

## Mark your Calendars:

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- Sunday, Oct. 7, 9:00 & 10:30a Mission Field Impact Offering
- The week beginning Oct 7, SPiRiT groups start. For info turn to page 3 of the Envoy.
- Monday, Oct. 8, 7:00p, Men of Blue Ridge meeting
- Wednesday, Oct. 10, 10:00a UMW Unit Meeting
- Monday, Oct. 22, 7:00p Men of Blue Ridge study group
- Wednesday, Oct . 24, 10:00a UMW Mission Team Meeting

Blue Ridge Blvd

United Methodist Church

# The Home Envoy

October 2, 2012

Volume 57, Issue 10

## Letter from the Pastor- Barry Freese

### The Big Day Was A Big Win

What a joy it was to participate in our Big Day on September 23! I'm so proud of Blue Ridge Church. You all did great work. There was a wonderful spirit in the building and on our property. Our worship attendance was up. And we had more guests in worship and on the front yard. Thank you so much! Expect more Big Day model days ahead.

### For Christ's Sake

Sometimes it hurts to follow Jesus. When I've been hurt following Christ I have learned to ask, "Will I go through this for Christ's sake?" I keep saying yes, through the grace and power of Christ's Spirit. You can too!

The apostle Paul's yes caused him to suffer in his service. He wrote "Now I'm happy to be suffering for you. I'm completing what is missing from Christ's sufferings with my own body. I'm doing this for the sake of his body, which is the church." Colossians 1.24 CEB

"Stay right with God and let Him do as He likes, and you will find that He is producing the kind of bread and wine that will benefit His other children.

God will honor it when you keep saying, "Yes." to Christ. Keep your eye on the prize of benefiting some of God's other children, and not only will you be poured out for others, you'll be healed along the way.

One of our basic beliefs is that our future in Christ will be better than our past or present. Focus on doing Christ's work for others and you'll be blessed beyond your expectations. Expect the blessing.

### Financial Updates

As a part of her regular duties, I've assigned our Financial Secretary, Sarah Jarvis, to make the following information available in two ways on the schedule noted below. The two ways are:

- 1) In a notebook labeled "Generosity" in the church office, and
- 2) Via email.

The Generosity Notebook is available for viewing by anyone. If you want to be added to the email distribution, email Sarah Jarvis at [sjarvis@blueridgechurch.org](mailto:sjarvis@blueridgechurch.org). Because of the expense involved, there will not be mass postal mailings or printings of this information.

**Weekly Weekly Generosity Report.** This report will include a summary of the generosity of people in our church from all income sources. These sources could include plate offering, automated clearing house (ACH; gifts sent automatically/electronically from a donor account), securities, etc. It will also include expenditure summaries and our current cash position in the operating (ministry) account.

....article continues on Page 2

# Big Day Proved a Success!

Way to go everyone! We did it!

The Big Day was a grand slam. Thanks to each of you for praying, paying, playing, and planning this amazing outreach to our community. We saw lots of new faces. We collected about 20 new names. God is good.

Beyond that, I have heard the most amazing stories of you all sharing and inviting people to church and to Christ. Keep up the good work, this is the work of ministry, loving God and our neighbors enough to step out of our comfort and try something new...and didn't God show out?

Be encouraged, each time you invited someone you planted a seed; a seed of which we may or may not see the fruit. But scripture tells us only if we sow, do we reap. We can expect a harvest! God Bless you all for your commitment to Christ and your support of this ministry.

--Pastor Charity



## Music Ministry

Director of Music—

Linda Mann 353-4826

lmann@blueridgechurch.org

### Children's Worship Opportunities

This Sunday, October 7, the Angel Choir will begin their weekly practices. The choir is open to ages 2 through 1<sup>st</sup> grade and meets in the Sunday School area immediately after the 9:00 Sunday School hour until 10:30. Leaders are Ray and Sheila Schulz, and the choir sings approximately once a month in Sunday morning services.

