



733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

February 18, 2018

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org

Lent and Easter Schedule

Lenten Morning Prayer

Thursday Mornings @ 7:30am

Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast

Saturday, March 24 @ 9:00am

Palm Sunday Worship

Sunday, March 25 @ 8:45am &
11:00am

Maundy Thursday Worship and Foot Washing

Thursday, March 29 @ 6:30pm

Good Friday Worship

Friday, March 30 @ 6:30pm

Easter Sunday Worship

Sunday, April 1 @ 8:45am &
11:00am



Lent has begun at Bluff Park United Methodist as we celebrated Ash Wednesday together this past Wednesday evening in our Sanctuary. The season of Lent is a time of spiritual assessment and spiritual renovation. We look honestly at ourselves, putting aside any false self or mask that we might wear in public. And we evaluate what within us needs the light of God the

most so that God's light can drive away the darkness that has crept into our lives. We do this as we move closer and closer to Easter so that when we celebrate that Jesus has defeated death and sin and risen from the tomb we might be more ready to greet him.

Lent lasts forty days which is the same number of days that Jesus spent in the wilderness fasting and the same number of days that Noah was on the ark as the rains came down upon the earth. Ash Wednesday fell on February 14 and Easter Sunday will be on April 1. If you were to get out your calendar or ask Siri how many days fall between now and Easter you might think that I could not count. There are more than forty days in Easter, you might say! Well, there are days that do not count.

Sundays in Lent remain "feast days." We worship God on Sunday and are allowed a "break" from our Lenten disciplines so that we can come together to celebrate. During this Lenten season, we will focus on this concept of feasting together and celebrating God at Bluff Park UMC by having more frequent Holy Communion together. Just as families join around the dinner table, our church family can gather around the Lord's table in our Sanctuary and Chapel on Sundays so that we can thank God for grace, love, friends and for this season to remake who we can and should be in the light of God's love.

Mike

News of the Week



16TH ANNUAL ORGAN RECITAL

Dr. Faythe Freese, Professor of Organ at The University of Alabama, will perform an organ recital at Bluff Park United Methodist Church on March 4th at 4:00 pm. A reception will follow the performance. The program is titled "Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed..." and will feature works by Ronald Arnatt, Johann Sebastian Bach, César Franck, Jean Langlais, Pamela Decker, Samuel Barber, and Charles-Marie Widor. Sponsorship forms will be available at the Welcome Desk in the Narthex for those who would like to support this program and the ongoing care of our pipe organ.

LENTEN MORNING PRAYER

Lenten Morning Prayer, a service of Prayer, Scripture and Holy Communion will begin on Thursday, February 22nd at 7:30 AM in the sanctuary. The service will be held each Thursday morning during Lent. The service lasts approximately 30 minutes.

LIFETRACK: DAILY

Looking for a way to engage with God through scripture and prayer that fits the rhythm of your life? Subscribe to LifeTrack Daily. Each day you will receive an email with a morning and evening prayer and a morning and evening scripture reading. For those who prefer a printed guide, the weekly LifeTrack prayers and daily readings will be printed in the bulletin each Sunday as well. You can join the email list at BluffParkUMC.org/lifetrackdaily

MCCOY ADULT DAY CARE ROCK-A-THON

Saturday, February 24th, WE NEED YOU TO COME AND ROCK! McCoy Adult Day Care will be hosting our annual fundraiser Rock-a-Thon event at St. Marks UMC from 10am-12pm! If you are unable to attend and would like to donate, you can make a check out to the church, write McCoy Day Care in the memo line, and drop it in the offering plate. You may also give

through EasyTithe; just write McCoy Day Care in the comments section. All funds raised help cover the cost of daycare expenses for caregivers.

COLLECTING CANDY FOR EGG HUNT

Our annual Community-Wide Children's Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, March 24th, and we need your help! We are planning to hide 10,000 Easter Eggs again this year, and we are in need of candy (WITHOUT PEANUTS OR PEANUT BUTTER) to fill these eggs. If you would like to donate candy for the Egg Hunt, you can bring it to the church and drop it off in a collection bin in the Narthex or just inside either entrance on the first floor.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

The Worship Committee will be Meeting on Sunday, February 18th, at 3:00pm in the library.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Linda Bailey—UAB West
Jim Braswell—St. Vincent's

BLUFF PARK UMC PRESENTS
BOTB
BARGAINS ON THE BLUFF
A Mom and Me Consignment Sale Event

BARGAINS ON THE BLUFF
Spring/Summer Sale
February 23-24
Please help us spread the word. This sale is a great blessing to the families in our community who take part in it, and it also raises money to support the preschool and the children's ministry here at the church. The doors open at 9:00am both days.
For more details visit the website:
BluffParkUMC.org/both



Easter Lilies

Reserve your beautiful Easter Lily now to remember or honor a loved one at Easter. The cost is \$15.00 per plant payable to the church. Deadline for ordering is March 26th.

In Honor Of: _____ **by** _____
In Memory of: _____ **by** _____

Return order form and payment to the church office.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

PARENTS NIGHT OUT: The Children's Ministry at Bluff Park UMC will be offering a Parents Night Out on Saturday, February 17th! We will keep birth-5th grade children from 3:00 to 8:00, and parents can go and do whatever they want! The cost will be \$20/child with a family max of \$30! Children who attend will receive dinner, play on the playground/gym, and watch a movie. The movie will be at the end of the night, so if your child would like to come in their PJ's and/or bring a blanket or pillow, they are welcome to do so! Please register your children for this event by contacting Melissa Hendon at mhendon@bpumc.org.

