



# THE ENVOY

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

July 25, 2006 Vol. 51, Issue 30

*This issue of The Envoy  
is sponsored by*

*Mike & Gay Tarr  
in celebration of  
Mike's July 25 birthday*

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

Pastor Russ has chosen "Containing Our Complaining" — Celebrating a year of the Complaint Department being closed.

*The scripture readings are:  
Deuteronomy 1:26-38 &  
Philippians 2:12-2:17*



Olan Mills photographers will begin taking pictures this Friday and Saturday. Other picture days are August 29, 30 and 31 and September 1. It's time to make your appointment.

## **LOGOS - Building Blocks for Life**

*by Linda Mann, director of music*

When Carla, Russ, Tammy and I recently attended the LOGOS training session, one of my first questions was, "What does LOGOS mean?" As Russ explained last week, Logos is Greek for "The Word." The Logos ministry helps bring *God's word* to youth and children—equipping adult leaders to nurture them into a lifetime of Christian discipleship.

Throughout our weekend, every time I heard or read the word LOGOS I couldn't help but think of the popular children's toy, Legos. Having raised three boys and now with three grandchildren, Legos are an important part of our leisure time. These tiny bits of plastic can be formed into a myriad of shapes to build something grand. LOGOS works in the same way. One evening a week of small bits-- "family" dinner, recreation, worship skills (i.e., music and the fine arts) and Bible study—over time will build something grand in youth and children's lives. From the music/fine arts perspective, we will be making some changes in our programming. These changes should help all youth and children use the gifts they have and discover some they didn't know they had!

It seems that the sentence, "God calls us", has been playing out in many areas this year at Blue Ridge. As a parent, relative, or friend, is God calling you to make LOGOS a part of your youth or child's life? Jesus said, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). LOGOS two "realities" are:

#1 A saving relationship with God through Jesus Christ is more important than anything else in life;

#2 Nurturing people, especially youth and children, into right relationships of faith with God through Jesus Christ is the most important thing the church ever does.

(see LOGOS on page 2)

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

This past Sunday night, a small group from our church and family members went with me to Longview Lake for a baptism service. I was honored to baptize my niece Tonya at a beautiful place on the lake that many churches use for baptisms. As the never ending ripples consistently came upon the shore, I was reminded of the never ending breeze of love and grace that God blows upon us through the Holy Spirit. The Baptismal Covenant service includes the blessing of these words following the baptism: "The Holy Spirit work within you, that being born through water and the Spirit, you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ." As I extended these words I was reminded of a great blessing of baptism. Through the Sacrament of Baptism we are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. What a powerful gift God has given to all who come before Him. May we cherish that gift. And, as always, make the most as you live by faith...

...Russell Smith

## **LOGOS ....**

(continued from front page)

At Blue Ridge, we have been about "Building Relationships" this past year. My husband Hoot and I have had the blessed privilege to watch many children grow into youth and then adults over the years at this church. The ones who have a strong relationship with God – through Jesus—through adult models—are the ones who have a purpose that makes their lives and their relationships so abundant.

As a Christian, is God calling you to use your gifts as an adult leader? Several of the LOGOS pieces are already in place — our Wednesday evening dinners, Bible studies, strong Kids on a Mission & music/fine arts programs. We merely need to take these "Legos" and piece them together with grand adult models, so our youth and children may have the grandest finished product ever — a life abundant!!

### **Parent's Day Out - Preschool has openings**

Blue Ridge's Parent's Day Out - Preschool program is taking registrations for the 2006-2007 classes. The program is for infants who start out in the Nursery through Pre-Kindergarten, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. They offer special classes in music, gym, art appreciation, story telling and Spanish. If you are interested and would like more information, please call 313.6553 or Carol Pregge at 478.4961.

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## ***KITCHEN SHOWER***

*When:* August 20, between worship services  
*Occasion:* Update the Kitchen

*Where:* Beatitudes Entry Area  
*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. Description of knives and price list is available in the Church Office.

Gift Cards and monetary gifts are accepted.

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

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## Coming Next Week...

