



BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Good Friday Worship Service

On Friday, April 19th at 6:30pm we will gather in the Sanctuary for our Good Friday worship service where we focus on the Passion story and prepare our hearts for Easter. This year's service is going to be very special.

Under the leadership of director Art DeWeese, our choir has been preparing special music to perform during the worship service.

In past years this has been a service of lessons and hymns. But the music this year will be a balance of hymns and choral arrangements.

The choir has been logging many extra hours of rehearsal to prepare for Holy Week as we gather to meet our risen Savior.



Celebrate EASTER

Lent and Easter Schedule 2019

Lenten Morning Prayer

Thursdays, April 4th, 11th, and 18th

Passover Seder Meal Experience

Wednesday, April 3, 2019

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 13th

Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 14th

Maundy Thursday Worship

Thursday, April 18th

Good Friday Worship

Friday, April 19th

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 21st

Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life

www.BluffParkUMC.org

Sunday Morning

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP 8:45 & 11:00 am

THE GATHERING AT BLUFF PARK: 11:00 am

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45 am

Nursery care available all morning!

Care Contact Information

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Our Staff

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Our faith, our lives, and our ministries take on a new life when the stories are shared with others. Help us tell God's story of love as it unfolds in our church and community. Send news, photos, videos, and stories to newsletter@bpumc.org

Message from the Pastor

Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday which this year falls on April 14. It is always a touching moment to see our children wave palm branches as we sing of Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. But this is not an easy week. It is full of frustration and pain as the savior of the world walked among the very people who would turn their backs upon him and turn him over to be crucified. Holy Thursday (also known as Maundy Thursday) marks the occasion in Scripture where we are given the Lord's Supper (or Holy Communion). We will hold a Maundy Thursday worship service in the Sanctuary at 6:30 pm with Holy Communion and optional foot-washing that will help you connect with those sacred moments where Jesus dined with his disciples on the last night of their time together before the cross. I hope you will consider participating in the optional foot-washing where you have an intimate opportunity to serve someone else in the way that Jesus served his own disciples.

On Good Friday, we will have a service at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary where we will journey with Christ through his final day with the Stations of the Cross service. This service includes fourteen Scripture readings and many different moving songs that help you connect with the very footsteps of Jesus on the way to give his life for all humankind. Then, on Easter Sunday, our services will be held at 8:45 and 11:00 am in the Sanctuary and at 11:00 am in the Chapel for the Gathering. Easter Sunday is a wonderful time to bring family or even friends seeking a church home to worship. This high and holy Sunday is a moment of victory for God and a moment of celebration for Christians!

We hope you will continue on your Lenten journey with your Bluff Park UMC family as we move toward Holy Week. May God be with you on the journey!.

Mike



Mission and Ministry Updates

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 Shelter, First Light, Fountain of Love-Fairhaven, McCoy Adult Day Care, Meals on Wheels, United Community Center, Inc., Urban Ministry, Inc., Chile Mission Team, and Rise Against Hunger. 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.

USHER TEAM NEEDED

We are in need of an Usher Team for the 11:00 am Traditional Worship Service. This would be for the first Sunday of every odd month (May, July, September, November, January, and March). Please contact Rev. Mike Holly to inquire about how you can build a team!

DONATIONS NEEDED: PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawls Ministry is in need of some cotton material so that receiving blankets can be made for babies in African countries. If you can donate at least a yard of cotton material we would be grateful. Julia Glass' sister is a doctor who travels with a group to Africa several times a year. They pass out receiving blankets to new mothers while they are there. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, make it to The Prayer Shawls Ministry. Thanks! Kandis Scudder (kandisscudder@mac.com)

23RD ANNUAL BPUMC BBQ

The annual barbecue is coming up April 12th from 5-7pm and April 13th from 10am-3pm. On Friday, you can stop by and purchase takeout BBQ sandwiches. On Saturday we'll be selling sandwiches and BBQ by the plate with baked beans, coleslaw, a roll, and a drink—takeout or eat-in. You can also purchase meat by the pound on Saturday. To reserve a Boston Butt, call the church office: 205.822.0910. Boston Butt pickup is on Saturday.



APRIL 28-30, 2019
VHUMC LIGHTHOUSE
for more information & to register
visit vhumc.org
VESTAVIA HILLS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ANNUAL BAKE SALE

There will be a Bake Sale in coordination with the BBQ on April 12 and 13th. We need bakers and volunteers to make this annual event a big success. Bake goods needed: Cakes, cupcakes, pies, cookies, candy, trail mix, brownies, lemon bars, breads, or anything else in the dessert/snack category. Bring your goodies to the church Fellowship Hall anytime Friday, April 12th. Please package treats ready for sale. Volunteers are needed to help with the sale Friday, noon to 6:00pm and Saturday, 9:00am to 3:00pm. Contact Peggy Comer at pcomer@bellsouth.net.



