

Easter Living

As Easter is now behind us for 2014 we're faced with the same question the followers of Jesus faced after his resurrection: Now what?

Do we go back to the way we lived before the resurrection? Or do we live into the freedom to begin again, with the freedom of forgiven people?

What's your answer?

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Barry

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THE NEWS AT BLUE RIDGE

Blue Ridge Boulevard United Methodist Church

5055 Blue Ridge Blvd. Kansas City, MO 64133 816-353-1435 www.BlueRidgeChurch.org

The Healthy Church Initiative (HCI) Update:

Our work continues on the HCI prescriptions. Here is an update on that work. Remember that you can also check the HCI Update bulletin board in the hallway near the elevator or check the church website for information.

Prescription 1- Vision, Mission, Planning: A new vision has been created. It is:

*“Creating relationships in the mission field
so that all experience the love of Christ.”*

A leadership and planning retreat was held in February. At the retreat, we defined our core values as family, fellowship, tradition and community.

Prescription 2-Sunday Morning Experience: The worship design team continues to meet on a weekly basis. The hospitality and connection team meet monthly. The Connection Plan has been finalized. The purpose of the Connection Plan is to put people (connectors) in place to make guests feel comfortable and help them find a place to belong within our congregation as they develop their relationship with God. We are looking for connectors. If you enjoy talking with people and could help make others feel welcome and valued, please watch for the training meeting which will be scheduled soon.

Prescription 3-Outwardly Focused: A team has been established to plan and implement one service blitz and three bridge events in our mission field. The service blitz is scheduled for April 26th. This is a chance to get out in our mission field and help others. Don't forget to wear your blue t-shirt!

Prescription 4-Leadership Development: The church council and other church leaders participated in leadership training in February. The church council will be starting a nine month lay leadership training program in May.

Prescription 5-Intentional Faith Development: A team is in place. This team will work on creating the pathway for members and guests to follow in their spiritual journey.

I invite you all to be in prayer for the HCI process to be successful, to be here to worship with your church family, provide gifts to implement the prescriptions, and use your talents to serve in one way or another in the HCI process.

HCI information is being updated regularly on the church website. If you have any questions or want to be part of the process, please contact Pastor Barry.



Service Opportunity

I had promised a group service event for the weekend of May 17th and 18th, which has been designated as Change The World weekend. However, I have determined that there is a greater need the weekend before. The Annual Postal Workers Food Drive is Saturday, May 10th. All food from the 64133 zip code is donated to REAP and this is a difficult one for them to get enough volunteers, because the greatest need is from 2:00 - 6:00, when the mailmen come in from their

routes. Can you help, even if it is only for an hour or two? If so, please contact Connie Turnipseed at ctseed@ymail.com or call the church office at 353-1435 and let them know you're available to help.

Golden Key

The Golden Key Club meets on the second Thursday of every month at Blue Ridge Boulevard United Methodist Church in the Dining Room on the lower level at 12:00 noon. This month we meet on May 8th. The menu for the

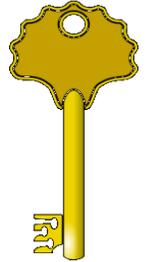
May luncheon is potluck!

(Bring your favorite dish). The entertainment will be Roy Erwin

presenting a photo slide show "Light Houses of New England".

Come join us for fun and fellowship! Enjoy great friends and make new friends.

The food is great...and the entertainment is fantastic.



Everyone is invited to the United Methodist Women's

"Missouri" Hi-Tea May 16

6:00 PM "MOONSHINE" PUNCH - 6:30 PM DINNER

7:15 PM PROGRAM

ADULTS: \$7.50 12 AND UNDER: \$4.00

Music and Comedy Relief

Program provided by Marilyn West, choir director at Mt. Washington United Methodist Church, 584 Arlington, Independence. Only one of the many musical and entertaining activities that she is involved in. Also, please ask her about the *Community Choir* for the United Methodist Women. Visit her church's website at: www.MtWashingtonUMC.org

