



BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

Newsletter April 23, 2017

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org



Easter Sunday was such a powerful morning of worship at Bluff Park UMC! We had a lot to celebrate from this past Easter:

1. We had our highest Easter Sunday worship attendance since 2014
2. The preview worship service of The Gathering at Bluff Park had 115 people in attendance in the Chapel at 11:00 am!
3. Our volunteers did a wonderful job greeting everyone and guiding them to where they needed to go!
4. Very soon, I will also be able to share with you the total given to the Easter Love Gift as well.

We have such a wonderful church family and I am so very excited that we are continuing to move forward in starting new ministries to the community like

our Room 35226 closets at neighborhood schools and the new worship service led by Rev. John Carl Hastings.

I am also so very excited about how the plans are coming together for the new Youth Ministry and Community Ministry building addition. Our Building Team has been working hard going over plans from several construction firms after receiving initial bids. Hopefully we will have another informational meeting before the summer to share about our plans for moving forward!

Friends, this is an exciting time for Bluff Park UMC and I hope you are beginning to see God at work in us, through us and around us!

Mike

Rise Against Hunger

On April 23rd–25th, Bluff Park UMC will join with several other churches, schools, and civic organizations from the Vestavia/Hoover area to pack 300,024 nutritious meals (one full shipping container) to be sent overseas to relieve hunger. This project will be carried out in conjunction with Rise Against Hunger (formerly Stop Hunger Now), an organization dedicated to eradicating world hunger.

We are encouraging groups from the church to volunteer together, but *each individual must register separately*. If you have any problems accessing the website to register, contact the church office for assistance.

To sign-up as a volunteer visit:

BluffParkUMC.org/riseagainsthunger



News of the Week

BLOOD DRIVE

There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive in the Bluff Park UMC gym on Sunday, April 23rd, from 7:30am–12:30pm. 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 and use the keyword BPUMC.

CLIMATE JUSTICE STUDY

Dr. Joyce Lanning, Ph.D., took a life altering trip to Antarctica that made Climate Justice more real for her. She will be in the chapel at Bluff Park UMC on April 26, at 6:00pm, to share her story and talk about two faith-based ways we can respond to a changing climate. This presentation was originally scheduled for April 5th, but church activities were cancelled due to severe weather.

MOTHER'S DAY LUNCH

On Sunday, May 14th from 12:00-1:30pm we will be hosting a Mother's Day lunch in the Fellowship Hall.

If you don't have plans for lunch, plan to eat with us. RSVP Fran @ 822-0910 ext.103.

2017 ALTAR FLOWERS

There are dates left on the 2017 Flower Calendar. Please sign up to remember a loved one or to commemorate a special occasion. One arrangement is \$50.00; both \$100.00. We have two arrangements each Sunday. Dates available include: April 30, May 14 & 21, and June 11 & 25. Check with the office for other available dates. Please sign up in the main office or call (205) 822-0910

UPCOMING BAPTISM

This Sunday, April 23rd, we celebrate the baptisms of Elizabeth Sims Huddleston and Patrick Stephen Hill at the 11:00am worship service.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Mary Lee Monroe—Brookwood
Kevin King—St. Vincent's



Jared and Carrie Thomas

RECENT NEW MEMBERS



Adam and Paula Hinely
Abigail and Joseph



Fred and Sandra Stephens



Jen and Michael Johnston



Ryan and Amy Patterson
Jack and Brett

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

DOLLY AND ME TEA PARTY: Girls of all ages are cordially invited to a Dolly and Me ParTEA in the Courtyard and Fire-side Room on Sunday, May 7th beginning right after the 11:00 worship service until 2:30! There will be a light lunch, activities, crafts, and more! If you would like to attend, please register online at www.bluffparkumc.org/dollyandme. We hope to see you all there!

MIDWEEK MEETUP: Midweek Meetup happens every Wednesday night from 5:00-7:30. The children will enjoy dinner, choir, recreation, age focused Bible Study/Classroom time, and more. Special next week: the Preschool and Elementary Children's Choirs will be singing at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall during the dinner portion of Midweek Meetup.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: The Elementary Sunday School lesson will be on "Jesus Forgives Peter" and the Preschool Sunday School lesson will be on "Doubting Thomas!"

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: The Children's Church lesson this week will be on "The Walk to Emmaus!"

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 and let us know!

STUDENT MINISTRY

SERVE OTHERS IN APRIL - SATURDAY, APRIL 22ND & SUNDAY, APRIL 23RD Rise Against Hunger begins at Vestavia Hills UMC on Sunday and runs through Tuesday evening. Volunteers from across the area will meet to pack tens of thousands of meals to be sent overseas to impoverished communities. You can register for shifts at www.bpumc.org/riseagainsthunger and our youth group has chosen 5-7pm on that Sunday, April 23rd as our target shift. Register ASAP as these spots fill up fast! For students unable to get a Sunday slot at Rise Against Hunger, we'll have another group in our Fellowship Hall working on Room 35226 supplies and making sandwiches for the homeless. We'll all eat together at Mugshot's in Vestavia afterwards so be sure to bring some money with you.

