



## BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

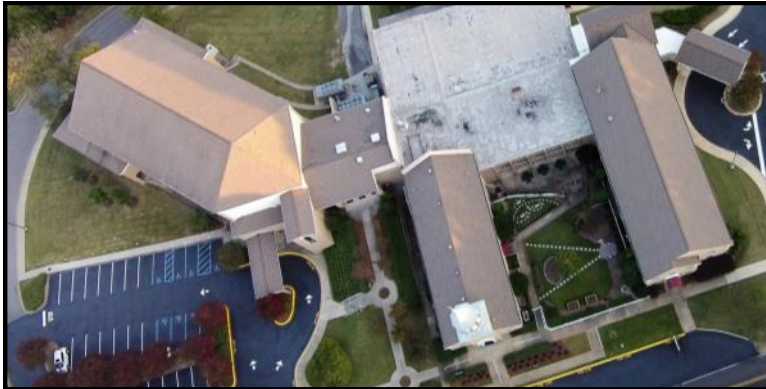
### **SERVE DAY: Church Campus Edition!**

October 12th from 9:00am–noon

The GREEN TEAM needs you! Our church-wide Serve Day this Fall will be focused on helping the BPUMC Green Team perform some much needed work around our church campus. We will have a campus cleanup on October 12th from 9am–noon in an effort to beautify our planted spaces.

Meet in the garden area at 8:30am for coffee, donuts and assignments.

The plan is to remove dead and dying shrubbery and trees and to clear debris. Bring your own tools - gloves, pruners, saws, tarps for hauling debris, shovels and ENERGY! We will have jobs for all ages. Contact Jan Rogers at 205-307-9733 or [jan2rogers@gmail.com](mailto:jan2rogers@gmail.com) for more information.



### **2019 Fall Calendar**

#### **OCTOBER**

- Offering of Blankets Begins
- 12 Serve Day: Church Campus Edition
- 13 Blood Drive
- 14 Children's Ministry Field/Mission Trip
- 23 Halloween Carnival

#### **NOVEMBER**

- 1-3 Student Ministry Fall Retreat
- 3 All Saints' Day @ Morning Worship
- 10 Veteran's Day Celebration
- 10-11 Student Ministry One Night for the Homeless and Veterans
- 11 Children's Ministries Field/Mission Trip

#### **DECEMBER**

- 1 Children's Christmas Pageant and Church-wide Christmas Party
- 4 Advent Wreath Family Night
- 6 Preschool Christmas Storytime
- 5 Advent Morning Prayer
- 8 Sanctuary Choir Christmas Concert
- 11 Student Ministry Christmas Party
- 12 Advent Morning Prayer
- 14 Children's Ministry Parents Night Out
- 19 Advent Morning Prayer
- 22 Service of Lessons and Carols
- Children's Ministry Sunday School
- Christmas Party/Breakfast
- 24 Christmas Eve Worship Services
- 29 Blood Drive

*Seek God, Lose Yourself, Find Life*

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

# Sunday Morning

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP 10:30 am

THE GATHERING AT BLUFF PARK: 10:30 am

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:15 am

Nursery care available all morning!

Care Contact Information  
205.533.9902 | care@bpumc.org

## 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

Consider this prayer:

*Help us to measure our time in faithful generosity that your will be done, that your kingdom come, for life everlasting in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

How do you measure your years? Have you ever marked your children's height upon a door frame? Have you ever measured your years in anniversary gifts?



As Christians, we are called to spend our days in the footsteps of Jesus. In doing so, our days are marked by our growth towards life everlasting in Jesus Christ. God desires that we grow in faith and in grace. In a way, we are all unfinished works of art. The God who created us has a vision of who we will be and how we will live. We are called to love God and to love our neighbor just as God has loved us. Jesus is the image given to us as to how we should love others. Growing into his image is our life's work.

Jesus lived a life of generosity. From sharing food to the hungry as he taught on a mountainside to being generous with his time to the children swarming around him. He did not withhold his ability to heal, but freely healed those in need. And of course, he freely gave his life for us upon a Roman cross.

Generosity is something that God wants for us and not from us. Generosity frees us from sinful constraints so that we can grow in grace and in faith. Generosity leads us further upon the pathway to God. During this month, we will be exploring how generosity can help shape each and every one of us as well as the world around us into the ways in which God desires.