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 April 15th.

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

Return order form and payment to the church office.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

The Children's Ministry's annual Community-Wide Children's Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 13th from 9:00-11:00! This is one of our larger community events, and our primary goals at this event are to develop relationships with families in our community, to invite people to attend one of our amazing worship services, to invite the children of our community to register for Vacation Bible School, and to have a lot of fun! The Pit Crew will also be selling barbeque that morning, and the Student Ministry will be having a Car Wash fundraiser. If you are able, we would love as many members and families of our church as possible to attend the Easter Egg Hunt this year and help us shine the light of Jesus Christ as we welcome our community to Bluff Park UMC.

We also want to let everyone know that Camp on the Bluff, our free skills-based summer camp geared towards children in our community and children of our church, is full with 120 children registered. Each day, the children will learn the basic skills of cooking, intro to sports, arts and crafts, gardening, cheerleading, or science. Everyone who attends will also hear a Bible lesson each day designed to teach them the basics of the Christian faith. In addition to Camp on the Bluff, Vacation Bible School already has 130 children registered, and we are expecting many more to sign up between now and the event! With all of these children at our church this summer, we are in need of A LOT of volunteers. If you would be interested in helping at one of these events, but especially VBS, would you please contact Melissa Hendon at mhendon@bpumc.org. We have volunteer roles for everyone!



STUDENT MINISTRY

Searching for Seniors!!!

We are looking for all our graduating Seniors to celebrate them on Senior Sunday this May 19th. We will have breakfast and a special ceremony during the 11am traditional worship service. This is an event opened to all Seniors not just our active students! Please register your Senior with Melissa Hendon by emailing her at mhendon@bpumc.org to let her know you have someone that would like to participate!

Appalachian Service Project—Early Bird Registration

ASP is only for rising 9th-12th graders. Early Bird Registration for ASP is now through April 30th.. The cost of Early Bird registration is \$400. Here is the link: <http://bluffparkumc.org/students/sundays/>

Regular ASP Registration opens May 1st-June 1st. The cost will be \$500 each. **Please note, ASP money CAN NOT BE Refunded.**

Let's Hit the Beach

Registration is now open!!! The cost of the trip is \$200 per student. If your student would like to attend you will need to pay \$50 now to hold their spot. In April you will need to pay the next \$50 installment and the final \$100 will be due in May. THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS!! So check the calendar before you register. Click here to register: <http://bluffparkumc.org/students/sundays/>

We will be staying at the Main Campus of Laguna Beach Christian Retreat in Panama City Florida. If you would like to check it out, here is their website: <https://christiancamp.com/accommodation/abraham-house-dorm/>

This link takes you to the Dorm that we will be staying in. It's across the street from the beach. It looks pretty sweet guys.

Adults check your calendars too as *we will be needing chaperones!* The dates are June 10th-14th. More details will be sent closer to the event!

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

"Conversation and Candlelight" ~ Gather 5-6:30pm in the Faith Classroom

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ballroom Dance Lessons with Bill and Paulette Pearson

First and Third Mondays of April-June from 5:30 - 6:30 in the first floor Gym. Three Month Session includes the basics of East Coast Swing, Rumba and Waltz. Singles and couples of all ages are welcome. Starts April 1st. Sign up with Bill Pearson - bpwp@bellsouth.net

Alabama Symphony Orchestra Presents: Harry Potter, Friday, April 12

The Concert Series Group will attend the ASO SuperPops presentation of Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets. Samford Wright Theatre.

Take a Walk in the Park with host Bill Pearson, Saturday April 13 Tannehill Ironworks Historic State Park 10:00 a.m. We will meet our tour guide at the Iron and Steel Museum for a 20 minute overview of the park and the history of the area. The guide will take us on a short walk to the furnace area. After a brief tour of the furnace we will embark on a .75 mile walk on a wide and flat walking trail. At anytime one can easily return to the parking area. At the end of the trail we will walk another .5 mile board the train to take us back to the parking area. Sign up in your Sunday School class, in the Narthex or Church Office. For more information contact Bill Pearson - bpwp@bellsouth.net.

Nashville in July. Make plans to join us for a summer show trip to Nashville, Tennessee July 15-17. Information Is available in the Narthex and in your Sunday School class. More information available from Sylvia Sumners, 482-5680, ssumners@bellsouth.net.

The Open Door Café

Exercise—9:45 AM—Meet & Greet—
10 AM—Programs - 10:30 AM -
Lunch—11:30 AM—Games & Movies—12:30pm

Thursdays In The Fireside Room
All are Welcome!

April 4

Let's Talk About Fake News

Clare Huddleston, WBRC Anchor

April 11

Easter

Rev. Angela Martin will give our spirits a lift.

