



Bluffton United Methodist Church

1853-2026, 173 years

"The Mission of BUMC is to make disciples for Jesus Christ by sharing our loving relationship with Him through all our actions in worship, nurture, education, evangelism and outreach."

March 22, 2026 – purple 5th Sunday of Lent



Sunday Services: 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Adult Sunday School: 9:45 AM

Nursery care for ages 6 weeks through 5 years available during each service.

Rev. Scarlett Hester, Pastor - pastor@blufftonumc.org

Sally LeSage, Director of Christian Education - blufftonumc.education@gmail.com

Josh Wall, Director of Music Ministry - musicministry@blufftonumc.org

Michael Cole, Organist – organist@blufftonumc.org

Laurie Palmer, Administrative Assistant - blufftonumc@gmail.com

Joann Garner, Bookkeeper - financeatbumc@gmail.com

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:30 – 2:30 PM

Contact Us:

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Visit us at www.blufftonumc.org

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GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

PRELUDE

Only Jesus/Calvary's Love

Nelson/McHugh

Michael Cole, organist

INVOCATION

Have you ever felt washed up, brittle, worn-down to the bone?

Have you ever felt grief lay heavy on your back?

Have you ever felt like hope was out of reach?

Have you ever wondered, can these bones live?

If you have, then you are in the right place, for this is God's house.

Hope lives here.



Altar Flowers

So, come. Rest your weary bones.

Let us worship Holy God.

God of all of our days, give us peace and rest in our world weariness, may our very souls dance with joy to be in your Presence. AMEN.

*OPENING HYMN

To God Be the Glory

UMH No. 96

*PSALTER

Psalms 130 (as written)

UMH No. 848

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Pew Bible Pages 1349-1350

Pastor Scarlett Hester

PASTORAL PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER (spoken)

UMH No. 895

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name;

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

O Love

Elaine Hagenberg

Chancel Choir

Josh Wall, director

*DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMN No. 95

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Diane Ciba

GOSPEL READING

John 11:1-45

Pew Bible Pages 1668-1670

Tony Mitchell (8:30)

Joanne Davies (11:00)

SERMON

Can These Bones Live?

Pastor Scarlett Hester

*CLOSING HYMN

Hymn of Promise

UMH No. 707

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Lord of the Dance

19th Century Shaker Tune

*Please stand if able.

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by
Laurie Palmer in memory of her mother, Joyce Moyer.

✠ ✠ Prayers are with Ida Pinderski and April's loving Scott
in the passing of April Pinderski. ✠ ✠



There will be a Quiet Hour Open Prayer in the Sanctuary during Lent starting Thursday, February 26th through Thursday, March 26th.

General Budget – Plate offering goal each week \$12,000:

March 15th offering – TOTAL - **\$6,905.**

Attendance – March 15th – 8:30 AM – **74**; 11:00 AM – **113** – TOTAL **187**

Adult SS - **12**, Nursery **3**

March 8th On-line services - **18**

WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED – Join us for worship service on Sundays in person
or on-line at <https://www.youtube.com/c/BlufftonUnitedMethodistChurch/x>

Join us on Facebook during the week for inspirational posts

<https://www.facebook.com/BlufftonUMC>

THIS WEEK AT BUMC!

Sunday, March 22: 5th Sunday of Lent Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 AM (Sanctuary)
 Seeker's Sunday School 9:45 AM (Conf. Rm. 1)
 Connections Sunday School 9:45 AM (Conf. Rm. 2)
 Kids Praise Club 4:00 PM (Music Suite)
 Youth Fellowship 5:00 PM (Christian Ed. Office)

Monday, March 23: Prayer Meeting 8:30 AM (Zoom)
 Wesley Ringers 11:00 AM (Music Suite)
 Disciple V 4:00 PM (Conf. Rm. 2)

Tuesday, March 24: BUMC Staff Meeting 10:00 AM (Conf. Rm. 2)
 Disciple II 10:30 AM (Conf. Rm. 1)
 Discipleship Meeting 4:30 PM (Conf. Rm. 2)

Wednesday, March 25: Lenten Lunch & Worship 12:00 PM (BUMC Sanctuary)
 Alzheimer's & Dementia Caregivers 1:00 PM (Bluffton Library)
 GriefShare 1:30 PM (Conf. Rm. 2)
 History Lecture Series 4:00 PM (Fellowship Hall)
 Chancel Choir 7:00 PM (Music Suite)

Thursday, March 26: Busy Bees 9:00 AM
 Disciple IV 11:00 AM (Conf. Rm. 1)
 Prayer Quiet Hour 12:00 PM (Sanctuary)

Friday, March 27: Disciple III 10:00 AM (Conf. Rm. 1)

Sunday, March 29: Palm Sunday Services 8:30 & 11:00 AM (Sanctuary)
 Seeker's Sunday School 9:45 AM (Conf. Rm. 1)
 Connections Sunday School 9:45 AM (Conf. Rm. 2)
 Lenten Experience and Kids Egg Hunt 4:00 PM