We will explore what it means to live Fruitful Lives together.

*Mike*

## Commitment Sunday

October 27, 2019



## RETURN OF THE DUNK TANK!

It was a huge hit last year, so the Dunk Tank is back at the 2019 BPUMC Halloween Carnival. Mike Holly, John Carl Hastings, Stanley Davidson, and J.T Mercer will all take turns in the tank this year. Proceeds go to NeverThirst, a ministry that provides clean drinking water to people around the world.

Last year, the water was cold and the air was chilly. Will our dunkees freeze this year? Will Danley Stavidson show up and call the whole thing off?



## BLANKETS FOR THE HOMELESS

October is a big month for us to gather resources to share during the winter here in the greater Birmingham area.

The warm weather is hanging around this year, but when it turns cold, the homeless will need help staying warm and dry. We will be gathering blankets to share through local homeless missions. Bring new blankets to the church throughout the month and we will distribute them to our ministry partners in November.

You can drop off blankets on Sunday mornings or bring them to the church office during regular business hours.

**BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

# **HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL**

**OCTOBER 23 • 6:00pm-8:00pm**

**“There will be carnival games,  
prizes, a haunted house,  
inflatables, a cake walk, food  
and more.”**

**Come in costume and celebrate with your friends and neighbors in Bluff Park**

**Carnival-wide passes \$8 -- Free access and food for parents.  
All proceeds support the children's ministry at the church.**





## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

The school year has begun, and we have a number of great things planned in the Children's Ministry this Fall! One of our goals for the children of our church is that they would learn how they can share the love of God with others during their time in the Children's Ministry, and that they would be given opportunities to do so! Along these lines, we will be taking children on two mission trip/field trips this Fall, in which we pair a fun activity with a mission project which allows the children to share the love of Jesus with people in our church, community and/or the world. This Fall, we will be taking the children to shop for school supplies for children in our local elementary schools, food to be distributed in our Food Pantry, and Christmas gifts for children in our community to be distributed through Festival of the Three Kings. Our hope and prayer is that through these trips the children of our church will learn the importance of truly "loving your neighbor as yourself."

Our annual Community Halloween Carnival will also be happening at the end of this month on Wednesday, October 23rd from 6:00-8:00. There will be carnival games, raffle baskets, prizes, a haunted house, a dunk tank, a cake walk, food, Steel City Pops, and so much more. Cost is \$8 for a wristband that allows children to partake in all carnival activities and food (except Steel City Pops)! This event is a great way to invite friends/neighbors/family members to our church for the first time, and a great opportunity for our church members to show up, fellowship with our community, and shine the light of Jesus Christ for our neighbors! We look forward to seeing you there!



## STUDENT MINISTRY

Hello Everyone! We are coming up on a very busy time in the life of our Student Ministry, but we are thankful for the busyness! September 22nd was Youth Sunday and we were blessed to have Youth lead us in worship by their testimonies, songs, and prayers. It was a great time to watch our students lead and I am thankful to all of you that had such kind words to say to all the youth that participated. Student leadership is an important part of Student Ministry and it was so great to see them lead in that way!

### BIG THINGS COMING UP!

One thing I want to highlight for you in the upcoming month is the Halloween Festival on October 23rd. The Halloween Festival is a great opportunity for you to invite neighbors, friends, and co-workers to come and experience our church! It's going to be a great time and the youth will be putting on a haunted house and they are very excited! We hope to see everyone out there!

### FALL RETREAT NOVEMBER 1-3

Fall Retreat is November 1st-3rd and registration is up right now! We have a guest speaker and guest worship leaders who are going to be leading our time at Springville Camp and Conference Center. We are very excited for this retreat and we are encouraging all students to sign-up!

