



THE ENVOY

...telling the news of Blue Ridge Church

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*This issue of The Envoy
is sponsored by*

*Dave & Shirley Strawn
in celebration of
the birth of their first grandson
Jackson Thomas Holmes*

Coming up in worship

This Sunday our guest preacher will be Steve Campbell, Heartland Central District Superintendent.

Adult Offering for this Fall, 2006

It is time to start preparing for our study groups for the *Wednesday Night Live* fall program. One of the adult group offerings will be the "Companions in Christ" series. There are many different ways to do the program. I have 14 people signed up so far, plus two who did not put their names on the sign-up sheet. For the full program, which is what most have indicated they want, we are looking at a 28-week program. We will discuss how to include breaks as needed for holidays and as the group prefers.

(continued next column)

Adult Offering for this Fall, 2006

(continued from 1st column)

However, each of the five subtitles can be taken individually, if you prefer. The titles are:

1. Embracing the Journey: The Way of Christ-5 weeks on a Christian Spiritual growth journey.
2. Feeding on the Word: The Mind of Christ-5 weeks of looking at ways to meditate *on*, and pray *with* the scriptures.
3. Deepening Our Prayer: The Heart of Christ-6 weeks experiencing different forms and styles of prayer.
4. Responding to Our Call: The Work Of Christ-5 weeks to look at *vocation* or *call*, and the *receiving* of the Fruits of the Spirit.
5. Exploring Spiritual Guidance: The Spirit of Christ-5 weeks of study of giving/receiving spiritual guidance; from one-on-one, to small groups, to congregational life as a whole.

Each meeting will be two hours in length. It is possible to meet before, or after the mealtime, which runs from 5:30 to 6:30. So, classes could run from 3:30 to 5:30, 4:00 to 6:00, or 6:30 to 8:30. There will be some study or exercise time at home which will enhance your participation in the groups. Individual offerings from Companions of Christ are:

- ▶ Exploring the Way: Spiritual journey introduction-7 weeks
- ▶ The Way of Grace: Study of the Gospel of John-9 weeks
- ▶ The Way of Blessedness: Beatitudes-9 weeks
- ▶ The Way of Forgiveness: Scripture, meditation and spiritual practices with transforming potential. For advanced groups.-9 weeks
- ▶ The Way of Transforming Discipleship-an in depth study of the elements of discipleship of following Christ-6 weeks

(see Adult Offering on page 2)

Making the most.....

You are a child of God—
and I'll treat you that way!

Are you a person who cares for the future of our children and youth, but you are not certain how you can help...if your answer is "yes", please read on!

Recently Tammy Bartley, Linda Mann, Carla and I attend the Logos Experience Training Workshop in Fremont, Nebraska. It was a weekend filled with a greater understanding of how we can accomplish assisting our children and youth into the future.

Last spring, we kicked off "Wednesday Night Live" with great success. The food, fellowship and Bible Study were an asset for those of us who participated. This September, in addition to all of the awe-some adult classes offered, there will be a comprehensive ministry in which all age groups (children, youth and adult) can participate through Logos.

Logos is Greek for "The Word" and the intent of the Logos program is to treat every person we encounter as a child of God. It is our prayer that we become more intentional with that philosophy at our church. Logos is designed to integrate adult and children together in unity in worshipping and experiencing God. Because we are integrating Logos into the Wednesday Night Live Ministry, you can have an impact on a child's life...and still have your own fellowship and Bible Study time if you choose.

Logos is structured around a meal (which we already have deliciously in place), recreation is offered, worship skills and Bible study are all essential tools to this ministry.

Making the most..... (continued)

The Bible study curriculum is interdenominational --currently 26 total denominations use it. Logos has over 40 years of successful ministry.

It is our prayer that as you consider your fall start-up plans, and if you feel led to learn more about Logos, you will contact one of us. We would love to have your participation...we are seeking prayers, teachers, kitchen help and people willing to share in non-competitive recreation with our children and youth.

In August we will offer a gathering to explain more if you are interested. Start praying and ask God to guide your process in this ministry. Are you being called to guide our children and youth in any way?

Mark 10:13-16; 9:37 Our Lord commands us to receive children. He is indignant when his friends would turn them away. He equates receiving children with receiving the Son and the Father! The church that neglects and loses them is under judgment. (Matthew 18:5-6)

Will you join us in the mission to treat each person as a child of God? Watch for more information to follow in *The Envoy* and at Worship Services!

...*Russell Smith*

Adult Offering - continued from front page

If you are interested and have not given us a name, time preference, other needed information about yourself, or want to be sure you are on the current list, please call me at home (816-229-6099), leave a message and I will get in touch with you. You can also let me know by e-mail at: grmasue@peoplepc.com. The church office will also be able to gather the information needed, 816-353-1435. I would like to hear from you by July 24 to allow time to plan classes and preparation time. Later sign ups will be considered as possible, depending on class size. I will be in touch with everyone, if needed, to set up classes and a meeting time prior to the class starting. I look forward to facilitating and participating in the class with everyone and anticipate a wonderful experience.

...*Sue Klotz*

Coming Next Week...