Menu

Chicken Salad on Lettuce Leaf

Potato Chips: Salted and Un-Salted

Relish Tray: Carrots, Celery & Cauliflower

Frozen Fruit Salad: Melons

Dinner Rolls

Chiffon Pies: Strawberry, Orange & Key Lime

Drinks: Iced Tea, Lemonade & Coffee

United Methodist Women: Who We Are

The United Methodist Women meet in small groups called circles, once a month, and as a larger group in the monthly Unit Meeting. All women of the church are invited to visit and learn more about us. The UMW of Blue Ridge have an extensive outreach program including Spofford Home for Children, Della Lamb, Ronald McDonald House, Hope House and more. Look for dates and times of meetings in the Sunday bulletin calendar, the calendar on the website and for more information the monthly church newsletter entitled THE NEWS AT BLUE RIDGE.



Identity Theft Workshop

If you are concerned about **Identity Theft** and other areas of consumer protection such as how to reduce telemarketing calls, reducing junk mail, checking charities before making a contribution and more, mark your calendars to



attend a workshop addressing these concerns.

On **June 2nd**, Tom Durkin, Public Education Director with the Missouri Attorney General's office, will be at Blue Ridge Blvd. United Methodist Church to educate us on these subjects and more.

Brunch & Auction, May 2

The next meeting of Church Women United will be on Friday, May 2nd, May Fellowship Day. We will have a delicious brunch, entertaining program followed by an auction; the proceeds remaining in our Raytown treasury. All women of the community are invited and encouraged to attend this gathering of women of diverse races, cultures & traditions. Reservations are not necessary. Will be held at our Blue Ridge UMC from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. Please contact Marilyn Yorke with any questions 816-356-6694.

Please Join Us - Everyone Welcome

Covenant Class Begins New Study

On Sunday, April 27, the Covenant Class began a study of the book *Simply Jesus (A New Vision of Who He Was, What He Did, and Why He Matters)* by N. T. Wright. Later in the year we will be using Adam Hamilton's book, *Making Sense of The Bible* for our study. We welcome anyone who would like to join us as we learn together, have great discussions, and support one another in every way possible. The class is taught by Bob Downs, Linda Casebolt, Ruthie Schwieterman, Charlotte and Dwight Robinson. We meet from 8:45 to 9:45 in the lower level of the church. There will be a short time to visit and get yourself a cup of coffee or tea before we begin. To reach our room take the stairs or elevator, turn left through the small dining room and we are the first door on the left. If you have not been in a Sunday School class for a long time or if you have never attended, you will find it makes your faith even stronger as you learn more about Jesus, the Bible, and the Christian life. If you have questions, please call Charlotte Robinson at 816-353-4946.

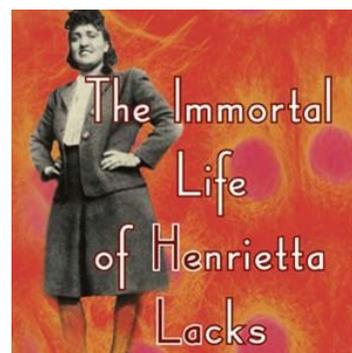


The Women's Book Club will meet Tuesday, May 13 at 7:00 pm in the Library discussing *Snow Flower & The Secret Fan* by Lisa See. This discussion will be led by Margaret Strader. All are welcome!

The United Methodist Women will host

Potluck Luncheon and Special Program

Special guest Ramonda Davis, the district resource person of United Methodist Women for 2013, will do an impersonation of Henrietta Lacks. Henrietta Lacks was a poor black tobacco farmer whose cells – taken without her knowledge in 1951 – became one of the most important tools in medicine, vital for developing the polio vaccine, cloning, gene mapping and more. Henrietta's cells have been bought and sold by the billions, yet she remains virtually unknown. "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks" published in 2001, has been on the New York Best Seller List.



"Doctors took her cells without asking. Those cells never died. They launched a medical revolution and a multimillion dollar industry. More than twenty years later, her children found out and their lives would never be the same."

Please join us for this unique story and potluck luncheon on May 14. The program will be at 10:00am and luncheon at 12:00noon in the dining room. Everyone is invited.

