

Bluff Park United Methodist Church

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

*open hearts,
open minds,
open doors*

Newsletter

March 3, 2010

EASTER LOVE GIFT FOR MISSIONS

During Lent we receive a special offering to support a number of ministries and outreaches here in our own community, across Alabama and the nation, and around the world. Through our gifts, we touch many lives with the love and power of the Living Christ. All of us are asked to make an offering above our regular pledge or gift. Special offering envelopes are provided in the pew racks, or simply mark your check "Easter Love Gift"

GOAL: **\$15,000**

RECEIVED TO DATE: **3,774**

The causes included in the Easter Love Gift are:

Volunteers in Mission

Red Bird Mission

UMCOR

Greater Birmingham Ministries

Urban Ministry, Inc.

Alabama Goodwill Industries

Upper Sand Mountain Parish

Shepherd's Fold

The Foundry Rescue Mission

John Elmore, Missionary to Chile

Traveler's Aid Society

Habitat for Humanity

First Light, Inc.

Salvation Army Shelter

SIFAT

UMRA

Church of the Reconciler

New Heights UMC

THE HILLTOP SINGERS of BIRMINGHAM-SOUTHERN COLLEGE

Directed by

DANIEL SEIGEL

(Grandson of our Howard and Peggy Sisson)

SUNDAY, MARCH 28

5:00 Light Supper

5:30 Hilltop Singers Program

EVERYONE WELCOME!



TOM ALLEY MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, April 19

Pine Tree Country Club

4 Person, 18 Hole Scramble

\$75 Per player

(Greens Fee, Lunch, Cart, Range Balls)

Sympathy of the congregation is extended to Sally Holland in the death of her mother, Dorothy Nutt of Fowler, Indiana, on February 25....to Debra, Beth, and Will McCallum in the death of their husband and father, Richard McCallum, on February 28.....Our prayers are with the families in their time of sorrow.

Parking: We are working on plans to ease the parking problems before we get to the big crowds on Palm Sunday and Easter. The key is to utilize the sections of the old parking lots on the west side of the construction area. There are a lot of parking spaces in the old upper parking lot beside the education building and in the lower lot near where the Boy Scouts sell Christmas trees. If some of us would park there, it would ease congestion in the new lot near the sanctuary. Be watching for more information.

Attention: For all those who have a connection to Fairfield First United Methodist Church! There is a project pending which might be of interest to you. Please contact Becky Walker (987-0404) for further information.

Midweek: Reid Crotty's Bible Study will not meet on March 10 because he will be preaching in a Lenten service in Boaz. Other classes include:

* Parenting Issues at 6:00 in the Home Improvement classroom. Steve Sweatt will lead a session on

"Raising Children in Popular Culture."

*Becky Walker leads "A Life Worth Living" at 6:00 in the library.

* The Susan Truss Women's Bible Study meets at 6:00 in the Seeker's classroom

Request: We have people in our congregation who have allergic reactions to perfume and cologne fragrances. As a favor to them we would like to ask everyone's cooperation in making the back several pews on the left side as you enter the sanctuary (in front of the sound room) an informal "fragrance free area". Let's see if this helps those who are adversely affected. Those who wear perfume or cologne are asked to sit in other sections of the sanctuary. Thank you very much.

Hospitals: Golden Living Dot Price Shelby Ridge Jean Ponder Mt. Royal Towers Jake Cooper Princeton Fred Elder

New Members: Brett and Ivy Holmes live at 609 Eastwood Place with their children Lauren Ann (age 8) and Daniel (age 9 months). They are former members who moved away and have now returned. They come by transfer from Fairhope UMC in Fairhope, Alabama. Brett and Ivy attend the Home Improvement Class.

Counseling: It's not a sign of weakness to realize when we need some help in dealing with a problem. It's a mark of wisdom to seek out the help we need. There's no need to struggle alone when that help is available. Steve Sweatt is an ordained minister, licensed counselor and certified marriage and family therapist affiliated with United Methodist Pastoral Care and Counseling, Inc. who comes to the satellite office here at the church for personal, marriage, and family counseling. Call 213-0227 or 824-8320 for an appointment. It's confidential and affordable.

