



## BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



During the month of October we begin our 3-year capital campaign titled, "It's Time." The goal of this campaign is for Bluff Park United Methodist Church to be completely out of debt and free up our resources for ministry.

As we begin this capital campaign, we are taking some time to focus on the wide range of current ministries and missions that are active here at Bluff Park UMC through a series of Spotlight Gatherings.

Join us for our Spotlight Gatherings in the Sanctuary on Wednesday, October 12th\*, from 6 to 7pm and Sunday, October 16th, from 2 to 3pm and celebrate the impact our ministries are currently making in our community, and then dream about how that impact could increase when we become debt free. On these nights we will sing and worship together, hear stories from our ministry leaders, cast vision for our potential future and remember our calling to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world. We look forward to seeing you there!

*\*Nursery will be provided on October 12th*

### Fall Event Calendar

#### OCTOBER

- 26 Wild Wednesday: Pumpkin Olympics
- 29 Halloween Carnival

#### NOVEMBER

- Warmth for the Homeless Collection
- 4-6 BPUMC Students Fall Retreat
- 6 All Saints' Day @ Morning Worship
- 10 Youth One Night for the Homeless
- 11 BPUMC Kids Field/Mission Trip
- 16 Family S'Mores Night
- 27 Advent Family Workshop

#### DECEMBER

- 2 Preschool Christmas Storytime
- 4 BPUMC Kids Christmas Pageant and Churchwide Christmas Party
- 7 BPUMC Students Christmas Party
- 11 Sanctuary Choir Christmas Presentation
- 18 Blood Drive
- BPUMC Kids Sunday School Christmas Party
- 24 Christmas Eve Worship Services
- 25 Christmas Day Worship-Lessons and Carols

*Rooted in Faith, Growing in Grace*

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

# Sunday Morning

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP 10:00 am

THE GATHERING AT BLUFF PARK: 10:00 am

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:00 am

*Nursery care available all morning!*

Care Contact Information  
205.533.9902 | [care@bpumc.org](mailto:care@bpumc.org)

## Our Staff

PHONE: 205.822.0910

### PASTORS

Kevin Payne

[kpayne@bpumc.org](mailto:kpayne@bpumc.org), ext. 125

Ross Furio

[rfurio@bpumc.org](mailto:rfurio@bpumc.org), ext. 124

MINISTER OF CARE: Kay Mutert

[membercare@bpumc.org](mailto:membercare@bpumc.org)

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES:

Stanley Davidson

[sdavidson@bpumc.org](mailto:sdavidson@bpumc.org), ext. 131

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT MINISTRIES:

J.T. Mercer

[youthdirector@bpumc.org](mailto:youthdirector@bpumc.org), ext. 129

CHILDREN AND STUDENT MINISTRY PROGRAM

COORDINATOR: Melissa Hendon

[mhendon@bpumc.org](mailto:mhendon@bpumc.org), ext. 130

ADULT MINISTRY PROGRAM AND MISSIONS

COORDINATOR: Susan Reynolds-Porter

[adultministry@bpumc.org](mailto:adultministry@bpumc.org), ext. 132

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION:

Jason McCrory

[jmccrory@bpumc.org](mailto:jmccrory@bpumc.org), ext. 122

FINANCIAL MANAGER: Joe Pitard

[jpitar@bpumc.org](mailto:jpitar@bpumc.org), ext. 123

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA:

Andrew Seltz

[aseltz@bpumc.org](mailto:aseltz@bpumc.org), ext. 127

SECRETARY: Brenda Atkins

[batkins@bpumc.org](mailto:batkins@bpumc.org), ext. 121

DIRECTOR OF TRADITIONAL WORSHIP:

Art DeWeese

[adeweese@bpumc.org](mailto:adeweese@bpumc.org), ext. 128

ORGANIST: Jay Tumminello

[jtumminello@bpumc.org](mailto:jtumminello@bpumc.org)

PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR: Tracy Estes

[imagination@bpumc.org](mailto:imagination@bpumc.org)

Published monthly by

Bluff Park United Methodist Church

733 Valley Street, Hoover, AL 35226

Article deadline 2nd Tuesday monthly

Editor: Andrew Seltz

[newsletter@bpumc.org](mailto:newsletter@bpumc.org)

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](mailto:newsletter@bpumc.org)

## Message from the Pastor

Hello Bluff Park Family!