NURSERY WORKERS NEEDED: The Children's Ministry currently has two openings we are trying to fill on our nursery staff. Our nursery staff watches the Preschool-aged children of our church on Sundays, Wednesdays, and/or during special church events. If you or anyone you know would be interested in applying for these positions, please contact Marcie Walters at nursery.bpumc.org.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: The Children's Ministry at Bluff Park UMC is committed to keeping our Vacation Bible School free of charge for both the children of our church and the children of our community, so that any child that wants to attend VBS can attend VBS! Please visit our booth in the Narthex to see ways that you can help us achieve this goal!

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 Kindness!

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Our Elementary Sunday School will be learning about "The Parable of the Lost Son" and our Preschool Sunday School will be learning about "Jesus Helps a Blind Man See."

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

WEEKLY SMALL GROUPS ARE FROM 6-6:30PM IN THE YOUTH WING. There are 3 groups to choose from, all guys, all girls or co-ed. You're welcome to join in at anytime, this is a great time to get to know each other and share what's going on in your life.

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS IN FEBRUARY On Wed, Feb 21st we will have a guest speaker at Holy Ground. Rev. Monica Harbarger is the Executive Director of United Counseling, a ministry of the United Methodist Church. Monica will be speaking to our students about dealing with the inevitable tough times we all go through & the curve balls life throws our way. The next week, Wed, Feb 28th she will be available to meet with all interested parents across the hall as the youth are in their worship service. This time will be for you to ask her anything about family systems, communication, handling stress, and other issues facing your teenager and you as a parent. This is a FREE event! Feel free to invite friends who may benefit from this resource. Our hope is that in the future, you will remember this great resource as an option for your family.

SERVE NIGHT! - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH Building on the key verse of Micah 6:8 that we explored at Discovery Weekend, it is time for our students to serve our neighbors and community. We will have FREE snack supper at 5pm, followed by several projects such as stocking food pantry shelves and making sandwiches for the homeless. We will cap off the night with a great dessert.

THIS WEEK

Sun, Feb 18th @ 10am	Youth Sunday School
Sun, Feb 18th @ 4-5pm	6th Grade Confirmation
Sun, Feb 18th @ 4-5pm	Holy Ground Rehearsal With Bart
Sun, Feb 18th @ 5-7pm	Snack Supper & Serve Night
Wed, Feb 21st @ 4:30	Holy Ground Rehearsal & Hang Out Time on the Youth Wing
Wed, Feb 21st @ 6pm	Small Groups (Girls Only, Guys Only & Co-ed)
Wed, Feb 21st @ 6:30pm	Guest Speaker Rev. Monica Harbarger, Executive Director United Counseling)

55+ MINISTRY

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

5—6:30pm	Conversation and Candlelight Dinner in the Faith Classroom
6:30pm	"A Biography of Simone Peter" Warren Lightfoot, Attorney at Law, explores the Life of Christ through his friend, Simone Peter. March 7th.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 20	1st Day of Spring Luncheon in the Church Parlor at noon. Catered Lunch - \$7 Dolores Hydock "Dishes the Dirt." RSVP Fran at 822-0910 Ext. 103 or fgatch@bpumc.org
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SHEPHERD'S CENTER SCHEDULE

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

February 22

"The Gardens of Emily Dickenson" with
Jason Kirby of Birmingham Botanicals
Gardens



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**NON-PROFIT ORG.
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The Week of February 18—24

Sunday, February 18

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
3:00 pm Worship Committee Meeting
4:00 pm Confirmation Class

Monday, February 19

10:00 am Prayer Shawl

Tuesday, February 20

9:30 am Becky Walker's Bible Study
6:00 pm Under the Bridge
6:00 pm Permanent Endowment
Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 21

4:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study
5:00 pm Midweek Meetup
5:30 pm Men's Chorus
6:00 pm The Reason for God Study
6:30 pm Choir
6:30 pm Mike Holly Bible Study
6:30 pm Holy Strollers

Thursday, February 22

7:30 am Lenten Morning Prayer
9:30 am Shepherd's Center
9:30 am Sewing Group
9:30 am UMW Friendship Circle
6:00 pm Handbell
6:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting
7:00 pm Book Club

Friday, February 23

9:00 am-6:00 pm Bargains on the Bluff
5:00 pm Fisherman Class Social

Saturday, February 24

9:00 am-2:00 pm Bargains on the Bluff

SUNDAY, February 18, 2018

8:45 & 11:00am Traditional Worship
1 Peter 3:18-22

"Your Chair at God's Table"

Rev. Mike Holly

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

LIFETRACK

Sunday

1 Peter 3:18-22 | Psalm 63

Monday

Ephesians 2:1-10 | Psalm 41

Tuesday

Job 5:8-27 | Psalm 47

Wednesday

Matthew 4:1-11 | Psalm 53

Thursday

Romans 3:21-31 | Psalm 60

Friday

Romans 4:1-12 | Psalm 95

Saturday

Mark 8:27-30 | Psalm 8:1-7

SERVING

Ushers

8:45 Footsteps 11:00 Davis

Acolyte

8:45 Ian Chatterton 11:00 Molly Vann

Cross

8:45 Ella Bowles 11:00 Ellie Blanchard

Meal on Wheels: Martin

Food Pantry March 7th: Richerson

Midweek Meetup February 21st: Menu - Spaghetti, corn on the cob, baked chicken, baked potato, and salad bar. Corn dogs for the kids.

Last Week's Record

February 11, 2018

Children/Youth	68/61
Traditional Worship/Gathering	410/33
Weekly Contributions Expected*	\$27,137.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$21,115.20
Annual Contributions Expected*	\$1,411,109.00
Contributions Expected to Date*	\$162,822.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$145,606.85
New Members in 2018	0

10,000 REASONS CAMPAIGN

January 1, 2017–December 31, 2019

Amount Pledged	\$1,099,621.00
Received Last Week	\$2,605.00
Received to Date	\$501,790.98

**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.