

# Bluff Park United Methodist Church

*open hearts,  
open minds,  
open doors*

733 Valley Street  
Hoover, AL 35226  
205.822.0910  
www.bpumc.org

## Newsletter

September 6, 2010

## STRENGTHS

We will offer a unique opportunity as a part of Midweek Ministries this Fall. It's a course called **STRENGTHS**. There will be four classes designed to give us an insight into ourselves and into the persons God created us to be. We will identify personal talents and characteristics and begin to discover where and how we can function most effectively. The insights can apply to all the settings of our lives: family, personal relationships, career, community involvement, church. We can gain a sense of God's direction and guidance.

The class will use the best-selling **STRENGTHS FINDER 2.0** book by Tom Rath. The Strengths Finder assessment will clarify our self-understanding, and we can discover our DNA — Divine Natural Attributes — and learn how to employ them.

The course will meet on four consecutive Wednesday nights — September 29, October 6, 13, and 20 — at 6:00 in the Fishermen classroom. The leader will be Laura Cammack Eanes, who grew up in our church and served as Director of Lay Involvement at Trinity UMC in Homewood. She developed this course while serving at Trinity as a way for people to find their place of service and ministry. The cost is \$13 for the **STRENGTHS FINDER 2.0** book.

We want to limit the class to 20 participants. Call Anna Brittain in the church office at 822-0910 or e-mail at [abrittain@bpumc.org](mailto:abrittain@bpumc.org) to register. All ages are welcome. Couples can attend together or individually. Newcomers to our congregation especially are encouraged to consider participation. We will come away with a clearer view of ourselves and of how God can use us in His work.

## STAFF NEWS

Diana Mayhall has submitted her resignation as Director of Music at BPUMC, effective September 5. Diana has served our congregation since August, 1990, a total of 20 years. We are grateful for the contributions she has made.

She began as Director of the Chancel Choir and then revived the Youth Choir, which had disbanded. She also became Director of our Children's choirs. As the music ministry of the church expanded and evolved over the years, Diana provided steady leadership. She has instilled a love for and appreciation of the great hymns and music of our Christian heritage.

She leaves with our deepest appreciation and our best wishes for her health and happiness in the future.

## MIDWEEK MINISTRIES

Midweek Ministries is off to a great start! Join us this Wednesday night. Supper is served continuously from 5:00-6:30 with takeouts available.

On September 15 at 6:00 in the library, Becky Walker will conduct an orientation session for the Disciple Bible Study on **Invitation to the Old Testament**, an 8-week overview of the Hebrew scriptures.

Anyone who is interested in learning to play Handbells is invited to meet our new Handbell Director, **Russell Blackburn**, at 5:45 in the Handbell rehearsal room.

**Midweek Menu for September 15:** *Pork cutlets, mashed potatoes, lima beans, baked chicken, baked potato bar, salad bar, bread, drink, dessert.*

**Attention paper newsletter subscribers!**

Would you be willing to receive the weekly newsletter via e-mail instead of regular mail? With your help, the church can significantly reduce postage and handling costs. Please email [abrittain@bpumc.org](mailto:abrittain@bpumc.org) if you are willing to make the switch!

**Counseling:** Since 1993, our church has been a satellite office of United Methodist Pastoral Care and Counseling, Inc., an agency of the North Alabama Conference. Counseling services are offered on site at convenient times such as evenings and weekends for both members of our congregation and persons in the community. Rev. Steve Sweatt is the counselor assigned to the Bluff Park office. He is an ordained minister, licensed counselor, and certified marriage and family therapist. Call 213-0227 or 824-8320 for an appointment. It's confidential and affordable. Feel free to refer friends and family members who might benefit from talking with a trained, experienced counselor.

**Congratulations to:**

**Joe and Kay (Sertell) Wheless**, who were married at the church on August 30.

**Steve and Lisa (Jackson) Boozer**, who were married at the church on August 31.

We wish for both couples many years of happiness together.

**New Members:**

**Laura Stonecipher** lives at 2178 Russett Meadows Lane and comes to us by transfer from First UMC in Sheffield, Alabama. Laura is an accountant with Southern Company.

**NOTICE:** The Home Improvement Class will meet in the Fellowship Hall on the Sundays in September. As construction on the new addition is completed, we can then address problems with the classroom.

The **Board of Stewards** will meet on Sunday, September 12 at 4:30pm in the Opportunity classroom. We will review what happened over the summer and look ahead to the fall and winter. There will be a update on the construction project. We will devise plans for the 2011 Church Operating Budget. All Board members are strongly encouraged to attend.

**Prayer Request:** Joy Shultz and her mother are on a Mission Trip to Uganda and Sudan from August 30—September 17. They will work with United Methodist missionaries Boo and Phyllis Hankins. Please keep the group in your prayers.