Classes: There will be a combined meeting of the Footsteps, New Horizons, and New Light Classes on March 7 at 9:45 in the Fellowship Hall. Members of the church staff, several church officers, and Reid Crotty will be present to talk with our three youngest adult classes about ways to broaden our base of leadership by involving more people from these classes in the leadership and decision making of the congregation. We need and want input from younger people as we chart our course into the future.

Meetings:

Thursday, March 4 7:00 Finance Committee
 Sunday, March 7 6:30 Pastor-Parish Relations Committee
 Monday, March 8 7:00 Missions Committee
 Sunday, March 21 3:30 Music Committee
 Sunday, March 21 4:30 Board of Stewards



MARK YOUR CALENDAR
BBQ

Hoover Valley Service Area of North Alabama Girl Scout Council had a Father/Daughter Sweetheart Dance on February 20th. Each couple was asked to bring a canned good as their "admission". We are pleased to help our community by donating the 200+ cans of food to the BPUMC pantry.

BBQ Responsibilities – At our last Adult Sunday School Council meeting each class was given their work assignment for our annual Spring BBQ (April 9th – 10th). If your class was absent please contact Lawton Higgs (church office) for information about your class's work area.

Easter Love Gift Emphasis – SIFAT

"Servants in Faith And Technology" is a Christian nonprofit organization that provides training in self-help programs for a needy world. SIFAT offers opportunities for Christians to get involved personally, both to learn from others and to partner with them in missions. Acknowledging Christ's concern for the spiritual as well as the physical aspects of His children, SIFAT responds to the Great Commission by sharing God's love in practical ways. Faith and technology are merged for the purpose of enabling the poor to develop holistically in Jesus Christ. Since its founding in 1979, SIFAT has trained community leaders from 76 countries around the globe in practical skills to meet basic human needs.

For more info see: http://www.sifat.org/about_us/about_us.htm

Thank you: Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ: I am writing to thank you for the wonderful ministry you have of visiting your members when they are in the hospital. My grandmother, Edith Bratton, was a longtime member of your church and she loved her church and church family. It was so difficult for her when she moved to Montgomery and later to The Oaks because she was no longer able to worship with you all each Sunday. Please know what a comfort it was to her and to us, that someone from your church came to see her and pray with us each day that she was in the hospital. We truly experienced the warmth of the Holy Spirit and the peace that only comes from Christ, truly the peace that passes all understanding during the week leading up to her death. Although we mourn her death, we rejoice in knowing that she is with Jesus and reunited with our Papa! Thank you for your love for her. In His Grace, Julie Gambriel, On Behalf of the Bratton Family

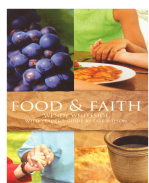
UMW Board Meeting - March 8, 9:30 a.m.

UMW Meeting - March 8, 6:00 p.m.

Food & Faith Spiritual Growth Program

Monday, March 8, 6:00 p.m, presented by Rev. Lawton Higgs, Sr.

This program is about how our faith is nurtured, strengthened, and enhanced by food and all the ways food touches our lives. All ladies are invited to attend for a good dinner (\$5) followed by an even better program. No reservations required.



BPUMC FOOD PANTRY

1st and 3rd Wednesday each month

We are serving 80+ families a month.

We appreciate all donations!

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

March 7, 6:00 p.m.

Evening Worship—In the Chapel

Sermon by Tom Roberts

Men's Freeplay Basketball

In the Gym; Sunday & Thursday,

7:00 p.m. (Church Members)

Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. (Community)

Send Notes and Cards to:

Diana Mayhall

2714 16th Place South #A

Homewood, AL 35209

March 27th Service Day – Our Spring "Service Day" is coming up on March 27. There will be opportunities to share a time of serving and helping, working with folks in our own community & congregation as well as some opportunities to work with some local service agencies. Look for more information here in the Church Newsletter and in the Sunday worship bulletin.