MIDWEEK MINISTRIES - APRIL - IT'S ELEMENTAL Our theme this month focuses on "elemental" changes in our lives and the world around us. As always, students are welcome to bring their meals down to the youth wing and visit with friends, play games, do homework or just relax. Small groups will meet at 6:00pm with Holy Ground worship at 6:30pm. Our final Holy Ground worship of the spring is on April 26th with Hoover senior Rachel Pope as our speaker.

SUNDAY, APRIL 30TH - CONFIRMATION SUNDAY Join us at the 11am worship service that day to welcome our 6th grade confirmands as full, professing members of the Christian faith.

SUMMER TRIP REGISTRATIONS! Students can now register online for our Adventure Camp (June 9-11) and ASP Mission Trip (July 2-8). Check with Kathryn Davis (kdavis@bpumc.org) for the links or more details.

DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP & KEEP UP WITH THE FAST-MOVING SPRING SCHEDULE. There's so much going on as we move further into 2017: Holy Ground Worship, Confirmation, Senior Recognition and more. You can keep track of things via your smartphone or tablet by going to your app store and downloading our free app. Just search the key words Youth Wing to find it.

SAVE THESE DATES Friday-Sunday, June 9-11, 2017: *Whitewater Express Summer Trip*, Sunday-Saturday, July 2-8, 2017: *Appalachia Service Project Mission Trip*.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 23rd, 10:00am	Sunday School
Sunday, April 23rd, 4pm	Holy Ground Team Rehearsal
Sunday, April 23rd, 5pm	Serve Night (w/ Dinner at Mugshots afterwards)
Wednesday, April 26th, 6:00pm	Guys/Girls/Coed Small Groups
Wednesday, April 26th, 6:30pm	Holy Ground Worship

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY, APRIL 25

SHEPHERD'S CENTER BOARD MEETING 2 PM - LIBRARY

TUESDAY, MAY 2

TRIP TO DECORATOR'S SHOWHOUSE 10:00 AM - Bus Park Enjoy the gorgeous artistry of this Mountain Brook home decorated by professional artist Lunch will be provided at the home. Shop for unique gifts at the Symphony Gift Shop. Tickets \$15—Lunch \$15 RSVP Fran@ 822-0103 or at FGATCH@BPUMC.ORG

SUNDAY, MAY 14

MOTHER'S DAY LUNCH—RSVP Fran @ 822-0910 ext.103

“Those who withhold kindness from a friend forsake the fear of the Almighty.” Job 6:14



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Hoover, AL 35226
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Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org

Facilities Manager,

Chad Malcolm, cmalcolm@bpumc.org

The Week of April 23—29

Sunday, April 23

7:30 am—12:30 pm Rise Against Hunger
Blood Drive in Gym
8:45 am Morning Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
3:00 pm Compassion Circle - Rise Against Hunger

Monday, April 24

10:00 am Rise Against Hunger
Prayer Shawl
10:00 am UMW Joy Circle
10:00 am UMW Love Circle

Tuesday, April 25

9:30 am Rise Against Hunger
Half Truths Study
6:30 pm Building Team

Wednesday, April 26

4:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study
5:00 pm Last Midweek Meetup until Fall
Children's Choir Program
5:45 pm Men's Chorus
6:00 pm Handbell Choir
6:00 pm UMW Climate Change Study
6:00 pm Youth Small Groups
6:30 pm Choir
6:30 pm Holy Strollers
6:30 pm Young Adult Bible Study
6:30 pm Youth Holy Ground

Thursday, April 27

9:30 am Shepherd's Center
9:30 pm UMW Friendship Circle

Friday, April 28

1:00 pm Ladies Sewing Group
5:00 pm Fisherman Class Social

SUNDAY, April 23, 2017

8:45 and 11:00am Morning Worship

John 20:19-31

"The Sin of Giving Up Too Quickly"

Rev. Mike Holly

Lectionary Scripture Readings

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Psalms 16

1 Peter 1:3-9

John 20:19-31

SERVING SUNDAY

Ushers

8:45 Montz 11:00 Lawson

Cross

8:45 Natalie Self 11:00 Ellie Blanchard

Acolyte

8:45 Ella Bowles 11:00 Avery Edwards

Greeters: Faith

Meal on Wheels: Slay

Food Pantry May 3rd: Dallam/McCrory

Midweek Meetup April 26th: Menu—TBA.

Final Midweek Meetup of the Spring Semester.

Last Week's Record

April 16, 2017

Children	134
Morning Worship	1134
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$22,579.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$53,272.87
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,174,109.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$361,264.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$421,352.92
New Members in 2017	8

10,000 REASONS CAMPAIGN

January 1, 2017—December 31, 2019

Amount Pledged	\$1,099,621.00
Received Last Week	\$5,473.33
Received to Date	\$205,615.32

**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.