



733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 21, 2018

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org

CELEBRATION SUNDAY

On Sunday, January 28, 2018, we will gather for worship together and celebrate 110 years of ministry and mission as a church family here at Bluff Park UMC. At all three morning worship services we will thank God for all that He has blessed us with and we will also have special guest preachers! In both traditional worship services in the main Sanctuary, Dr. Leonard Sweet will join us to share the message. In The Gathering at Bluff Park in the Chapel, Dr. Ron Martoia will share the message with those in our modern worship service. Both of these gentlemen are leaders in the church universal and have an innovative way to share our faith and communicate God's grace. I know we will be blessed by their messages to us. Join us for an important day in the life of our church family!



Dr. Leonard Sweet



Dr. Ron Martoia



News of the Week



STATE OF THE CHURCH

Save the date. On January 28th @ 5:00pm we will have a State of the Church meeting in the Chapel.

CHILI/COOKIE COOK-OFF

Get out those special family recipes and plan to participate in our Annual Chili/Cookie Cook-off scheduled for Sunday evening, January 28th, following the State of the Church Meeting. Entries should arrive in the fellowship hall by 5:30 so that judging can begin. There will be chili for all to eat, cool door prizes and we'll hear who claims the braggin' rights to the best chili and cookies in Bluff Park!! All ages are invited to participate.

GET ANSWERS TO THE TOUGH QUESTIONS

Dr. Dennis Sansom, Chair of Philosophy at Samford University, joins us on Wednesday nights to tackle your tough questions about Christianity and life. Bring your unanswered questions to the Church Parlor January 17, 24, 31 at 6:30 pm.

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.

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!

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Linda Bailey—UAB West
Jim Wible—UAB
Bill Rabb—UAB



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 as the students participate in morning worship service.



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

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 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 Joy!

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 "Jesus Calms a Storm."

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 REGISTRATION IS CLOSING SOON! 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. Students are encouraged to invite friends, simply send friends the links below. If you haven't already, please get your students registered for Discovery Weekend 2018. Registration, payment and required waivers can all be completed online.

To Register a Middle Schooler: bluffparkumc.org/msdiscovery

To Register a High Schooler: bluffparkumc.org/hsdiscovery

ADULT VOLUNTEERS FOR DISCOVERY WEEKEND. Adults, we need your help on the Discovery Weekend volunteer team! We greatly appreciate the investment you are making in the lives of our students! To see available job descriptions, Signup at: bluffparkumc.org/discoveryvolunteers

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

Sat, Jan 20th, 8am-2pm

Sun, Jan 21st @ 10am

Sun, Jan 21st @ 4pm

Sun, Jan 21st from 5-7pm

Wed, Jan 24th @ 4:30pm

Wed, Jan 24th @ 5:00pm

Wed, Jan 24th from 6-6:30pm

Wed, Jan 24th from 6:30-7:30pm

One Day, In Town Retreat For 6th Grade Confirmation

Youth Sunday School

Holy Ground Rehearsal with Bart

Snack Supper & Serve Night at BPUMC

Holy Ground Rehearsal With Bart

Dinner & Regular Wed Evening Church Activities

Small Groups in the Youth Wing

Holy Ground Worship

55+ MINISTRY

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. Bring your unanswered questions about Christianity and Life. Church Parlor-January 17,24,31

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 11 Valentine's Lunch in the Fellowship Hall on at Noon ~ \$7. Must have reservation by Sunday, January 28 RSVP Fran @ 822-0910 ext. 103 or fgatch@bpumc.org

SHEPHERD'S CENTER SCHEDULE

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

January 24
"Magic Show" - Arch Duncan

February 1
"Brain Health" - Dr. Don Weindorf



Bluff Park United Methodist Church

733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
(205) 822-0910

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
AUTO
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
Bart Styes, barts@bpumc.org
Director of Children's Ministries, ext. 105
Stanley Davidson, sdavidson@bpumc.org
Director of Finance and Administration, ext. 117
Jason McCrory, jmcrrory@bpumc.org
Financial Manager, ext. 101
Joe Pitard, jpitard@bpumc.org
Director of Communications and Media, ext. 119
Andrew Seltz, aseltz@bpumc.org
Secretary, ext. 111
Brenda Atkins, batkins@bpumc.org
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 21-27

Sunday, January 21

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
2:00 pm Strategic Implementation
Team Meeting
4:00 pm Children's Council Meeting

Monday, January 22

9:30 am UMW Hope/Love Circles
10:00 am UMW Joy Circle
10:00 am Prayer Shawl

Tuesday, January 23

8:00 am Holie Walkamolies
9:30 am Becky Walker's Bible Study

Wednesday, January 24

4:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study
5:00 pm Midweek Meetup
5:30 pm Men's Chorus
6:00 pm Handbell
6:30 pm Choir
6:30 pm The Reason for God Study
6:30 pm Answering the Tough Questions w/Dr. Dennis Sansom
6:30 pm Holy Strollers

Thursday, January 25

9:30 am Shepherd's Center
9:30 am UMW Friendship Circle
10:00 am Sewing Group
6:30 pm Finance Committee
7:00 pm Book Club

Friday, January 26

5:00 pm Fisherman Class Social

SUNDAY, January 21, 2018
8:45 11:00am Traditional Worship
Jonah 3:1-10
"Taking The Next Faithful Step"
Rev. Mike Holly

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

LIFETRACK

Sunday—Luke 18:9-17
Monday—Matthew 23:1-12
Tuesday—Proverbs 11:13
Wednesday—2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1
Thursday—Colossians 3:9-15
Friday—1 Corinthians 13:4-8
Saturday—Matthew 28:16-20

SERVING

Ushers
8:45 McDonald 11:00 Youth
Acolyte
8:45 Matthew Pitts 11:00 Miller Rice
Cross
8:45 Spencer Schillaci 11:00 Rebekah Rice
Meal on Wheels: McCrary
Food Pantry February 7th: Lawson
Midweek Meetup January 24th: Menu - Fried
fish, collard greens, hash brown casserole,
baked chicken, baked potato, and salad bar.
Corn Dogs for the kids.

Last Week's Record

January 14, 2018

Children/Youth	107/46
Traditional Worship/Gathering	422/54
Weekly Contributions Expected*	\$27,137.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$18,295.31
Annual Contributions Expected*	\$1,411,109.00
Contributions Expected to Date*	\$54,247.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$40,542.31
New Members in 2018	0

10,000 REASONS CAMPAIGN

January 1, 2017—December 31, 2019

Amount Pledged	\$1,099,621.00
Received Last Week	\$3,543.33
Received to Date	\$495,215.98

**Provisional figures pending approval of 2018 budget*

**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.