

THE COKESBURY COURIER

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Two Sections, Section A

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Cokesbury United Methodist Church

10030 Scarsdale Boulevard
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Prayer Corner

Please keep the following in your prayers: **Jack** Seaman (SE Memorial Hospital), **Cristi** Pace, **Andy** McBride, **Louise** Singleton (Carolyn Breathed's mother), **Sarah** White (Triumph Hospital), **Ken** Pogue (Drew's dad in San Antonio), **Garth** Sloan (deployed to Iraq) and **Rene** Nixon (teacher at Beverly Hills).

Those with prayer requests for the Prayer Chain are encouraged to contact the coordinator, Cathie Goforth. Her e-mail address is chg10306@aol.com. Her phone number is 281-484-0928. You can also leave requests with the church office at 281-484-9243.

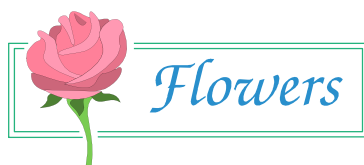
Register for VBS

It's time to register your children for this summer's Vacation Bible School. VBS will be June 26 to the 30th. from 6:00 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. Our program is FREE to all children 3 years of age to those entering the 5th grade. And it's not just for church members. Encourage your children to bring a friend or relative. This year's program is called Adventure of the Treasure Seekers. We will be digging for treasures in the sand and in the Bible. Don't miss all the fun! Registration Cards will be available in the Narthex.

VBS Volunteers Needed

It's not too late to volunteer to be a part of the fun at Vacation Bible School this summer.

Our program will run Monday through Friday, June 26 to the 30th, from 6:00 to 8:45 p.m. Specifically, we still need 2 more teachers, 3 teacher assistants, 1 snack helper, 1 recreation leader, and 1 craft assistant. If you can help, please call Laurel Johnson at 281-481-8125 or e-mail at ljo26@sbcglobal.net



May 7--The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of Mary Short's birthday from John Short.

May 14--The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in memory of Winopal Brooks from Sherry and Jeb Brooks.

Come to Jim Parson's 90th Birthday Party

All church members are invited to join us in celebrating Jim Parson's 90th birthday party on Sunday, May 21. The celebration will be held from 3:00pm to 5:00pm in the Commons Area of the church.

Let's all inundate Jim with birthday cards and well wishes as he turns 90.

-Dee Pouzar, Billie Kestler, Lois Flowers & Carolyn Breathed

Calling All Graduates To Be

Cokesbury would like to recognize all the upcoming graduates in the church, both high school and college. If you are graduating this spring, or if you know someone in our church family who is, then please contact the church office to let them know.

From The Pastor

It's often easy to become puffed up with our own importance. How many times have we taken ourselves too seriously, or perhaps judged and condemned others unfairly. John the Baptist could have very easily decided that "he" was the important one, but instead, he repeatedly referred to the one who is "greater than I."

I read a story about C. S. Lewis that brought a chuckle as I plan my last few weeks here at Cokesbury. Lewis loved to walk and would spend hours tramping the countryside. One afternoon he walked farther than he'd intended, and had to rush back to the station to catch the train back to London. He dropped into his seat disheveled, unkempt, and completely out of breath. A matronly woman, already seated comfortably, looked over at him with disdain and very rudely asked, "Do you have a first class ticket?" Always quick with an answer, Lewis smiled kindly and said, "Yes, madam, I do, but I'm afraid I'll be needing to use it myself."

No one person makes this church run. Certainly we miss those who do not attend, but the church remains strong even when members (and preachers!) leave. New ones always come, and I am excited for you about your new minister. You will grow to love her and I know she will love all of you, because you are a wonderful church and you are easy to love! I hope you'll mark your calendar for the retirement party on Friday, May 12, at 6:30 p.m. It will be a time to share God's love as one chapter closes and another opens. God bless each of you.

Sister Sara



Cokesbury To Honor Sister Sara

Retirement Party Planned For Friday, May 12

In honor of Rev. Dr. Sara Owen-Gemoets and on behalf of the entire congregation of Cokesbury United Methodist Church, the United Methodist Women are hosting a retirement reception and appreciation service on Friday, May 12 beginning at 6:30 p.m. The appreciation service will begin at 8 p.m.

