



Bluffton United Methodist Church

Joey McDonald, Pastor

Sunday Worship Services at 8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Adult Sunday School - Men's Bible Study – Adult Bible Study - Children's Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.

FEBRUARY 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 10 a – 12 p Band 6 p – Cherub Choir & Covenant Choir 7 p – Chancel Choir	2 7 p AA/Alanon	3	4 7:29 a BUMMs Breakfast
5 12:30 p Souperbowl luncheon 6:30 p – LAB Youth Group	6 6 – 8 p Cub Scouts 7 p – Trustee Meeting	7 3:30p Stephen Ministry 7 p – Finance 7:30 p AA/Alanon	8 10 a – 12 p Band 6 p – Cherub Choir & Covenant Choir 7 p – Chancel Choir	9 7 p–Evangelism 7 p AA/Alanon	10	11 6:30 p Family Valentine Dance
12 12:30 p Brunch Bunch 6:30 p – LAB Youth Group	13 6 – 8 p Cub Scouts	14 7:30 p AA/Alanon	15 10 a – 12 p Band 6 p – Cherub Choir & Covenant Choir 6 p Education Cmte 7 p – Mission Team 7 p – Chancel Choir	16 7 p AA/Alanon	17	18 11 a - Baptism Rivers O'Neal 12:00 p – UMW Unit meeting
19 6:30 p – LAB Youth Group	20 6 – 8 p Cub Scouts	21 7:30 p AA/Alanon	22 10 a – 12 p Band 7 p – Chancel Choir	23 7 p AA/Alanon	24	25 6:30 – 9:30 p Parent's Night Out
26 Family Promise Overnights	27 Family Promise Overnights 7 p – Hannah Ulmer	28 9:45 a Esther Circle Family Promise Overnights	29 10 a – 12 p Band 7 p – Chancel Choir Family Promise Overnights			

MARCH 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Family Promise Overnights	2 Family Promise Overnights	3 Family Promise Overnights
4 Family Promise guests leave 6:30 p – LAB Youth Group	5 6 – 8 p Cub Scouts 7 p - Trustee Meeting	6 7 p - Finance 7:30 p AA/Alanon	7 10 a – 12 p Band 6 p – Cherub Choir & Covenant Choir 7 p – Chancel Choir	8 7:30 p AA/Alanon	9	10 7:29 a BUMMs Breakfast
11 – Daylight Savings Time begins 12:30 p Brunch Bunch 6:30 p – LAB Youth Group	12 6 – 8 p Cub Scouts	13 3:30 SM 5 – 8 pm AA/Al-Anon Founder's Day Dinner 7:30 p AA/Alanon	14 10 a – 12 p Band 6 p – Cherub Choir & Covenant Choir 7 p – Chancel Choir	15 7:30 p AA/Alanon	16	17 St. Patrick's Day
18 6:30 p – LAB Youth Group	19 6 – 8 p Cub Scouts 7 p – Church Council	20 7:30 p AA/Alanon	21 10 a – 12 p Band 6 p – Cherub Choir & Covenant Choir 6 p Education Cmte 7 p – Mission Team 7 p – Chancel Choir	22 7:30 p AA/Alanon	23	24 6:30 – 9:30 p Parent's Night Out
25 6:30 p – LAB Youth Group	26 6 – 8 p Cub Scouts	27 7:30 p AA/Alanon	28 10 a – 12 p Band 6 p – Cherub Choir & Covenant Choir 7 p – Chancel Choir	29 7:30 p AA/Alanon	30	31



Living For Christ

Bluffton United Methodist Church

A "Stephen Ministry" Church

Volume 8, Issue 2

February 2012

from the PASTOR



I have always looked forward to the month of February. It is the month of my birth, and the weather is cooler. In my youth, sometimes, we even got snow! However, I have come to realize that many people just plain hate the month of February. They are all anxiously awaiting the arrival of spring. To top it all off, I recently read where some scientists think that people who are born in February are more prone to depression than people born in other months. They think it may have something to do with the fact that the mother was exposed to less sunlight than mothers who gave birth at other times of the year.

