



THE NEWS AT BLUE RIDGE

Blue Ridge Boulevard United Methodist Church

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

From the pastor:

What A Wonderful, Transforming God We Have!!

This is about a transformed heart. Mine.

My hope and prayer is that this will be an encouragement to you, if you need it. You may not. Or you may. Or you may feel you don't and you do. I believe that covers most of the possibilities.

For decades now the mission of the United Methodist Church has been to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Our next worship series, Everyday Heros, will talk about transformation from everyday, regular folks to people who do heroic acts, people who have heroic moments.

Transformation, the word, the concept, the hope, the promise, has been a part of our Christian vocabulary longer than anyone reading this has been alive. It's been a part of our Christian vocabulary longer than the language many of us use every day, English, has been a language.

Transformation is at the heart of our Christian story. Simply put, Jesus Christ can make a transforming difference in our lives, now and forever.

My own personal transformation, up to now, has been gradual. It has been a decades-long process of letting go of things I loved while my love for Jesus grew. The evidence could be seen in the commitment of our family to be subject to one part of Christ's body, the United Methodist Church. We've moved, a bunch. Our children have been pulled from school to school. We've had bedrooms in parsonages with no HVAC. To say nothing of the change of income from mid-career to starting over. We've had our share. Many others have done much, much more in serving Jesus.

This time I've been blessed with a significant lightening of my heart. It's really quite remarkable. If we were only talking in medical terms, you could say God has healed pain in my heart. Yet our spiritual being is so much more than the physical.

The spiritual language for what has happened to me is regeneration. Watson's Biblical and Theological Dictionary defines regeneration as "a new birth; that work of the Holy Spirit by which we experience a change of heart." This is the love of God, the love of Jesus Christ, working in hearts. Transformation. New birth.

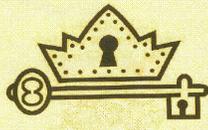
This is what we're talking about when we talk about in our draft vision statement, "Creating relationships in the mission field so that all experience the love of Christ." And just as God has done this in me, God can do this for you, too. And God can do this in our mission field.

It's a privilege to serve the transforming Jesus Christ here!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Barry Freese

Golden Key Luncheon



Thursday, October 10, at noon
Blue Ridge Blvd. United Methodist
Church Dining Room

Guests are always welcome.

Menu: Pizza

Cost: \$5.00 per person

Program: Photo story of fall foliage in
Missouri and other locations,
presented by Roy Erwin.

Come join us, you'll be glad you did!

Let's Show Our Hospitality at Election Time

We (the church) have the opportunity to show our hospitality when voters and election workers come into our church. We want to greet them, make them feel welcome and show them Blue Ridge hospitality. Hundreds of voters enter our building at election time and this is a great opportunity to make some new friends - and the bonus is - they're all our neighbors! A signup sheet will be available soon with the list of time slots to serve. Volunteers need to sign up in time slot that will work best. If you are not able to be a greeter for an hour or two, consider bringing cookies the other volunteers can serve the voters and election judges. Sometimes these voters have not been in a church and we certainly want them to feel welcomed in ours. A great opportunity to extend our friendliness, be gracious and show off our Blue Ridge pride and spirit while welcoming folks (our neighbors) with a smile and a warm, friendly handshake!

Service and Mission Team

The Blue Ridge *Service and Mission Team* is looking for new members to help plan and grow our mission work in our community. Call the church office at 816-353-1435 or Connie Turnipseed at 816-356-1444 for more information.

UMW No Longer Taking Nut Orders

The United Methodist Women will not be taking orders for nuts this year. Hopefully this notice is early enough for you to find another source. We sincerely thank you for your support for the last 16 years. It's been a pleasure to serve you. - *Anna Brown*

Troop 269 Continues to Sell Nuts

Boy Scout Troop 269 is and has for years taken nut orders. Order sheets are available at the information desk beginning October 6th or you can see Kevin DeMoss. All proceeds benefit the boys and help to defray the expense of summer camp and other activities the boys participate in.

Alternate Source to Order Nuts

Connie Turnipseed has a group who will be ordering nuts again this year. Order blanks will be at the Welcome Center, please look there for further information.

The Trustees Need Your Help.

