6-6:20 pm using the "Holy Moly" curriculum which has a DVD component. The children love to see the short animated video clip to see how the Bible story for the day is interpreted!

The Children's Handbell Choir is open to 2nd - 6th graders, and meets from 4:30 - 5:15 in the Handbell Room (just off the Narthex). This group, under the direction of Ann Harter, loves to make music together and has fun doing it! Contact Ann Harter at 823-0570 for more information.

There is always something for children on Wednesdays at BPUMC!

---

## Sunday Mornings for Kids!

|          |                              |
|----------|------------------------------|
| January  | People Who Made A Difference |
| February | Isaac and Rebekah            |
| March    | The Man Beside the Pool      |
| April    | Easter                       |
| May      | Doubting Thomas              |

*M&M Kids and 4th5th Fellowship will continue to use the Holy Moly series on Wednesday nights.*

---

## Elementary Fields Trips

We have one elementary field trip for this semester - January 20. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. Please pick your child up by 5:30 p.m. Come join us for a fantastic time ice skating!

---

## Children's Ministry

|   |  |                    |
|---|--|--------------------|
| On The Road Again Elementary Field Trip | Monday Jan. 20   | 7:30a.m.-5:30p.m.  |
| Preschool Pajama Party                  | Friday Feb. 7  | 6-7:30p.m.         |
| EXIT 456 Retreat at Sumatanga           | 4 <sup>th</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> Fellowship & 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade | March 7-8          |
| Family Skate Night                      | Sunday March 16  | 5-7p.m.            |
| Spaghetti Lunch Fund Raiser             | Sunday April 6   | 11a.m.-1p.m.       |
| Palm Sunday Parade                      | Sunday April 13  | 8:45 a.m. - 11a.m. |
| Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast           | Saturday April 19  | 9-10:30 a.m.       |

## Sunday Worship Schedule

|                                |                      |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Traditional Worship, Sanctuary | 8:45 am and 11:00 am |
| Sunday School                  | 9:45 am–10:45 am     |
| Snack Supper for Students      | 5:00 pm              |
| Youth Fellowship               | 6:00 pm              |
| Evening Worship, Chapel        | 6:00 pm *            |

Join us on **Sunday evenings** in the Chapel at 6:00 pm for a wonderful and casual traditional worship service using the Sunday Lectionary Scriptures. Rev. Tom Duley and Rev. Peter von Herrmann preach this service.

**\*No Evening Worship during January. Evening Worship resumes on February 9th.**

### LITTLE IMAGINATIONS

LITTLE IMAGINATIONS is a weekday ministry serving children ages 6 months-4K. The preschool is open from 9:00-1:00, five days per week, during the months of September-May.

At Little Imaginations we seek to establish a caring, nurturing preschool environment based on sound Christian theology and educational philosophy. It is with great humility and thanksgiving that Little Imaginations, as a ministry of Bluff Park UMC, accepts the privilege of helping our precious young children grow in intellect and spirit. We pray that we will be successful in supporting our families and that we will be a service to our community.

For information about our program, please contact the preschool office at (205) 822-5813 or [imaginations@bpumc.org](mailto:imaginations@bpumc.org).

*Tuesday, Feb. 4th - Church member registration - Wednesday, Feb. 5th - Public registration*

### Missions Supported by Easter Love Gift March 5—April 20

#### Local

Greater Birmingham Ministries  
Kairos Prison Ministry  
Habitat for Humanity  
Firehouse Shelter  
First Light  
McCoy Adult Day Care  
P.E.E.R.  
Church of the Reconciler  
Urban Ministry, Inc.  
Meals on Wheels  
United Community Centers, Inc.

#### National

S. E. Jurisdiction Volunteers  
in Mission  
Red Bird Mission  
NY VIM Trip

#### International

John Elmore (Covenant Missionary  
Partner in Chile)  
Chile Materials Fund (2014 VIM  
Trip)  
El Vergel Septic Project in Chile

## 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, pvonherrmann@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 Ministers



Rev. Mike Holly  
Senior Pastor  
mholly@bpumc.org



Rev. Peter von Herrmann  
Associate Pastor  
pvonherrmann@bpumc.org



Rev. Tom Duley  
Associate Pastor  
tduley@bpumc.org

Bluff Park UMC is a seven-day-a-week, year-round church. In addition to the Sunday schedule, there are many programs, service opportunities and activities for you throughout the week. We have a place for everyone, regardless of age. Our friendly congregation welcomes all into our church family. Come and visit with us and see what God is doing in and through Bluff Park!