



733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226  
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# BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Newsletter October 29, 2017*

*Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life*

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



We are almost to the end of our stewardship campaign. Commitment Sunday will be on Sunday, October 29th at both morning worship services. As a way of saying thank you, we will hold a celebration lunch in our Fellowship Hall downstairs between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm.

Please bring your 2018 Ministry Budget Pledge Card to worship this Sunday so that you can be a part of starting the prayerful process of forming a budget that will shape lives and change our community in the coming year. If you have misplaced your pledge card or did not receive one in the mail, we will have plenty in the Sanctuary on Sunday.

We hope that during this campaign, you have been challenged and inspired to step out in faith in new areas of your life here in our congregation. Through the questions that God asks us in Scripture, we realize that God has expectations for us. It is not only about what God wants to give to us; it is also what God wants to do in and through us as well. This is the beginning of a great new year in our life together as a church family! As we break ground together for the new space for mission and ministry with the youth and community, we are excitingly awaiting the great things that will happen as God continues to work through this church family. Thank you for your commitment to Christ, His Church, and to Bluff Park UMC.

We look forward to seeing you on Commitment Sunday!

*Mike*

## **COMMITMENT SUNDAY 2017**

On Sunday, October 29th, join us for Commitment Sunday during morning worship at 8:45am and 11:00am. At 10:30am we will have a special Groundbreaking Ceremony for our new Youth Ministry and Community Ministry Building. Following the groundbreaking we will have a Celebration Meal in the Fellowship Hall from 11:00am–1:00pm. We look forward to celebrating with you!



# News of the Week



## OFFERING OF BLANKETS

This Sunday, October 29th, is the final day of our annual collection of blankets to share with our homeless neighbors this winter. There is a table set up in the Narthex on Sunday morning to receive blankets or you can bring yours by the church office during the week. The Offering of Blankets is sponsored by the Bluff Park United Appeal Fund.

## UMW COMPASSION CIRCLE

The UMW Compassion Circle will be "packing the bags" for the food pantry on October 29th. We will meet at 4pm in the pantry and this usually takes about 1 1/2 hours. Ladies and your children are welcome to join us. Please let Jennifer McEuen know if you plan to participate, [rmceuen@bham.rr.com](mailto:rmceuen@bham.rr.com).

## THE FESTIVAL OF THREE KINGS

The Festival of Three Kings is an annual opportunity for us to help others experience the joy of Christmas by providing gifts to children. These children will most likely not receive any Christmas gifts without our help. If you would like to sponsor a child, you will receive a "wishlist" to assist you in shopping. You may sponsor a child individually or as a Sunday School class, family or other group. Each sponsor is asked to spend no more than \$100 per child. If you prefer, you can sponsor a child with a contribution by bringing a check marked Festival of Three Kings to the Finance Office at the church and leave the shopping to us. The gifts will be due back to Bluff Park UMC no later than Sun-

day, December 3. Sign up lists will be in each Sunday School Class and at the Narthex Welcome Center this Sunday and the wishlists will be available in early November. Please call Debi Whitcomb (979-7626) if you have any questions.

## YOGA CLASS

Would you like to increase your flexibility, muscle tone, circulation, and more? Join us for yoga on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm in Hudson Hall. Taught by Suki Akins. \$3 per class. We look forward to seeing you Thursdays!

## CONGRATULATIONS...

Congratulations to Mary Katherine and Stephen Guy on the birth of a daughter, Lillian Katherine on October 20th. 'Lilly Kate' is the granddaughter of Betsy and Johnny Guy.

## SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION...

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Dorothy (Dot) Barber who passed away on October 15th. Our prayers are with the family in their time of loss.

## IN THE HOSPITAL...

Geoff Huddleston—St. Vincent's  
Linda Bailey—UAB West



## HAM MOUNTAIN IS COMING

During the month of November, we will be collecting canned hams for Ham Mountain. These hams will be distributed through the Bluff Park UMC food bank on December 6th. Look for the Ham Mountain display in the Narthex beginning November 5th. Ham Mountain is sponsored by the Bluff Park United Appeal Fund.



## Pledge 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

**HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL THANK YOU:** Thank you to everyone who helped out with the Halloween Carnival in any way! Whether you helped decorate beforehand, volunteered with us the night of the event, brought in candy and prizes, or prayed for us, we could not have done it without you.

**MISSION TRIP/FIELD TRIP:** Our next mission trip/field trip will be on Friday, November 10th. We will be going Bowling, eating lunch at CiCi's Pizza, and then buying Christmas gifts for three children we have sponsored through the Festival of the Three Kings. Drop off will begin at 7:30, we will leave the church at 10:00, and pickup will be at the church between 4:30 and 5:30. Please RSVP with Melissa Hendon at [mhendon@bpumc.org](mailto:mhendon@bpumc.org) as soon as possible as we only have 26 spots available.

**FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT UNDER THE STARS:** Bring your family, friends, blankets, and tailgating chairs to the the Bluff Park UMC Playground on Friday, November 10th from 6:00-8:00 for a family movie night under the stars! We will be showing a family friendly movie on a large screen and everyone that comes will receive popcorn, a drink, and hot chocolate. You don't want to miss it!

**CHILDREN'S MISSION OPPORTUNITY:** For the month of October, the Children's Ministry will be holding a book drive for the Children's Hospital in Birmingham! These books will be given to children to read during their stay at the hospital, and will hopefully bring a smile to their faces during a hard time. The following types of books are on the hospital's wish list: Touch and Feel (Sensory books), Board Books, I-Spy/Look and Find Books, Superhero Books, Beverly Cleary Books, Dr. Seuss Books, Dork Diaries Books, Diary of a Wimpy Kid Series, Biscuit the Dog, I can Read series, Harry Potter Series. These donated books have to be new, and can be dropped off in Hudson Hall anytime throughout the week!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Elementary Sunday School will be participating in its monthly mission Sunday and the Preschool Sunday School lesson will be on "King Solomon!"