Calling Summer Lunch Helpers

The Raytown Summer lunch program starts July 7th and runs through August 15. Last summer we had a great group of people helping with delivery of lunches for Raytown children who might otherwise not have a daily lunch during that time frame. We need a driver and 2 helpers, to serve each Monday through Friday for the six weeks. Last year we had enough volunteers that each of the groups served once a week with a few exceptions. That included a total of 19 people who helped at various times. It's great to have a team, but if you can help once in a while we will find a place for you. I personally helped on several different days so I could be a part of the program and thoroughly enjoyed it. We can wear our "Blue Ridge Shirts" if you have one and they will know who we are! More shirts can be ordered if there is an interest.

This year we will be doing something a little different. We are asking those who deliver the lunches to try and get the children to stay there to eat, so we can talk with them and learn more about them. If we can accomplish that for most of our kids who come, we will be able to help the program grow through a special program with Harvesters. There will be a different lunch for those who are able to stay there to eat, and the lunches from Raytown Christian Church for the others (they should be very similar in either case). I believe it is possible to switch from one to the other if the children and their family or care givers agree, but will find out more soon. This is a new thing this year and will definitely help more children have a healthy, good lunch every day through the summer. If you have any questions you can call Sue Klotz at 373-2237 and please leave a message, or leave message at the church for me at 353-1435. This could be a big step in reaching out to the mission field we are trying to reach, so come join us, it was great fun last year!

- Sue Klotz

Church Family News

Our prayers and deepest sympathy are extended to:

- Connie Turnipseed & family for the loss of her mother, Bette on April 6.

Pot Luck Brunch

May 4th we are having a Pot Luck Brunch following worship. Unleash your brunch favorites to share with your church family and friends. Bring your favorite dishes, fruits or pastries. Coffee, water, table service and great company will be provided. Warming ovens will also be available.

Mark Your Calendars:

Women's Bible Study	10:00am, Library	Thurs., May 1, 15
HOPE Group	3:00pm, Room 201	Thurs., May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
Girl Scout Troop 23	5:00pm, Dining Room	Thurs., May 1, 15
Church Wom. United Brunch	10:00am, Fellowship Hall	Fri., May 2
Men of Blue Ridge	7:00am, Ginger's	Sat., May 3
All Church Potluck Brunch	11:00am, Fellowship Hall	Sun., May 4
Breaktime	9:30am, Dining Room	Mon., May 5, 12, 19, 26
UMW: EVening Circle	6:30pm, Dining Room	Mon., May 5
Boy Scouts & Cub Scouts	7:00pm	Mon., May 5, 12, 19, 26
Prayer Shawl	10:00am, Beatitude	Tues., May 6, 13, 20, 27
Golden Key	12:00noon, Dining Room	Thurs., May 8
R.E.A.P. Postal Food Drive	2:00 pm, R.E.A.P.	Sat., May 10
Girl Scout Troop 305	6:30pm, Dining Room	Mon., May 12, 26
Girl Scout Troop 4027	6:30pm, Dining Room	Mon., May 12, 19, 26
Women's Book Club	7:00pm, Library	Tues., May 13
UMW: Unit Meeting	10:00am, Dining Room	Wed., May 14
UMW: Potluck Lunch & Prog.	10:00am, Fellowship Hall	Wed., May 14
UMW: Ruth Circle	1:00pm, Library	Thurs., May 15
UMW: "Missouri" Hi-Tea	6:00pm, Fellowship Hall	Fri., May 16
Grief Care	10:00am, Conf. Room	Wed., May 21
UMW: Priscilla	10:00am, Room 201	Wed., May 21
UMW: Connecting Hands	12:30pm, Room 203	Wednesday, May 28
Pantry Sunday		Sunday, June 1

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: barry@BlueRidgeChurch.org or his direct number 816-835-2545. Contact the Church Office at ChurchAdmin@BlueRidgeChurch.org Sunday Worship Service is at 10:00 am. More information on www.BlueRidgeChurch.org

Thank You

I want to thank everyone who offered prayers during my mom's illness, and continued to pray and sent cards since her death. My family was worried about me coming back to Kansas City alone, but I assured them that I had several families here, my Blue Ridge family being one of them, Your support means so much to me. - Connie Turnipseed

May 4 is Pantry Sunday. Be sure to bring non perishable food items and toiletries when you come to worship next week.
