



733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226  
205.822.0910

# BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 11, 2018

*Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life*

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



**W**e are moving through the season of Lent and have shared time together at the Lord's Table for three Sundays in a row. This might have felt like a surprise for many of you, but the concept of treating each and every Sunday as a festive celebration is not new at all. Sundays throughout the year are described as "little Easters" by some in church history.

The idea is that the Sunday worship service is the place in which we (week after week) come together as a gathering of God's people to celebrate that God has raised Jesus Christ from the dead.

The season of Lent is a great place to see this in action. We tell you each and every year at the beginning of Lent that it is a season of forty days of spiritual growth. For those of you who have not actually looked at the calendar, you may not have noticed that there are more than forty days between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday. And why is that? It is because Sundays do not count in the forty days of Easter as they are days for worshipping God and celebrating together that Jesus is risen.

In a way, keeping the Sabbath holy takes precedence over the practice of celebrating a holy Lent. And celebrating together as a church family at God's table (the altar table) is a subtle reminder of this truth. God's command for us to gather together in worship and celebrate what God has and will do for us is a very vital part of our life together as a church family. I hope that this season of Lent is very meaningful to each and every one of you and that you find yourself closer to God and to one another!

*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.

## EASTER LOVE OFFERING

During the season of Lent we always receive our Easter Love Offering. This offering goes to support many of the mission agencies that we work with throughout the year. They include: Firehouse Men's Shelter, First Light Women's Shelter, Habitat for Humanity, McCoy Older Adult Day Care, Meals on Wheels, NeverThirst, Rise Against Hunger, United Community Centers and Urban Ministry, Inc. Each of these ministries provides vital services to the communities they serve. Our generosity through the Easter Love Offering enables each of them to continue to serve those in need.

## CHILE INTEREST MEETING

If you have any interest in serving on this year's Volunteer in Missions team to Chile you are invited to attend an interested persons meeting on Wednesday March 21st at 6:30 PM. The meeting will be held in the church library. We will discuss the destination, the type of work and answer any questions you might have. The dates for our trip this year are June 29 to July 14, 2018.

## SOUTH CAROLINA VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION

It is not too late to be a member of our Volunteers in Mission team to South Carolina. The dates for our trip are March 25 to 31, 2018. If you want to be on the team contact Tom Duley at 822-0910 ext 112 or [tduley@bpumc.org](mailto:tduley@bpumc.org).

## 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](mailto: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](http://BluffParkUMC.org/lifetrackdaily)

## GARDENS ON THE BLUFF

We have a few plots available for the community garden at BPUMC for the 2018 growing season. If you would like a 4' X 8' raised bed garden with soil, amendments, water and guidance provided contact Jan Rogers at [jan2rogers@gmail.com](mailto:jan2rogers@gmail.com) for information or to reserve a plot. The cost for a plot for 1 year is \$20. We will have a work session in the gardens on March 17 from 9am–noon. We will plant on April 21st. Reservations needed ASAP. Join us for fun and a great harvest!

## NEW WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

A new 3-week Bible study of the Reformation will begin on Wednesday, March 14, at 6:00 pm in the Seekers Classroom. If you would like to participate in this new learning opportunity, please email Tina Hardy at [tina\\_hardy@kindermorgan.com](mailto:tina_hardy@kindermorgan.com).

## SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION...

Our sympathy is extended to Ginny Nash on the passing of her husband George on February 28th. Our prayers are with the family in their time of sorrow.

## IN THE HOSPITAL...

Linda Bailey—UAB West  
Frances Pope—Lakeshore  
Marjie Dulin—St. Vincent's



## 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](mailto: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'll see you there!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Our Elementary Sunday School will be learning about "Jesus and Peter Walking on Water" and our Preschool Sunday School lesson will be on "Jesus Welcomed to Jerusalem!"

**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 Gentleness!

**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, please email [mhendon@bpumc.org](mailto:mhendon@bpumc.org).

## STUDENT MINISTRY

**SUNDAY, MARCH 11TH FROM 5-7PM... IT'S TIME FOR LUMBERJACK GAMES!** This is a great night to invite your friends! For \$5 we'll have dinner, the Log Jammer and games for a little friendly competition with some other local Student Ministries.