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** The Children's Church lesson this week will be a Halloween themed lesson on how we are like a Jack-O-Lantern!

## STUDENT MINISTRY

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29TH, 5:00PM-7:00PM: HUNGER GAMES** The free snack supper starts at 5pm... the battle begins after supper. We'll have plenty of nerf guns, but you can bring your own (labeled with your name). May the odds be ever in your favor!

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT SMALL GROUPS ARE IN FULL SWING!** For our students to be able to connect and get to know each other better, we encourage them to plug into a small group before Holy Ground Worship from 6 'til 6:30. They can chose from girls only, guys only or coed groups which are each led by our fantastic adult volunteers!

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST, 6:30PM: HOW FAITH PLAYS OUT IN SPORTS** As usual, the Youth Wing is open after school for all 6th-12th graders who want to come hang out, eat dinner together, play games, or do homework. Then we'll worship together in the Holy Ground Room with guest speakers including Katie Norris and Jake Smith to dive into the unique topic of how faith plays a role in various sports.

**SAVE THESE DATES** Thursday-Friday, November 9-10: *One Night for the Homeless*, Friday-Sunday, November 17-19: *Fall Retreat at Sumatanga*.

### THIS WEEK

Sunday, October 29th, 10:00am	Sunday School in the Youth Wing
Sunday, October 29th, 4:00pm-5:00pm	Holy Ground Team Rehearsal
Sunday, October 29th, 5:00pm-7:00pm	Hunger Games!
Wednesday, November 1st, 4:30pm	Holy Ground Team Rehearsal
Wednesday, November 1st, 6:00pm-6:30pm	Small Groups
Wednesday, November 1st, 6:30pm - 7:30pm	Holy Ground Worship

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

### 55+ AND FRIENDS

#### WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES

**A TIME TO READ:** Each Tuesday from 3:30–4:30 and 4:30–5:30 PM. Calling all Parents of Elementary Age Children, BPUMC is offering a reading tutor hour for free! Contact Becky Blankenship to sign up your child for this program [rblanken@bellsouth.net](mailto:rblanken@bellsouth.net).

**CARE AND CONCERN MINISTRY:** Are you concerned about our BPUMC sick and homebound members? It is easy to connect with them. Write a few cards that will make the day of those who receive them. Tuesdays: 2PM Church Parlor ~ contact Fran for more details [frangatch@bpumc.org](mailto:frangatch@bpumc.org) or 822-0910.

**DINNER FOR 55+:** Enjoy conversation and candlelight in the Faith Classroom starting at 5 PM.

### SHEPHERD'S CENTER SCHEDULE

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

**November 2** **Holiday Decorating Demonstration** ~ Ray Jordan, Owner of "Flowerbuds" will demonstrate decorating ideas for the Holidays.

**November 9** **Paris: Images from the City of Light** by Tour Guide and Historian, Niki Sepsas





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**NON-PROFIT ORG.  
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### Pastors

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Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org  
**Facilities Manager**,  
Chad Malcom, cmalcom@bpumc.org

## The Week of October 29—November 4

### Sunday, October 29

8:45 am Morning Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Groundbreaking  
11:00 am Morning Worship Service  
11:00 am-1:00pm Celebration Luncheon

### Monday, October 30

10:00 am Prayer Shawl

### Tuesday, October 31

8:00 am Holie Walkamolies  
9:30 am Moses Bible Study  
3:00 pm Tutoring Program

### Wednesday, November 1

9:00 am Food Pantry  
10:00 am What's Your Story Study  
4:30 pm The Bible, UMC, and Politics  
5:00 pm Midweek Meetup  
5:30 pm Men's Chorus  
6:00 pm Sewing Group  
6:00 pm Handbell  
6:00 pm Moses Bible Study  
6:30 pm Sunday's Sermon Unpacked  
6:30 pm Holy Strollers  
6:30 pm Choir

### Thursday, November 2

9:30 am Shepherd's Center  
6:30 pm Yoga

### SUNDAY, October 29, 2017

8:45 and 11:00am Morning Worship

John 13:12-17

*"Questions God Asks Us: Do You Understand What I Have Done For You?"*

Rev. Mike Holly

### LIFETRACK

Sunday—Luke 10:25-37 and Psalm 103

Monday—Matthew 12:43-50

Tuesday—Revelation 19:4-10

Wednesday—Revelation 21:22-22:5

Thursday—Matthew 13:18-23

Friday—Matthew 13:24-30

Saturday—Matthew 13:31-35

### SERVING SUNDAY

Ushers

8:45 Doran 11:00 Arthur

Acolyte

8:45 Ella Bowles 11:00 CJ Lorino

Cross

8:45 Natalie Self 11:00 Molly Vann

Greeters: Fisherman

Meal on Wheels: Moore

Food Pantry November 1st: Theresa and Bob

Midweek Volunteers

Woodie Comer, Sally Holland, Canterbury Class

Midweek Meetup November 1st: Menu—Ham, mac and cheese, fried okra, baked chicken, baked potato, and salad bar. Corn dogs for the kids.

## Last Week's Record

October 22, 2017

Children/Youth	104/48
Morning Worship	472
Weekly Contributions Expected	\$27,137.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$20,250.00
Annual Contributions Expected	\$1,411,109.00
Contributions Expected to Date	\$1,166,891.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$1,149,569.94
New Members in 2017	27

### 10,000 REASONS CAMPAIGN

January 1, 2017—December 31, 2019

Amount Pledged	\$1,099,621.00
Received Last Week	\$8,572.00
Received to Date	\$411,192.99

**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.