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—your child may do one or both—in preparation for an advent presentation. If you are interested please contact Linda Mann at the above e-mail or call 353-4826 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!

## UMW Nut Orders

The United Methodist Women will be taking orders for nuts through October 26th. Order forms are available at the Welcome Center. Questions, call Anna Brown 816-356-5055.

## Letter from the Pastor- Barry Freese

...Continued from Page 1

**Monthly Month-end.** The month-end report will initially be the report from Quick Books that has been shared now at two FiAT (Church Council) meetings, three town hall meetings and two Generosity Committee meeting so far. The deadline for this report continues to be the 15<sup>th</sup> of the following month. In January of each year this will be the year-end report first-draft deadline, with a fully-reconciled version to follow.

**Apportionments** Apportionments fall into two reporting categories based on where the information can be found, through the District Office and through the Conference Office.

**District Apportionments** This mission giving includes 1) support for local mission ministries in our district supported at least in part by these gifts, (such as Camino, Verdad Y Vida UMC) and 2) support for the District Office staff (does not include the superintendent) and operations. District apportionments are available online at <http://hcdistrictumc.org>. Click on the District Apportionments link on the left of the page.

**Conference Apportionments** This mission giving includes 1) support for regional (state-wide) ministries of the Missouri Conference and 2) support for the global ministries of the United Methodist Church (General Church). Conference and General Church apportionments are updated monthly by mail. You can expect a copy of those updates to be attached to the Generosity update emails as we receive them.

**A Note About Attachments:** All of the email attachments will be in .pdf format. If you are unable to open files that end with the .pdf extension, download a free .pdf file reader at <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>.

Grace and peace,

Barry Freese, Lead Pastor

## Prayers

For Pastor Charity as she prepares her paper, which is the final step for ordination.

## Mission Field Impact Offering

Our October 7 Mission Field Impact Offering will help in continuing our inviting efforts through servant evangelism. Your offering will support further planning to promote and share the good news of Jesus Christ through small acts of random kindness called servant evangelism. Already we have had more than 20 people participate in passing out water to the community.

There are many ideas for serving. Your offering will help cover the cost the do these acts in our community.

Thank you for planning to be generous on October 7! The local portion will support the servant evangelism efforts. As always, the global impact portion of our gifts will be sent to the world-wide ministries of the United Methodist Church.

## College Outreach

October 14th, there will be sign up sheets during both worship services to donate items for the college care packages as well as other ways to participate in this ministry. Donated items need to be at church on October 21st to be included in the shipments.

If you have a college student who has been active at Blue Ridge and would like them included, please contact Anne Norton 816-213-0501.

## SPiRiT Groups – Sign Up Today!

**Serve. Pray. Read the Bible. Together.** Short term small groups – 6 weeks

### SIGN UP. ...

It's easy! Indicate which group by its number 1-4 you would like to sign up for on the community card or stop by the Welcome Desk to learn more and/or sign up OR go online to sign up... it's easy! All groups will meet at the church.

**1. Spiritual Parenting: An Awakening for Today's Families by Michelle Anthony**  
Thursdays 6:30-7:30pm beginning October 11

Parenting is a joy and a privilege, but it can also be a scary, overwhelming endeavor. When trying to figure out how to raise kids, parents can get caught up in rules and behaviors. However, as we read and explore Spiritual Parenting together, we will realize that Jesus doesn't call for well-behaved kids. He wants to know our kids' hearts and be in relationship with them. In her book, Anthony shares how to structure your home using different environments to nurture the growth of your child's faith.

Facilitator: Terri Friebohle (open to everyone)

**2. Experiencing the Heart of Jesus: Knowing His Heart, Feeling His Love by Max Lucado**

Sundays 10:30-11:30am beginning October 7

Experiencing the Heart of Jesus does not aim only to increase your knowledge about him, but to facilitate your experience with him. Each week's study is an in-depth lesson about one quality of Jesus' character. As we learn his heart, he transforms ours.

