

Mark your Calendars:

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- Sunday, July 1 Prayers for Senior high Youth work camp in Marvell, AR. Group returns July 6
- Tuesday, July 10th, 7:00pm Women's Book Club, Library discussing *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austin
- Wednesday's, July 11 & 18, 6:00pm James Small Group
- Sunday, July 15 Prayers for Mid high Youth work camp in Aurora, MO. Group returns July 18
- Saturday, July 28th, 9:00-11:00am serve at Harvester's

Blue Ridge Blvd

United Methodist Church

The Home Envoy

July 3, 2012

Volume 57, Issue 7

Letter from the Pastor- Charity Goodwin-Rosario

Small Things Done with Great Love Are Changing the World

Servant Evangelism wins the heart before it confronts the mind. A small act of kindness nudges a person closer to God, often in a profound way as it bypasses ones mental defenses. The average Christ-follower is willing to hand a stranger a can of cold Coke on a hot day (low risk). The high grace is seen in the typical reaction. "Oh, thank you!" "This is so nice!" "I can't believe this is for free!" And, "Why are you doing this?"

Kindness builds the bridge for the person to receive a touch of love from God. It's simple, practical, effective, inexpensive and fun!

The BIG DAY on September 23rd is one way to show the love of Christ in our community. In order to worship with 500 people that Sunday we will need to invite, invite, invite. In the next week you will be receiving invitations to share with people about the BIG DAY! It's not too soon to plant the seed.



Here are a few ways you can invite perfect strangers. Yes, strangers!

1. Go through a fast food drive thru and pay for the car behind you. Ask the employee to give the invitation to the person in the car. It's also is pretty cool to give the invite to the employee too.
2. Gather a few friends 2-3, purchase popsicles, take a hot day and pass out popsicles to families at the park or a little league game. Give everyone an invite.

You getting the hang of it?

3. Create a FRAN list. A friend, relative, associate, and neighbor who is disconnected from church or does not about Christ. Pray for your list of people often. Pray that their hearts will be softened to hear and accept the invitation to the BIG DAY.

This is enough to get you started but there will be other inviting methods and servant evangelism opportunities for you along the way.

For more information about servant evangelism visit www.servantevangelism.com Forthcoming will be ways to help promote such as purchasing advertising space on websites, in newspapers etc... AND purchasing tickets to the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus for a ticket giveaway. (\$15 per ticket) More info to come...

BIG Day Prayers

Heavenly Father, please hear our prayers as we prepare for Blue Ridge Blvd UMC's BIG DAY event. Guide us as we make preparations for this day, keeping you always in the forefront of our planning. Help us prepare our minds, our spirits and our willingness to be a part of this wonderful day of fun and sharing. Bless those who are willing to help make this day a success by reaching out to the community inviting all to come witness what God enables us to do. Please instill in our disciples the willingness and spirit to open their hearts and trust in God to guide us to and through this day. Amen

Father, we thank you that you are a faithful God. You said that all things are possible to them that believe. So, as BRUMC make plans for our BIG DAY in hopes that we can breathe new life into our community and reach out to new people for Christ, we ask your blessings on our actions of faith. We pray for a miracle, 500 people in worship, and ask your blessings that GREAT things will happen! Amen.

Children & Family Ministry

Director— Tammy Bartley tbartley@blueridgechurch.org

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

What a great week we had at Vacation Bible School June 10-14!

With over 65 kids participating and 27 adults/youth volunteering it was amazing!

The mission focus of the week was to raise money for an organization called One Verse that translates Bible verses. Today there are over 6,800 languages spoken in the world and more than 2,000 languages are still without one verse of

God's Word.

During our week we raised over \$140.00 which will translate more than 5 verses into a different language!

Thank you to all who participated and served throughout the week as well as donated items or money! We couldn't have done it without you!

Golden Key News

The Golden Key Club will meet at noon for a potluck luncheon in the downstairs dining room on Thursday, July 12th.

Beth Moran, a volunteer at Animals Best Friend non-kill shelter in Independence will speak after lunch. All who work at the shelter are volunteers.

Please bring your donation of dog or cat food. All are welcome. See you there.

Music Ministry

Director of Music—
Linda Mann 353-4826
lmann@blueridgechurch.org

Thoughts on Worship from:

Oswald Chambers: Worship is giving God the best that He has given you... whenever you get a blessing from God, give it back to Him as a love gift... take time to meditate before God and offer the blessing back to Him in a deliberate act of worship... God will never let you hold a spiritual thing for yourself, it has to be given back to Him that He may make it a blessing to others... rush is wrong every time, there is always plenty of time to worship God... we have to pitch our tents where we shall always have quiet times with God, however noisy our times with the world may be...

