



## BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

### **Lent and Easter Schedule 2020**

#### **Lenten Morning Prayer**

Thursdays, March 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th, and  
April 2nd, and 9th

#### **Easter Egg Hunt**

Saturday, April 4th

#### **Palm Sunday**

Sunday, April 5th

#### **Maundy Thursday Worship**

Thursday, April 9th

#### **Good Friday Worship**

Friday, April 10th

#### **Easter Sunday**

Sunday, April 12th



### **Lenten Morning Prayer**

Join us on Thursday mornings during the season of Lent for a service of prayer and communion.

This weekly time of worship is the perfect opportunity to center your heart on Jesus as we prepare for Holy Week and the celebration of Easter Sunday.

This service is held each Thursday morning at 7:30 am in the Sanctuary during Lent. The service lasts approximately 30 minutes.

We look forward to worshipping with you!

*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

PHONE 205.822.0910

### PASTORS

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Published monthly by

Bluff Park United Methodist Church

733 Valley Street, Hoover, AL 35226

Article deadline 2nd Tuesday monthly

Editor, Andrew Seltz

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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

During the season of Lent, all of our worship services on Sunday mornings will be focusing upon the characteristics that we should practice as followers of Jesus.

Faith  
Hope  
Love  
Integrity  
Friendship  
Perseverance  
Humility



The goal of practicing these seven traits is that through them we love God and love our neighbor. As we grow in these areas, we become more and more like Christ.

These characteristics are more than simply nice actions that make us good people. They are the very ways in which we are called to live and how we are called to interact with one another. Too often, we do not demand (or at least expect) that Christians will behave themselves in these ways both inside the church as well as outside in the world. But Jesus places expectations upon us that if we truly follow him, we will truly live out a life that reflects him to the world.

During this season of Lent, it is vital that we reflect and remember what it means to have the character of Christ within us as well as a part of how we treat one another. During times of stress and difficulty, we often default to our old ways. We devolve, if you will, into bad behaviors even though it is essential and beneficial at these times that we reflect Christ to one another at these times.

For in reflecting Christ to one another, we can help one another move forward. Otherwise, we may find ourselves in division or separation. I hope you will join us during Lent as we go back to "Character School" and we learn to be like Jesus.

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Mike".



### Sozo Children's Choir in Worship

Join us for a special event in Traditional Worship on March 15, 2020! The Sozo Children's Choir from Uganda will be presenting praise and choral music during the 10:30 am Traditional Worship Service. Experience cultural Ugandan singing and dancing with African instruments, and powerful worship!

### 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. Such as: 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. Ministries like these provide vital services to the communities they serve. Our generosity through the Easter Love Offering enables them to continue to serve those in need. To make a donation during the season of Lent mark your donation "Easter Love Gift." The Easter Love Offering is sponsored by the BPUMC United Appeal Fund.



### 24TH ANNUAL BPUMC BBQ

The barbecue is coming up April 3rd from 5-7pm and April 4th 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.



### SAVE THE DATES - RISE AGAINST HUNGER

Approximately 3.1 million children die from undernutrition each year (UNICEF, 2018a). Rise Against Hunger (<https://www.riseagainsthunger.org>) is an international hunger relief organization that distributes food and life-changing aid to the world's most vulnerable. In April, Bluff Park UMC will once again join forces with Vestavia Hills UMC to pack fortified rice meal packs for children and adults in need.

April 26-28, 2020 - Join the fun and save lives! Watch for information on how you, your family, your Sunday School class, and other church groups can help pack meals.



### Easter Lilies

Reserve your beautiful Easter Lily now to remember or honor a loved one at Easter. The cost is \$16.00 per plant payable to the church. Deadline for ordering is April 6th.

**In Honor Of:** \_\_\_\_\_ **by** \_\_\_\_\_

**In Memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_ **by** \_\_\_\_\_

Return order form and payment to the church office.

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

The Children's Ministry is gearing up for our annual Community-Wide Children's Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 4th from 9:30-11:00! 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, and to invite the children of our community to register for Vacation Bible School. We are anticipating a large crowd again this year, and we need your help in two ways! First, we are planning on hiding 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 anytime during the month of March and drop it off in Egg Hunt collection bins in the Narthex or just inside either entrance on the first floor. Secondly, we would love as many members of our church as possible to attend the Egg Hunt this year and simply shine the light of Jesus Christ that morning as we welcome our community to our church. We hope that you can help in one or both of these ways, and we are looking forward to a great event!



## STUDENT MINISTRY

### SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER

On Friday, March 6th, from 6:30-10:30pm, we are having a glamorous star-studded night of fun at The Barn at Shady Lane. There will be dinner, dancing with a live band, games, fellowship, a live auction, and a silent auction. The proceeds from this event will go to support the Student Ministry here at Bluff Park.