April 18

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
Board member Glenn Morgan will tell us all about the Birmingham Chapter.

April 25

"Our Product is Changed Lives"

Tony Cooper, Executive Director of the Jimmie Hale Mission



Let's Talk About Fake News

"Over 65? You were more likely to share fake news in 2016. Researchers found younger people posted much less misinformation on Facebook in 2016."

This is the headline from an article posted in The Birmingham News January 11, 2019, which summarized the results of a major study. On April 4th, Clare Huddleston, anchor and reporter for WBRC in Birmingham, will discuss the topic of Fake News with us. Clare graduated magna cum laude from the University of Alabama with a double major in Broadcast News and Spanish. She has earned several top honors from the Associated Press including Best News Anchor, Best Spot News Story, Best Sports Feature, and Best Sports Story. Plus++ Clare, her husband John, and their children are members of our church. Join us in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, April 4th, 10:30 am, followed by lunch at 11:30.

Staff Parish Relations Committee Updates

Ministerial Staff

Nothing new to report at this time. We will know by Sunday, April 28, about the appointments of our pastors. Look for an announcement on that Sunday!

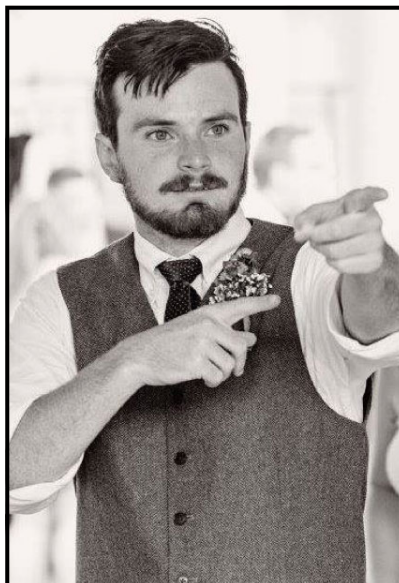
Recent Staff Comings and Goings

Coming - We are happy to announce that a new Director of Student Ministries has been hired. J.T. Mercer will join us beginning June 9, just in time for all the summer youth activities. Until that time, Stephen Ingram will continue as the part-time Interim Director.

Plans

Discussions are ongoing for filling leadership and administrative roles in areas of missions, senior ministries, and congregational care.

If you are feeling a call to explore a greater leadership role in the church or to serve in mission and ministry, either as a lay person or as clergy, please speak to one of the pastors or to a member of the Staff Parish Relations Committee. We would love to help you find ways to answer your call.



Member Updates

BAPTISMS

- James Matthew Hovey – 3/10/19

CONGRATULATIONS...

Congratulations to Katie and John McDaniel on the birth of a son, John Alan McDaniel on February 20th.

Congratulations to Ellie and Nate Sherman on the birth of a daughter, Isla Ruth Sherman on February 25th.

SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION...

The sympathy of the congregation goes out to the family of Mammie Lou Vaughan who passed away on March 6th. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family in their time of loss.

The sympathy of the congregation goes out to the family of Bill Lawyer who passed away on March 11th. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family in their time of loss.

The sympathy of the congregation goes out to the family of John Truett Farmer, Sr. who passed away on March 18th. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family in their time of loss.

The sympathy of the congregation goes out to the family of Peggy Crowley who passed away on March 20th. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family in their time of loss.