Martin Luther: The devil flees before the sound of music almost as much as before the Word of God...

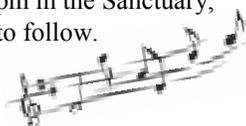
Jesus: Matthew 18:20 "Where two or three people meet together in my name, I am there with them"...

Take some time to worship in church this summer.

Performance

CHANGE the date, then **SAVE** the date.

High school senior Elizabeth Brock's violin concert will now be on Sunday, August 26, 3:00 pm in the Sanctuary, with a reception to follow.



Upcoming Informational Programs

Our Stephen Ministers are presenting some informative programs this summer. We wanted to open these meetings to anyone in the congregation who would be interested. Diane Morris shared very helpful information about the "Breaktime Program and Caregiving" for our first program on June 7th. On Thursday, June 21, Ruthie Schwieterman talked about "The Shepherd Center of Raytown". Here is what Ruthie had to say about her presentation: "Shepherd's Center of Raytown is an organization of older people who can help older people who aren't so able. We also have informative, entertaining programs, a yearly garden tour and an annual used book sale."

We meet at noon for each meeting and usually meet for 60-90 minutes. Upcoming in July and August will be the following: July 12, Bonnie Downs, "First Steps"; July 26, Dr. Joyce Downing, "Verbal De-escalation"; August 2, a guest speaker, "Twelve Step Programs"; and August 16, Attorney Dudley Leonard will be talking about "Legal Stuff" such as living wills, health care directives, guardianships and conservatorships. Please call Dr. Barbara Thompson (356-7412) if you would like to come for any or all of these presentations. We usually meet in the Conference Room downstairs, but we can meet in a larger area if needed. Hope to see you.

Youth Culture Day

Sunday June 3rd the congregation would have been proud of our young adults. If you had been a fly on the wall at 10:30 AM in the Youth House you would have seen twenty one young adults, ranging from 6th-12th graders, and seven sponsors intently watching an art history presentation meant for a very mature audience. Not only did your young adults soak in the information but also repeated a lot of it during the rest of the day.

After our wonderful Mexican meal nineteen youth and the seven sponsors departed for the Nelson Atkins Museum of Art. The youth group, even though large for a guided tour, was instinctively respectful of each other and everyone else. Probably the best compliment to our group was that our tour guides were enjoying themselves so much they didn't want us to leave, and gave us an extra half hour on our tour. The group then made their way through an additional section of the Nelson together to view the mummy and medieval art.

We thank our youth and their supporters for being a positive light for Christ.

Young representatives of our church at the Nelson Museum were: Lindsay, Tina, Shelly, Rachel, Kevin, Rebecca, Laura, Madison, Jake, Josie, Joseph, Tony, Caitlin, Brett, Iwalani, Claire, Katie, Sydney, and Charleen.

Sponsors were: Deborah, Marq, Sherry, Tom, Jim, Nina, and Ted.

International Mission Trip June 2013



After a couple of meetings it has been decided that Blue Ridge Blvd UMC Youth will be taking a group to Guatemala June 2013.

The organization we will be working with is Kids Alive International. The trip will be open to youth who have completed 9th grade by 2013 through college graduates. Adults are welcome to come as sponsors also.

The next meeting will be Sunday, August 26th 11:45am at the Youth House.

The meeting will likely be 30 minutes or less and will be primarily making commitments for participation in the trip and to go over schedule of payments (i.e. airline tickets, deposits, etc.)

If you have missed the previous two meetings and would like more information, you may email Anne (anorton@blueridgechurch.org).

In memory of the 1st anniversary of Blair being taken to her heavenly Father, we would like to invite you to give socks to support Blair Shanahan Lane's vision to provide bright, colorful socks to children placed in the Foster Care system.

Please place the socks in the basket next to the Welcome Center.

SERVE

Local Mission Focus

SERVE

Harvesters Community Food Network

Local mission focus for July

As this area's only food bank, Harvesters is a clearinghouse for the collection and distribution of food and related household products. Most people think of Harvesters simply as collecting and distributing food items donated from the community and industry sources. However, they also provide nutrition services and offer leadership and education programs to increase community awareness of hunger and generate solutions to alleviate hunger. Harvesters' mission is to feed hungry people today and work to end hunger tomorrow.