Sunday, July 16

Worship Times: 8:15, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School Classes: 9:30 or 10:45

- ▶ Amish Friendship Bread Table in entry area at south end
- ▶ 10:40-11:00 a.m., Communion in Chapel
- ▶ Tickets for Mother-Daughter Tea go on sale in Entry Area
- ▶ 5:45-8:30 p.m., Vacation Bible School



Monday, July 17

- ▶ 9:30 a.m.- 2:00 p.m., Break Time Club, Fellowship Hall
- ▶ 7:00 p.m., Boy & Cub Scouts, Hobbs Hall
- ▶ 5:45-8:30 p.m., VBS

Tuesday, July 18

- ▶ 5:45-8:30 p.m., VBS
- ▶ 6:30 p.m., Cornerstone



Wednesday, July 19

- ▶ 5:45-8:30 p.m., VBS

Thursday, July 20

- ▶ 10:00 a.m., Women's Bible Study & Issues Group, Room 223
- ▶ 5:45-8:30 p.m., last night of VBS



Youth Information:

Sunday, July 16

- ▶ 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
- ▶ Senior High Work Campers return today. No youth activities – call Tammy Bartley to help with VBS!!

You're invited to: **KITCHEN SHOWER**

When: August 20, between worship services

Where: Beatitudes Entry Area

Occasion: Update the Kitchen

Color Scheme: Red & Oatmeal

Gift List: Registered at Target and Walmart under (Blue Ridge Methodist)

[At Target use "Br" as first name and "Me" as last name]
Church office has Gift Registry slips to make Walmart registry easier.

UMW has kitchen knives available.

Gift Cards and monetary gifts are accepted.

If any questions, please call the church office, 353.1435.

Mid High Work Camp coming up

Youth going into grades 7, 8 or 9 this fall are encouraged to participate in the summer mission trip this July 26—29. We will be working with a church and a social service agency in Sedalia, Missouri, in service to others on Thursday and Friday, then have a "fun day" on Saturday. The student cost is \$25. A parent-student information meeting will be held Sunday, July 16, at 5:00 p.m. in Hobbs Hall.

VBS begins this Sunday evening!



Children will be welcomed to Vacation Bible School this Sunday, July 16, beginning at 5:45. They will enjoy fun-filled evenings, Sunday through Thursday, 5:45 until 8:30. This year's theme is FIESTA! All children 3-years old through 5th grade are invited to the FIESTA! Registrations forms are available in the Church Office during business hours, Sunday morning in the Entry Area or at the Registration Desk Sunday evening. Pre-registration helps the VBS volunteers prepare for the week's activities. Registration fee is \$7.00 per child or \$20 per family. Be sure your child/children, grandchildren, neighbor children and friend's children don't miss this year's VBS!

Pastor's Corner:

This summer truly has been a time of celebrating anniversaries. Sunday was no exception as we celebrated the 30th Anniversary of Linda Mann's ministry. With 687 persons present for this celebration and the wealth of music shared we gave the praise to our Lord and showed our appreciation for Linda and the Mann family. Thank You Blue Ridge for your support and tremendous response.

I am always looking for new ways to share our faith and for resources that will motivate and encourage us in our faith journey. Several months ago I received in the mail a book, The Phoenix Affirmations. Unaware of the group of pastors who produced this document or their particular cause, I, however, was fascinated by the way the material was presented. I have given study to this material the past few months and will attempt from August through November to preach a series of twelve sermons and lead a variety of discussion groups concerning the basic premises they put forth. It would be my hope we all would find this series of sermons and the discussions they generate helpful in our faith development. There will be more to come on this in the near future.

This Thursday Linda and I leave with members of our family and friends, including Jim and Sandy Smith, for a vacation cruise along the inner costal waterways of Alaska. This was the way we had planned to celebrate our 40th Wedding Anniversary, but of course our children added a few unexpected surprises along the way. We have a beautiful life together and will celebrate it with family and friends, in what we are told is one of the most beautiful places in all of God's creation. Please do not do anything crazy while we are gone, as I will return to the office Tuesday, July 25. Bon Voyage!

...Ken Lutgen, Jr.

Person to person:

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

- As of July 10, the church office has not been notified of any member in an area hospital.
- Our sympathy to Ron & Jeanne Armstrong for the recent death of his stepmother.
- Congratulations to Dorothy Ellis on the June 25 birth of her great-grandson Carter Ellis Hill, son of Ryan & Emily Hill and to Edna Scahill on the July 6 birth of her grandson Parker Thomas Lank, son of Jason & Cyndy.
- Jackson Brock Keating, son of Jim & Alison, received the sacrament of baptism on Sunday, July 9. Jackson is the grandson of Jim & Donna Morris.
- *A heartfelt thanks for all the kinds words, cards and those who helped to make July 2 such a wonderful day of praise and celebration! It is a day I will hold in my heart forever!*
...Linda Mann

Prayer Line: 816.358.8622

Church Office: 816.353.1435

Fax Number: 816.353.8770 E-Mail: brumc@blueridgechurch.org

Web Site: 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

Rev. Russ Smith at 816.353.2484 or russell.smith@blueridgechurch.org