The **Compassion Circle** will meet on **March 7** at 5:00pm in the Parlor. Jennifer McEuen will lead the devotional. We invite all ladies of the church to join us and bring a friend!!

MEMORIALS

PASTOR DISCRETIONARY FUND

Edith Bratton by CH2M Hill, Inc., Jimmy and Sherry Howard, the Heritage Sunday School Class at St. Peter's United Methodist Church in Katy, Texas, The family of Janice and Bill Knight
Tachi Perry by J.B. and Margaret Dover

MEMORIAL FUND

Robert Letson by Sam and Dorothy Pickard
Nell Harrison by Donna and David Henry

BUILDING FUND

Lucille Atchison by JoAnn and Preston Huddleston, Grace Circle

PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND

Louise Sturdivant Bowers by Bob and Marianna Sturdivant

ORGAN FUND

William Pearson, Sr. by Bob and Marianna Sturdivant

EASTER LOVE GIFT

Ed Pearson by Georgia and Will Pearson
Moms and Dads by Stretch and Joan Dunn
Naomi Thrasher and Josephine Nix by J.B. and Frankie Thrasher
Tom Alley by Caroline Korson
Pearl and Bryce Montgomery by Joan Davis
Linda Corkill and Rudy Riley by Jewell Riley
Dr. and Mrs. Paul Doyle by Jan and Jim Scarbrough

YOUTH DEPARTMENT

Preston Morrow by Jennie Alley

HONORARIUM

VICTOR HARBOR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Penny Williamson by the Seekers Class

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

CHILDREN'S NEWS

PARENTING CLASSES The next class will be about raising children and teenagers in "Popular" Culture. Steve Sweatt will facilitate the class in the Home Improvement Room at 6p.m. on Weds. March 10.

THE EASTER EGG HUNT AND BREAKFAST will be on Saturday, April 3, 2010. We will put out empty plastic eggs for the congregation to pick up and fill starting Sunday March 14. Please return the eggs to the office or Mrs. Leigh.

ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL needs teachers for the next 3 units. Please contact Mrs. Leigh at 822-0910 or ldelashaw@bpumc.org if you can teach!

YOUTH MINISTRY

There will be Youth Choir this Sunday night at 4:30. We will have snack supper at 5:30. Small groups will begin at 6:15. **We need adult volunteers who have experience in construction for ASP this summer.** The dates are July 4-10. Please contact Michael if you would be available. There will be a Parents Meeting on Sunday, March 28 at 4:30. We will give out Summer Calendars and have final prices on every upcoming trip.

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES

Do a nice deed for someone this week.

UP COMING EVENTS:

Thursday March : SHEPHERD'S CENTER - Earlybird Fellowship at 9:30am. A very special program at 10:00am?? - 11:00 am regular schedule.

SATURDAY MAY 1: LADIES DAY for all ladies of BPUMC, friends and community. Special Worship and Music, Memory Candle, Coffee/Refreshments Bible study with Becky Walker, TABLESCAPES/TABLE TALK (prizes awarded), "Life Is Like A Box Of Chocolates" with Caroline Jones, special events in the gym, Lunch, prizes and lots of surprises. Tickets, \$15.00 each, go on sale Sunday March 7. Invite/treat a friend to this special day. Call Debbie Weathers 978-7537 for TABLESCAPES. If you would like to help with Ladies Day call Betty.

Thursday May 13/Friday May 14: Monroeville Trip is full but we will be happy to add your name to the waiting list.

Tuesday May 25: Day Trip to Lilburn, Ga with Reid and Betty. We'll tour BAPS SHRI SWAMINARAYAN MANDIR or Hindu Temple. Made with pink Indian sandstone, Italian marble and Turkish limestone. A homage to the body of God, columns representing legs, windows as ears and flags as hair. Statues, carvings and much more. Cost: \$50.00 per person. Lunch-on-your-own. Traveling by tour bus. Call Betty.

