

THE COKESBURY COURIER

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Cokesbury United Methodist Church

10030 Scarsdale Boulevard
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Prayer Corner

Please keep the following persons in your prayers: **Carol** Trotter, **Chris** Sonnier, **Jay** Ricketts, **Tom** Hughes, **Oscar** Garies (brother of Hap), **Les** Yeane (brother of Jerry) and **Molly** Evans.

Those with prayer requests for the Prayer Chain should call the church office at 281-484-9243.



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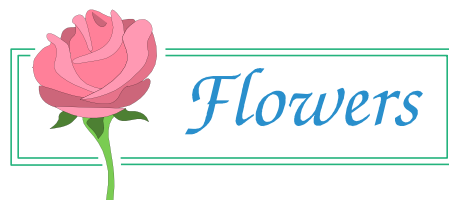
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Come to Methodist Men and Boys' Supper Friday, September 15 at 7:00 p.m.

The guest speaker will be Mr. Bill Read, manager of the National Weather Service in League City who will speak on the subject of "Hurricanes and Hurricane Preparedness". Tickets (\$5) can be purchased on Sunday or by calling Johnny Lemaster at 281-485-6935 so we will know how many to expect. Proceeds from the dinner will go to the church.



Congratulations to Thanh and Patrice Le on the birth of their baby daughter, Lauren Dan. Lauren was born on August 21 and weighed 7 pounds, 1 ounce and was 20 inches long. The Le's attend the Contemporary Service.



September 10--The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in memory of our parents, Dr. and Mrs. R. W. Derr and Dr. and Mrs. H. L. Adams, from Tom and Anne Adams.

September 17--The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of the wedding anniversary of our son Jason and daughter-in-law Nicole, from John and Julie Hoover.

Children's Choir Begins Wednesday September 13-6:30

Cokesbury's Statement of Purpose

Learning to serve God and humankind in Jesus' name

Holy Smoke

Amazing things happen when churches catch on fire--spiritually speaking, of course. Igniting Ministry is the United Methodist Church's training event for churches who want to grow and fulfill their mission to make disciples for Jesus Christ. And Igniting Ministry is coming to Cokesbury!

Texas Conference Igniting Ministry trainer Jan Floro, of Tomball, will lead us through three training experiences, beginning Monday, September 25 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. This first event will help us look at how we can become a more welcoming congregation. Everyone interested is invited to attend. Cost is \$10 per person.

The other two training sessions will lead us through specific, concrete ways to reach out into our community, inviting others to join us in our worship, mission and service to the community.

When we complete all three training events, we will officially become a "Welcoming Church" certificate holder. But far more importantly, we will have learned and implemented some ways to help our church grow into its potential.

From The Pastor

As you may know, summer is not my favorite season of the year. I don't like to be hot, and the long humid days and nights make me miserable-and, my family, claims, cranky.

I begin to feel hopeful when the calendar turns to September. There are only two mind-numbingly hot months left until it begins to cool off

While I am waiting for cooler weather to arrive, I like to think about cool things-snow and cold wind, icicles, iced tea with lots and lots of ice. I love to see sprinklers watering the grass. All of those things refresh me and give me hope.

My favorite book in the Old Testament is Isaiah. Isaiah writes with such power and beauty. He truly is God's poet.

Today, I've been reading Isaiah 58, beginning with the 10th verse and continuing through verse 11.

"If you offer food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall arise in the darkness and your gloom shall be like the noonday.

"The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places. . . . and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters will never fail."

What a great promise God makes us. If we care for the needs of the hungry and thirsty, the sick and lonely, the bereaved and the lost, God will satisfy our needs, even when we feel parched with heat and thirst.

God will make us into a watered garden, a spring of water. We will be refreshed, and we will be a source of refreshment to others.

God wants us to care for the needs of other people. We have lots of ways to do that here at Cokesbury. We reach out to people through SeAM. Our Helping Hands folks make lunches for the homeless every Sunday. Through our giving, we reach out to people in need all around the world and right around the corner.