**Lenten Lunch and Worship Services
 12:00 Noon - Wednesday**

March 25th Bluffton UMC Lee van Rensburg



03/22 – Joan Morris
 03/26 – Jane LaFaber
 03/28 – James Atkins

03/24 – Bud & Shirley Mingledorff
 03/28 – Gwynn & Stan Yocco

- ✠ Palm Sunday - March 29, 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM and Lenten Experience and kids egg hunt 4:00 PM.
- ✠ Maundy Thursday - April 2, 6:30 PM Worship in the Sanctuary.
- ✠ Good Friday - April 3, 12-1:00 PM. Quiet reflection in the Sanctuary.
- ✠ Easter Sunday - April 5, 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM. Glorious Easter Worship.



On Thursday, April 2 - Maundy Thursday - at 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary, the choir will present the cantata "In My Place" by Craig Courtney. This will also be a joint service between St. Luke's Methodist Church and Church of the Palms and Communion will be served. This reflective worship will invite the congregation to take a nail - given as you enter by the greeters - hold on to that nail and reflect on how Jesus took your place on the cross. At the conclusion of the service, the congregation will be asked to depart in silence and drop their nail in a bucket at an exit. While the sound may be loud in the silent sanctuary, the cantata is challenging you to remember what sacrifices Jesus made to stand, "In my place" in those dark days. We know this will be a meaningful and powerful worship experience."



This Easter, you are invited to be a part of the beauty of the season with our Flowering of the Cross. Many churches incorporate the Flowering of the Cross into their Easter joy. Worshippers bring flowers from their yard or store to church to place in a wire cross. The Flowering of the Cross represents how we go from the ugly and hateful pain of Good Friday to the wonderful, beautiful miracle of Easter, from death to resurrection. By having everyone participate and contribute, we remember the Resurrection is for all of us. The Flowered Cross is a great place to stop and take a picture with your family!



March's Miracle Jar will be for Libraries for Kids' International, which was founded by our own church member, Roy Austin. Their mission is "to help schools with limited or no access to the internet, establish libraries for their students and enhance learning opportunities." Checks may be payable to the church with "Miracle Jar" on the memo line. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



EASTER FLOWERS – If you would like to put flowers in the church for Easter in honor or in memory of someone, please fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate along with your check. (Write "Easter Flower" on the memo line). The cost is \$15.00 per plant. **The deadline is Sunday, March 29, 2026.** Your choice of Easter Flower(s) may be taken home after the 11:00 Easter service on a first-come basis **FOR THOSE WHO DONATED.** The Easter flowers will be available in Fellowship Hall for pick-up through Wednesday, April 8th. Remaining flowers will then be available for anyone who wants them if not taken by the donor. Extra flowers will be planted on the church property or taken to folks who are shut in.

Given by: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____



**A Lenten Experience for All Ages
 (followed by Children's Egg Hunt)
 Palm Sunday, March 29
 4 PM - Gather in the Sanctuary**

Walk through Jesus' last days on a self-guided interactive tour around the church. All new stations will encourage you to experience the scriptures through sight, smell, touch and taste. Take time to ponder and pray and quietly discuss with children so that all can have a meaningful experience.



When all guests have finished visiting the stations, please gather in Fellowship Hall. Children will be divided into age groups and given their special location to hunt for Easter Eggs.

Please RSVP by March 25 to Sally LeSage at blufftonumc.education@gmail.com

We want to make sure we have enough elements prepared for each station as well as enough eggs for our kiddos!



Early Dining is back! There was a good turn out from the last "Early Dining". The next location will be at Maine Café, Moss Creek on March 26th, 5:00 PM. Please contact Russ Rymer russellrymer16@gmail.com or call (843) 298-6566 if you have an interest in joining and being on our mailing list.



PRAYER CONCERNS. Call the church office (843) 757-3351 to add or remove names

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|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Rebecca Adler & Family | Sue Hand | Mike Parrot |
| Daniel Alba | Vic Herbert | Michael Patterson |
| Jennifer Anthony | Jane Johnson | Evelyn Reddish |
| Rocky Austin | Jerry & Paula Johnson | Tori Rinehart |
| Dave Brown | Vera Jones | Joanne Rymer |
| Jason Brown | Barbara Klekner | Ruth Schneid |
| Lynn Cleveland | Paul Laughlin | Linda Allen Smith |
| Pat Cleveland | Doug McGill | Vera Snow |
| Heidi Clevenger | Marilyn Moore | Jay & Cindy Sprouse |
| Greg & Pat Crews | James Morgan | Sara Torres |
| David De Paolis | Bob Newmarker | Kris Wichmann |
| Elizabeth & Larry Duncan | Michelle O'Connor | |
| Richard Falon | Mackenzie Orth | |
| Jane Grim | | |