Our fall is in full swing! Children's and Student Ministries are rockin' on Wednesday evenings and Sundays, our missions and ministries continue to do incredible work, and our Pastor's Bible Study is off to a terrific start! There is no time like right now to get plugged in to some awesome opportunities: we need volunteers on Wednesdays for Children's and Youth programs, our choir is always looking for more voices, and there is still room for you in the Bible Study. Come and be a part!



We are beginning our Capital Campaign! Beginning this month there will be emphasis in our worship celebrations, members of our Affinity Team will be available to make presentations to our Sunday School classes and small groups, and information will be coming forth in the forms of emails, articles, and videos. This is an exciting time as we dream of being able to be completely out of debt in the next three years. Can you even begin to imagine what that will be like when we have an additional \$15,000.00 a month to put towards missions, programs, ministries, and needs! Please be in prayer for how the Holy Spirit is leading you to participate.

There are so many wonderful things and ways Bluff Park UMC is reaching our congregation, community, and world. In the pages ahead you will get a glimpse of what is going on in our congregation. This is an exciting time, and wonderful opportunities abound!

In hope and grace,

Pastor Kevin





## BPUMC Women's Retreat

**SAVE THE DATE:** The BPUMC Women's Retreat will be January 21-22, 2023 at Camp Sumatanga! All women of BPUMC are invited and we hope you feel welcome to come and bring a friend or two if you would like! This year's theme is: *"The Well - Come. Surrender. Proclaim!"* Please make your plans to attend! The Women's Retreat Planning Team will meet Sunday, October 2nd at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Laura Ann Pitts, 4418 Village Green Way. More information about registration will be forthcoming! If you have any questions or would like to help serve on this Planning Team, please text Laura Ann Pitts (205) 317-6017 for more information.



---

## Our New Director of Social Media

Regan Sanders joined Bluff Park UMC as our Family Ministry Summer Intern for the months of June-August. She did a wonderful job helping plan and lead ASP, Adventure Camp, Camp on the Bluff, and Vacation Bible School! In addition, she took pictures at each of these events and ran the social media pages of both the Children's Ministry and Student Ministry at BPUMC during this time to great success. The numbers of people who visited these social media pages grew immensely over the summer, and a large number of parents in our church and our community learned about the ministries our church offers for children and students, commented on the quality of our posts, and thanked us for the ministry we were doing. Family Ministries had a fantastic summer, and that is in large part due to the hard work of Regan!

Realizing that she could do for all of BPUMC what she had done for our Family Ministries, Regan was hired as the Director of Social Media at Bluff Park UMC at the beginning of September! Her primary responsibilities will include overseeing the 10+ social media pages here at our church, taking pictures of and highlighting the many wonderful ministries and missions of our church, and monitoring and maintaining our church's website. To see an excellent example of the ministry that Regan will be providing our church, please view the recent Missions Highlight of the Food Pantry at BPUMC on any of our social media pages. Please join us in welcoming Regan Sanders to her new position at Bluff Park United Methodist Church!





## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

We will be offering a Halloween Carnival in the parking lot of our church on Saturday, October 29th from 2-4! There will be a trunk-or-treat, a pumpkin patch, carnival games, face painting, and live music! In addition, Art DeWeese, Kevin Payne, Ross Furio, and Stanley Davidson will be in the Dunk Tank this year raising money for our November coat drive for the homeless! 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!