Please help support this important event. Purchase tickets, donate auction items, and invite your friends. This party is open to the whole community.

To purchase tickets online visit [BluffParkUMC.org/silent-auction](http://BluffParkUMC.org/silent-auction). For more information, to make a donation, or to volunteer for this event contact Aimie Marshall @ [aimielmarshall@hotmail.com](mailto:aimielmarshall@hotmail.com).

### HOLY GROUND

Holy Ground is our weekly youth led worship service that takes place from 5:30-7:30. There is dinner in the fellowship hall that starts at 5 and then we play games/ hang out until 6:20!

### SUNDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES

Sunday Night Activities alternate between mystery night, game night, and serve night. It takes place from 5:30-7:30 and includes a free dinner!

STUDENT MINISTRIES PRESENTS  
the 2020  
BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER EVENT  
LIGHTS  
CAMERA  
Auction!  
FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2020  
Tickets on Sale Now

**JOIN US AND HELP MAKE THIS THE BEST AUCTION EVER!**

Join us on Friday, March 6th from 6:30pm - 10:30pm at The Barn at Shady Lane for a glamorous star-studded night of fun and support the Student Ministry of Bluff Park UMC. There will be Dinner, Dancing with Live Band, Games, Fellowship, Live Auction and a Silent Auction!

Tickets can be purchased individually, as a family, or you can reserve a full table. Tickets will be sold on Sunday mornings at the church or purchase online @ [www.BluffParkUMC.org/silent-auction](http://www.BluffParkUMC.org/silent-auction)

Adult Ticket: \$40 | Student Ticket: \$15  
Reserve a Table (10 people - includes one drink ticket per person): \$500

# ADULT MINISTRY

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Realm Classes

Do you need help setting up or using your account on our new web-based church directory and church management system? Realm classes are being held each Friday through the end of March from 10 to 11 a.m. in the Seekers Sunday School Classroom. Classes are limited to 12 people per week. Please contact Susan Reynolds-Porter by e-mail at [adultministry@bpumc.org](mailto:adultministry@bpumc.org) or by calling her the church (205-822-0910). For any other questions about Realm, please contact the church office.



### The Open Door Café

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

Thursdays In The Fellowship Hall  
All are Welcome!

#### March 5

*Important Home Maintenance Tips*  
by Realtor and BPUMC member  
Blake Shultz

#### March 12

*St. Patrick's Day Lunch with Fun and  
Games*

#### March 19

*The Magic of Honey Bees*  
BPUMC's Andrew Seltz, Director  
of Communications, Media and  
Sound

#### March 26

*All About Birmingham Birds*  
presented by the Alabama Audu-  
bon Society's Outreach and Com-  
munications Director



### 2020 Chile Mission Trip – Looking for Team Members!

You can make a difference in the lives of the people in Angol, Chile, while the people of Angol, Chile enrich your life!

The BPUMC Missions Committee is planning another trip to Chile to continue renovating the only Methodist camp in the country. Improvements completed on previous trips have resulted in a surge in usage by Methodist and community groups. This work is being done at the request of the Bishop of the United Methodist Church in Chile.

We encourage all adults and older youth to consider participating. In addition to the plane tickets and other costs the church pays for, each individual will have some in-country expenses.

Possible dates for the trip are:

- Departing Friday, September 11, 2020 ~ Returning Monday, September 21, 2020
- Departing Friday, November 6, 2020 - Returning Monday, November 16, 2020
- Departing Friday, December 26, 2020 - Returning Monday, January 4, 2021

If you are interested in joining us or would like additional information, please contact Susan Reynolds-Porter (Missions Program Coordinator) at the church ~ [missions@bpumc.org](mailto:missions@bpumc.org) or 205-822-0910.





## Meet the Staff

**NAME:** Joe Pitard

**JOB TITLE:** Finance Manager

**BRIEFLY DESCRIBE YOUR JOB**

I pay all the bills, account for all donations by members and help Jason with Financial decisions here.

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN YOUR ROLE?**

I have been here for almost 7 years. I retired from BellSouth/AT&T and came here for a 2nd career.

**WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF YOUR JOB?**

I enjoy dealing with the members and love to see their love for this church!

**TELL US ABOUT YOUR FAMILY:**

I am married to Carole (23yrs) and have James (Univ of AL), Joseph (Univ of Montevallo) and Catie (High School Jr).

**FAVORITE THING TO DO AWAY FROM WORK?**

Our family has a lake house on Smith lake and I like to "putter on projects" there.