As we enter this shortest of all months, let's examine depression for a moment. I know it's not the cheeriest of topics, and some folks get upset at the very mention of it, but it should be addressed, as it seems that more and more of our society suffer from it. First of all, if you do not suffer from depression, give thanks to God and be glad. However, when you meet people who are suffering, please don't tell them to "cheer up". Believe it or not, this thought has occurred to them already. They are just unable to do so. Secondly, if you are suffering from it, please don't think you are defective. You simply have a condition that should be viewed by others just like a heart condition, diabetes, or high blood pressure. Having said that though, also remember that God remembers you. Just because today you are depressed, doesn't mean tomorrow will hold the same. God is working with you, through you, and for you. Hang it there. God has a way of bringing blessings when you least expect them.

Your Pastor, Joey

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STEPHEN MINISTRY CHRISTIAN CAREGIVING



OK – the shortest day of the year – 12/21 – has come and gone – and we now have more daylight each day.

Our daily temperatures are in the 60's – which sure beats the Midwest and Northeast snow and ice.

The sunshine is fooling the flowers to bloom even though it's January -- so why do I feel so bad – depressed – unhappy?

Many reasons are possible – illness – loss of a loved one – financial concerns – are but a few of the serious problems that can make us question "Why Me – Why Now – What can I do about it".

A Stephen Minister has undergone special training to assist you in these tough times. He/She will meet with you weekly – privately and confidentially – to listen, encourage and remind you of the Love of Christ and His presence in your life to assist you in coping with your concerns.

If you, or someone you know, is facing a challenge, please contact one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders – Ruth Fleming 757-4296 or Sara Jenkins 705-2172. Together, with God's love and Guidance, we can help.

The Stephen Ministry hospital visitation schedule for January is noted below.

If you know of someone in the hospital during this month, please call:



Jan 29th - Feb 4th – Ruth Fleming, 757-4296

Feb 5th - 11th – Lee Templeton, 379-6530

Feb 12th - 18th – Spike Kammerer, 705-9809

Feb 19th - 25th – Kay Long, 705-7449

Feb 26th - Mar 3rd – Dian Litster, 705-6221

A message from your Staff, Pastor, Parish Relations Committee (S/PPRC) – As members of a very active committee, we invite you, as members of the BUMC congregation, to contact any of the S/PPRC members listed below if you have any questions or comments concerning the church staff.

—Chuck Dixon, Chairperson S/PPRC

Paul Allen	757.4006	pallen@hargray.com
Bruce Barton	705.6050	bbarton617@sc.rr.com
Chris Davis	757.4477	foreman@hargray.com
Chuck Dixon	705.9448	cdixon16@sc.rr.com
Dave Fryman	705.9753	davefryman@yahoo.com
Judy Kerr	757.8556	jkerr@islc.net
Marshall Kremers	837.3260	mkremers@hargray.com
Walda Letson	705.5054	walda831@gmail.com
Betty Snyder	837.4064	bjsnyder@hargray.com
David Waugh	757.4767	dave.wgh@gmail.com

MISSIONS



Our Mission group meets monthly in the Conference Room on the third Wednesday at 7 PM unless otherwise indicated. Our Chairperson Is Jenny Brannen. Members of our committee are Barbara Edwards, Leila Wirt, Paula Kirkland, Ralph Fleming, Dian Litster,

Joanne Rymer, Donna Clingerman, Nancy Fryman, Mary Powell, and Karen Wyld. If you have an interest in this area please join our group, we are open to new ideas for raising funds for our various missions.

Our next meeting is February 15th. Should you have any questions, Jenny Brannen, our chair, can be reached at 706-2289 or stoneycreek@yahoo.com.

Miracle Jars for January were earmarked for Church of the Cross Food Pantry – \$449 was raised, thank you. The February Miracle Jars are designated for **Back Pack Buddies**. This charity fills a backpack of nutritious food for children to bring home over a weekend. These are children who otherwise would have nothing to eat. Two schools are involved in this program M.C. Riley and Red Cedar Elementary.

FYI – In 2011, your donations given in the MIRACLE JARS amounted to **\$6,029.89**; almost triple the amount collected in 2010. **THANK YOU SO MUCH**, please keep filling those jars!!

Mark your calendars for March 25th. It is chili cook off time again. We have some wonderful chili cookers in our congregation and look forward to sampling their great recipes. I know we also have some folks who might not think their chili can live up to such high standards, but believe me, all chili cookers are welcome. We would encourage everyone who would like to participate to dust off their crock pots and bring out their best chili recipe. Look for more to come, just remember to mark the date on your calendars. All proceeds will go to the soup kitchen in Bluffton.