In order to make this event as great as it can be for the families of our church and the families of our community, we need your help! We need as many people/groups as possible to decorate a car and hand out candy for our trunk-or-treat, and we need candy donations! There will be candy donation bins in the narthex and both entrances on the first floor, and if you would like to sign up to help with our trunk-or-treat, please email Melissa Hendon at [mhendon@bpumc.org](mailto:mhendon@bpumc.org)! We look forward to seeing you at the Halloween Carnival!



## STUDENT MINISTRY

We are in full swing of the fall and it's been amazing so far!! We have had a lot of excitement and energy surrounding our ministry and we are excited for some of the awesome things that we have coming up these next few months. Below are some of the events we are really excited about, but you can check out our website to find the full list of our events at [bluffparkumc.org](http://bluffparkumc.org).

### Upcoming Activities

#### Holy Ground Worship (October 5th, 12th, 19th)

Join us this Wednesday for our Student-led worship service called Holy Ground! Dinner is \$2 and is in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30. We have free time from 6:00-6:30 in the New Gym and the Connect Room, then worship starts at 6:30 in the Holy Ground Room and goes until 7:30!

#### Sunday Night Activities (October 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th)

Join us tonight from 4-6 for open gym time in the new gym! It is open for all 6th-12th graders, so invite your friends! Afterward, we will be having game night from 6:00-7:30 which includes a free dinner!

#### Pumpkin Olympics (October 26th)

It's BACK!!! Pumpkin Olympics makes its yearly return October 26th for our monthly Wild Wednesday! We will have \$2 dinner and then we will be playing a bunch of fun games involving pumpkins!

#### Halloween Carnival (October 29th)

Join us on October 29th from 2-4 in the parking lot for our annual Halloween Carnival. Candy, music, games, and more it's going to be an awesome time! This event is for the whole family to enjoy together, but youth are welcome to come and volunteer as well!

#### Fall Retreat (November 4th-6th)

Registration is open for our fall retreat! We will be going to Camp Cosby for an amazing weekend. This is a great opportunity to meet new friends, reconnect with old ones, and get to know people better! The cost is \$100 per person and registration is open now on our website!



## ADULT MINISTRY

### Wednesdays with Friends – Faith Focus on October 12th: Art DeWeese, Director of Traditional Worship

Join us in the Sanctuary at 10 AM on Wednesday, October 12th when our own Art DeWeese (Director of Traditional Worship) will tell us about the pipe organ, its history, repairs, and use. In addition, he will discuss the role of the choir in worship. If you are unable to attend in person, the event will be live-streamed. An optional boxed lunch will be available in the Fellowship Hall immediately after the program for \$10. Please register to attend, indicating if you want a meal. **[Lunch will only be available for those who register and pay by Sunday, October 9th.]** To register, go to the Events Tab on the BPUMC website or call the church office.

### Adult Ministry: Hocus Pocus Movie at the Alabama Theater

Join us at 5:30 PM on Friday, October 28th for a trip

on our church buses to the Alabama Theater to see the movie *Hocus Pocus*. Tickets are \$12.50 per person and *are available for the first 30 people who register and pay by Monday, October 17th.* To register, go to the Events Tab on the BPUMC website or call the church office.

### Adult Ministry: 1925 Silent Film Phantom of the Opera at the Alabama Theater

Join us at 12:30 PM on Sunday, October 30th for a trip in our church buses to the Alabama Theater to see the original 1925 silent film *Phantom of the Opera*, with Tom Helms playing the original score on Big Bertha, the theater's Mighty Wurlitzer organ. Tickets are \$16.50 per person and *will only be available for the first 30 people who register and pay by Monday, October 17th.* To register, go to the Events Tab on the BPUMC website or call the church office.

## LOCAL, U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

### October Mission Focus – International Missions Supported by BPUMC

In 2022, BPUMC is supporting the work of missionaries in Chile, Costa Rica and Zambia.

