



# THE ENVOY

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

May 2, 2006 Vol. 51, Issue 18

*Upcoming issues of The Envoy available for sponsorship are:*

*May 30*

*June 20*

*July 3, 11, 18*

If you are interested in one of these dates, please sign your name on the form located on the bulletin board across from the church office or call the office.

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

For this Sunday's message, Ken has chosen "*Christian, Practice What You Preach*" as the title of his sermon.

How many times have we been disappointed by someone who spoke all the right words but never followed up with appropriate actions? As Christians we will be seen by the world as hypocrites if words are not supported by our deeds.

If you are one who has been saying that you are going to invite someone to come to church with you, why not make it this weekend?

The scripture reading is:

1 John 3:16-24

Communion will be served during the 8:15 morning worship service.

Communion will be available in the Chapel between 10:40 and 11:00 for others not attending the 8:15 service.

## **Update on Summer Work Team to Gulf Coast**

Last Tuesday evening the group which met expressed enough interest for us to schedule our second Adult Work Team to the Gulf Coast. The dates which best suited us and for which we are now scheduling will be July 30 through August 9. Scheduling the trip over 10 days gives folks the opportunity to fit all or part of the time into their schedules. The cost will remain around \$85 for food and lodging, with each participant responsible for their travel costs to and from the coast. We will take the church van for those needing transportation. The work in helping the victims of the hurricanes will accommodate the skill levels present in the group. Please contact Ken Lutgen (353.1435) or Larry Blair (246.8301) if you have interest in participating in this mission of our church.

## **Blue Ridge's Pantry Sunday is this weekend**

Our wooden collection barrels are waiting for items from Pantry Sunday donations. As you all know, any non-perishable food item, paper products, personal hygiene items or cleaning products are always in great demand by R.E.A.P. Won't you please pick up an extra item or two



this week while doing your shopping? If you'll drop it off in the collection boxes in the entry area, your donation will be delivered to Raytown Emergency Assistance Program for someone who at this time is in need of assistance.

While talking with Al Brown, director of R.E.A.P., he mentioned that they almost always run low on toilet paper, toothpaste and tooth brushes.

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

I am currently blessed to be co-leading the Confirmation Class with Aaron Norton and 13 wonderful student mentors. We have 12 students and will meet weekly until the end of May. This past week we went to the home of Confirmation Mentor Bob Downs and his spouse Bonnie. The class shared some good food and activities that especially helped them get to know one another better. Bob led us in some activities that helped us to review much of the material we have covered and rewarded us with prizes and laughter. It was great. One of the underlying things we experienced was Christian hospitality. It is a tenet of who we are to be as Christians. It made me ask myself, "what actions that represent Christian hospitality do I need to take?" As we lead our day-to-day living, what actions of Christian hospitality is God leading you to take? Let us think about that and, as always, may you make the most as you live by faith...

*...Russell Smith  
Associate Pastor*

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### ***Corsages for Missions available on Sundays, May 14 and May 21***

Please remember to pick up your Corsages for Missions on either of the above Sundays. This is an excellent way to honor a friend or someone who has done something special and, in return, you are helping to support the mission field of our United Methodist Women.

## **Wednesday Night Live**

Wednesday, May 10  
dinner served 5:30-6:30

**MENU:** *swiss steak, potatoes, salad,  
rolls & butter, cobbler*

*If children prefer, they can have hot dog, grilled  
cheese or peanut butter sandwich with chips.*

**Reservations are required each week -**

## **Pack your bags for a Mediterranean cruise**

You are invited to a gathering of those interested in a tour and cruise of the Mediterranean for March, 2007. The tour will include sites associated with the journeys of the Apostle Paul. It may also include places as diverse as Venice, Istanbul, Athens, Milan, Cyrus and Crete, depending on the choices of the participants.

Dr. Smith will host the tour and invites you to the initial gathering at our church on Sunday, May 21, at 5:00 p.m.

## **United Methodist Women meet May 10**

All women of the church are invited to the Unit Meeting of the United Methodist Women on Wednesday, May 10. The program will be a book review by Charlotte Robinson. Barefoot Heart: Stories of a Migrant Child, by Elva Trevina Hart, is about a young girl and her family and the life of being migrant farm workers.

Please meet in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00. The meeting will be followed by a light luncheon, served by the Priscilla Circle.

### *UMW Mission Team Meeting*

All women interested in the organization of our unit are invited to the May 6 Team Meeting, beginning at 9:00. Please come to the Chapel door to gain entrance into the building.