A THANK YOU RECEIVED FROM FAMILY PROMISE – Dear Congregation Members:

On behalf of Family Promise of Beaufort County, Inc., we want to thank you for your support. Thanks to your generosity, there is a family who otherwise would have nowhere to stay who is being cared for, fed, and loved. They now have a safe place to sleep and the assistance they need to succeed. As you may know, we opened the Levy Family Center in 2008 and took in our first family in July of that year. In 2010 we were able to serve 30 individuals, 18 children from 8 families. Many of these families have achieved stable housing and completed "Family Success" courses where they received training for personal life management skills – how to create a budget, balance a checkbook, etc. We are very proud of the hard work of our participating families!

While the economy shows signs of recovery, there are still many families in this community for whom homelessness is a possibility, so the services provided by Family Promise are critical. We are grateful that you have chosen Family Promise for your gift.

With Gratitude,
Elliott Brown, Director

(This "thank you" came as a result of The Mission Team donating \$1,000 from their budget for Family Promise at the end of 2011).

THE MISSION TEAM would like to thank everyone who ordered homemade candy. Because of your loving generosity, over 1,600 balls of candy were mixed, rolled, dipped, boxed and a nice donation was sent to **The Room At The Inn**.

The following letter and picture is just one example of how Room At The Inn has helped and still helps young women. We will continue to keep this mission in our prayers and support them with our gifts. Thank you again for your loving support.

Christmas, 2011

Dear Friends:



As it usually is when I get to spend time with my daughter, today was an emotional day for me. Driving home after my visit with her and her adoptive parents gave me time to reflect on my life, the journey I have been on over the last 8 years, and the many blessings I have received from so many loving and wonderful people along the way.

I was only 17 years old when I found out I was pregnant. I was young and thought I knew everything. Growing up, I had excelled at almost everything I did. I had big dreams and thought I would have it all. After finding out I was going to be a mother, I got a wake-up call. Because I was pregnant, I was not allowed to continue to stay in the foster home where I lived. I didn't know how I would be able to finish high school, complete college, have a great career and be a successful single mother. I

found out about Room At The Inn, made the trip to meet the staff and tour the maternity home, and knew immediately it was the place for me.

Once I walked through their doors, I felt right at home. I knew I was going to be ok. Having a roof over my head, good food, great new friends.... I didn't expect all of these and was happy to have them but I was given something else that I wasn't looking for but changed my life forever.

Do you know what it means to have people surround you with love and concern when you find yourself in what you perceive to be a hopeless situation? To have dreams for your life and to find others that encourage you to pursue them in the face of crisis? Do you know what it means to find a home when you're alone and scared and have nowhere else to go? Everyone at the home treated me with love and respect but more importantly, they asked me to pray, to study and to seek God's will. I took their advice and spent some time getting to know me - - and getting to know HIM.

In between school, parenting/life skills classes and doing chores at the home, I thought about my own childhood. Some of my fondest memories were of my father. I had always been a "daddy's girl". Since finding out that my baby would be a little girl, I kept thinking about how much she would miss out on not growing up with that special relationship with a father. As I kept thinking and praying, I came to believe that making an adoption plan was the best choice I could make for my little girl.

The staff always had made it clear that they would support me in whatever decision I made. They offered adoption classes at the home and I realized that making an adoption plan didn't mean I was a selfish person. I worked with a licensed adoption agency as I searched for suitable adoptive parents. When I met Frank and Francie, I knew right away that God had chosen them to be the parents for my daughter. While it was a very difficult decision, I was overwhelmed with love and support. With each passing year, as my relationship with my daughter and her family has grown, I am certain that I made the best decision I could have possibly made.

Today, my life has turned out so well. I have a great career in property management, own my home and am able to attend college part time. I continue to play the violin with a symphony orchestra and constantly pursue the goals I have set for myself. I am happy and successful and proud of all that I have achieved. My daughter's name is Lila. She is seven years old. She is a beautiful, smart, and loving little girl. I see so much of myself in her and being with her reminds me of my own childhood. Most importantly, Lila is well-behaved, happy and just brings any room she is in to life! I cannot tell you how grateful I am for Frank and Francie, the wonderful couple who adopted her and have made me a part of their lives. I visit them often and Lila thinks it's wonderful that she has 2 mommies, as she likes to put it. It has been a reassuring blessing for me. I am so grateful to have the opportunity to watch her grow and know that she is loved

beyond all measure. I did not give up my daughter... through this experience and Room At The Inn, I gained 2 new families.