**CHILE** – Between 2007 and early 2022, BPUMC supported United Methodist missionary to Chile, John Elmore, in a covenant relationship. The covenant consisted of praying for John's work, contributing funds, and sending teams to work with and build relationships with John and members of his community. Through the years, BPUMC has sent work teams to: Iquique, Arica, Talca, and El Vergel (Agricultural School and a Methodist camp). Most of the work in these locations was construction and painting. With John's retirement in March 2022, we are looking at other international mission opportunities, with the potential for another covenant missionary relationship in the future. The missions committee welcomes your input into future mission projects.

**COSTA RICA** – During spring break 2022, two members of the BPUMC mission committee joined a Vestavia Hills UMC work team to Costa Rica. There they worked with missionary Wil Bailey who is commissioned as a United Methodist Volunteers in Mission Individual Volunteer. To support his work, he created the Costa Rica Missions Projects organization (<http://costaricamissionprojects.com/>). In 2023, BPUMC will again join VHUMC on a work team to Costa Rica during spring break (March 25th to April 1st). We hope some of you will be able to join the team. To learn more about Wil and his work, plan to attend a meeting with him at 2 PM on Sunday, November 13th at Vestavia Hills UMC.

**ZAMBIA** – Rev. Joe Riddle, his wife Ashley and their two children, ages 4 and 5 will soon leave for Zambia where Joe and Ashley will serve as United Methodist missionaries in the South Congo/Zambia Episcopal Area. Joe will work as a church developer for churches that have been meeting in homes and Ashley will serve as the Volunteers in Mission coordinator and Christian Education

Trainer. Joe is an elder in the North Alabama Annual Conference, having worked most recently as the associate pastor at First United Methodist Church, Pell City. We are pleased to provide some seed money as they begin their work. Please be in prayer for the Riddles as they begin their work in the South Congo and Zambia.

For more information or to learn more about being part of the Costa Rica work team, please contact Julie Adams at [juliead40@gmail.com](mailto:juliead40@gmail.com) or Susan Reynolds-Porter at [missions@bpumc.org](mailto:missions@bpumc.org).

### Church Serve Day: Volunteers Needed on Saturday, October 15th, 8 AM to Noon

Can you help clean-up our church grounds? If so, please meet at 8 AM on Saturday, October 15th by the church playground. (Even an hour of your time would really help!) Dress for the outdoors. We will have t-shirts and water to drink. Please bring yard tools, labeled with your name: pruning shears, loppers, rakes, shovels, etc. Families are welcome! If you can join us, please email Susan Reynolds-Porter at [missions@bpumc.org](mailto:missions@bpumc.org) or call her at the church.

### Pantry on the Bluff September Report

In September, 220 households received food from BPUMC's Food Pantry (Pantry on the Bluff). Bluff Park Elementary School was given 70 backpacks of food for students who would not otherwise have food for week-ends. In addition, 6,991 child and adult diapers and pullups were given out. Our thanks to the 54 volunteers who prepared for and operated the September Pantry on the Bluff.



## Scholarship Recipients 2022-2023

**Anne-Hale Winter** - Sue Crunk Scholarship

**Lydia Coltrane** - Elaine Clinton Scholarship

**Brady Coltrane** - Elaine Clinton Scholarship

**Barclay Culverhouse** - Victor Harbor Scholarship

**Clayton Marshall** - Victor Harbor Scholarship

**Connor Sprattley** - Christin Crockett Scholarship

**Molly Edwards** - Sision Scholarship

### Member Updates

#### NEW MEMBERS

- Lee, Ashley, and Anne Stork - 08/28/2022
- Nick, Sarah, and Luke Elam - 09/18/2022
- Sam, Jessica, Sydney, and Sloan Wilson - 09/25/2022
- Russ and Donna Crouch - 09/25/2022

#### BAPTISMS

- Luke Elam - 09/18/2022
- Sloane Wilson - 09/25/2022
- Sydney Wilson - 09/25/2022

#### CONGRATULATIONS...

Congratulations to Kristin and Michael Brymer on the birth of a son, Wesley Brooks on September 1st.

#### SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION...

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Carol Westbrook on the passing of her husband Pat on September 8th. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family in their time of loss.

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Sandra Morgan on the passing of her husband Stokely on September 7th. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family in their time of loss.

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Marvin Broome on the passing of his wife Diane on September 12th. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family in their time of loss.

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Joe Black on the passing of his wife Lisa on September 16th. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family in their time of loss.

## LIFETRACK

### October 1

Matthew 6:5-15 | Psalm 51

### October 2

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 | Psalm 23

### October 3

Exodus 12:1-28 | Psalm 23

### October 4

Matthew 26:17-30 | Psalm 23

### October 5

John 10:11-18 | Psalm 23

### October 6

Psalm 133 | Psalm 23

### October 7

Hebrews 12:1-2 | Psalm 23

### October 8

Luke 14:15-24 | Psalm 23

### October 9

1 Cor. 12:12-31 | Psalm 133

### October 10

Ephesians 4:1-6 | Psalm 133

### October 11

1 Corinthians 1:10-17 | Psalm 133

### October 12

Acts 4:32-37 | Psalm 133

### October 13

Galatians 3:23-29 | Psalm 133

### October 14

Philippians 2:1-11 | Psalm 133

### October 15

2 Timothy 2:14-19 | Psalm 133

### October 16

Matthew 28:16-20 | Psalm 145

### October 17

Matthew 18:1-5 | Psalm 145

### October 18

Matthew 25:31-46 | Psalm 145

### October 19

Proverbs 3:1-12 | Psalm 145

### October 20

Matthew 5:13-16 | Psalm 145

### October 21

James 1:26-27 | Psalm 145

### October 22

Hebrews 10:19-25 | Psalm 145

### October 23

John 17:1-26 | Psalm 19

### October 24

1 Samuel 2:1-10 | Psalm 19

### October 25

1 Chronicles 4:10 | Psalm 19

### October 26

1 Kings 3:7-9 | Psalm 19

### October 27

Matthew 6:9-13 | Psalm 19

### October 28

Ephesians 3:14-19 | Psalm 19

### October 29

1 Thessalonians 5:12-22 | Psalm 19

### October 30

2 Corinthians 8:1-15 | Psalm 37

### October 31

2 Corinthians 9:6-8 | Psalm 37



# Monthly Calendar for October 2022

## Sunday, October 2

8:45 am Women's Bible Study  
9:00 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Traditional Worship Service  
10:00 am The Gathering at Bluff Park  
4:00 pm Student Ministry Open Gym  
6:00 pm Student Ministry

## Monday, October 3

10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry

## Tuesday, October 4

9:30 am Becky Walker Bible Study

## Wednesday, October 5

7:00 am Food Pantry  
5:00 pm Pastor's Bible Study  
5:30 pm Elementary Midweek  
6:00 pm Youth Holy Ground  
6:00 pm Men's Chorus  
6:00 pm Adult Handbells  
6:30 pm Choir

## Thursday, October 6

9:30 am Quilting Group

## Sunday, October 9

8:45 am Women's Bible Study  
9:00 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Traditional Worship Service  
10:00 am The Gathering at Bluff Park  
4:00 pm Student Ministry Open Gym  
6:00 pm Student Ministry

## Monday, October 10

10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry  
6:00 pm Missions Committee

## Tuesday, October 11

9:30 am Becky Walker Bible Study

## Wednesday, October 12

10:00 am Wednesday with Friends:  
Faith Focus  
5:00 pm Pastor's Bible Study  
5:30 pm Elementary Midweek  
6:00 pm Youth Holy Ground  
6:00 pm Men's Chorus  
6:00 pm Adult Handbells  
6:30 pm Choir

## Thursday, October 13

9:30 am Quilting Group

## Saturday, October 15

8:00 am Serve Day

## Sunday, October 16

8:45 am Women's Bible Study  
9:00 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Traditional Worship Service  
10:00 am The Gathering at Bluff Park  
2:00 pm Spotlight on The Gathering  
4:00 pm Student Ministry Open Gym  
6:00 pm Student Ministry

