

Celebrating Scouts on February 9

Blue Ridge Church is proud to have sponsored Boy Scout Troop 269 since 1953. The troop and pack have been active every year with many boys learning and practicing the ways of the scout. Camping, fishing, canoeing and bicycling trips, service projects, ceremonies and good turns are just some of the activities that keep this troop busy as well as a summer camp session at H. Roe Bartle Scout Camp in Osceola, Missouri.

Adult leaders have always been in abundance to watch their boys grow, mature, learn and earn badges and awards. The accomplishments have been many as have been the projects and service they have provided for the

community and the church. The annual pancake breakfast and chili supper bring out both church and community members who show their support.



The scouts also maintain a paper recycling bin in the rear church parking lot. Proceeds from the collection of paper helps to send boys to summer camp.

Please visit their web site at www.bsatrop269.yolasite.com/ to learn more.

Girl Scout Sunday is April 9. Watch for information next month about the Girl Scouts.



The Home Envoy

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THE NEWS AT BLUE RIDGE

Blue Ridge Boulevard United Methodist Church

5055 Blue Ridge Blvd. Kansas City, MO 816-353-1435 www.BlueRidgeChurch.org

Dear Friends in Christ,

How's your winter going?

February can feel long, particularly for such a short month. Winter's still in force. The days can be gray and cold. The Valentine's Day holiday and the Monday, federal holiday for George Washington's birthday break up the month. Yet sometimes these days also serve to break up our patterns just as we get in rhythm.

I suspect that many in our mission field experience the same cold, grey, broken rhythm. The perceptions of continued financial challenges are seldom brightened on gray days. Someone looking for work often has to be out and about in the chill. It's harder to be "up" and enthusiastic for an interview when you've just experienced bone-chilling cold. Folks who are hungry and wonder where their next meal, or food for the kids, will come from wouldn't be encouraged by gray days.

We're here to live so that everyone experiences the love of Christ. A long winter is surely a time when people need to experience love. Into the cold gray winter world of February we carry in our very being the constant, heart-warming love of Christ. My prayer for you is that the warmth of the love of Jesus will give you boldness to share that grace with someone outside the walls of the church. In sharing love, I suspect that you, too, will experience a sense of that miraculous love.

I hope you'll be with us for worship during February as we

- † **Celebrate** the discipline, obedience and relationships formed in scouting on Sunday, February 9,
- † **Talk openly** about demons—with Out Demon Out!—on Sunday, February 16, and
- † **Explore** our Wesleyan tradition of leadership with special guest preacher, Dr. Doug Anderson, Executive Director of the Bishop Rueben Job Center for Leadership at Dakota Wesleyan University, Mitchell, South Dakota on Sunday, February 23.

Share the warmth of Jesus with someone today!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Barry Freese

Pot Luck Brunch Following Service

Unleash your Brunch favorites to share with your Blue Ridge family and friends. Gather after our Worship Service on Sunday, February 9th. Bring your favorite fruits, casseroles, rolls, muffins and fruit juices etc. Coffee, water, table service and of course great company will be provided. Warming ovens will be available to keep your dishes warm. See you there!!

**Join us for Brunch
February 9th**

UMW to Sponsor Upcoming Potato Bar

If you liked the potato bar we had at the soup suppers last year, you won't want to miss the potato bar we're having on February 27th! It's going to be bigger and better and we will have plenty of potatoes (but no soup this time)! Of course drinks and desserts will be included for the price of \$6.00. Potatoes will be ready at 5:30 and we'll serve until 6:30. Will you be there?

Generosity Information:

As the calendar changes to a new year, opportunities present themselves for changes in processes too. Due to more use of electronic giving and increasing cost of postage and printing, we have made the switch to providing an annual box set of giving envelopes which are available around the corner from the elevator. If you need assistance receiving your box or you would like to switch to electronic giving too, please do not hesitate to contact the office. Additionally, you

Children's Rotational Sunday School at Blue Ridge United Methodist



The Children's Ministry at Blue Ridge UMC is alive and well. We will be beginning the Spring Semester of Wednesday Night Live on Wednesday, February 12. Wednesday Night Live has activities for Children ages 3-12th grade every Wednesday evening from 6-7:30 PM. The activities include worship, bible study, recreation, and snacks. There are three groups of activities ages 3-1st grade, 2-5th grades, and

6-12th grades. There will not be a registration fee for this semester but will be asking those that attend to provide a snack for one of the evenings. We are looking for children to attend as well as adults to help as leaders. Our mission at Blue Ridge UMC is to go out into the world training disciples and Wednesday Night Live is a great way to fulfill this mission. (*Register for Wednesday Night Live on the web site: BlueRidgeChurch.org and click on Registrations under Quick Links*)

The next rotation of our Rotational Sunday School begins February 9th and we will be learning about Zacchaeus. Our memory verse for this rotation comes from Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths". The children will be making clothes pin Zacchaeus, finger paintings, playing Cheater, Cheater, and will interview Zacchaeus as well as watching a movie and doing skits with puppets. We are looking for adults to help lead each rotation. If you have not helped in the past we have a lot of fun. If you are interested in leading a rotation please e mail me at stilesallie@yahoo.com or call me at 816-752-6662.