We have many closets throughout the church filled with a variety of items and supplies. We need to identify the person or group responsible for these items. A tag has been placed on each closet door requesting the identity of the responsible group and contact person. Any closet not identified may be emptied of its contents. Thanks in advance for your help.

Women's Book Club

The Blue Ridge Women's Book Club will be meeting Tuesday, October 8, at 7:00 pm in the Library. The book they will be discussing is entitled "*Louisa May Alcott*" by Harriett Reisen. The discussion will be led by Charlotte Robinson. All are welcome!

Back to Fall with . . .

Home Made Soups and Potato Bar

with condiments, desserts & drinks

October 10th, 2013

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

In the Fellowship Hall

10% of all proceeds
goes to the Church General Fund.

Bowl of Soup \$6.00

(choice of Beef Vegetable or Chicken Rice)
with dessert and drink.

Potato Bar \$6.00

with condiments, dessert and drink.

Any questions, please contact Alice Wehmhoener
Sponsored by the United Methodist Women

Funeral Team to Be Formed

We are starting a funeral team to help care for the families when their loved one's funeral is here at Blue Ridge, and we could use your help. We'll need greeters to help those coming into the church; someone to assist the funeral home staff with things they may need, such as a podium, memorial envelopes, extra stands for flowers; assist in checking the sanctuary for the white colors and anything the family needs or asks questions about.

The United Methodist Women will host the condolence meals and be in charge of food and drinks. Help will be needed with preparing and/or donating food, setting up, serving and clean up.

Watch for clipboards to be sent around in the near future for sign ups. We hope to have enough volunteers to be able to rotate through a list so no one feels they need to do it all the time.

As we have done in the past, we're asking for donations to help with the expense of the meat. Any amount will be welcomed, and it will only be used for that purpose and will be accounted for as it is given and when used. Make sure your check is clearly marked for UMW Condolence Meal / meat expense.

Update on Wednesday Night Live

Wednesday Night Live

We had a wonderful start to our new Wednesday Night program on September 25th. Please join me in thanking all of the



volunteers who brought together the ideas and gave of their time to make this happen! I was especially moved by the excitement the children felt and expressed over our witnessing Exploration. We brought a few groups door to door down each street from the intersection next to our church. We met some new families and invited them to

celebrate with us on Wednesdays!

The program itself is different from LOGOS, but still has some of the same elements. We begin each evening with worship as a large group in the Sanctuary. After our worship time we have a LIVE session where kids are invited to join in performing their talents in expression for God. At our next session on October 2nd, Tess Scoggins and Stephanie Marcella will be performing LIVE MUSIC! After LIVE, we divide into our FAMILY groups and begin an ACTIVE EXPLORATION unit. Following exploration we sit down for a PICNIC style family snack. At the end of the evening, everyone is divided into age specific bible study groups. Additionally, we also have separate programming for our children ages 3-Kindergarten - and a nursery available for children under 3.

The FEE for participants is \$20 and is due by the end of October. There is no fee for adult volunteers who would like to participate and help provide a safe and fun atmosphere for our children/youth.

Registration can be completed on site, or online. If you have any questions, you can email ANDY WANAGER, (Wednesday Night Live) Coordinator at awanager@blueridgechurch.org

October -

Service and Mission Opportunity

Shepherd's Center Shepherd's Center will be the focus of our Service and Mission effort for October. They held their annual book sale in September which is one of their primary fundraisers. Our Impact offering will be taken on October 6 and will go to support Shepherd's Center's programs.

Condolence Dinners

With the changing of the staff and the structure of our church, the United Methodist Women, as a service to the church, have volunteered to help coordinate the Condolence Dinners. There will be a Funeral Team established (per Pastor Barry). A clipboard will be available for the Congregation to sign to volunteer with providing a dish for the Condolence Dinners. If you prefer not to make a dish than a contribution will be accepted and the money will be used to purchase the meat and any other necessities for the Condolence Dinners.

IGNITE (children's church)

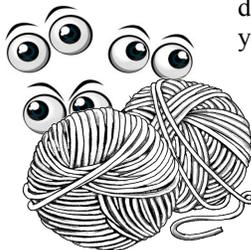
As most of you already know, we have begun worshipping at one service on Sunday mornings. As a part of this change, Children's Church sessions have become shorter, and are provided during the service. Currently, the children are invited to a Children's Moment just before the pastor's sermon. After this moment, they are then invited to attend Children's Church.