## Member Updates

**BAPTISMS**

- Luke Johnson - 2/23/2020

**SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION...**

The sympathy of the congregation goes out to Peter Kirchikov whose wife Carla Adams York passed away on February 4th. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family in their time of loss.

The sympathy of the congregation goes out to Suzanne Scivley whose father Dan Hughes passed away on February 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 Edith Stewart who passed away February 13th. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family in their time of loss.

**Don't forget to SPRING FORWARD**  
 Sunday at 2 am.  
 March 8th, 2020

**Tips**  
 to help your body adjust to daylight saving time

1. **Don't change your schedule**  
Stick to regular waking, eating, sleeping and exercise times.
2. **Have a nighttime routine**  
Prepare your body for sleep by engaging in a few relaxing activities before hitting the hay.
3. **Avoid long naps**  
Keep naps short (between 20-30 minutes) to avoid disrupting your sleep schedule.
4. **Get some natural sunlight**  
Sunlight helps regulate your body's internal clock.

## LIFETRACK

**March 1**

Matthew 4:1-11 | Psalm 63

**March 2**

Exodus 16:1-8 | Psalm 41

**March 3**

Exodus 16:9-21 | Psalm 45

**March 4**

Exodus 16:27-35 | Psalm 49

**March 5**

Genesis 4:1-16 | Psalm 50

**March 6**

Micah 7:18-20 | Psalm 51

**March 7**

Exodus 34:1-9 | Psalm 55

**March 8**

Genesis 12:1-4 | Psalm 24

**March 9**

Numbers 21:4-9 | Psalm 57

**March 10**

Romans 4:6-13 | Psalm 62

**March 11**

John 7:53-8:11 | Psalm 72

**March 12**

Colossians 1:15-23 | Psalm 71

**March 13**

Ephesians 2:11-22 | Psalm 69:1-23

**March 14**

2 Timothy 1:3-7 | Psalm 75

**March 15**

John 4:5-42 | Psalm 93

**March 16**

2 John | Psalm 80

**March 17**

1 Corinthians 10:1-14  
 Psalm 78:1-39

**March 18**

John 7:14-31 | Psalm 81

**March 19**

Ephesians 4:25-32 | Psalm 132

**March 20**

John 1:1-9 | Psalm 88

**March 21**

John 9:1-41 | Psalm 87

**March 22**

Ephesians 5:1-14 | Psalm 66

**March 23**

Acts 9:1-20 | Psalm 89:1-18

**March 24**

Colossians 1:9-14 | Psalm 8

**March 25**

Hebrews 10:4-10 | Psalm 87

**March 26**

Matthew 9:27-34 | Psalm 73

**March 27**

Ezekiel 33:10-16 | Psalm 102

**March 28**

Ezekiel 36:8-15 | Psalm 33

**March 29**

John 11:1-45 | Psalm 145

**March 30**

Ezekiel 37:1-14 | Psalm 35

**March 31**

Ephesians 2:1-10 | Psalm 124

# Monthly Calendar for March 2020

<p><b>Sunday, March 1</b>            9:15 am Sunday School            10:30 am The Gathering at Bluff Park            10:30 am Traditional Worship Service            2:00 pm Community Ministries                    Board Meeting            4:30 pm Confirmation Class            5:30 pm Student Ministry            6:00 pm Chili/Cookie Cook-Off</p> <p><b>Monday, March 2</b>            10:00 am Prayer Shawl</p> <p><b>Tuesday, March 3</b>            7:00 am Primary Election            9:30 am Becky Walker Bible Study</p> <p><b>Wednesday, March 4</b>            9:00 am Food Pantry            4:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study            5:00 pm Midweek Meetup            5:30 pm Student Ministry            5:30 pm Men's Chorus            6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal            6:00 pm Armor of God Bible Study            6:30 pm Choir            6:30 pm Class Meeting Study with                    Marigene Chamberlain            6:30 pm Rick and Tina Hardy Study            6:30 pm Walking Group</p> <p><b>Thursday, March 5</b>            7:30 am Lenten Morning Prayer            9:30 am Sewing Group            10:00 am The Open Door Café            6:00 pm Senior High Boys Small                    Group</p> <p><b>Friday, March 6</b>            6:30 pm Silent Auction</p> <p><b>Sunday, March 8</b>            9:15 am Sunday School            10:30 am The Gathering at Bluff Park            10:30 am Traditional Worship Service            4:30 pm Confirmation Class            5:30 pm Student Ministry</p> <p><b>Monday, March 9</b>            10:00 am Prayer Shawl</p> <p><b>Tuesday, March 10</b>            8:30 am Maintenance</p>	<p>9:30 am Becky Walker Bible Study            6:00 pm Under the Bridge</p> <p><b>Wednesday, March 11</b>            4:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study            5:00 pm Midweek Meetup            5:30 pm Student Ministry            5:30 pm Men's Chorus            6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal            6:00 pm Armor of God Bible Study            6:00 pm Reconciler Group            6:30 pm Choir            6:30 pm Rick and Tina Hardy Study            