Everyone is invited. Please bring finger foods to share in a nice serving plate or bowl. Fruit trays, dips, chips, sandwiches etc. Look for sign-up sheets in the narthex on Sunday. Our church is providing a beautiful cake for this special occasion. This reception and service is a dress up event. Let us all wear Sunday church attire and come and wish Sister Sara God's blessings for her future and thank her for her committed service to Cokesbury.

Sister Sara has served as a United Methodist Minister for 27 years. She has been Cokesbury's pastor since June of 2000. She has led us with her enthusiasm for the love of God and his Church. She has been an example of Jesus' dedication of service to others. We have been blessed in many ways by her ministry at Cokesbury.



On April 22, the youth went to the Pearland YMCA and had a great time playing on their challenging ropes course. We learned how to work as a team to overcome tough obstacles and to trust others when we need some help!

April 28 was the monthly Common Grounds night and the youth had fun playing games and listening to "Rejected," the South Avenue Baptist Band. On April 30, we helped out the "Helping Hands" by putting together bagged lunches and delivering them to those who needed them.

Don't miss the awesome upcoming events:

Friday, May 12-Sara's Retirement Party, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 13-Youth mini-golf (time to be announced)

Friday, May 19-Game night/improv 6-11 p.m.

Sunday, May 21-Youth Sunday

Friday, May 26-Common Grounds (tentative) 6:30 p.m.

June 11-17-Our youth at UArmy

July 3-7-Our youth at Lakeview

July 10-14-Our youth at JUMMP

July 15-KSBJ Concert featuring Newsboys and others)

July 19-21-Schlitterbahn (New Braunfels) trip

-Peter Bonanno

Black-Eyed Pea

Supports
Cokesbury
United Methodist Church
May 8, 2006

It's that time again! Make plans now to join your Cokesbury family at the Black-Eyed Pea on Fuqua @ I-45 on Monday, May 8 anytime from 5-8 p.m. Here is a "coupon" for you. A percentage of your bill will be donated back to Cokesbury. Come out and visit with your church family.

Peter Bonanno Meets With Dulin Circle

The Dulin Circle met on Tuesday, April 25 in the lovely home of Lida Williams. We had 16 members and one visitor present. Mary Hackward presented a very inspirational devotion.

Our visitor, Peter Bonanno, Youth Minister at Cokesbury was our speaker. Peter told us about where he grew up, went to school and how he became interested in the ministry and became a minister. He also told us how he found Cokesbury and ended up a transplanted New Englander in Texas.

Peter gave us some of his ideas about what he has planned for the youth program at Cokesbury. He has lots of great ideas and all of the ladies were very impressed with Peter. We are all very excited to have him as a part of Cokesbury.

After a short business meeting, we adjourned and were served a delicious luncheon by our hostess, Lida Williams.

-Carolyn Breathed



Thank You

Thank you all so much for your kind words, thoughts and prayers upon the sudden passing of my stepfather, Guy Ceremelli. It was all very comforting to my entire family. Special thanks to the New Beginnings Sunday School Class and Kris Wallis for providing the wonderful lasagna dinner at my mother's house after the funeral. It is truly a blessing to be a part of such a wonderfully caring church family.

-Melissa Loftin and Family

The Mattiza Family wants to thank you for your expressions of sympathy, condolences, prayers, phone calls and cards. Thanks, to all you ladies for the good food you all prepared for the reception.

God bless.

-The Mattiza Family

By The Numbers

April 30

Worship Attendance 8:30.....94
Worship Attendance 9:45.....not available
Worship Attendance 11:00.....135

Total Worship Attendance.....229

Future Deadlines

The deadlines for our next few editions of the Courier are shown below:

Items to Paper	Paper Issue Date
May 15	May 19
May 29	June 2
June 12	June 16

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers make sure that we have soft drinks in the machine in the commons area. This involves purchase, filling and counting the money. The soft drink machine is managed by volunteers. If interested in helping, contact Don Smith at 281-481-9175

The **church mowing crew** could use some additional helpers. It involves a few hours a month. If interested, contact Rob Bradley at 281-992-2604.



