



733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

February 25, 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



In the second week of Lent, I want to remind you about the importance of belonging. Being a part of a church family means something. The relationships that we forge within the body of Christ are some of the most meaningful and the most helpful in difficult times. And yet our world continually pulls us away from deep relationships — replacing them with experiences or with easier forms of communication like social media. I want to say to you that the Christian relationships we forge in Church are more important than any others in our lives — but they take time to build. I hope and pray that each and every one of you is investing in these kind of “building up” friendships in a world that continually seems to be “tearing down.”

Next, I want to encourage you to consider how you can continue to support the ministry and mission of Bluff Park UMC. Our giving has been a bit behind our budget at the beginning of 2018. We know that people have been busy and we also have had many members battling illnesses such as the flu. Please know that we are here for you and we pray for every person connected to our church family! Please make sure that you are faithfully contributing to the ministries as we are in a vital time of year where we are gearing up for the Easter Love Gift, a mission trip to South Carolina and many other programs and ministries.

Have you seen the progress in our new building? It is so exciting to think about what our students will be doing in their new space in the fall. Think of all of those Confirmation students that are exploring our faith right now. Please pray for them and pray for the lives that will be touched in and through our new facilities!

Mike

News of the Week



COLLECTING CANDY FOR THE 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.

INSIGHTS INTO GRIEVING

The Joy Circle of the U.M.W. invites the congregation to hear Steve Sweatt, Clinical Director for Community Grief Support Services, as he shares insights into the grieving process. Steve is a licensed professional counselor, a licensed marriage and family therapist, and has served as adjunct professor of counselling at Samford University. Join us on Monday, February 26, at 10:00am, in the Fireside Room.

LENTEN MORNING PRAYER

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

HUMAN TRAFFICKING PROGRAM

According to the US Department of State the number of adults and children currently in forced labor, bonded labor and forced prostitution is 20.9 million. Male and female victims of human trafficking can be found in all types of establishments and locations, in rural, suburban and urban settings in the United States and worldwide. Even in Hoover, Alabama. Join us as Hoover Detective Nina Monosky and her team of detectives update us on what is happening in our area. All

are welcome to attend. Come and bring a friend. Monday, March 12, 10:00 am, BPUMC Fellowship Hall. RSVP required for lunch at 11:30 am - Sylvia Sumners ssumners@bellsouth.net

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

WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

The Worship Committee will be Meeting on Sunday, February 25th, at 3:30pm in the library.

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Linda Bailey—UAB West



16TH ANNUAL ORGAN RECITAL

March 4th @ 4:00 pm

Dr. Faythe Freese, Professor of Organ at The University of Alabama, will perform an organ recital at Bluff Park United Methodist Church on A reception will follow the performance. The program is titled "Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed..." and will feature works by Ronald Amatt, 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.



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

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.

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 Goodness!

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Our Elementary Sunday School will be participating in its Mission Sunday and our Preschool Sunday School will be learning about "Jesus Feeds the 5000."

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

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER FOR PARENTS ON WED, FEB 28TH FROM 6:30-7:30PM One of the goals of the Bluff Park Student Ministry is to surround each 6th-12th grader with a constellation of positive, Christ-focused relationships. We want your child to have a group of friends, Sunday School teachers, small group leaders, church members, and others who are all creating an environment where they can be themselves, relax, feel safe, make good choices, and become lifelong, dedicated disciples of Jesus Christ. We hope we can add another person to that constellation. Rev. Monica Harbarger is a licensed professional counselor, a deacon in the United Methodist Church, a former youth director, and is currently the director of United Counseling (a ministry of the United Methodist Church providing professional counseling for more than 45 years.) On Wed, Feb 28th she will be hosting an "Ask Me Anything" session for parents in the Fireside Room while the youth are in Holy Ground Worship. 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.

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.

THIS WEEK

Sun, Feb 25th @ 10am	Youth Sunday School
Sun, Feb 25th @ 4-5pm 6th	Grade Confirmation Class
Sun, Feb 25th @ 5-7pm	Dinner Out @ Bob Baumhower's in Patton Creek
Wed, Feb 28th @ 4:30pm	Holy Ground Rehearsal & Hang Out Time on the Youth Wing
Wed, Feb 28th @ 6pm	Small Groups (Girls Only, Guys Only & Co-ed)
Wed, Feb 28th @ 6:30-7:30pm	Holy Ground Worship

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. Dolores Hydock "Dishes the Dirt." Catered Lunch \$7 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!

March 1

"The Unexpected Life" Teresa Richardson presents a life with surprise events

March 8

"Drexel and Friends" Bluegrass and Gospel Band



Bluff Park United Methodist Church

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(205) 822-0910

**NON-PROFIT ORG.
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Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org
Facilities Manager,
Chad Malcom, cmalcom@bpumc.org

The Week of February 25—March 3

Sunday, February 25

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
1:00 pm Strategic Implementation Team
3:30 pm Worship Committee Meeting
4:00 pm Confirmation Class

Monday, February 26

10:00 am Prayer Shawl
10:00 am UMW Hope-Love Circles
10:00 am UMW Joy Circle

Tuesday, February 27

9:30 am Becky Walker's Bible Study

Wednesday, February 28

9:00 am Building Committee
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 AMA for Parents of Teens w/
Rev. Monica Harbarger

6:30 pm Choir

6:30 pm Mike Holly Bible Study
6:30 pm Holy Strollers

Thursday, March 1

7:30 am Lenten Morning Prayer
9:30 am Shepherd's Center
9:30 am Sewing Group
6:00 pm Handbell

Friday, March 2

5:00 pm Preschool Pajama Party

SUNDAY, February 25, 2018

8:45 & 11:00am Traditional Worship

Mark 8:31-38

"The Biggest Loser"

Rev. Mike Holly

11:00am The Gathering at Bluff Park

Rev. John Carl Hastings

LIFETRACK

Sunday

Mark 8:31-38 | Psalm 29

Monday

Genesis 21:1-7 | Psalm 57

Tuesday

Genesis 22:1-19 | Psalm 61

Wednesday

John 12:36-43 | Psalm 72

Thursday

1 Peter 2:4-10 | Psalm 70

Friday

Exodus 19:9-15 | Psalm 73

Saturday

Exodus 19:16-25 | Psalm 23

SERVING

Ushers

8:45 Montz 11:00 Lawson

Acolyte

8:45 Natalie Self 11:00 Emma Ruth Cooper

Cross

8:45 Cadence Ward 11:00 Mary El Neal

Meal on Wheels: Wesson & Brown

Food Pantry March 7th: Richerson

Midweek Meetup February 28th: Menu -
Hamburger steak, rice, green beans, baked
chicken, baked potato, and salad bar. Chicken
fingers for the kids.

Last Week's Record

February 18, 2018

Children/Youth	79/42
Traditional Worship/Gathering	489/51
Weekly Contributions Expected*	\$27,137.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$20,389.00
Annual Contributions Expected*	\$1,411,109.00
Contributions Expected to Date*	\$189,959.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$165,995.85
New Members in 2018	1

10,000 REASONS CAMPAIGN

January 1, 2017—December 31, 2019

Amount Pledged	\$1,099,621.00
Received Last Week	\$3,178.33
Received to Date	\$504,969.31

**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.