At Room At The Inn, I found out I had more strength and courage than I knew I had. After all these years, all of you at Room At The Inn still keep me in your hearts and prayers. I have been able to return 'to the home for visits or banquets or aftercare meetings. I see so many other young women who shared the same need for support and love but who came from so many different backgrounds. Some go on to complete their college education, some find employment and new homes, a few others also find the support they need to make adoption plans. The common denominator for all of us is that we all found a new family.

When Albert asked me if I felt ready to share my story, I was so happy to be able to give back to Room At The Inn. I have seen firsthand and experienced the difference Room At The Inn makes in the lives of homeless pregnant women. No matter how different each of us are who have made Room At The Inn their home, we have all known real love at your hands.

The agency has struggled over the last few years, but they have been able to keep assisting other women and children. **This year through the generosity of a private donor, all gifts made through this Christmas appeal will be matched dollar for dollar.** I hope you will join me in making a donation this Christmas so that this lifechanging ministry can continue to be, as they say, "a place where hope is born".

Merry Christmas!

Stephanie Stephanie



P.S. The picture is of Frank and Francie, Lila and me. Thank you for making our family possible! If you want to see a video of my story and some of the other mothers' stories, please visit www.RoomInn.org.

Let's go
Out to
LUNCH!

SUNDAY BRUNCH GROUP – Someplace new! Conture Cafe on The Market Place on Rt. 170 at 278 will be opening for us Sunday, February 12th at 12:30. We tried it and the food is great! Please make reservations with Mary or Bob Powell by email powchesco@yahoo.com or phone 843-757-0164. This is open to all persons; single/ married/ members/non-members/visitors/guests. It's a time to meet someone new or get to know other church family members better.

APPRENTICE FOR JESUS – are a group of men that will assist those persons needing assistance with light maintenance tasks around their house. This service is provided as we are instructed by Christ in assisting our Brothers and Sisters. If you are led to give a donation for these services you may make the donation to the Bluffton United Methodist Men (BUMM). These payments will go to charities that the BUMM's support. If you need assistance contact Russ Rymer at 298-6566 or rjrymer@hargray.com.



BUMMS NEWS

Wow! It seems that 2011 just flew by for your BUMMS. We returned from our summer hiatus to jump immediately into our most successful Pecan Sale year ever – **THANKS**

EVERYONE! We also enjoyed a grand Bluffton Christmas Parade and a Christmas season with all the trimmings! Yes our Fall of 2011 went fast.

We began our 2nd half of our fiscal year with a wonderful Oyster Roast on January 7th. What an auspicious start for 2012; the weather was almost as delightful as the guests and fellowship. Hopefully, some of our members will join the Men's Retreat at Spring Maid the weekend of Feb. 17th. It should be a good one.

Our next meeting is on February 4th at 7:29 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All men of the Church and guests are invited — so come and enjoy a Great "High C" breakfast, Devotion and Fellowship.

Hope to see ya'll there! Don't forget!!



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The United Methodist Women wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year. We are busily working on the

New Year calendar to create some exciting events to support our missions. Just to let you know what missions we support, I am including a list for you.

South Carolina Missions:

Wallace Family Life; Bethlehem Center at Spartanburg; Bethlehem Center at Columbia; Rural Mission, John's Island; and Killingsworth.

Bluffton Missions:

Self Help; Meal on Wheels; Children's Center; Room at the Inn; Hope Haven; Family Promise; Boys & Girls Clubs; Volunteers in Medicine; and the Soup Kitchen.

Thanks to the success of our activities in 2011, we were able to increase our giving to all of these missions. We are planning to have an even more successful 2012.

On Jan. 14th, The BUMW hosted a training event for over 100 Leaders from all the churches in our district. Thanks to all who supplied the enormous gifts of food. It was outstanding and greatly appreciated.

Upcoming events include:

Souperbowl Sunday, Feb. 5th. The church is cordially invited to attend this event after the 11:00 service. Soup, muffins and dessert will be served.