6:30 pm Walking Group</p> <p><b>Thursday, March 12</b>            7:30 am Lenten Morning Prayer            9:30 am Sewing Group            10:00 am The Open Door Café            6:00 pm Senior High Boys Small                    Group</p> <p><b>Friday, March 13</b>            12:00 pm Friendship Class Luncheon</p> <p><b>Sunday, March 15</b>            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            4:30 pm Confirmation Class            5:30 pm Student Ministry</p> <p><b>Monday, March 16</b>            10:00 am Prayer Shawl</p> <p><b>Tuesday, March 17</b>            9:30 am Becky Walker Bible Study            6:00 pm Under the Bridge</p> <p><b>Wednesday, March 18</b>            4:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study            5:00 pm Midweek Meetup            5:30 pm Student Ministry            5:30 pm Men's Chorus            6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal            6:00 pm Armor of God Bible Study            6:30 pm Choir            6:30 pm Class Meeting Study with                    Marigene Chamberlain            6:30 pm Rick and Tina Hardy Study            6:30 pm Walking Group</p>	<p><b>Thursday, March 19</b>            7:30 am Lenten Morning Prayer            9:30 am Sewing Group            10:00 am The Open Door Café            4:00 pm Food Pantry Training            6:00 pm Senior High Boys Small                    Group            7:00 pm Book Club</p> <p><b>Friday, March 20</b>            5:30 pm Children's PJ Party</p> <p><b>Sunday, March 22</b>            9:15 am Sunday School            10:30 am The Gathering at Bluff Park            10:30 am Traditional Worship Service            5:30 pm Student Ministry</p> <p><b>Monday, March 23</b>            10:00 am Prayer Shawl            10:00 am UMW Joy Circle</p> <p><b>Tuesday, March 24</b>            9:30 am Becky Walker Bible Study</p> <p><b>Wednesday, March 25</b>            5:30 pm Men's Chorus            6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal</p> <p><b>Thursday, March 26</b>            7:30 am Lenten Morning Prayer            9:30 am Sewing Group            10:00 am The Open Door Café            6:00 pm Senior High Boys Small                    Group            6:30 pm Finance Committee</p> <p><b>Friday, March 27</b>            6:00 pm Fisherman Class Social</p> <p><b>Sunday, March 29</b>            9:15 am Sunday School            10:30 am The Gathering at Bluff Park            10:30 am Traditional Worship Service            4:30 pm Confirmation Class            5:30 pm Student Ministry</p> <p><b>Monday, March 30</b>            10:00 am Prayer Shawl</p> <p><b>Tuesday, March 31</b>            7:00 am Primary Runoff Election            9:30 am Becky Walker Bible Study</p>
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## MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

### In Memory of...

#### GENERAL OPERATING FUND

**Mike Barron**, by Mike and Jan Autrey, B.L. Barron, Charles Bass, Cynthia Black, Betty Covone, Paulette Davis, Sid Deerman, Larry and Sharon Dollar, Judy, Mackie and Danny Drew, Joe and Lisa East, Nanci Hamby, Joseph and Hanby, Barbara and Tommy Hardwick, Denis and Shirley Lesieur, Jeri Liles, Camille Mason, Roger Moran, Ginny Owen, Betsy Reynolds, Lois Reynolds, Jimmy K. Sanford Family, Rev. John and Gwen Sloop, Mr. and Mrs. Van Michael Deerman, Harriet White

#### PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY

**Michael Nash**, by Ruth Sheppard

### In Honor of...

#### OPERATING FUND

**Pam Phagan**, by Jim and Becky McCrary  
**Steve White**, by Anonymous

#### GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

**Past and Present Teachers**, by Friendship Class

#### BUILDING FUND

**Bill Garwick**, by Pat and Carol Westbrook

#### PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY

**Ann Rabb**, by Curtis and Paula Thompson

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

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# Bluff Park

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
— Rooted in Faith, Growing in Grace —

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

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# Easter Egg Hunt

## Saturday, April 4th

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

Breakfast and Registration @ 9:30am  
Egg Hunt Starts @ 10:30am  
We Will Hunt Rain or Shine!

Bluff Park United Methodist Church  
733 Valley Street, Hoover

For Kids up to 4th Grade

# 10,000 EGGS!

Free Breakfast

## 24th Annual

# BPUMC BBQ & Bake Sale

April 3rd 5-7pm  
April 4th 10am-3pm  
733 Valley Street | 822-0910

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