**Maintenance:** The Maintenance Group will meet on Tuesday, September 14, at 8:30 to work around the church building. All retired men and anybody else who wants to help are welcome. There's always plenty to do!

**Ecuador Mission Trip and Compassion Sponsor/Child Meet-Up:** A partnership is being formed between Compassion International, SIFAT (Servants in Faith & Technology), and BPUMC. A mission trip with SIFAT is scheduled for March 12 to March 19 (Spring Break) to work on the construction of a three story building housing a kitchen, cafeteria and classrooms for children in Puengasi, Quito with a VBS component. Compassion International is involved in this project in Ecuador AND arrangements will be made for all sponsors to meet their child! Further details of the trip will be provided. Please contact Sherrill Corson if interested in participating in this mission trip.

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study:** We will resume on September 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 in the Friendship Classroom. This fall we will focus primarily on *Christmas from the Backside* by J. Ellsworth Kalas. The approach taken is a creative retelling of the scripture passages from an uncommon perspective, which challenges the participant to gain new insights into Biblical truths. Your Christmas season will be enriched with greater depth and understanding. If this sounds like something which interests you, come and see what we are all about! We'd love to have you join us! Call Becky Walker (987-0404) for more information.

**Thursday Night Bible Study**

If you are in the following classes:

Footsteps, New Horizons, Cornerstone,  
New Light, Home Improvement

Rusty will be hosting a Bible study in his home on alternating Thursday nights, beginning on September 23rd from 6:00—8:00pm.

Call Rusty for details — nursery will be provided!

2604 Foothills Drive  
Birmingham, Alabama 35226

**MIDWEEK MINISTRIES**

With

**PETER KIRCHIKOV**

6:00pm in the Parlor

**September 15**

“Walnuts on my Bookshelf: A Mother’s Legacy”

This is the title of a chapter in Peter Kirchikov’s book of memories of living in Communist Russia. Please join this class to hear the life lessons that his mother taught him about wisdom, perseverance, Christian Values, prayer, fairness, humility, humbleness, modesty, mother wit, common sense, patience, virtues and raising children the right way.

Peter will tell the unforgettable story of why there will always be walnuts on his bookshelf as he shares the legacy of his mother’s love.

**September 22**

“U.S. World War Two and the Greatest Generation — memories and personal accounts”

What exactly identifies the men and women of the WWII era as the Greatest Generation? Something shaped their ideals and motivated them to enlist into the armed forces at an early age and display unheard and unseen deeds of valor, courage, and heroism. What made them so patriotic? How were they able to endure, survive the worst global conflict, prevail against the odds and ultimately defeat the enemy?

Join Peter Kirchikov to hear little-known WWII stories that are a part of his current project: *“Encyclopedic Dictionary of the World War Two: Events, Operations, Leaders, Core Terms”*.



**Mondays**

**6:30 — 7:30pm  
Sept. 20 — Nov. 15**

Cost of 10-week session: \$80.00  
Drop-in Rate: \$10.00

Zumba will be held at Vestavia UMC on Monday, September 13 at 6:30pm.

**Men’s Freeplay Basketball  
In the Gym**

Sunday & Thursday Wednesday  
7:00pm 7:30pm  
(church members) (community)

**SONRISE MEN’S PRAYER  
BREAKFAST**

**Mondays, 6:30-7:00 am**  
Arby’s on  
Montgomery Highway  
Men of all ages welcome

**Urban Kids Birthday Cakes**

Urban Kids starts up again this week and it’s time to enlist help in baking birthday cakes for them for the upcoming school year. If you would like to donate a birthday cake (or cakes) please call Lois Truss (823-3741) or email at [lois.t.truss@gmail.com](mailto:lois.t.truss@gmail.com).

If you’re not a baker, store-bought cakes are welcome!



## Bargains on the Bluff

A Children's Consignment Sale

### Preview Sale

**(Workers and Consignors ONLY)**

Thursday, September 16  
2:00 — 6:00pm

### Public Sale

Friday, September 17  
9:00am — 6:00pm

\*\*Saturday, September 18  
9:00am — 2:00pm

\*\*25% off day!

## Greening your Church

As the people of God, we affirm God's creation in all its glory and beauty, and as a result, strive to respect all of life as sacramental. We accept our vocation as Earth-keepers who care for creation and our responsibility to live justly in relation to all creatures. Come discuss how to care for God's green earth and live justly with all creation, minimizing our impact in this world that God has created for all.

Presented by Bill Peters and Wendy Hare

Montevallo Presbyterian Church

Bill is a retired environmental manager and elder at Montevallo Presbyterian Church and now leads MPC's *Green Team*. Wendy is the pastor at Montevallo Presbyterian and has led Green series for both Sunday School and worship.