Treasurer's Report

Giving for April 16

Budgeted	6842.00
Bond Fund	826.00
Youth Minister Fund	4,385.00
Designated Giving	2,285.00
T-Mobile payment (5 yrs)	39,597.60

Total Giving for April 16 53,935.60

Giving for April 23

Budgeted	4,156.31
Bond Fund	110.00
CDO Income	1,969.00
Youth Minister Fund	60.00
Designated Giving	450.00

Total Giving for April 23 6,745.31

Bank Balances as of April 29

Operating balance:	769.59
Bond fund	5,148.24
Designated Fund	65,846.71
Total Cash	71,764.54

All bills and apportionments are paid through April.

-Sandy Hinson, Treasurer

Rainbows Along The Way

Hearing the Voice

"I suppose it's a good idea." Joyce said to Mary at the church office where they worked. "I just hope I can do it."

"Up till now we've always just said the name of the church, when we answer the phone, but now what have they changed it to?" Mary replied.

"It's 'Community Church, God loves you, this is Joyce speaking. May I help you?'" There was a pause. "That's an awful lot to say."

Joyce returned to work. As the calls came during the day she tried to answer in the new way. Then late in the day as the work piled up the phone rang. She reached over the stack of growing paperwork to scoop up the receiver to blurt: "Community Church, Joyce loves you, God speaking. May I help you?"

The voice on the other end was hesitant. "Gosh, I'm glad to know it's you, Lord, but somehow I expected your voice to sound different."

Obviously, God doesn't answer phones but we know he does communicate with us and he can do it in any number of ways. He might "speak" to us through events, what we read or even through the words of those around us. In addition, often he uses us to speak to others, and that's a serious challenge.

It's also a responsibility to know he might be using us to pass along his message through what we say or what we do. Yet to do that it's important that we stay close to him so we make ourselves ready and available.

-Anne Adams

Breneman Circle Meets

The Breneman Circle of the UMW met at the lovely home of Charlene Knox on Tuesday, April 25. Sixteen ladies attended. The meeting was opened by all of the ladies reciting the Lord's Prayer together. Afterward, Chairperson Donna Northrup led the circle in a business meeting. The women discussed the retirement reception for Sister Sara on Friday, May 12. Also discussed was the circle's recipe and cookbook project. The circle would like to have recipes from every Cokesbury family in the cookbook.

The program was also led by Donna Northrup. She asked the members to discuss what they had done for God in the last month. Members told about supporting friends during times of family deaths and illnesses. Also, members wanted to support the younger members of Cokesbury as they take on the leadership roles at our church.

After the program a delicious luncheon prepared by Charlene Knox and Dot Margheim was enjoyed by all.

-Mary Short

Helping Hands

The following have agreed to help with Helping Hands the next two weeks:

First Sunday: Jean Bonds, Charlotte Davis, Gloria Hurley, Sandy and Anniel Lawrence, Laura Morgan, Lotus Ricketts, Winnie Smith, Shar and Jeff Vochoska, and Carmen Wilhite.

Second Sunday: Linda Garies, Laurel Johnson, Billie Kestler, Carolyn Lofland, Herb Parker, Cathy Pleasants, Charlene Provence and Lois Seeley.

Join Our Youth Choir

All youth, 6th grade and older, are invited to participate in the Youth Choir, directed by Nikki Sikora. They meet every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. and are usually through by 7:30 or 8. They sing at the Contemporary Service once a month.

Adult Class News

Becomers (Room 252)

Again this Sunday, our study topic is Christian servanthood. The following week, we will begin a short unit from our study book about Revelation. We welcome adults of all ages.

New Disciples (Room 166)

Our class is open to anyone interested in a Bible-based discussion group. Come join us!

New Beginnings (Room 156)

The class lesson will be How to Succeed in Evangelism, led by Darrel Raines.

Omega-(Room 153-11 a.m.)

We meet at 11:00 next to the elevator. Come join us.

Wesley Class (Conference Room)

We are studying the book, What Do Other Faiths Believe by Paul Stroble.

Adult Bible Study (Room 210)

We have started the study of the Ten Mighty Acts in *Exodus*. The Tenth Mighty Act and the beginning of the move to the wilderness will be our next class. It will be led by Anne and Tom Adams.

Good News Class (Room 153)

We welcome seniors to join us.