Our winter Unit Meeting will be held on **Sat, Feb. 18th**. We are inviting United Methodist Women from the surrounding area to participate in this event. If you are a member of BUMW please plan on attending this meeting and getting to know more about the surrounding United Methodist Women groups and helping them understand more about what the United Methodist Women do. Tidewater Hospice will be presenting the program. If you are not a member of the United Methodist Women you are also invited to attend. This is a good opportunity to meet others and learn about the United Methodist Women.

On February 21st the BUMW will be participating in the Legislative Advocacy Day 2012. Dr. John Holler, Jr. President of Epworth will speak on "The changing Tides of Child Protection". The keynote speaker, Rev. Brenda Kneece will present Legislative Updates. There will also be three workshops available from which to choose. They include: "Going Green – Care takers of God's Creation", "Legislative/Advocacy South Carolina Coalition against Domestic Violence and Sexual abuse" and "Strangers among us – The Dream Act".

If you want to attend this event please respond to Sarah Sweers at 815-2507 as soon as possible. If you can drive, please let me know. We already have one car full and need someone to drive for additional people. You will also need to fill out a form to register and sign up for your workshop. This is an important event, so plan on attending if at all possible.

Feb. 25th is the Beaufort/Varnville Cluster meeting in Toby, SC. The BUMW are members of this cluster. If at all possible, please plan on attending this meeting and representing our unit

Are you a woman of the church who is looking for a way to give back? Consider joining the BUMW and see first hand all the good work we are able to complete because of the support we receive from the UMW members. Please contact Sarah Sweers at the number mentioned above to get started. We would welcome your participation.

Social Action News

– In December 2011, three remarkable women received the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo: Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, 73 (the first woman in the history of Africa to be elected head of state and the one responsible for ushering peace into the country after a brutal 14-year civil war), Leymah Gbowee, 39 (founder of the Ghana-based Women, Peace & Security Network Africa), and Tawakkol Karman, 32 (Yemeni journalist who founded the advocacy group Women Journalists Without Chains). Similar Women's Advocacy groups in countries such as Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan, Guatemala, and Sudan are working to promote peace and to empower women through education and training. As advocates for women and children, United Methodist Women join in supporting women around the world in an effort to end violence against women and children and to become peace makers.

If you would like more information on how you can get involved, I can pass along information I get from the United Methodist Women's Action Network's "Action Alert" which provides simple steps members can take to become better and more active advocates.

—Barbara Edwards, Social Action Coordinator



Opportunities To Serve Needy Families

Bluffton UMC will be hosting **Family Promise** the week of February 26th through March 4th. This is the first of four weeks this coming year that we will open our church facility to families in need. It is our opportunity to do the Lord's work and be a blessing to those in need.

Help will be needed setting up the bedrooms in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, Feb. 26th, also providing healthy dinners and fellowship each evening, sleeping overnight at the church, and packing & straightening up on Sunday, March 4th.

It's not as daunting as it sounds. Meals are fun to prepare when a few people team up and cook together. The families are also expected to help clean up. The kids like to have a story read or some help with their homework. Lights go out at 10 p.m. Chaperones (two each night) have their own room and cots for sleeping. The families are up and out by 7 a.m. each day. A few loads of laundry, and we're done for the week.

Volunteer forms will be in the Sunday bulletins. You can also call Karen and Tim Wyld to sign up. (707-7454)

What you do for the least of these, you do for me.

—Matthew 25:40

FINANCE COMMITTEE



2011 is gone and we are already one month into 2012. Our church is blessed – by various means members and friends support BUMC. Financially we ended last year with a cash balance of \$448,849. Our expenses were approximately \$16,000 below budget. The amount remaining in paying for the improvements made to the parsonage is \$49,598. Our Sunday offerings, after four weeks in January, are slightly ahead of the total received in January 2011. The Mingledorff's Endowment Fund interest designated for church maintenance earned \$1,358 compared to \$503 in 2010.

If you have suggestions, concerns, comments, etc. please call me at 298-6566, email: rjrymer@hargray.com or leave a note in the Church Finance mail slot.

—Russ Rymer, Finance Chairperson

This form may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to BUMC, PO Box 368, Bluffton SC 29910.

