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Mark your Calendars:

- Sunday, Nov. 4, 9:00 & 10:30a Mission Field Impact Offering
- Saturday, Nov. 10, 9:00a Fall Charge Conference at St. Luke's UMC
- Wednesday, Nov. 14, 10:00a UMW Unit Meeting
- Sunday, Nov. 18, 9:00 & 10:30a Generosity Sunday
- Monday, Nov. 26 7:00p Men of Blue Ridge study group
- Wednesday, Nov. 28, 10:00a UMW Mission Team Meeting

Blue Ridge Blvd

United Methodist Church

The Home Envoy

October 30, 2012

Volume 57, Issue 11

Letter from the Pastor- Barry Freese

The Power of Spiritual Health

I'm thankful to be serving as a pastor here at Blue Ridge Boulevard United Methodist Church. Our Wesleyan Methodist tradition is deeply needed in our area around 51st Street and Blue Ridge Blvd. and beyond. We offer the world a balance of personal holiness and social impact, loving God and loving neighbor. Jesus thought this was so important he described this combination this way:

'He said to him, '“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.' Matthew 22.37-40 NRSV

Everything hangs on loving God and loving neighbors. Everything. This combination is the spiritual power we have for our neighbors and the world. This is the answer to the strength and clarity that people search for in so many incomplete ways.

Our journey of loving God and neighbor is a journey to spiritual health we offer others on Jesus' behalf. Jesus is our example of spiritual health. He stayed true to his mission. His love for his Father God was offered as the ultimate love for his earthly neighbors, including you and me and those in our area. This powerful spiritual health is available to others through our particular faith and practices as Methodists. I'm proud to be pastoring where this health is offered as a gift to the world.

What's Enough?

I'm very thankful that Rev. Jan Bond has agreed to be a part of Blue Ridge Church once again. She has already begun visiting our shut-ins and sharing in other pastoral care duties. In the short term, she has also agreed to run our generosity campaign, "Enough." The Enough campaign was created by Rev. Adam Hamilton of our United Methodist Church of the Resurrection so that people can grow in spiritual confidence during challenging times. My prayer for you is that you will experience the assurance of God's love through Enough.

Financial Updates

Remember, financial updates are available for the asking. For email copies of financial updates, email Sarah Jarvis, Financial Secretary, at sjarvis@blueridgechurch.org and let her know you'd like to be included. Or, there's a Generosity notebook in the church office that's available for viewing anytime the office is open during the regular hours, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Thursday.

Grace and peace,

Barry Freese, Lead Pastor

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH. REMEMBER TO SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK 1 HOUR!

Children's Wing Clean-Up

If you are available at 1:00pm on Sunday, December 2nd, please head on up to Blue Ridge to help clean out the children's wing.

The past few months the classrooms and storage areas have gotten a little cluttered. Having some organization will let us better utilize our resources.

Let's start the New Year with a newly organized area for our children to grow and learn in!

Children's Program at Blue Ridge

LOGOS

The LOGOS program is in full swing and we continue to learn and grow under this semester's theme: CHURCH: A Safe Place to Be....

With over 60 children/youth registered and over 40 adult volunteers, you can bet the church is alive with energy and enthusiasm!

Upcoming nights:

Nov 7 Be- Bold (Bring a Friend)

Nov 14 Be- Me

Nov 21 NO LOGOS

Nov 28 Be- Generous (Bring gifts for

R.E.A.P. Christmas Store)

Dec 5 Be- Worshipful (Bring a Friend)

Dec 12 BE

Cross Training- Sunday school

Open to ages 4 years thru 5th grade

Children learn different aspects of the same story thru drama in "Acts of Faith", art in "Creation Station", science and cooking in "Bread of Life, games in "Graceful Games, and videos in "Holywood".