LIFETRACK

April 1

Leviticus 23:26-41 | Psalm 89:1-18

April 2

Leviticus 25:1-19 | Psalm 99

April 3

2 Kings 4:1-7 | Psalm 101

April 4

Isaiah 43:1-7 | Psalm 73

April 5

Isaiah 43:8-15 | Psalm 102

April 6

John 11:45-57 | Psalm 108

April 7

John 14:1-7 | Psalm 145

April 8

Hebrews 10:19-25 | Psalm 35

April 9

1 John 2:18-28 | Psalm 122

April 10

Luke 18:31-34 | Psalm 128

April 11

Isaiah 53:10-12 | Psalm 132

April 12

Hebrews 2:10-18 | Psalm 95

April 13

Leviticus 23:1-8 | Psalm 42

April 14

John 11:17-26 | Psalm 118

April 15

John 12:1-11 | Psalm 51

April 16

John 12:20-36 | Psalm 12

April 17

John 13:21-32 | Psalm 55

April 18

John 13:1-17, 33-35 | Psalm 102

April 19

John 19:23-37 | Psalm 22

April 20

John 19:38-42 | Psalm 27

April 21

John 20:1-18 | Psalm 148

April 22

1 Corinthians 5:6-8 | Psalm 98

April 23

Isaiah 65:17-25 | Psalm 103

April 24

Luke 24:1-12 | Psalm 115

April 25

1 Samuel 17:1-31 | Psalm 145

April 26

1 Samuel 17:32-58 | Psalm 118

April 27

Luke 24:36-40 | Psalm 104

April 28

John 20:19-31 | Psalm 111

April 29

Esther 7 | Psalm 3

April 30

Esther 8 | Psalm 6

Monthly Calendar for March 2019

Monday, April 1

10:00 am Prayer Shawl
5:00 pm Dance Lessons

Tuesday, April 2

9:30 am Becky Walker Bible Study

Wednesday, April 3

9:00 am Food Pantry
5:00 pm Midweek Meetup
5:00 pm 55+ Conversation and Candlelight
5:30 pm Men's Chorus
6:00 pm Seder Meal
6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 pm Choir
6:30 pm "Mere Christianity" Rick and Tina Hardy Bible Study

Thursday, April 4

7:30 am Lenten Morning Prayer
9:30 am Sewing Group
10:00 am The Open Door Café

Sunday, April 7

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, April 8

10:00 am Prayer Shawl

Tuesday, April 9

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

Wednesday, April 10

5:00 pm Student Ministry
5:00 pm Midweek Meetup
5:00 pm 55+ Conversation and Candlelight
5:30 pm Men's Chorus
6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 pm Choir
6:30 pm "Mere Christianity" Rick and Tina Hardy Bible Study

Thursday, April 11

7:30 am Lenten Morning Prayer
9:30 am Sewing Group
10:00 am The Open Door Café

Friday, April 12

12:00 pm Friendship Class Luncheon
5-7:00 pm Church-wide BBQ & Bake Sale

Saturday, April 13

9:00 am Community Easter Egg Hunt
10am-3pm Church-Wide BBQ & Bake Sale
10:00 am 55+ Walk in the Park Tannehill

Sunday, April 14

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
4:00 pm Children's Council

Monday, April 15

10:00 am Prayer Shawl
5:00 pm Dance Lessons

Tuesday, April 16

9:30 am Becky Walker Bible Study
6:00 pm Under The Bridge

Wednesday, April 17

5:00 pm Student Ministry
5:00 pm Midweek Meetup
5:00 pm 55+ Conversation and Candlelight

5:30 pm

Men's Chorus

6:00 pm

Handbell Rehearsal

6:30 pm

Choir

6:30 pm

"Mere Christianity" Rick and Tina Hardy Bible Study

Thursday, April 18

7:30 am Lenten Morning Prayer
9:30 am Sewing Group
10:00 am The Open Door Café
6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Worship Service

Friday, April 19

6:30 pm Good Friday Worship Service

Sunday, April 21

8:45 am Easter Traditional Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am The Gathering Easter at Bluff Park
11:00 am Easter Traditional Worship Service

Monday, April 22

Office Closed for Easter

Tuesday, April 23

9:30 am Becky Walker Bible Study

Wednesday, April 24

5:00 pm Student Ministry
5:00 pm Midweek Meetup
5:00 pm 55+ Conversation and Candlelight
5:30 pm Men's Chorus
6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 pm Choir
6:30 pm "Mere Christianity" Rick and Tina Hardy Bible Study

Thursday, April 25

9:30 am Sewing Group
10:00 am The Open Door Café
6:30 pm Finance Committee
7:00 pm Book Club

Friday, April 26

5:00 pm Fisherman Class Social

Saturday, April 27

4:00 pm Covenant Class Party

Sunday, April 28

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, April 29

10:00 am Prayer Shawl

Tuesday, April 30

9:30 am Becky Walker Bible Study

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

In Memory of...

GENERAL OPERATING FUND

Dan Cartledge, by Matt and Pat Reeder

PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY

Dan Cartledge, by Elizabeth Davis

UNDER THE BRIDGE

Yens Pilgram-Larsen, by Roy and Bobbye Guyton

Danny Shivers, by J.B. and Frankie Thrasher

Geoff Huddleston, by Preston and JoAnn Huddleston

YOUTH FUND

Dan Cartledge, by Wayne and Jackie Walton

Note: Some Memorials and Honorariums are not listed by the request of the donors.

X



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Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 13th

**Grab-And-Go Breakfast,
Special 'Prize Eggs' in Each Age Group,
and the Easter Bunny will be here
for Photos with the Kids!**

For Kids up to 4th Grade
Breakfast and Registration @ 9:00am
Egg Hunt Starts @ 10:00am
We Will Hunt Rain or Shine!
Bluff Park United Methodist Church
733 Valley Street, Hoover

10,000 EGGS!
Free Breakfast

23rd Annual
BPUMC BBQ & Bake Sale

April 12th 5-7pm
April 13th 10am-3pm
733 Valley Street | 822-0910

Call the Church Office to reserve
your Boston Butt (pick-up Saturday)