This is a time where children are IGNITED with the message from the sermon. We use music, videos, sketches, and interactive crafts to illustrate and give the message a 3rd dimension. Our most recent project is to create a PUPPET LAB! The children have created a drawing of their own likeness and we are planning to begin building these puppets and hope to perform for the church someday soon!

Supplies Needed for Children's Church!

However, our Puppets do need a little help. We have need of donations. Felt (any color) Yarn (for hair - yellow, brown, red, etc) Cardboard, Eyes (the googlie variety) Foam blocks, and cotton. If anyone has any of these materials that they can give to help bring a puppet to "life", please contact awanager@blueridgechurch.org



Healthy Church Initiative Update

With the formulation of a Worship Evaluation Team and ongoing training from our church HCI coach Ka Kotan, we feel it's extremely important to communicate and keep everyone updated on the process. Information is now available on our web site at www.BlueRidgeChurch.org

Follow the menu [Grow & Learn](#) and drop-down to [HCI Update](#). There you will find current information that will be updated regularly. Keep informed by checking back often. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Terri Friebohle.

DeFeet Hunger – Serve 2013 Results

Big Benefit for Harvesters

On Saturday, September 7, thirty United Methodist Churches and many non-church members, gathered to DE-Feet Hunger. The day started with a Sunrise Service which was followed by a 5K Walk/Run with 297 participants.

Along with other volunteers, they packed 8,000 lunches for Harvesters. The lunches were given to high school students in need across a 27 county area in Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas. Over all, more than \$18,000 was raised.



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Article deadline for next issue is October 31.

Check out our website for more information:
www.BlueRidgeChurch.org

Service Time:
Sunday mornings 10:00 AM

Pastor:
Barry Freese, lead pastor
barry@blueridgechurch.org
direct: 816-835-2545

Editor's Choice - Words for Consideration

CREATED AND PURCHASED

Tom carried the little boat that he had built to the edge of the river. He carefully placed it in the water and let out the string. Then he sat in the warm sunshine, admiring his creation. How smoothly it sailed! Suddenly a strong current caught the boat. Tom tried to pull it back to shore, but the string broke. The little boat raced downstream.

All afternoon Tom searched for the boat. Finally at dark, Tom sadly went home.

A few days later, on the way home from school, Tom spotted a miniature boat just like his in a store window. When he got closer, he could see -- sure enough -- it was his! Tom hurried to the store manager: "Sir, that's my boat in your window! I made it!"

"Sorry, son, but someone else brought it in this morning. If you want it, you'll have to buy it."

Tom ran home and counted all his money. Exactly what the boat cost! He ran back to the store and plunked down the coins. As he left the store, Tom hugged his boat and said, "Now you're twice mine. First, I made you and now I bought you." -- *Unknown*

Church Family News

Our prayers and deepest sympathy are extended to:

- The Arnold family and Dixie Lee for the death of Mark Arnold on September 19th.

Mark your Calendars:

- Wednesday, Oct. 2, Wednesday Night Live
- Thursday, Oct. 3, 10:00am, Library, Women's Bible Study and Issues Group
- Sunday, Oct. 6, pick up order forms for nut orders from Welcome Center
- Monday, Oct. 7, 6:30pm, Church Council Meeting
- Tuesday, Oct. 8, 7:00pm, Library, Women's Book Club
- Wednesday, Oct. 9, Wednesday Night Live
- Thursday, Oct. 10, noon, Dining Room, Golden Key Luncheon
- Thursday, Oct. 10, 5:00-7:00, Fellowship Hall, Homemade Soups and Potato Bar, sponsored by the United Methodist Women
- Wednesday, Oct. 16, Wednesday Night Live
- Thursday, Oct. 17, 10:00am, Library, Women's Bible Study and Issues Group
- Wednesday, Oct. 23, Wednesday Night Live
- Monday, Oct. 28, 6:30pm, Resource Group Meeting
- Wednesday, Oct. 30, Wednesday Night Live
- Sunday, March 3, Pantry Sunday

***This October issue of The News at Blue Ridge has been sponsored
by Hilda Koelling in remembrance of Fern Hardinger.***