Current rotation is "The Widow's Mite"

Music Ministry

Director of Music—

Linda Mann 353-4826

lmann@blueridgechurch.org

The Elementary Fine Arts Block (F.A.B.) for grades one through 5 will begin rehearsing in a few weeks. This semester we will offer hand bells and liturgical dance in preparation for an advent presentation—your child may do one or both. If you are interested please contact Linda Mann so we may set up a schedule that works for everyone. These are great opportunities for your child to begin to understand what it means to be a servant Christian by strengthening and using their gifts to help in worship!

Christmas is coming.....and this year we would like to make caroling a part of our mission outreach to those who may be homebound or in care centers. If you would like to be a part of this group, please contact me. All ages are welcome! Also, if you know of someone who would appreciate being sung to, send me that information.

Box Tops For Education

For several years the Education Department of the church has been collecting Box Tops For Education.

These small labels can be found on many of the products that you purchase in the grocery store. As you shop, look for those food items that contain the box tops and select those to buy. The labels are on more and more products and often appear on new items where they had not been previously. You have to keep a sharp eye out sometimes to see the label.

The Education Department is able to turn these in a couple of times a year and they have received several hundred dollars over the years to help with their programs. It does help is you could cut the labels off around the dotted line because that has to be done before they can be submitted.

There is a container for the box tops in a basket at the south end of the Narthex just outside of the sanctuary.

Thank you for your donation!

Youth News

Anne Norton- Youth Director
anorton@blueridgechurch.org

Special Announcement!

Blue Ridge youth mission trips have been scheduled for this summer.

Mark your calendars:

June 22-July 6 youth/young adults/ adult sponsors going to Guatemala. Working through and organization called Kids Alive International. Our project will be the Oasis; a shelter for abused women and children as well as providing and delivering water filters to surrounding villages.

July 21-27 6th-12th grade going to Colorado Springs, CO to be a part of fire restoration projects to rebuild after the wildfires of 2012.

Be on the look out for more information and for how you can help send the youth and young adults on these mission trips!

History of Music at Blue Ridge

Last year, material was submitted to the Raytown Historical Society about the history of the music program of Blue Ridge United Methodist. This was for a publication they are putting together on the history of music in the Raytown schools and churches. I have now put the same material together in notebooks for The Music Department, The History Department, Linda Mann and Debbie Keeton. There is a written history as well as pictures of past choir directors and many bulletins and programs from church services. Some of these identical notebooks will be on display in the Beatitudes Room during the month of November. Everyone will enjoy remembering special times and services from the past several years. -Charlotte Robinson

Chili Supper

You are Invited!

November 3rd, 2012 11:00am-7:00 pm

All you can eat chili, hot dogs, and dessert.

Fellowship Hall

Tickets \$6 each or a family for \$25.

Available from a Boy Scout or at the door.

Proceeds go to run **Boy Scout Troop 269** and to the boys to offset the cost of troop activities.

College Outreach– October IMPACT offering

Thank you to all who donated and helped stuff the college care packages. The College Outreach Ministry team sent out 13 boxes, filled to the brim, full of baked goods, snacks, supplies, etc. In addition, we have several church members who have volunteered to send cards to the students throughout the year and many others who will be praying for them.

It's not too late to help! The College Outreach Ministry is the focus of our October IMPACT offering. On Sunday, Nov. 4th, you have the opportunity to donate. Your donation helps to pay for postage, shipping costs and supplies associated with this ministry. If you would like to send cards and/or pray for them, please contact Sherry Ott at sjwsmile@aol.com for a list of students.

Thank you for your continued support of this important ministry.

November Mission Focus: reStart

reStart is an interfaith ministry committed to providing shelter and supportive services to homeless men, women, youth and families with the goal of helping them move toward independence and self-sufficiency. This ministry provides a transitional living facility, youth counseling center, an emergency overnight shelter and numerous outreach and educational services to the Kansas City community.

reStart is a ministry close to my heart. I first took my daughter, Samantha, to serve a meal there when she was just seven years old. For the last 15 years, going to reStart has been something we look forward to doing as a family. However, Blue Ridge has been supporting this ministry for much longer. I don't know the exact year the church first started providing meals, but around 25 years ago. Over the years adults and youth from Blue Ridge have volunteered in many other ways, including doing minor repairs, sorting clothes, donations for the Christmas Store and hosting parties for the kids.