Pledge Consideration for 2012

Pledge Amount: _____

Installment: Weekly: _____ Monthly: _____ One Time: _____

Name: _____



*Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.
Psalm 100:1-2*

From the earliest days of the church, the singing of hymns has been an integral part of Christian worship. In the book of Acts we find Paul and Silas "singing hymns to God" (Acts 16:25) while chained in the Philippian jail. It was also the apostle Paul who admonished believers by saying: "Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." (Ephesians 5:19-20)

In past centuries singing hymns was an important means of teaching Christian truth in a church that was largely illiterate. Hymn singing was and is far more than a way to disseminate knowledge. It is a way for all of us to communicate our grateful feelings of the heart and our faith in God's changeless love and presence even during adversity.

The story of Horatio G. Spafford is an example of such faith. Spafford suffered financial disaster in the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. At the time he and his wife were still grieving over the recent death of their son and decided that they needed to get away for a vacation. Since Dwight L Moody, the evangelist, was to conduct an evangelistic campaign in England that fall, Spafford decided the entire family should travel to England. His wife and four daughters went ahead on the *SS Ville du Havre*, and he planned to follow a few days later.

While sailing on the Atlantic Ocean, the ship was struck by an iron sailing vessel and sank within twelve minutes. Two hundred and twenty-six lives were lost — including the Spaffords' four daughters. When the survivors were brought to shore, Mrs. Spafford cabled her husband the words "Saved alone."

Spafford booked passage on the next ship. As they were crossing the Atlantic, the captain pointed out the place where he thought the ship had gone down. That night Spafford penned the words:

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea-billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say,
"It is well, it is well with my soul."
"It is well, with my soul,
It is well, it is well with my soul."

We do not know what the New Year will bring. But this we do know: happiness may come but Christ's joy remains, quiet may come but Christ's peace abides, relationships may change but Christ's love is eternal.

For God's glory only,

Ella W. Davis, Director of Music



youth & children's HAPPENINGS

Every Sunday

**[BETWEEN
the services
10-10:45]**

Children's Sunday School

A lesson for ages 4-6 through stories, games & activities.

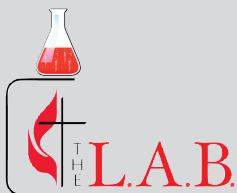
Jr. Sunday School

A lesson for ages 7-10 through stories, games & activities.

The nursery is provided for children 3 & under

FELLOWSHIP & FUN

Following the children's moment **children 6 & under** are welcome to go back to the nursery.



Youth group meets Sunday at 6:30pm. (6th to 12th grade) For more information contact James Atkins at 843-815-5025.

Greetings from the Bluffton UMC Education Committee. By the time you read this, January will be behind us and we will be heading full speed into 2012.

There are a lot of wonderful things going on at YOUR church!

The Cherub and Covenant choirs have already performed twice since starting back up and it is never too late to join.

Parent's Night Out is back so drop off your children on the 4th Saturday of every month and enjoy a little time to yourself.

The new children's Sunday school curriculum has arrived and we are now running a 24 week curriculum for adults based on Rob Bell's Nooma video series.

The LAB is growing. This is great news! However, James needs help. If you are interested in assisting with the LAB group, please contact James Atkins at (843) 290-6700.

For more information about the youth and children's happenings at BUMC visit our website at blufftonumcyouth.shutterfly.com or call Julie at 843-290-0307.

FAMILY, Valentine's Dance

Saturday, Feb. 11

♡ 6:30pm ♡

Bring your family and friends for a night of FUN.

There will be light snacks, silly songs and lots of dancing. Please RSVP

to JulieBUMC@me.com

by Wed. February 8th.

If you can help plan/decorate contact Julie at 843-290-0307.



Parent's Night Out

Courtesy of Youth and Children's Ministry

February 25 • 6:30-9:30

Drop off your kids, birth-5th grade, in the hands of caring, capable children's ministry volunteers for a fun filled night, while you enjoy an evening to yourself. There will be planned activities and a snack.



RSVP BY FEBRUARY 18



www.blufftonumcyouth.shutterfly.com

Our youth and children's ministry has its own password protected website.

EMAIL JULIE at julieBUMC@me.com TO BECOME A MEMBER

Include your Name (kids & ages), email and phone #. If you have any questions call me at 706-5698.

www.blufftonumcyouth.shutterfly.com

Greetings from the Bluffton UMC Education Committee. By the time you read this, January will be behind us and we will be heading full speed into 2012.

There are a lot of wonderful things going on at YOUR church!

