

# THE ENVOY

*...telling the news of Blue Ridge Church*

October 25, 2005 Vol. 50, Issue 43

*This issue of The Envoy  
is in celebration of  
Pastor Appreciation Month  
and our new pastors  
Dr. Ken Lutgen, Jr.  
and  
Rev. Russell Smith*

## **Coming up in worship .....**

Ken's message this Sunday is titled, *Ghosts, Goblins and End Times*. Ghosts, Goblins, the Talk of End Times and other Creatures that scare children are often the talk of those who would have us fear God. How should we as Christians react to this whole left behind theology? The scripture reading will be I Thessalonians 4:13-18, 5:1-11.

## **Daylight Savings Time ends**

**Set  
Your  
Clocks  
Back**



This Sunday, October 30, is not only the day before Halloween, it is the day we go back to Standard Time. So, be sure to

set your clocks **BACK** one hour Saturday night before going to bed.

## **Flu shots available this Sunday**

Flu, pneumonia and tetanus vaccinations will be available in the Fellowship Hall this Sunday morning between 9:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. This year flu shots are \$22, pneumonia vaccines are \$40 and tetanus shots are \$30. Medicare Part B insurance, Humana and Coventry insurances are accepted. Checks should be made out to Corporate Health Partners.

## **Your contributions to UMCOR help in two ways**

We received a total of \$12,219 for Hurricane Katrina and Rita. We have sent \$7,219 to UMCOR. \$5,000 has been retained to be used for supplies when we send a team of workers in the spring. Team instructions were held last Saturday in Jefferson City and we were represented.

Watch for more as plans are developed to go in service.

## **Pastor's Corner:**

*(begins here and continues on back page)*

**RETIREMENT ANNOUNCEMENT---** In August of 1982, Marge Fredrickson became a full-time employee of Blue Ridge Church. Over the course of these 23 years there has been no person more familiar to us around this church than Marge. She has served as the Business Administrator with major responsibilities for the management of our property and handling of church finances. At times she has literally been the person who has kept the doors open. Marge and I have been in discussion this past week and have come to the decision that she will be retiring effective November 30. We owe a great deal to Marge! I personally want to take this opportunity to share my appreciation to her for the many ways that she has helped me make this transition back to pastoral ministry.

## *Making the most.....*

One of the first ministries I heard about when I arrived at Blue Ridge this past summer was the work camps. This week the adult work camp is in session. Some folks from our church are up at the United Methodist Wilderness Retreat Center and Camp building a new cabin, making repairs and improvements and enjoying the fellowship and peacefulness of the setting. My family and I went up there and spent a day or so. Wow! I was amazed at how productive the team was being. When the rain came pouring down on Saturday (putting the cabin building project on hold), the team simply refocused and focused their energies on some indoor projects. I am sure by the end of this week there will be many great stories to tell and a great report to give. Be sure to check the church web-site soon to catch a glimpse of this great annual event! Also, please keep this team lifted in prayer and as always, please make the most as you live by faith!

*...Russell Smith, Associate Pastor*

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## **College students are important!**

Please help our ministry identify those of our church who are college students. We want to keep them informed through *The Envoy* and special outreach efforts. Information needed includes name, address, school attending and e-mail address. Please call the church office with this information.

## **Our Prayer Chain responds to those in need of prayers**

Blue Ridge's Prayer Chain was established in 1995 with Lee and Rosanne Mapes serving as the coordinators. Rosanne has continued to chair the Prayer Chain since Lee's death in 2004.

Prayer requests continue to come in day and evening to our church Prayer Chain. Persons requesting someone to be put on the Prayer Chain contact Rosanne at 358-8622. There are six prayer chains with five-six people per chain. There are day chains and evening chains. Rosanne contacts the beginning of each chain. Prayer requests are passed down each chain. The last person on the chain notifies Rosanne that the chain is complete.

If an acknowledgment is requested, Rosanne gives the necessary information to Betty Franklin, who writes the notes. Rosanne contacts the ministers if they are needed. Thank-you notes for answered prayers are received by Rosanne and Betty and are kept in scrapbooks.

Since the "Joys and Concerns" sheets located in the front entry area are for Sunday morning announcements, anyone wanting to have someone placed on the Prayer Chain should contact Rosanne Mapes at 358-8622.

New prayer chain members are always welcome. Prayers and our faith continue to speed recovery from illnesses, improve financial status, guide, protect and bring comfort and peace to ourselves and others.

*We thank Rosanne for providing us with this information about the Prayer Chain.*

## ***Casting Call!!***

As you may have recently read in the ENVOY, Blue Ridge member/Raytown High School English teacher/writer Maryfrances Wagner was inducted recently in the Raytown School District's Alumni Hall of Fame for her work in writing, poetry, teaching and community outreach. We're excited that Maryfrances wrote a script for our Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata on December 11. There are quite a few acting parts, all relatively small. If you are interested in participating, please call Linda Mann at 353-4826.