### Upcoming Events!

*Holy Ground*  
Every Wednesday from  
5:30-7:30

*Sunday School*  
Jr. High and Sr. High  
every Sunday Morning

*Serve Night*  
Sunday 6th

*Game Night*  
Sunday 13th

*One Night for the Homeless*  
Registration Opens!  
Monday 14th

*Decorating for the Halloween Carnival*  
Sunday 20th

*Halloween Carnival*  
Wednesday 23rd

*Pumpkin Olympics*  
Sunday 27th

## UPCOMING MISSION PROJECTS



### **Eleventh Annual Wreaths Across America Alabama National Cemetery, Montevallo**

In conjunction with our Veteran's Day Celebration on November 10th, we will be supporting The Blue Star Salute Foundation which raises funds to provide Christmas wreaths for all Veteran's graves in the Alabama National Cemetery in Montevallo. In 2019 we will need approximately 6,500–7,000 wreaths, at a cost of \$15 each, to provide a wreath for each Veteran. All wreath sponsors as well as family members of those buried within ALNC are invited to attend and participate in the wreath-laying ceremony on December 14th. We are asking individuals, families and Sunday School classes to consider donating a wreath as we honor our Veteran's. Information will be available in your Sunday School class and in the Narthex. [www.bluestarsalute.org](http://www.bluestarsalute.org)

### **Celebrating our Veterans**

Plan to join us in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, November 10th, following the worship service as we celebrate our veterans. Lunch will be provided with entertainment by the Hoover Jazz Band as they make a return appearance.

### **Christmas Gifts for Pantry on the Bluff**

This year we want to give each family we serve through our food pantry a \$20 gift certificate that each can use to purchase something extra for Christmas. These gifts will be distributed on Wednesday, December 4th. You or your Sunday School class can help by either making a financial donation to the Food pantry and submit to the church office or you can purchase a \$20 gift certificate, put it in a Christmas card and submit it to the church office. We suggest gift certificates from Piggly Wiggly, Publix, Walmart or Target. Make the "Spirit of Christmas" real for a family this year.

For more information on each project contact Sylvia Sumners, [ssumners@bellsouth.net](mailto:ssumners@bellsouth.net) or 205-482-5680.

## **The Open Door Café**

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

Thursdays In The Fellowship Hall  
All are Welcome!

### **October 3**

*Bart Styes and His Wild Roast Coffee*  
Bluff Park

### **October 10**

*Seniors on the Move*  
The place to come when downsizing or retiring.  
Presented by Tammy Hodnett  
known as the "Senior Whisperer"

### **October 17**

*Pollination: Insects, Pollen and Sex in the Garden*  
Presented by Sallie Lee.

### **October 24**

*Healthy Eating*  
Presented by Brookwood/Baptist Education.

### **October 31**

*Fall Festival*

## **Ready, Set, Bake!**

The United Methodist Women will be selling baked goods, on October 5th, at The Bluff Park Art Show, to raise money for local mission projects. You can help by providing baked goods (cakes, cookies, brownies, and cupcakes) to sell. Please package items for individual sale, label them, and note whether they contain nuts. Drop off your goodies in the Fellowship Hall on Friday, October 4th, before noon.

## **Homosexuality and the Bible**

*Wednesday, October 9, 16, and 30 @ 6pm*

What does the Bible say (or not say) about LGBTQ issues? Do you know the passages that are most often referred to in regard to these issues? In an effort to better understand, Rev. Tom Duley will lead a class called Homosexuality and the Bible that looks at these passages and discusses how we can best understand their relevance in 2019.



## Give Online With **easyTithe™**

Bluff Park United Methodist Church has implemented a set of online giving tools, powered by easyTithe.com. This provides the ability to quickly and easily make pledges and donations on our website and through a convenient mobile app! You can make your pledge electronically and track your online giving throughout the year.

After creating an EasyTithe account, you're able to give directly or schedule a series of donations using your debit or credit card.

EasyTithe allows you to make a Pledge online and track your progress meeting your pledge through the year. If you choose to make a pledge online we ask that you still fill out a Pledge Card and indicate that you placed a pledge online.

To get started, visit the church website and select 'Donate Online' under the 'Give' link in the top menu. Step-by-step video tutorials are available on the main 'Give' landing page.

**[www.BluffParkUMC.org/give-online](http://www.BluffParkUMC.org/give-online)**

### 2019-2020 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

**Corey Ferguson**—BPUMC General Scholarship  
**Charlotte McCrary**—BPUMC General Scholarship  
**William Treadway North**—BPUMC General Scholarship  
**Justin Toth**—BPUMC General Scholarship  
**Matthew Cook**—BPUMC Victor Harbor Community Service Scholarship  
**Barclay Culverhouse**—BPUMC Victor Harbor Community Service Scholarship  
**Pippa Lothar**—BPUMC Victor Harbor Community Service Scholarship  
**Samantha Ward**—BPUMC Christin Crockett Scholarship  
**Maggie Rayfield**—BPUMC Elaine Clinton Scholarship

### Member Updates

#### NEW MEMBERS

- Charlie and Heidi Goff, Cameron—9/15/19
- Zac Hilliard—9/15/19

#### CONGRATULATIONS...

Congratulations to Meredith and Chris Carpenter on the birth of a daughter, Hadley Nell Carpenter on September 4th.

#### SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION...

The sympathy of the congregation goes out to the family of Bob Zachow who passed away on August 28th. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family in their time of loss.

The sympathy of the congregation goes out to the family of Betty Sinclair who passed away on September 22nd. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family in their time of loss.

### LIFETRACK

October 1  
James 5:1-6 | Psalm 97  
 October 2  
Matthew 19:16-22 | Psalm 101  
 October 3  
Revelation 2:8-11  
Psalm 105:1-22  
 October 4  
Revelation 2:12-29 | Psalm 102  
 October 5  
Matthew 20:29-34 | Psalm 108  
 October 6  
Hebrews 10:19-25 | Psalm 145  
 October 7  
James 1:2-11 | Psalm 106:1-18  
 October 8  
1 John 5:1-5 | Psalm 122  
 October 9  
Mark 11:12-24 | Psalm 128  
 October 10  
2 Timothy 1:13-18 | Psalm 132  
 October 11  
Jeremiah 27:1-22 | Psalm 140  
 October 12  
Luke 5:12-16 | Psalm 144  
 October 13  
2 Corinthians 9:1-15 | Psalm 147  
 October 14  
Acts 26:24-29 | Psalm 3  
 October 15  
Ephesians 6:10-20 | Psalm 5  
 October 16  
Matthew 10:5-15 | Psalm 12  
 October 17  
Acts 17:22-34 | Psalm 18:1-20  
 October 18  
2 Timothy 2:14-26 | Psalm 103  
 October 19  
Mark 10:46-52 | Psalm 21  
 October 20  
Acts 20:32-38 | Psalm 149  
 October 21  
1 Corinthians 6:1-11 | Psalm 9  
 October 22  
James 5:7-12 | Psalm 28  
 October 23  
Luke 22:39-46  
Psalm 119:145-168  
 October 24  
2 Timothy 3:1-9 | Psalm 37  
 October 25  
2 Timothy 3:10-15 | Psalm 35  
 October 26  
Joel 2:12-22 | Psalm 32  
 October 27  
Acts 4:31-37 | Psalm 98  
 October 28  
1 Peter 4:12-19 | Psalm 66  
 October 29  
1 Peter 5:1-11 | Psalm 47  
 October 30  
Matthew 21:28-32 | Psalm 53  
 October 31  
Proverbs 15:24-33 | Psalm 34



# Monthly Calendar for October 2019

## Tuesday, October 1

9:00 am Becky Walker's Bible Study

## Wednesday, October 2

9:00 am Food Pantry  
4:30 pm "Forward" with Mike & Angela  
5:00 pm Midweek Meetup  
5:15 pm Wesley Covenant Group  
5:30 pm Student Ministry  
5:30 pm Men's Chorus  
6:00 pm Children's Activities  
6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal  
6:15 pm "Crazy Love" with Rick and Tina Hardy

6:30 pm Choir  
6:30 pm "Nine Conversations" with Mike Holly  
6:30 pm "Living Your Strengths" with Angela Martin

6:30 pm Walking Group

## Thursday, October 3

9:30 am Sewing Group  
10:00 am The Open Door Café

## Sunday, October 6

9:15 am Sunday School  
10:30 am The Gathering at Bluff Park  
10:30 am Traditional Worship Service  
11:30 am Children's Council Meeting  
5:30 pm Student Ministry

## Monday, October 7

10:00 am Prayer Shawl  
5:30 pm Dance Lessons

## Tuesday, October 8

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

## Wednesday, October 9

4:30 pm "Forward" with Mike & Angela  
5:00 pm Midweek Meetup  
5:15 pm Wesley Covenant Group  
5:30 pm Student Ministry  
5:30 pm Men's Chorus  
6:00 pm Children's Activities  
6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal  
6:00 pm Reconciler Group  
6:15 pm "Crazy Love" with Rick and Tina Hardy  
6:30 pm Choir  
6:30 pm "Nine Conversations" with Mike Holly  
6:30 pm "Living Your Strengths" with Angela Martin  
6:30 pm Walking Group  
7:00 pm Reconciler Bible Study