## Monday, October 17

10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry

## Tuesday, October 18

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

## Wednesday, October 19

5:00 pm Pastor's Bible Study  
5:30 pm Elementary Midweek  
6:00 pm Youth Holy Ground  
6:00 pm Men's Chorus  
6:00 pm Adult Handbells  
6:30 pm Choir

## Thursday, October 20

9:30 am Quilting Group  
7:00 pm Book Club

## Sunday, October 23

8:45 am Women's Bible Study  
9:00 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Traditional Worship Service  
10:00 am The Gathering at Bluff Park  
4:00 pm Student Ministry Open Gym  
6:00 pm Student Ministry

## Monday, October 24

10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry  
10:00 am UWIF Joy Circle

## Tuesday, October 25

9:30 am Becky Walker Bible Study

## Wednesday, October 26

5:00 pm Pastor's Bible Study  
5:30 pm Wild Wednesday: Pumpkin  
Olympics  
6:00 pm Men's Chorus  
6:00 pm Adult Handbells  
6:30 pm Choir

## Thursday, October 27

9:30 am Quilting Group  
6:30 pm Finance Committee

## Saturday, October 29

2:00 pm Halloween Carnival

## Sunday, October 30

8:45 am Women's Bible Study  
9:00 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Traditional Worship Service  
10:00 am The Gathering at Bluff Park  
4:00 pm Church Council  
4:00 pm Student Ministry Open Gym  
6:00 pm Student Ministry

## Monday, October 31

10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry



## LIFETRACK by Email

You can sign up to have more daily devotional tools to enrich your LifeTrack Spiritual Formation Journey delivered to your e-mail inbox everyday!

To subscribe to the daily email distribution use your smart phone and follow the QR code or visit the web

@ bluffparkumc.org/lifetrack-daily

## MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

### In Memory of...

#### CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**John Bullivant**, by D.C. and Suzanne Scivley

#### FOOD PANTRY

**Diane Broome**, by Ed and Nan Thomas

**Stokley Morgan**, by Canterbury Class, John and Sue Irwin, SCS Retirees, Ed and Nan Thomas

#### OPERATING FUND

**Nadine Hamilton**, by Jo Ann Huddleston

**Stokley Morgan**, by Terry and Ann Bice

**Nell Smith**, by Otis and Temmie Bibb, Terry and Ann Bice, John and Deb Cotney,

**Patricia Shanlever**, by Mike and Sandy Miller

#### PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY

**Stokley Morgan**, by Kenneth and Martha Wade

### TRUSTEES FUND

**Pat Westbrook**, by Richard and Sandra DeShazo

### UNDER THE BRIDGE

**Diane Broome**, by Danny and Patti Fore

**Pat Westbrook**, by Jack and Carole Armistead, Dyer and Ronda Carlisle, Richard and Sandra DeShazo, Danny and Patti Fore, Delaina Given, Andy and Ann Holder, John and Sue Irwin, Andy King, Rick and Jennifer McEuen, Bob and Ann Nelson, Bill and Paulette Pearson, Ron and Carole Roegner, Leonette Slay, Jack and Judy Stevens, Ed and Nan Thomas, Wesley Forum Class, Debi Whitcomb

**Hank Jasper Pocopanni**, by J.B. and Frankie Thrasher

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

X



# Bluff Park

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

— Rooted in Faith, Growing in Grace —

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

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
AUTO  
BIRMINGHAM, AL  
PERMIT NO. 1816

X



*follow us*



X

BLUFF PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL

SATURDAY OCTOBER 29TH 2PM-4PM

**Trunk-or-Treat, Bake Sale,  
Dunk Tank, Carnival Games,  
Prizes, Live Music, Pumpkin  
Patch, Popcorn, And more!**

**FREE ADMISSION!**

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