## Coming Next Week...

### Sunday, May 7

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

Sunday School Classes: 9:30 or 10:45

- † Pantry Sunday
- † 8:15 Communion during worship service
- † Amish Friendship Bread Table in entry area at south end
- † 10:30 a.m., Angel Choir, Room 112
- † 10:40-11:00 a.m., Communion in Chapel

### Monday, May 8

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

### Tuesday, May 9

- † 6:30 p.m., Cornerstone
- † 7:00 p.m., Study Committee, Conference Room

### Wednesday, May 10

- † 10:00 a.m., Sisters in Spirit
- † 10:00 a.m., UMW Unit Meeting, Fellowship Hall

### “Wednesday Night Live”

- † 4:00 p.m., Basic Faith Study
- † 5:30-6:30 p.m., Fellowship Dinner
- † 5:30 p.m., *Kids-on-a-Mission*
- † 6:00 p.m., Confirmation Class
- † 6:30 p.m., Preschool-1st Grade Program, Room 111
- † 6:30 p.m., Basic Faith Study
- † 6:30 p.m., Alpha
- † 6:30 p.m., Chancel Bells
- † 7:00 p.m., Men’s Ensemble
- † 7:30 p.m., Chancel Choir

## Youth Information:

### Sunday, May 7

- † 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
- † 6:00-7:30 p.m., Topic Night



## Blue Ridge Clean-up Days in May

Have you looked around the church and wished someone had washed *that* window or cleaned out *that* closet or given attention to the church yard?

The Trustees are giving you the opportunity to improve the appearance of our church.

Friday, May 19, and Saturday morning, May 20, are designated as *Spring Cleaning Days at Blue Ridge*. Plan to be with us to clean

*that* closet, window or other project which needs attention.



## We’re getting ready to celebrate!

As we mentioned in the April 11 issue of *The Envoy*, on Sunday, July 2, we will be celebrating Linda Mann’s 30th year in the music ministry of Blue Ridge Church. We feel that is really something to celebrate - how fortunate we have been to have Linda and her gifts and talent with us all these years! Linda has been asked for suggestions on what she would like purchased in her honor for the Music Department. She has decided on two timpani. The cost will be about \$3,000. If there is money left over, she would like to start a fund to replace our three inner octaves of handbells, which are over 30 years old.

We are accepting monetary gifts for Linda’s 30th anniversary gift. Please make your check to the special *Music Anniversary Fund*.

In honor of Linda, the Chancel Choir has purchased the anthem, “The Awakening”, by Joseph Martin, to sing on July 2. They will also be singing “Love Grows Here”, which was our anthem for the church’s 150th birthday celebration. If you would like to participate with the Chancel Choir and Cornerstone on July 2, rehearsals are Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the Choir Room.

## Free copies of The Shepherd’s Guide available

There are free copies of The Shepherd’s Guide, The Christians’ Choice of Yellow Pages for the greater Kansas City area available on the Welcome Center and Information Table. We have plenty of copies so, please, help yourself.

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

Over the course of the past few weeks on Wednesday evenings, a group of us have been involved in conversation around the basics of our faith. What do we believe about the Bible and what are the essential beliefs of a United Methodist Christian have been our recent focus. This week the classes will focus on discipleship and the disciplines which grow us to be mature Christians. What are those disciplines I need to practice which are essential to my spiritual formation? If you have not been a part of this class but would like to join us for this Basic Discipleship Study, come this Wednesday evening at either 4:00 or 6:30.

I have been pleased with the participation we have had in our Wednesday Night Live Program. It is my hope that next fall, beginning in mid-September, we can start up WNL again with a full offering of groups that address the issues we face in growing our discipleship. You will have opportunity to shape the curriculum. We soon will be surveying the congregation as to what we need to offer next fall that would encourage your participation. Would it be a Bible Study of which we have many from which to choose; from Disciple I, II, III and IV, to an introductory study of the Old or New Testaments, to specific studies of topics or Books of the Bible? Would you rather be involved in a study of Christian Beliefs or participate in a Covenant Group? For some, a class on parenting or what makes for a good marriage or how to resolve grief might be more to your need and interest. During the month of May we will be surveying the congregation to discover your interest and needs so that next fall we can offer the studies that would encourage your participation.

*...Ken Lutgen, Jr.*

## ***Person to person:*** **CHURCH FAMILY NEWS**

- As of May 1, the church office has not been notified of any member in an area hospital.
- A "special thank you" to Berk & Judy Stanley for putting the Adult Mississippi Work Team pictures on DVD so that experience can be shared with others in the congregation.
- We're still accepting names of those graduating this spring — whether it's high school or higher levels of education. Please call the church office with this information.

***Prayer Line: 816.358.8622***

***Church Office: 816.353.1435***

***Fax Number: 816.353.8770 E-Mail: [brumc@blueridgechurch.org](mailto:brumc@blueridgechurch.org)***

***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 816.746.1174 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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