**Everyone Invited!**

**Monday, September 20, 2010, 6:00pm**

\$5.00

Program to follow dinner  
Reid Crotty Fellowship Hall

RSVP to Theresa Richerson, 620-1749, richerson@bellsouth.net

**Presented by United Methodist Women**

### "Every Member In Ministry" – BPUMC Mission & Outreach

Our love for God must be both an upward and outward active expression of love towards others. The goal of BPUMC is for every member to discover a place of Christian service and mission through giving and/or "hands on" ministry. If you are looking for a place of service or have an idea to share with others, please contact Sherrill Corson at 822.0910 or [scorson@bpumc.org](mailto:scorson@bpumc.org).

#### **Outreach Updates:**

**McCoy Adult Day Care Center** - the United Methodist Women are sponsoring a "shower" for the McCoy Adult Day Care Center and are asking YOUR help in providing gifts for the shower. Providing items for this shower is a fun way to show you care.

Any of the items listed below would greatly enhance the ministry of the center:

Office supplies (stamps, window envelopes, invitation envelopes, lamination sheets, markers), snack items (Ritz Crackers, graham crackers, peanut butter, sugar-free drink mix, tuna), paper supplies (paper towels, napkins, tissues), personal care items (hand sanitizer, liquid antibacterial soap, baby wipes).

**Items may be placed in a receiving box in the narthex of the sanctuary or near the door of the church office. Your help is greatly appreciated in supporting this vital ministry.**

### CHILDREN'S NEWS

#### **MIDWEEK WILL START SEPTEMBER 8!**

**Handbells** for 3-5th graders will be at 4:30pm. Our very own **Ann Harter**, who taught at Fine Arts Camp, will be leading the children. It will be a great experience for the elementary ringers!

**Open Gym** will be 5:00-5:45pm.

**Children's Choir** for preschoolers, young elementary, and older elementary will be from 5:50-6:30.

**M&M Kids** will be 6:30-7:30p.m. in the Arts and Crafts room on the elementary floor.

**3rd Graders** will receive their Bibles at the 8:45am service on September 26. Parents, please let Mrs. Leigh know the name your child wants in his or her Bible.

**4th & 5th FELLOWSHIP:** For Children who are entering the 4th and 5th grades, we will have back to school gathering on Sept. 12th. We will go to CiCi's Pizza and then go bowling. We'll start at 5p.m. and be back by 7:45p.m. Please let Mrs. Leigh know if your child can go!!!

**THANK YOU** to all the parents who registered their children during Promotion Sunday. If you did not register your children this past Sunday, please fill out the green registration sheet. You will find them on the information table by the Fellowship Hall and on the Elementary Floor. We are rebuilding our database and **need complete information on every child whether you are new or have been a member for years** that is in our program.

**NEXT ELEMENTARY FIELD TRIP** will be Friday, October 8. Be on the look out for more details!

### YOUTH MINISTRY

With Mid Week ministries starting this week, I am excited about the buzz around the church! We will conclude our series on *Giving It Up!*, focusing this week on accountability.

On Sunday, we're having a Parent Informational meeting right after the 11:00 service in the Fellowship Hall. A light lunch will be provided. Small groups start this Sunday night, with a snack supper starting at 5:30. Small groups will begin at 6.

### SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES:

**Kindness-Pass-It-On**

**SENIOR FUN DAY WITH REID IS COMING!**

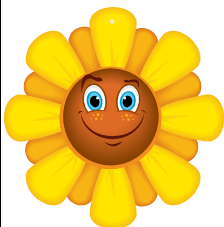
**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Friday September 10: SENIOR FUN DAY - LUNCH WITH REID.** Mark your calendars. The fun, with special entertainment, starts at 11:00am. Cost: \$8.00 per person.

**Thursday, September 16: SHEPHERD'S CENTER:** Earlybird Fellowship at 9:30am. Viola Freeman, US Postal Service, 10:00am. Regular scheduling at 11:00am.

**Sunday, September 19: PEACH PARK** 4:00-7:30pm Good fellowship, peach ice cream, hot dogs, peach pies, time to enjoy the rocking chairs and scenery. Cost: \$3.00/gas donation. Everyone welcome.

**Thursday, October 21—Friday, October 22: DESOTO STATE PARK WITH REID AND BETTY.** Park tour, Mentone, and Howard's Chapel. Cost: \$135/per person. Includes overnight at the lodge, dinner, breakfast, and much more. Call Betty.