Friday July 9 - Sunday July 18: BOSTON with Reid and Betty. We will be touring Fenway Park Thursday July 15 and attending the Red Sox ball game against the Texas Rangers. ****Tickets are \$78.00pp and we need your check for this amount ASAP so that we may pay for our tickets.** Historical sightseeing Cruise, Freedom Trail, remember Cheers - we're going there, how about Harvard University, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, Museums, Trinity Church an 1877 masterpiece, JFK Library and so much more. Cost: \$945.00ppdouble or \$1250.00/single.

Our Care n' Contact need you - find out how you can help - call Betty.

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, March 7

8:45 a.m. Morning Worship
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
 9:45 a.m. Footsteps, New Horizons, New Light in FH
 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
 6:00 p.m. Evening Worship
 6:30 p.m. Pastor Parish Relations

Monday, March 8

8:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
 6:00 p.m. UMW Dinner Meeting
 7:00 p.m. Missions

Tuesday, March 9

9:30 a.m. Bible Study—Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, March 10

4:30 p.m. Young Ringers Handbells (3rd-5th graders)
 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. Midweek Meal
 5:45 p.m. Adult Handbells
 5:50-6:30 p.m. Children's Choir
 6:00 p.m. Becky Walker Bible Study—Library
 6:00 p.m. Susan Truss Bible Study (Beth Moore)
 6:30 p.m. Holy Ground Service
 6:30 p.m. Coffee and Conversation
 6:30 p.m. M & M Kids
 6:40-8:15p.m. Adult Choirs

Thursday, March 11

9:30 a.m. Shepherd Center

Friday, March 12

6:00 p.m. Friendship

Saturday, March 13

5:00 Wedding Presley Wilson

Sermon, March 7, 2010
8:45 and 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
"Divided by Jesus"
(Luke 12:49-56)
Reid Crotty
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship
"Lemonade"
(Genesis 50:20)
Tom Roberts

BE A PIECE OF THE PUZZLE

January 1, 2010 - Dec. 31, 2012
 Amount Pledged \$1,490,298.01
 Received Last Week \$11,254.57
 Received to Date \$ 148,268.85

Last Week's Record February 28, 2010

Sunday School	558
Morning Worship	680
Weekly Operating Needs	\$28,060.09
Operating Receipts	\$27,803.11
2010 Operating Budget	\$1,459,125.00
Needed to Date	\$252,540.81
Received to Date	\$238,413.05
Building Fund Receipts	\$11,769.57
Building Fund in 2010	\$ 53,997.10
New Members in 2010	10

SONRISE MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Monday, 6:30-7:00 a.m.
 Arby's on Montgomery Highway
 Men of all ages welcome

VALET PARKING

Every Sunday morning;
 Drive to the covered entrance near the nursery and fellowship hall.

March 7, 2010

Greeters: March 14— Anglers
Ushers: 8:45 -Whitcomb; 11:00 - Moore—A
Acolytes: 8:45-Shelby Henderson 11:00- Joey Hayes
Cross: 8:45-Jasmine Hendon 11:00- Emma Howell
Children's Church 8:45—Marshall
 11:00—White and Patrick
Meals on Wheels: March 10: Linton and Pat Chambers
Food Pantry: March 17: Sylvia Summers

Midweek Meal , March 10

Chicken fried steak, peppered gravy, mashed potatoes and green beans, or baked chicken, baked potato bar, bread.

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733 Valley Street
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Address Service Requested

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

Pastors, Reid (ext.104) Lawton (ext. 105)

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R. Lawton Higgs, Jr., lhiggs@bpumc.org

Tom Roberts

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Betty Hottenstein, bhottenstein@bpumc.org

Dir. of Student Ministries, ext. 118

Michael Pugh, mpugh@bpumc.org

Dir. of Children, ext. 107

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Dir. of Music, Diana Mayhall, ext. 114

Assistant Music Director, Lonnie Parsons

Organist, Jamie Davis

Webmaster

Jenny Strickland