- The Cherub and Covenant choirs next performance is scheduled for February 19th at 11 a.m. They will be singing "Yesu kwetu ni Rafiki (What a Friend We Have in Jesus)" during a service where Rev. Mande will be visiting from Africa. Surely he is setting a new record for distance traveled to see the Bluffton UMC Cherub and Covenant choirs! Remember, it is never too late to join. Rehearsals are held on Wednesday evening from 6:00 to 6:40.
- Parent's Night Out is back! Come by on the 4th Saturday of every month, drop your kids off, and pretend you are young again (just don't forget to come back to reality before 9:30 p.m.) All children (infants to 5th graders) are welcome.
- Nooma is here. If you have ever wondered what all of the fuss is about, come check it out and see for yourself. We will start at 10 a.m. every Sunday. We will watch all 24 Nooma videos and discuss these interesting ideas over coffee. You can attend any or all of these video sessions. They are not sequential so if you cannot make it one week, don't feel like you cannot attend the next.

As always, please **Visit Shutterfly**. Find out what is happening in the life of the church and sign up to volunteer or participate for programs at: blufftonumcyouth.shutterfly.com

2nd Friday, Feb 10th – MUSIC AT NOON



50 Pope Avenue, Hilton Head Island with Alvin R. Blount, organist of: St. Mary on the Hill Catholic Church, Augusta, GA

Music from the Baroque and Romantic Periods and 20th Century Spirituals.

Sponsored by the Low Country Chapter American Guild of Organists. Admission is free and concert is open to the public.

AARP OFFERING FREE TAX ASSISTANCE

Bluffton Library – Wednesdays – 11 a -3 p and 3 p -7:30 p
 Hilton Head Senior Ctr – Thursdays – 9:30 a – 12:30 p
 Hilton Head Library – Tuesdays – 10 a – 1 p

(See flyer on bulletin board for more info)

NOTE: THE DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH NEWSLETTER WILL BE FEBRUARY 22ND. PLEASE GET YOUR ARTICLES IN ON TIME!



FEBRUARY MEETINGS, ETC.

Sundays – LAB Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.

Mondays – Cub Scouts, Fellowship Hall, 6-8:00 p.m.

Wednesdays – Chancel Choir, 7 p.m.

Weds, Feb 1, 8, 15 – Cherub & Covenant Choirs

Sat, Feb 4 – BUMMs Breakfast, 7:29 a.m.

Sat, Feb 4 – Praise Worship Team practice, 10-11:30

Sun, Feb 5 – SOUPERBOWL Luncheon 12:30 p.m.

Mon, Feb 6 – Trustee Meeting, 7 p.m.

Tues, Feb 7 – Stephen Ministry, 3:30 p.m.

Tues, Feb 7 – Finance, 7 p.m.

Thurs, Feb 9 – Evangelism, 7 p.m.

Sat, Feb 11 – Family Valentine Dance, 6:30 p.m.

Sun, Feb 12 – Brunch Bunch, 12:30 p.m. @ Conture Cafe on Rt. 170 at 278.

Wed, Feb 15 – Education Committee, 6 p.m.

Wed, Feb 15 – Mission Team, 7 p.m.

Sat, Feb 18 – UMW Unit meeting, 12 noon.

Sun, Feb 19 – Cherub/Covenant Choirs warmup 10:15 a.m.

Wed, Feb 22 – Ash Wednesday Service @ 12 noon Lowcountry Presbyterian

Sat, Feb 25 – Parent's Night Out, 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Feb 26 – Mar 3 – Family Promise overnight guests

Mon, Feb 27 – Hannah Ulmer Circle

Tues, Feb 28 – Esther Circle

Wed, Feb 29 – Lenten Service, Ch of the Palms @ 12



LENTEN SERVICES ARE BEING SCHEDULED

Each Wednesday at noon during Lent, a 30 minute worship service will be held at various churches in the area with a light luncheon following the service. At

present, the schedule is as follows: (subject to change – watch your Sunday bulletins)

Feb 22 – Ash Wed – Lowcountry Presby (Hwy 278)

Feb 29 – To be determined.

Mar 7 – Ch of the Cross, Calhoun Street

Mar 14 – To be determined.

Mar 21 – TBD Mar 28 – TBD Apr 4 – TBD

THE BUSY BEES – meet Thursdays' at 8 AM for breakfast then arrive at the church to do our maintenance task. If you are unable to join us on Thursdays', and have an interest in doing maintenance items please contact Russ Rymer at rjrymer@hargray.com. or 298-6665.