**Sunday, September 12**  
 8:45am Morning Worship  
 9:45am Sunday School  
 11:00am Morning Worship  
 4:00pm Stickers Meeting  
 4:30pm Board of Stewards

**Monday, September 13**  
 8:30am Staff Meeting  
 All day Consignment Sale Set-Up  
 7:00pm Missions Committee

**Tuesday, September 14**  
 8:30am Maintenance Group  
 9:30am Bible Study  
 All Day Consignment Sale Set-Up

**Wednesday, September 15**  
 All Day Consignment Sale Set-Up  
 4:30pm and 6:30pm Pastor's Bible Study  
 4:30pm Young Ringers Handbells  
 5:00pm — 6:30pm Midweek Meal  
 5:45pm Adult Handbells  
 5:50pm — 6:25pm Children's Choir  
 6:00pm Peter Kirchikov  
 6:00pm Disciple I  
 6:30pm Susan Truss Bible Study  
 6:30pm Holy Ground  
 6:30pm Coffee and Conversation  
 6:30pm — 7:30pm M&M Kids  
 6:30pm — 8:15pm Adult Choirs

**Thursday, September 16**  
 9:00am Shepherd's Center  
 2:00pm — 6:00pm BOTB Preview Sale

**Friday, September 17**  
 9:00am — 6:00pm Bargains on the Bluff  
 6:00pm Friendship Class

**Saturday, September 18**  
 9:00am — 2:00pm Bargains on the Bluff

## This Week's Calendar

**MEETINGS**  
**Board of Stewards**  
 Sunday, September 12, 4:30pm

**Stitchers**  
 Sunday, September 12, 4:00pm

**Rusty's Second NYC Trip Information Meeting**  
 Sunday, September 12, 4:00pm

**UMW Executive Meeting**  
 Monday, September 13, 4:00pm

**Missions Committee**  
 Monday, September 13, 7:00pm

**Worship Committee**  
 Sunday, September 19, 5:00pm

**UMW Supper and Program**  
 Monday, September 20, 6:00pm

**Preschool Committee**  
 Monday, September 20, 6:30pm

**September 12, 2010**  
**Greeters**  
**September 19— Anglers**  
**Ushers**  
 8:45 Nelson 11:00 Pears

**Acolytes**  
 8:45 Jasmine Hendon 11:00 Helen Lunsford

**Cross**  
 8:45 Landon Knight 11:00 TBA

**Children's Church**  
 8:45 Mann 11:00A: Grubb 11:00B: Gold

**Meals on Wheels**  
**September 15— Ray & Charlotte Shanlever**

**Food Pantry**  
**September 15— Penny Burns**

**Sermons, September 12, 2010**  
**8:45am & 11:00 Morning Worship**  
**Reid Crotty**  
**"Of Gnats and Camels"**  
**(Matthew 23:23-24)**

**Evening Worship**  
**6:00pm**  
**Tom Roberts**  
**"Truth"**  
**(John 8:31-33)**

**Last Week's Record**  
**September 5, 2010**

Sunday School	348
Morning Worship	517
Weekly Operating Needs	\$28,060.09
Operating Receipts	\$32,805.20
2010 Operating Budget	\$1,459,125.00
Needed to Date	\$1,010,163.32
Received to Date	\$964,527.96
Building Fund Receipts	\$7,173.46
Building Fund in 2010	254,105.46
New Members in 2010	53

**BE A PIECE OF THE PUZZLE**  
**January 1, 2010—December 31, 2012**

Amount Pledged	\$1,491,048.00
Received Last Week	\$6,631.46
Received to Date	\$310,987.08

**VALET PARKING**  
 Every Sunday morning! Drive to the covered entrance near the nursery and fellowship hall.

**BPUMC FOOD PANTRY**  
**1st and 3rd Wednesday each month**  
 We are serving 100+ families a month.  
 We appreciate all donations!

### Bluff Park United Methodist Church

733 Valley Street  
 Hoover, AL 35226

Address Service Requested

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#### Pastors

Reid A. Crotty, rcrotty@bpumc.org  
 Rusty Glasgow, rglasgow@bpumc.org  
 Sherrill Corson, scorson@bpumc.org  
 Tom Roberts

#### Dir. of Seniors, ext. 103

Betty Hottenstein, bhottenstein@bpumc.org

#### Dir. of Student Ministries, ext. 118

Patrick Carnathan, pcarnathan@bpumc.org

#### Dir. of Children, ext. 107

Leigh Delashaw, ldelashaw@bpumc.org

#### Administrator, ext. 101

Elizabeth Sheetz, esheetz@bpumc.org

#### Financial Manager, ext. 117

Joan Landrum, jlandrum@bpumc.org

#### Secretary, ext. 119 and 111

Cindy Myers, cmyers@bpumc.org

Anna Brittain, abrittain@bpumc.org

**Assistant Music Director, Lonnie Parsons**

**Organist, Jamie Davis**

#### Webmaster

Jenny Strickland

#### Preschool Director

Tracy Estes, imaginations@bpumc.org