We continue to have a nursery for children from birth through 5 yrs of age weekly on Sundays from 8:45-11:00 AM as well as Ignite Children's Church for ages 5-11.

- Thank you, Callie Ballenger

will find that the envelopes have a different design. Last fall, following a recommendation of the auditor, the Church Council voted to change to a one fund system. When you give to the general ministries of the church, all items in the budget can hopefully be funded, rather than specific designations. Here are just a few... resources, events and work camps for youth, children and adults to help them grow in their relationship with Christ and learn to be in mission to others; staffing to provide passionate worship; administrative, custodial and childcare staff that provides a

welcoming, clean and safe environment for those that use our building; geo-thermal loan; mission giving opportunities and obligations; utilities and maintenance of the building, etc. The list goes on and it is my hope that you consider generosity and ministry differently and boldly as we go forward in 2014. If you have specific questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, Sarah Jarvis, at sjarvis@blueridgechurch.org. Monthly and annual generosity reports are made available at the information desk as well as I can provide those upon request.



Blue Ridge Youth News: Youth Service Opportunity

On February 15 the youth will gather to make snack bags for the Ronald McDonald House. Our goal is to make 50 of these bags. They require prepackaged food and will be put in

gallon size baggies. Each of the youth are being asked to provide 10 – 12 items and we are asking for additional donations of snack type foods that will fit in these baggies. Some ideas are:

Individual bags of chips, pretzels, Cheez-its, etc., juice boxes, granola bars, whole fruit, cereal bars, string cheese, cheese cubes, small cans of fruit cocktail, small packages of deli meat, etc.

Please leave all donations to the box in the Beatitudes marked Youth/Ronald McDonald House. We thank you for your help with this service opportunity!

- Blessings, Deborah DeMoss, Volunteer Youth Coordinator

YOUTH

Hello, my name is Madison DeMoss and I am a youth! I have been in youth for two years and it is great. This month we had a lock-in where we took some time to see what it felt like to be the pastor up front! Then, the next day, we went to Harvesters where we helped box meat (and I mean like 1400 pounds of just meat)! I can definitely say that being a youth has been very fun this past couple of months. We have really started doing things that help other people and it is just fantastic! We plan to work with the Ronald McDonald House in February. I would also like to mention that this past Friday, the 31st we attended the annual Winter Jam Christian Rock Concert at the Sprint Center. It was wonderful to get the opportunity to experience that. Well, I guess the only good way to end this is just by saying have a fabtabulous day and a terrific rest of your week! BYE.

- Yours truly, Madison DeMoss



Volunteer Hours

This year we want to keep track of all the volunteer hours our congregation does on behalf of the church-either at the church or in the community or with an organized effort of the church. Our goal is 1500 hours and I think that is a very realistic goal.

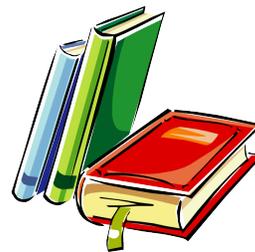
We want to know about the hours you volunteer, whether in a group or individually. This includes not only volunteering at outside agencies like Shepherd's Center or Spofford, but also the hours that are donated to the church, whether it is in the office or video/sound booth or teaching or fixing the things that break. It does not include those hours when we are helping out family members.

I do have a special request regarding the hours that are done in a church-sponsored group. Please designate one person in the group to figure out the number of hours and to report them in total, instead of each person reporting them separately.

A line has been added to the blue community card for you to report these hours each week after you complete them. If you don't make it to church, please send your hours to me at me email ctseed@ymail.com or call me at 356-1444 as often as you want.

Let me know if you have any questions. Thank you. . . and remember - there is nothing small in the service of God.

- Connie Turnipseed,
Service and Mission Chair



Women's Book Club

The Women's Book Club will meet Tuesday, February 11 at

7:00 pm in the Library discussing *Happiness Project* by Gretchen Rubin. This discussion will be led by Dianne Decker. All are welcome!

Golden Key

The Golden Key Club meets on the second Thursday of every month at Blue Ridge Boulevard United Methodist Church.



This month we meet on February 13 in the Dining Room, on the lower floor at 12:00 noon. The menu for the February luncheon is potluck! The entertainment will be Rob McHenry playing guitar and singing a variety of favorite songs. Come join us for fun and fellowship! Enjoy great friends and make new friends. The food is great...and the entertainment is fantastic.