Facilitator: Donna Teachman (open to everyone)

**3. Outlive Your Life by Max Lucado**

1st and 3rd Thursdays each month from 10am-12pm starting October 11

This study is based on the book of Acts. With provoking thoughts, questions and prayer at the end of each chapter, we will be comforted and challenged. How we live today is harder compared to a generation ago. So, what does that mean for us? Let's explore together.

Facilitator: Sue Klotz (open to everyone)

**4. Questioning Your Faith? It's OK!**

Wednesday from 7 – 8 p.m. beginning October 10 (concurrent with Logos)

Bring your questions and we will pray, ponder, and peruse the scriptures for answers and insights.

Facilitator: Pastor Barry (open to everyone)

## Golden Key News

Golden Key Club members enjoyed bingo at our August luncheon so much we will have a pizza party and bingo at noon in the downstairs dining room on Thursday, October 11th. \$5.00 per person will cover the cost of the pizza, salad, dessert and a beverage. Bring a white elephant for prizes.

## Women's Book Club

Women's Book Club will be meeting October 9th at 7 pm in the Library and discussing *Crow Lake* by Mary Lawson. This discussion will be led by Sue Klotz.

Discussion will be held by Lisa Schwartzkopf on November 13th of *Iron Lake* by William Krueger. 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

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Check out our website for more info

[www.blueridgechurch.org](http://www.blueridgechurch.org)



### Service Times:

Sunday mornings 9:00 and 10:30

### Pastors:

Barry Freese, lead pastor

[barry@blueridgechurch.org](mailto:barry@blueridgechurch.org)

direct: 816-835-2545

Charity Goodwin-Rosario, pastor

[pastorcharity@blueridgechurch.org](mailto:pastorcharity@blueridgechurch.org)

direct: 816-695-2644

The article deadline for the next issue is October 25th.

## Opportunities to Serve

**The Boy Scout Fall Food Drive.** Bags will be picked-up and delivered to REAP on Oct. 6th. They are in need of many volunteers to assist at REAP to sort food starting at 9:30 AM Sat. the 6th. They will provide lunch for those who are helping.

Please call the church office at 353-1435 to let us know if you are able to help.  
Please leave your name and how many people will be attending.

### **Mission Opportunities at Della Lamb Community Services**

Contact Nancy K. Kincaid, Director of Volunteers, for more information.  
816-289-8446

Clerical Volunteers for Della's Offices

Weekly: Tutors for Adult English Language Learners

Weekly: Items for Della Mart at ELL (Bar Soap, Dish Soap, Toilet Paper, Toothpaste, Tooth brushes, Shampoo)

Year-Round: canned and dry food staples at the Della Food Pantry

School Supplies (July and August)

Operation Santa Claus: New Children's Socks, Underwear, Hats, Gloves, Scarves (November, December)

Volunteers and Holiday Food for Operation Thanksgiving and Operation Santa Claus (November, December)

### **Hurricane Isaac Volunteer Response Team**

Hurricane Isaac has left devastation in its path. After the initial Emergency Response, our friends in Louisiana are now ready to receive our help in rebuilding their homes and lives. Our Missouri Early Responder Teams and Volunteers in Mission are invited to be of service beginning Oct. 1.

For more information on how you and your team can help please visit:

<http://www.la-umc.org/pages/detail/1761>.

## Church Family News

Congratulations go out to Ethan Lee Spencer who was baptized on September 30th. Proud parents are Daniel & Julie Spencer and grandmother, Bernie Bixler.

## A Welcome & a Congratulations

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new Church Administrator Mindy Fox!

And congratulations to Larry Madden, our Building/Maint. Manager, on his retirement.

~ Home Envoy is sponsored by ~

Ron & Callie Ballenger in celebration of their son, Bradley and his 1st birthday on October 10th.