## Thursday, October 10

9:30 am Sewing Group  
10:00 am The Open Door Café

## Friday, October 11

12:00 pm Friendship Class Luncheon

## Saturday, October 12

9:00 am Serve Day  
**Sunday, October 13**  
7:30 am Blood Drive  
9:15 am Sunday School  
10:30 am The Gathering at Bluff Park  
10:30 am Traditional Worship Service  
11:30 am SPRC Meeting  
5:30 pm Student Ministry

## Monday, October 14

7:30 am Children's Field Trip  
10:00 am Prayer Shawl  
5:30 pm Dance Lessons

## Tuesday, October 15

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

## Wednesday, October 16

4:30 pm "Forward" with Mike & Angela  
5:00 pm Midweek Meetup  
5:15 pm Wesley Covenant Group  
5:30 pm Student Ministry  
5:30 pm Men's Chorus  
6:00 pm Children's Activities  
6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal  
6:15 pm "Crazy Love" with Rick and Tina Hardy

6:30 pm Choir  
6:30 pm "Nine Conversations" with Mike Holly  
6:30 pm "Living Your Strengths" with Angela Martin  
6:30 pm Walking Group  
7:00 pm Reconciler Bible Study

## Thursday, October 17

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

## Sunday, October 20

9:15 am Sunday School  
10:30 am The Gathering at Bluff Park  
10:30 am Traditional Worship Service  
5:30 pm Student Ministry

## Monday, October 21

10:00 am Prayer Shawl  
5:30 pm Dance Lessons

## Tuesday, October 22

9:00 am Becky Walker's Bible Study  
12:00 pm Welcome Fall Luncheon

## Wednesday, October 23

6:00-8:00 pm Halloween Carnival

## Thursday, October 24

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

## Friday, October 25

5:00 pm Fisherman Class Social

## Sunday, October 27

9:15 am Sunday School  
10:30 am The Gathering at Bluff Park  
10:30 am Traditional Worship Service  
5:30 pm Student Ministry

## Monday, October 28

10:00 am UMW Joy Circle  
10:00 am Prayer Shawl  
5:30 pm Dance Lessons

## Tuesday, October 29

9:00 am Becky Walker's Bible Study

## Wednesday, October 30

4:30 pm "Forward" with Mike & Angela  
5:00 pm Midweek Meetup  
5:15 pm Wesley Covenant Group  
5:30 pm Student Ministry  
5:30 pm Men's Chorus  
6:00 pm Children's Activities  
6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal  
6:15 pm "Crazy Love" with Rick and Tina Hardy  
6:30 pm Choir  
6:30 pm "Nine Conversations" with Mike Holly  
6:30 pm "Living Your Strengths" with Angela Martin  
6:30 pm Walking Group  
7:00 pm Reconciler Bible Study

## Thursday, October 31

9:30 am Sewing Group  
10:00 am The Open Door Café



## MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

### In Memory of...

GENERAL OPERATING FUND

**Aubrey and Zelia Baugh**, by Heather Youngkin

**Dan Cartledge**, by Lisa Avant

**Bill White**, by Heather Youngkin

**Bob Zachow**, by Opportunity Class

PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY

**Durwood Freeman**, by Mahala McKinney

**Bob Zachow**, by J.B. and Frankie Thrasher

UNDER THE BRIDGE

**David Clifton Harper**, by J.B. and Frankie Thrasher

VICTOR HARBOR SCHOLARSHIP

**Katie Cathers**, by Lisa Avant, Julia Dunne

CHRISTIAN CROCKETT SCHOLARSHIP

**Anita Prickett**, by Harry and Peggy Hill

### In Honor of...

GENERAL OPERATING FUND

**Steve, Julie, Peggy and the White Family**, by Heather Youngkin

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

X



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**BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

# **HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL**

**OCTOBER 23 • 6:00pm-8:00pm**

**“There will be carnival games,  
prizes, a haunted house,  
inflatables, a cake walk, food  
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**Come in costume and celebrate with your friends and neighbors in Bluff Park**

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All proceeds support the children's ministry at the church.**