### Sunday, July 30

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
- † Sign up for Church Directory appointments, Entry Area

### Monday, July 31

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

### Tuesday, August 1

- † 6:30 p.m., Cornerstone

### Wednesday, August 2

- † 7:00 p.m., Caregiver Support Group Meeting, Room 221
- † 7:30 p.m., Chancel Choir summer rehearsal

### Thursday, August 3

- † 10:00 a.m., Women's Bible Study & Issues Group, Room 223

### Saturday, August 5

- † 9:00 a.m., UMW Team Meeting, Room 221

### Youth Information:



### Thursday, July 27 – Saturday, July 29

- † Pray for Mid High Work Camp in Sedalia

**NOTICE:** *Girls Night Out at Linda Mann's on Friday, July 28, is postponed due to Mid High Work Camp date change. Will reschedule soon!*

### Sunday, July 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
- † 4:30 p.m., Meet to leave for Jacob's Well church service in Westport. Bring money for coffee house stop afterwards. We will return to church at 8:00

**LOOKING AHEAD:** the youth have been asked to help with Movie Night on Friday, August 11.

## Homemade ice cream ---- Yum! Yum!

The annual ice cream social - fund raiser sponsored by the Adult Work Camp Group - is set for Sunday, August 27, 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. Tickets go on sale Sunday, August 13. The cost is \$4.00 adult, \$2.00 children and a max of \$10 for a family of four (2 parents + 2 children).

The work camp at Wilderness Camp, Lawson, MO has been tentatively scheduled for October 13 - October 20 based on availability of the camp at that time. You are invited to join us for one day, three days, the weekend or the whole time. We will meet again on Sunday, August 20, 4:00 p.m. to finalize plans for the ice cream social and work camp.

If you would like to be a part of this project or have any questions, please call or e-mail W. J. Fredrickson at 373-7124 or [wjf1936@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wjf1936@sbcglobal.net).



## School supplies are needed for R.E.A.P.

The Raytown Emergency Assistance Program (R.E.A.P.) will be delivering collection barrels for school supplies this Friday. So, if you want to purchase school supplies while they are on sale, you can start bringing them to the church this weekend until August 14. R.E.A.P. also accepts monetary donations to help buy shoes for each child who qualifies to receive a backpack full of school supplies.

## Make appointments for directory pictures

Have you made your appointment to have your picture taken for the new church directory? Sign ups for the August and September photo shoots will be August 6 and 13. The last day for computer sign ups will be August 3.

If you would like to volunteer to help on one of the Directory Committees, please call Charlie and Debbie Jacques at 356.5710.

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

Several weeks ago I ran across this article in the Webster Hills Messenger and found it worth sharing: "The Living Bible".

Bill wore a T-shirt with holes in it, jeans, and no shoes. This was literally his wardrobe for his entire four years of college. He is brilliant, kind of esoteric...yet very, very bright. He became religious while attending college. Across the street from the campus was a well-dressed, very conservative church. The church wanted to develop a ministry to the students, but they were not sure how to go about it. One day Bill decided to go there. He walked in with no shoes...just his jeans, T-shirt, and wild hair.

The service had already started and so Bill started down the aisle looking for a seat. The church was completely packed and he couldn't find a seat. By then, people were really looking a bit uncomfortable, but no one said anything. Bill got closer and closer and closer to the pulpit, and when he realized there were no seats, he just squatted down right on the carpet right in front of the minister. By now the people were really uptight, and the tension in the air was thick.

About this time, the minister realized that from way at the back of the church, a deacon was slowly making his way toward Bill. Now the deacon was in his eighties, had silver-gray hair, and wore a three-piece suit. A godly man, very elegant, very dignified, very courtly, he always walked with a cane and, as he started walking toward this boy, everyone was saying to themselves that you can't blame him for what he's about to do. How can you expect a man of his age and of his background to understand some college kid on the floor?

It took a long time for the man to reach the boy. The church was utterly silent except for the clicking of the man's cane. All eyes were focused on him. You couldn't hear anyone breathing. The minister couldn't even preach the sermon until the deacon did what he had to do. And then they saw this elderly man drop his cane on the floor. With great difficulty, he lowered himself and sat down next to Bill and worshiped with him so he would not be alone. Everyone choked up with emotion. When the minister gained control of himself, he said, "What I'm about to preach, you may never remember. But what you have just seen, you will never forget." Be careful how you live. You may be the only "Bible" some people will ever read.

*...Ken Lutgen, Jr.*

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

- As of July 24, the church office has not been notified of any member reported in an area hospital.
- Sherri Williamson would like to thank everyone for their cards and thoughtfulness, and especially for the prayers during her recent hospitalization. Please keep her in your prayers as she continues her chemotherapy program.
- Please keep the Mid High Youth and their sponsors in your prayers as they work at a church in Sedalia July 27-29 and the adults who are in Mississippi helping the hurricane victims.
- Tonya Henricks, niece of Russ & Carla Smith, received the sacrament of baptism on Sunday, July 23.

**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)

THE ENVOY (USPS 592-420)  
is published weekly except for  
the week of Dec 25 by the  
Blue Ridge Boulevard  
United Methodist Church  
5055 Blue Ridge Boulevard  
Kansas City MO 64133-2599

POSTMASTER: Send address  
changes to THE ENVOY  
5055 Blue Ridge Boulevard  
Kansas City MO 64133-2599

Periodicals  
Postage Paid  
at Kansas City MO