## Coming Next Week...

### Sunday, October 30

Worship Times: 8:15, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School Classes: 9:30 or 10:45

- Daylight Saving Time Ends
- Amish Friendship Bread Table in entry area at south end
- 8:00-9:30 a.m., Prayer Force Training
- 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Flu shots, Fellowship Hall
- 10:30 a.m., Angel Choir, Room 112
- 10:40-11:00 a.m., Communion in Chapel

### Monday, October 31

- 9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Break Time Club
- 7:00 p.m., Boy Scouts, Hobbs Hall

### Tuesday, November 1

- 6:00 p.m., Cornerstone
- 6:00 p.m., Nurture & Fellowship Committee Meeting, Conference Room
- 7:00 p.m., Administrative Council Meeting, Room 222

### Wednesday, November 2

- 10:00 a.m., Sisters in Spirit, Room 222
- 5:30 p.m., Kids-on-a-Mission
- 6:30 p.m., Chancel Bells
- 7:00 p.m., Men's Ensemble
- 7:00 p.m., Caregivers Support Group Meeting, Room 222
- 7:30 p.m., Chancel Choir

### Thursday, November 3

- 10:00 a.m., Women's Bible Study & Issues Group, Room 223
- 6:30 p.m., Alpha programs

### Saturday, November 5

- 9:00 a.m., UMW Mission Team Meeting



### Youth Information:

#### Sunday, October 30

- 9:30 a.m., Mid High Sunday School, meet in Sanctuary, then go to class
- 10:30 a.m., *The Last Cup* Coffee House
- 11:00 a.m., Senior High Sunday School
- 3:30 p.m., Senior High Bells
- 4:00 p.m., Choir
- 5:00 - 6:30 p.m., Trick-or-Treat so Other Can Eat (No snack supper tonight)

## Volunteers urgently needed to provide Wheels that Care

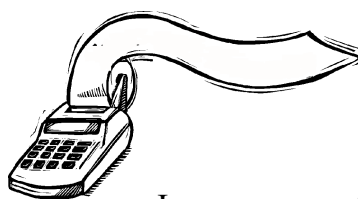
Imagine being plagued by medical problems and the need for frequent doctor's visits with no way to get to the appointments.

That's the situation facing many older adults in our community. That's the need addressed by the Shepherd's Center of Raytown *Wheels that Care* program. Volunteer drivers provide those much-needed rides, picking up patients at their residence and seeing them home again. During the appointments, drivers are free to check out nearby shops, have a bite to eat or catch up on some reading.

Right now the program faces a critical shortage of drivers. Some volunteers have had to leave because of their own declining health. Others have been forced out by record high gas prices. The regrettable result is program cut backs.

Do you have wheels? Can you help? As a *Wheels that Care* volunteer, you drive as often or as seldom as you choose. Rides are offered for appointment between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., Monday-Friday.

For more details and a Volunteer Application, please call the Shepherd's Center office at 356-9000.



## September, 2005 Facts and Figures

		Jan - Aug
Income . . . . .	\$43,298	\$411,307
Expenses. . . . .	\$40,247	\$412,712

**\$50,468** needed monthly to meet \$605,615 budget.

District Apportionments - Paid in Full \$9413

Conference Apportionments - \$28,600 paid

Principal remaining on Building Debt . . . . . \$482,154.94

## ***Pastor's Corner:***

*(Continued from front page)*

This week I was asked to follow Rusty in providing an article for the Raytown Post's "Spreading The Faith" column. I chose an incident I shared in a recent sermon concerning how we receive those who provide us service. Just stop to consider, in the course of a day, how many people you come in contact with who are providing some kind of service for you. Many examples come to my mind of the persons visible to us, like those in the stores where we shop, have our cleaning done or care for our medical needs. There are also countless persons working behind the scenes providing heat for our homes, clean water, roads to drive on and all the communication devices we use. How often do we even give thought to the impact these persons have on our lives, let alone give consideration to how we inter-act when we come in contact with them?

Remember I challenged us several weeks ago to give thought to how we treat others, especially those that provide service for us. Consider, if you might, doubling your tip to the waitress who serves you in a local restaurant. Would not this person be surprised to discover instead of getting no tip that they received a double tip, an act of grace? Acts of compassion are something that should be a regular part of every Christian's life. Remember this lesson learned from the Bible, while we were undeserving God in Jesus Christ acted on our behalf. We have received the Cup of Grace overflowing; and out of a commitment to treat others as we like to be treated should, without giving it a second thought, be kind to those who serve us. What are some acts of compassion that you could do this coming week for those who serve you? *...Ken Lutgen, Jr.*

## ***Person to person:***

### **CHURCH FAMILY NEWS**

- As of October 24, the following member has been reported in an area hospital: Wilma Wink at Research.
- Joshua & Hilarie Hughes welcomed Ashton Claire to their family on October 10. Her great-grandmother is Alberta McKemy and grandparents are Steve & Joyce Crabtree.
- "I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards and expressions of condolences received since the death of my mother. Your love and support has meant so much during this difficult time." *...Sherri Woodward*
- The American Legion will perform a ceremony on October 29 to honor the military service of William (Bill) Henry Creed, who died October 17, 1984. On D-Day, Mr. Creed landed in France where he served in the U.S. Army for four years. The ceremony is to retire his flag and return it to his loving wife of 50 years. Please contact Lillian Creed at 353-4623 for further details.

***Prayer Line: 816.358.8622***

***Church Office: 816.353.1435***

***Fax Number: 816.353.8770***

***E-Mail: BlueRgUMC@aol.com***

***Web Site: [www.blueridgechurch.org](http://www.blueridgechurch.org)***

***Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30-4:30***

***To reach our pastors after regular office hours --***

***Dr. Ken Lutgen, Jr. at 816.454.6062 or [klutgen@blueridgechurch.org](mailto:klutgen@blueridgechurch.org)***

***Rev. Russ Smith at 816.353.2484 or [russell.smith@blueridgechurch.org](mailto:russell.smith@blueridgechurch.org)***

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