The Harvesters network includes more than 620 nonprofit agencies in a 26-county service area, including emergency food pantries, soup kitchens, homeless shelters, children's homes, homes for the mentally disabled and shelters for battered persons. Harvester provides food assistance to as many of 66,000 different people each week!

The local portion of our July monthly mission **extra offering** will go to Harvesters. Be sure to mark your check or envelope with "Impact" on the memo line. Other than donating money, we invite you to also **give time**. Blue Ridge will be volunteering at the Harvesters warehouse, located at 3801 Topping, KCMO, on Saturday, July 28th, from 9-11am. Volunteers must be at least 6 years old. Since we will be working in the warehouse, please wear closed toed shoes. Please meet in the Blue Ridge church parking lot by 8:40am if you would like to carpool. Or, meet us at Harvesters just before 9am.

To schedule adequate volunteer activities, Harvesters needs to have an estimated number of volunteers. *If you are planning to join us, please call the church office or email me at sjwsmile@aol.com by July 25th.* Hope to see you there!

Sherry Ott

R.E.A.P. (Raytown Emergency Assistance Program)

Local mission focus for August

Blue Ridge has been one of the major supporters of REAP for many years. Starting July 15th and through August you will have the opportunity to donate to their "Back to School Supplies" barrels. Al Brown, the director at REAP, said recently that last years donations came in short and while he is thankful for what came in, it's a reminder of the economic times we are in. Some of the shortages were regular school materials such as paper, pens, pencils, notebooks, as well as donated cash to buy the shoes that each child is to get with their filled backpacks to start school

The School supply list will be available on the barrels and at the information table by the welcome center when the barrels arrive at the church, but start watching for ads soon on bargains for back to school supplies. When you are at a store that carries school supplies, pick one or two items that are on sale and save them in a special place until the barrels are here to be filled.

If you would prefer to "adopt a child" for the beginning the school year, it only takes \$45.00 to sponsor one child's first day at school with **all** they need in a new backpack, and wearing a new pair of shoes so they can "fit in like all the other kids". If you choose to do that, mark your check in the memo line for REAP, drop it off at the office or in the plate any Sunday in August, and we see that REAP gets that money designated for them.

We will also take an **extra offering** on the fourth Sunday, August 26th, so come prepared to give during the *special offering* that will be shared with REAP and our Global Mission through the church. Be sure to mark your envelope or check for "IMPACT" on the memo line. I am starting my project of filling a box or paper sack with "goodies for the kids" today, and will work on it with each shopping ad that comes out. Will you please join me in shopping? I know you will feel blessed when you do.

Sue Klotz

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Office closed on Fridays

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to: THE ENVOY
5055 Blue Ridge Blvd
Kansas City, MO 64133-2547

Check out our website for more info

www.blueridgechurch.org



Mission: As a United Methodist Church our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Strategy: Our strategy is to become a biblically-based community focused on *training new disciples for Jesus Christ* so that lives, churches, and the world are transformed.

The article deadline for the next issue is July 26th.

Recycling

The youth at Blue Ridge continue to collect and recycle aluminum cans. Please drop off your cans on the youth house patio. (No tin, aluminum foil or other)

The Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts appreciate your recycling. Bring your papers to the green and yellow recycling bins on the east side (back) of the parking lot. No cardboard or phone books, please.



Thank You

Thank you to those who helped us celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary.

-Earl & Alice Wehmhoener

Church Family News

Congratulations to Julie and Daniel Spencer on the birth of their son, Ethan, on June 3rd. Proud grandma is Bernie Bixler.

Congratulations to Andrew and Cassie Mitchell on the birth of their son, William Royal, on June 12rd. Proud grandparents are David and Jennifer Mitchell, great-grandparents are Floyd and Helen Anderson, and Aunt & Uncle Joyce and Mike Downing.

Prayers go out to the following families:

Billie Gore, sister-in-law of Edna Scahill, passed away on June 3.

William Myers passed away on June 7.

Isabel Barton passed away the week of June 17th in Texas.

~ Home Envoy is sponsored by ~

Earl & Carol Pregge would like to honor their granddaughter Jenna Grace Warmund on graduating from Blue Springs South and will be attending Baker University this Fall. Also, their grandson Landon Scott Warmund received his Eagle Scout award at 1st United Methodist Church in Blue Springs.

Women's Book Club

The Blue Ridge Book Club was unable to meet in June so on July 10 they will be discussing *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austin. Sheri Kuhn will lead the discussion. If you would like to join us, please call Charlotte Robinson or the church office for the door code. The meeting is at 7 P.M. in the Church Library.