



733 Valley Street
Hoover, AL 35226
205.822.0910

BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 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



Holy Week is almost here and yet again we find that our calendars are interrupting the Christian calendar.

Spring break (formerly AEA) begins on Palm Sunday weekend and ends around the time of Easter. Not only that, but this year Easter Sunday falls on April Fools Day. I know that this all means that we will have people coming and going during an important time in the life of our church. And it also means that our focus will be spread somewhat away from what Jesus did and experienced in his final week.

Palm Sunday begins the annual practice of looking at Jesus' final week from his entrance into Jerusalem as people waved palm branches and proclaiming him as one like a king to the point at which the crowds turn on him and beg for his crucifixion. If you have not yet signed up to receive the LifeTrack Daily e-mail devotional, I urge you to do so in order that you will have the ability to stay in tune with Holy Week even while you may be away on vacation with friends or family. Another way to participate in the LifeTrack daily Scripture reading and prayer plan is to visit the following website every week: bluffparkumc.live

Please be in prayer for our church and its future during this important time as we seek to witness to our faith and help others seek God and find life!

Mike

News of the Week



2018 EASTER EGG HUNT

Our annual Children's Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast will be held on Saturday, March 24th from 9-11. Come as a family and invite your friends to breakfast, pictures with the Easter Bunny, an Easter Egg Hunt with 10,000 eggs, special prize eggs hidden for each age group, and more! Breakfast starts at 9 and the Egg Hunt starts at 10! You don't want to miss it!

RECOGNITION OF RETIRING CHOIR MEMBERS

On Sunday, March 18, during the 11:00 am worship service we will be recognizing Cary Moore, Charlotte Word, Jean Clemons, and Julia Hughes for their years of dedication to the Bluff Park UMC choir.

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. The Easter Love Offering is sponsored by the BPUMC United Appeal Fund.

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.

USHERS WANTED

Have you noticed the wonderful people handing out bulletins before worship and taking up the offering each and every Sunday? These volunteers are serving as ushers and we are in need of two more teams! For instance, we are looking for a volunteer to lead a team of 8 people to serve at the 11:00 am Traditional Worship Service on the first Sunday of every odd month (May, July, September, etc.) If you are interested and have some willing friends, please contact Brenda in the church office: batkins@bpumc.org/205-822-0910

IN THE HOSPITAL...

Frances Pope—Covenant Place

Margie Dulin—Aspire

Julia Hughes—Brookwood



On April 15th–17th, Bluff Park UMC will join with several other churches, schools, and civic organizations from the Vestavia/Hoover area to pack nutritious meals to be sent overseas to relieve hunger. This project will be carried out in conjunction with Rise Against Hunger (formerly Stop Hunger Now), an organization dedicated to eradicating world hunger.

We are encouraging groups from the church to volunteer together, but *each individual must register separately*. If you have any problems accessing the website to register, contact the church office for assistance.

To sign-up as a volunteer visit:

BluffParkUMC.org/riseagainsthunger



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

EASTER EGG HUNT: Our annual Children's Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast will be held on Saturday, March 24th from 9-11. Come as a family and invite your friends to breakfast, pictures with the Easter Bunny, an Easter Egg Hunt with 10,000 eggs, special prize eggs hidden for each age group, and more! Breakfast starts at 9 and the Egg Hunt starts at 10! You don't want to miss it!

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!

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Our Elementary Sunday School will be taught by Bart Styes this Sunday and our Preschool Sunday School lesson will be on "Jesus Dies on the Cross."

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 Faithfulness!

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 18TH FROM 5-7PM... SNACK SUPPER & SERVE NIGHT! We may try to break our record of making 200 PB & J's in one night to feed our homeless brothers and sisters! We'll also be re-stocking and helping organize the food pantry and several other projects. With warmer weather & longer daylight hours approaching, we are always open to suggestions for projects our students can help with during our monthly serve nights. If you know of church members or others in the community who may need help from our Student Ministry with a little yard work, gutters cleaned or touch up painting done during the warm weather months, please let me Meghan know (205-400-3773 or mbohanan@bpumc.org) and we'll see what we can do!

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.

SPRING BREAK: SUNDAY, MARCH 25TH - SUNDAY, APRIL 1ST Please note that during Spring Break week we will NOT have our regular Student Ministry Activities. No Sunday evening activities on March 25th or April 1st, also no Wednesday night activities on Wednesday, March 28th. It's Easter Week, so the church will be open and we will have several opportunities for families to worship together that week. Check the church calendar for our Easter Week schedule!.

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

THIS WEEK

Sun, March 18th @ 10am
Sun, March 18th @ 4-5pm
Sun, March 18th @ 5-7pm
Wed, March 21st @ 4:30pm
Wed, March 21st @ 6pm Small
Wed, March 21st @ 6:30-7:30pm

Youth Sunday School
6th Grade Confirmation Class
Serve Night
Holy Ground Rehearsal & Hang Out Time on the Youth Wing
Groups (Girls Only, Guys Only & Co-ed)
Holy Ground Worship

55+ MINISTRY

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

5-6:30pm **Conversation and Candlelight Dinner** in the Faith Class room

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 20 **1st Day of Spring Luncheon** in the Fellowship Hall at noon. Dolores Hydock "Dishes the Dirt." Catered Lunch \$7 RSVP Fran at 822-0910 Ext. 103 or fgatch@bpumc.org

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!



Bluff Park United Methodist Church

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Hoover, AL 35226
(205) 822-0910

**NON-PROFIT ORG.
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Pastors

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

The Week of March 18—24

Sunday, March 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
4:00 pm Confirmation Class

Monday, March 19

10:00 am Prayer Shawl

Tuesday, March 20

9:30 am Becky Walker's Bible Study
12:00 pm 1st Day of Spring Luncheon
6:00 pm Under the Bridge

Wednesday, March 21

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 22

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

Friday, March 23

5:00 pm Fisherman Class Social

Saturday, March 24

9:00 am Easter Egg Hunt

SUNDAY, March 18, 2018
8:45 & 11:00am Traditional Worship
Jeremiah 31:31-34
"These Are The Days"
Rev. Mike Holly

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

LIFETRACK

Sunday
Jeremiah 31:31-34 | Psalm 145
Monday
2 Corinthians 3:4-11 | Psalm 132
Tuesday
Acts 2:14-24 | Psalm 121
Wednesday
John 12:34-50 | Psalm 128
Thursday
Philippians 2:1-11 | Psalm 140
Friday
Philippians 2:12-18 | Psalm 141
Saturday
Mark 10:46-52 | Psalm 8

SERVING

Ushers
8:45 McDonald 11:00 Youth
Acolyte
8:45 Cadence Ward 11:00 Abbey Gray
Cross
8:45 Natalie Self 11:00 Julie Cate Gray
Meal on Wheels: Chambers
Food Pantry April 4th: Summers
Midweek Meetup March 21st: Menu - Chicken casserole, blended vegetables, baked chicken, baked potato, and salad bar. Chicken fingers for the kids.

Last Week's Record

March 11, 2018

Children/Youth	97/48
Traditional Worship/Gathering	381/53
Weekly Contributions Expected*	\$27,137.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$21,786.54
Annual Contributions Expected*	\$1,411,109.00
Contributions Expected to Date*	\$271,370.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$244,229.83
New Members in 2018	3

10,000 REASONS CAMPAIGN

January 1, 2017–December 31, 2019

Amount Pledged	\$1,099,621.00
Received Last Week	\$1,600.00
Received to Date	\$513,964.31

**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.