



733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226  
205.822.0910

# BLUFF PARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 25, 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

### 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**elcome to Holy Week 2018! I hope this week is a time spent in prayer and reflection for you

whether you are here in town or whether you are away for Spring Break. Because it is Spring Break, we will not have our Midweek Meetup this Wednesday evening. We will have Holy Week worship services in the main Sanctuary on Maundy Thursday and on Good Friday. These services are always such meaningful and powerful ways of putting ourselves into the place of Jesus during this time of faithfulness, sorrow and hope. If you are not in town for Holy Week, I hope you will consider joining the LifeTrack Daily e-mail devotional so that you can engage with the Scriptures and prayers to help guide you through this special week.

During his final week, Jesus spent a lot of time in the Temple in Jerusalem confronting the religious leaders and the ways in which the people were distracted from seeing him for who he is and from living the way that God called His people to live. The Temple was such a busy place, which makes me realize that spiritually distracted people can be doing things that they think are important and vital but end up being the opposite of what God would have us do. People were coming and going...but were not technically growing. The season of Lent is a season of focus. We give up our distractions by taking on something that helps us focus on God or by giving up something that distracts our hearts from God. If you have not been able to find focus this Lent, I hope you will give it a try beginning this Palm Sunday. May your soul find focus and rest as you walk in the footsteps of Christ in this holy season.

*Mike*

# News of the Week

## ANNUAL CHURCH WIDE BBQ

The Bluff Park UMC annual barbecue has raised funds for over 20 years to help with the maintenance and expansion of our church building and grounds. The event is happening Friday, April 13th from 4-6pm and Saturday, April 14th, from 10am-3pm (Boston Butt pickup on Saturday.) It's time for Sunday school classes to sell BBQ tickets. You can help by giving door prizes to the church office, or by purchasing tickets from your Sunday school class or at the main office! To reserve a Boston Butt, call Brenda in the church office.

## SPRING SERVE DAY

Our Spring Serve Day is coming up on Saturday, April 21st, and the BPUMC Serve Team is looking for people in our neighborhood who could use a helping hand with spring cleanup. If you know someone in our community who could use help with yard work or light exterior projects, call the church office or email us and share their contact information. Do you want to be the hands and feet of Jesus in Bluff Park? Become a serve team volunteer! We'll have a sign-up table in the narthex on Sunday mornings April 1, 8, and 15. You can also sign up online at the church website.

## DINNER FOR EIGHT

Dinner for Eight is a potluck dinner for eight people which will be held one time at the home of a host church member. This is a great way to get to know others in the Bluff Park congregation that you may not normally have the opportunity to meet. Please sign up on Sunday in your Sunday School Class or at the Welcome Center. You will be contacted by your host to schedule your group's dinner.

## 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.

## WANTED: CRAFTY PEOPLE

"The Prayer Shawls Ministry is in need of crafty people who want to crochet or knit! If you don't know how, we will teach you (even if you are left handed like me! :) We meet Monday mornings at 10am on the 3rd floor. This is a very rewarding ministry. Those who receive shawls feel so comforted and tell us they feel so blessed! We are a happy, friendly group and we'd love to have you join us. Contact Kandis Scudder for more details @ 985-9463.

## FLOWER MINISTRY UPDATE

The flower ministry at BPUMC delivered 158 flower arrangements to 92 different people in 2017. We had 8 people arranging the flowers and 9 people delivering the flowers.

## IN THE HOSPITAL...

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](http://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

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** This year's Vacation Bible School is Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus! VBS will be held on July 16th-20th from 8:30-12:00 each day. Online registration is now open! To register visit: <http://bluffparkumc.org/vbs-2018/>. We look forward to seeing you there!

**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).

**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 and Preschool Sunday School lessons will be about the Easter story this week!

**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 Self-Control!

**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](mailto:mhendon@bpumc.org).

## STUDENT MINISTRY

**SPRING BREAK: SUNDAY, MARCH 25TH - SUNDAY, APRIL 1ST** Please note that during Spring Break week we will NOT have our regular Student Ministry Evening 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 on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and of course, Easter Sunday! Check the church calendar for our Easter Week schedule!