Overdue Library Books

Once again there are a number of books overdue from the Church Library. If you have Christmas books, UMW books, or other books from the library that are overdue, please return as soon as possible. There are a few children's books out that also need to be returned. I have found that the longer a person keeps a book it is more likely that they will misplace it or forget that they have it. A few people have multiple books checked out. If you are reading UMW books, please remember that other members want to read them as well. If you have questions, please email me at crobin1935@aol.com or call me 816-353-4946. - Charlotte Robinson

Church Family News

Our prayers and deepest sympathy are extended to:

- The family and friends of Bertha Peters who died on January 31.
- Margaret Muñoz for the death of her mother, Lois Green, on January 1st in Rolla, Missouri.
- Russell Warren for the death of his wife Linda.

You are invited to the following event:

VIM TEAM LEADERSHIP TRAINING



Event to be held at the following time, date, and location:

Saturday, April 12, 2014 from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM

Country Club UMC, 400 W 57th St, Kansas City, MO 64113

The Team Leadership Training (TLT) course covers spiritual leadership, effective and healthy short-term mission practices, and mission experience planning.

There will be two breakout sessions in the afternoon: Mozambique Initiative with the Missouri Conference Coordinator, Sarah Bollinger, and Other Mission Plans with Audrey Phelps.

Course Pre-Requisite

When Helping Hurts by Stephen Corbett and Brian Fikkert. This book should be read before your training date. "When Helping Hurts" can be purchased from the following sites: Amazon, Cokesbury and Barnes and Nobel.

We hope you can make it!
Cheers,
Audrey Phelps

Mark Your Calendars:

Breaktime	9:30am, Dining Room	Monday, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24
UMW: Unit Meeting	10:00am, Dining Room	Wednesday, Feb. 12
Golden Key	12:00noon, Dining Room	Thursday, Feb. 13
H.O.P.E. Group	3:00pm, Room 201	Thursday, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27
Prayer Shawl	10:00am, Beatitude	Tuesday, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25
Women's Book Club	7:00pm, Library	Tuesday, Feb. 11
Grief Care	10:00am, Conf. Room	Wednesday, Feb. 19
UMW: Priscilla	10:00am, Room 201	Wednesday, Feb. 19
Women's Bible Study	10:00am, Library	Thursday, Feb. 6, 20
UMW: Ruth Circle	1:00pm, Library	Thursday, Feb. 20
UMW: Connecting Hands	12:30pm, Room 203	Wednesday, Feb. 26
Men of Blue Ridge	7:00am, Ginger's	Saturday, Mar. 1
Pantry Sunday		Sunday, Mar. 2
UMW: EEvening Circle	6:30pm, Dining Room	Monday, Mar. 3

Flowers for Easter

It really seems early, but to have the fresh flowers we are used to for the holidays, we need to know very soon, if you want to honor or remember someone for the Easter Service. We need the number of plants you want to buy, (by ordering this early you may specify if you want a Lily or Pansy), and what you want said for each flower you purchase. Farrand Farms will be providing our flowers again this year, and the cost for each will be \$15.00. You can call me at home (816-373-2237) and leave a message with your information, or call the church office (816-353-1435) to leave a message there, I will also have forms at the information center, that you can fill out and put in the offering plate or in the church office, with your payment. Please be sure to mark on your check or envelope, how many plants you are paying for so you will be credited with your payment. I look forward to share in celebrating the season with you.

- Sue Klotz

Thank You!

A thank you from the Prayer Shawl Ministry for all the help on January 17th for Family Game Night and the pot luck dinner is in order. Thank you to the Men of Blue Ridge for setting up the tables in Fellowship Hall. Thank you to Anna Brown for the table decorations. Thank you to Carrol Petrie and Jim Muñoz for washing the dishes so we can stay "green"! Thank you to the United Methodist Women for supplying the drinks and dessert plates. All of this contributed to making the night so enjoyable and we couldn't have done it without help. After dinner we had groups playing Dominoes, Phase 10, Apples to Apples, Farkle, Hedbanz, and a Carrom Board. Let's do it again soon!

THE NEWS AT BLUE RIDGE is published monthly by Blue Ridge Boulevard United Methodist Church, 5055 Blue Ridge Boulevard, Kansas City, Missouri, 64133. Phone: 816-353-1435. Office Hours are Tuesday thru Thursday 8:30 am- 4:30 pm. Office is closed on Mondays and Fridays. Senior Pastor Barry Freese may be reached by email at barry@BlueRidgeChurch.org or his direct number 816-835-2545. Sunday Worship Service is at 10:00 am. More information on www.BlueRidgeChurch.org