**MARCH HOLY GROUND SERIES: TAKE UP YOUR CROSS... WHAT IT REALLY MEANS TO FOLLOW JESUS.** On Wednesday evenings in March, we'll be exploring what it really means to follow Jesus as a teenager in modern society. The challenges you face and burdens you carry are tough. We want to be a source of encouragement through life's struggles. We hope you will find help in applying Christ's teachings to your everyday life.

**WEEKLY SMALL GROUPS ARE EVERY WEDNESDAY 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.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** *Adventure Camp at Whitewater Express* is June 22nd-24th, *ASP Mission Trip* is July 8th-14th.

### THIS WEEK

Sun, March 11th @ 10am	Youth Sunday School
Sun, March 11th @ 4-5pm	6th Grade Confirmation Class
Sun, March 11th @ 5-7pm	Lumberjack Games
Wed, March 14th @ 4:30pm	Holy Ground Rehearsal & Hang Out Time on the Youth Wing
Wed, March 14th @ 6pm	Small Groups (Girls Only, Guys Only & Co-ed)
Wed, March 14th @ 6:30-7:30pm	Holy Ground Worship

## 55+ MINISTRY

### WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

5-6:30pm	Conversation and Candlelight Dinner in the Faith Class room
6:30pm	"Evidence for the Resurrection of Christ" Warren Lightfoot, Attorney at Law, gives evidence from a legal point of view. April 4th.

### 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 <a href="mailto:fgatch@bpumc.org">fgatch@bpumc.org</a>
April 10	Trip To Botanical Gardens. We depart the church at 10:00am

### SHEPHERD'S CENTER SCHEDULE

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

March 15

"History of Flight" by Charlie Phillips,  
Birmingham Museum of Flight





## Bluff Park United Methodist Church

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

**NON-PROFIT ORG.  
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BIRMINGHAM, AL  
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### 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, jpitar@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 March 11—17

### Sunday, March 11—Daylight Saving Time Begins

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  
12:30 pm Youth Council  
4:00 pm Confirmation Class  
4:30 pm Children's Council

### Monday, March 12

8:00 am UMW Executive Committee  
9:00 am Human Trafficking Program  
10:00 am Prayer Shawl

### Tuesday, March 13

8:30 am Maintenance  
9:30 am Becky Walker's Bible Study  
6:00 pm Under the Bridge

### Wednesday, March 14

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 Handbell  
6:00 pm Reformation Bible Study  
6:30 pm Choir  
6:30 pm Holy Strollers

### Thursday, March 15

7:30 am Lenten Morning Prayer  
9:30 am Shepherd's Center  
9:30 am Sewing Group

**SUNDAY, March 11, 2018**  
8:45 & 11:00am Traditional Worship  
John 3:14-21  
*"It's Not Always About You or Me"*  
Rev. Tom Duley

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

### LIFETRACK

#### Sunday

John 3:14-21 | Psalm 19

#### Monday

Exodus 15:22-27 | Psalm 89:1-18

#### Tuesday

1 Corinthians 10:6-13 | Psalm 99

#### Wednesday

John 8:12-20 | Psalm 101

#### Thursday

Isaiah 30:15-18 | Psalm 73

#### Friday

Hebrews 4:14-5:4 | Psalm 102:1-22

#### Saturday

John 12:1-11 | Psalm 33

### SERVING

#### Ushers

8:45 Nelson 11:00 Dover

#### Acolyte

8:45 Ella Bowles 11:00 Rebekah Rice

#### Cross

8:45 Ian Chatterton 11:00 Miller Rice

#### Meal on Wheels: Martin

Food Pantry April 4th: Sumners

Midweek Meetup March 14th: Menu - Baked ham, mac and cheese, fried okra, baked chicken, baked potato, and salad bar. Chicken fingers for the kids.

## Last Week's Record

March 4, 2018

Children/Youth	96/50
Traditional Worship/Gathering	455/49
Weekly Contributions Expected*	\$27,137.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$32,241.28
Annual Contributions Expected*	\$1,411,109.00
Contributions Expected to Date*	\$244,233.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$222,443.29
New Members in 2018	2

### 10,000 REASONS CAMPAIGN

January 1, 2017—December 31, 2019

Amount Pledged	\$1,099,621.00
Received Last Week	\$3,444.00
Received to Date	\$512,364.31

*\*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.