**APRIL HOLY GROUND SERIES: MORNING, NOON & NIGHT... DAY BY DAY DEVOTED** On Wednesday evenings in April, we'll be learning what it means to commit each day and season of our lives to Christ, the good times and the bad. Also, how to keep our eyes, ears and hearts open to God in some of the most unexpected places of our everyday lives. Ministry can happen anytime, and we want to be tuned in to the Holy Spirit's leadings even in the seemingly mundane tasks of 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 25th @ 10am

Sun, March 25th

Wed, March 28th

Youth Sunday School

SPRING BREAK WEEK—No Sunday Evening Activities

SPRING BREAK WEEK—No Midweek Activities

## 55+ MINISTRY

### WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

5–6:30pm Conversation and Candlelight Dinner in the Faith Classroom

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**April 10** Trip to Birmingham Botanical Gardens - Lunch @ Cafe, tour, Shop – No Entrance Fee Bring your camera! 10am RSVP: [fgatch@bpumc.org](mailto:fgatch@bpumc.org)

**April 17** “Birmingham Heroes Luncheon” Tuesday, April 17 @ Noon (FH) “Andrew Gerow Hodges”, Birmingham’s WWII Hero, presented by Denise George, Writer for Penguin – Catered Lunch – \$15

**April 20** Trip to Fontanel Mansion and Gardens Home of Barbara Mandrell - Franklin, TN Tour, Lunch, Antiques, Winery, Shop Friday, April 20 @ 7 AM Professional Tour Guide, bus & all expenses. Total payment due April 2. Information in the church office, and Narthex. Sylvia Sumners for more information 824-9902.

**May 9** Trip to Aliceville’s Military History Museum. Fascinating Curator Program, Lunch, Tour - Special connection to Elizabeth Davis and Carol & Pat Westbrook.

### SHEPHERD'S CENTER SCHEDULE

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

**March 29**  
Holy Week!

**April 5th**  
“Then Sings my Soul” - The Rev. Buddy Majors

**April 10**  
Trip to Birmingham Botanical Gardens

**May 9**  
Trip to Aliceville's Military Museum



## Bluff Park United Methodist Church

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

**NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
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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  
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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 25—31

**Sunday, March 25—Palm Sunday**  
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  
**Monday, March 26**  
9:30 am UMW Hope-Love Circles  
10:00 am UMW Joy Circle  
10:00 am Prayer Shawl  
**Tuesday, March 27**  
9:30 am Becky Walker's Bible Study  
**Wednesday, March 28**  
9:00 am Building Committee Meeting  
5:30 pm Men's Chorus  
6:00 pm Handbell  
6:30 pm Choir  
**Thursday, March 29**  
7:30 am Lenten Morning Prayer  
9:30 am Shepherd's Center  
9:30 am Sewing Group  
6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Worship  
**Friday, March 30**  
6:30 pm Good Friday Worship

**SUNDAY, March 25, 2018**  
8:45 & 11:00am Traditional Worship  
Philippians 2:1-13  
*"The Road Less Traveled"*  
Rev. Mike Holly  
11:00am The Gathering at Bluff Park  
Rev. John Carl Hastings  
**LIFETRACK**  
**Palm Sunday**  
Mark 11:1-11 | Psalm 24  
**Monday**  
John 12:1-11 | Psalm 51  
**Tuesday**  
John 12:20-36 | Psalm 12  
**Wednesday**  
John 13:1-17 | Psalm 74  
**Maundy Thursday**  
John 13:18-35 | Psalm 142  
**Good Friday**  
Hebrews 4:14-5:9 | Psalm 22  
**Saturday**  
John 19:38-42 | Psalm 88

### SERVING

#### Ushers

8:45 Chatterton 11:00 Lawson

#### Acolyte

8:45 Spencer Schillaci 11:00 Tate Turner

#### Cross

8:45 Matthew Pitts 11:00 Molly Vann

**Meal on Wheels: Shultz & Hardy**

**Food Pantry April 4th: Sumners**

**Midweek Meetup March 28th:**

**Spring Break Vacation—No Midweek Meal!**

## Last Week's Record

March 18, 2018

Children/Youth	105/55
Traditional Worship/Gathering	495/42
Weekly Contributions Expected*	\$27,137.00
Weekly Contributions Received	\$26,383.36
Annual Contributions Expected*	\$1,411,109.00
Contributions Expected to Date*	\$298,507.00
Contributions Received to Date	\$270,613.19
New Members in 2018	3

### 10,000 REASONS CAMPAIGN

January 1, 2017–December 31, 2019

Amount Pledged	\$1,099,621.00
Received Last Week	\$6,720.33
Received to Date	\$520,684.64

*\*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.