As the mission focus for November, Blue Ridge will be supporting reStart in the following ways:

1. Providing food and serving meal on November 11 for the Transitional Living Facility & Overnight Emergency Shelter.
2. Donating Personal Care Bags for the Overnight Emergency Shelter.
3. An offering the first Sunday in December.

Many of you donate small shampoos, lotions and soap throughout the year. In addition to these items we will also be collecting toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant and disposable razors. There will be box for donations in the Beatitude area beginning the first of November.

Watch the Sunday Envoy for a date and time later in the month to stuff the bags for the shelter.

To find out more about reStart, please visit www.restartinc.org. Your help in continuing Blue Ridge Methodist Church's ongoing support of this vital Kansas City ministry is appreciated.

Sherry Ott
Service & Mission Team

Golden Key News

The Golden Key Club will meet in the downstairs dining room for a potluck lunch on Thursday, November 8 at noon.

A musical program will follow.

Guests are always welcome. We'd be happy to have you come check us out!

Women's Book Club

Women's Book Club will be meeting November 13th at 7 pm in the Library and discussing *Iron Lake* by William Krueger. This discussion will be led by Lisa Schwartzkopf.

All are welcome.

Fall Charge Conference

Our superintendent, Rev. Villa, has set our fall Charge/Church Conference date and location as Saturday, November 10, 2012, from 9:00 -10:30 AM at our St. Luke's Church, James A. Reed and Bannister. Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend. Thank you.

Barry Freese
Lead Pastor

Blue Ridge Blvd Methodist Church

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Office Hours
Mon-Thurs 8:30a-4:30p
Office closed on Fridays

POSTMASTER: Send address changes
to: THE ENVOY
5055 Blue Ridge Blvd
Kansas City, MO 64133-2547

Check out our website for more info

www.blueridgechurch.org



Service Times:

Sunday mornings 9:00 and 10:30

Pastors:

Barry Freese, lead pastor

barry@blueridgechurch.org

direct: 816-835-2545

Charity Goodwin-Rosario, pastor

pastorcharity@blueridgechurch.org

direct: 816-695-2644

The article deadline for the next issue is November 29th.

Did you Know???

- The church has a website at www.blueridgechurch.org
You can listen to Sunday's sermon and see your Home Envoy and Youth Newsletter online under "Messages".
- You can get your Home Envoy by email. Call the church office to let us know if you would like to receive it this way.
- You can sign up for alter flowers on the calendar across from the office. Cost for the flowers is \$50. Just put your name and phone # on the desired Sunday. Callie Ballenger will contact you a few days before the chosen Sunday to ask your preferences of flowers. After the Sunday services you may take home your flowers.
- You can sponsor the Home Envoy for just \$30. Three spots are available each month. Sign up or call the church office if you would like to sponsor an Envoy in honor of, in memoriam or in celebration of an event. By sponsoring the publication, you can help to offset printing and mailing costs.
- Pantry Sunday is always the first Sunday of the month.
- There are DVD's in the office to borrow or buy, for \$5, of the performances of the past year.

Church Family News

A huge THANK YOU to Charlotte Robinson for compiling the book on music history at Blue Ridge for the Raytown Historical Society. Dwight Robinson recently completed his fiftieth year singing in the Chancel Choir! We thank you for your dedicated service, and also for helping to lead hymns at our 10:30 worship service. "Well done, good and faithful servants!"

Prayers

For Pastor Charity, in the death of her grandfather in mid-October.

For Larry Blair, in the death of his mother, Fannie.

~ Home Envoy is sponsored by ~

Bill & Juanita Cox in celebration of their wedding anniversary.