In these last hot months, become a source of refreshment to yourself and others. Reach out generously. God is waiting to bless you.

Love from your pastor,
Sandra Smith



UMW Meets Tuesday Evening

Cokesbury's United Methodist Women group will be meeting this coming Tuesday evening, September 12, here at the church at 7:00 p.m. The special guest speaker will be Jerry Procell. He is the chaplain at Memorial Hermann Southeast, and he will be speaking on the Duties of the Hospital Chaplain. All women of the church are invited to attend. Refreshments will be served afterward.

Talent Show Needs You!

Can you twirl a baton or dance a jig? Do you play an instrument or tell jokes? Can you sing or do imitations? Do you have a hidden talent? We want you! We will be having try-outs for our talent show on Saturday, September 23 at 10:00 am. We will be having a sign-up sheet located in the Narthex and in the commons area.

Our talent show will be October 14 in the evening. This show will benefit the children's playground. Hope you all come. If you have any questions please call Jackie Glass at 281-484-6649.

Helping Hands

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

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

Third Sunday: Anna Aguilar, Lynda Detwiler, Betty Grigsby, Karla Parker, Carol Trotter and Edna Faye Campbell, Martha Van Krigenbergh, Danna Whorton and Fran Wright.

Disciple Bible Studies Will Begin Soon

Sign-Up sheets are still available in the narthex for those who are interested in Disciple Bible Studies. Currently the first one in the series, Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study, is being offered. It is an overall view of the whole Bible. Other studies can be offered if there is interest. If you have never taken any of the studies, then you should sign up for the first one. Classes should begin in the next two weeks. Jim Kunkel is the coordinator for Disciple Bible Studies, and he can be contacted at 281-484-8853, or e-mail at jkunkel@laurcat.com. You may also reach him at his office at 281-457-3205.

Welcome to New SeAM Volunteers

We now have two new Cokesbury volunteers at SeAM: Jo Ann Gray and Claudia Gentry. They have both been working in the Ministry Office/Food Pantry area. Welcome!

In 2006 through July, SeAM has supplied 59,000 pounds of food and cleaning items to needy people. In addition, SeAM has provided over \$20,000 in financial assistance for such things as medical prescriptions, utility/housing assistance and gasoline for appointments. Also through July, all volunteers have provided 6,700 hours of service at the Ministry or Thrift Store.

Rob Bradley-Cokesbury SeAM Trustee

Prayer Shawl Ministry Needs Knitters

If you like to knit or crochet, we are looking for willing workers to make Prayer Shawls to be given to those who need comfort in some way. You don't have to go to a meeting to do this. You just have to be willing to make a Prayer Shawl. You can either pick them up or they can be sent to you. After you have finished your project, take it to the church and Pastor Sandra will see that they get to those who need them. In fact, she will put them on the altar rail so that they can be prayed over. It would be good if you could say a prayer over the project while you are working on it also.

Saints on Earth and Those Above

The Worship Committee is starting a project to be in place by the first Sunday in November, which will be All Saints Day. This will be a "Wreath of Saints" and will be displayed in a prominent location.

We are asking you to bring a scrap of fabric (at least 8 by 8 in.) that is significant to you. This could be a piece of fabric that reminds you of a friend or family member who has passed away (a Saint above). If you do not have a piece of fabric, you can always purchase a small piece of fabric that reminds you of that person. The fabric will be cut into people-silhouettes and placed on a large fabric panel. It will symbolize the gathering of all saints on earth and those above as they surround the throne of God.

There is a box in the Commons area and one in the hall by the narthex for these fabric pieces. Please bring them as soon as possible so that we can begin to prepare this banner to represent all the members of Cokesbury United Methodist Church.

-Danna Whorton

Bazaar Coming Up

Cokesbury's Annual Bazaar is fast approaching. It will be held November 3 and 4. If you are making things for the bazaar, it is time to get them finished and to us. Please price what you bring as we have no idea what you have put into it money wise. We are at the church on every Tuesday except the fourth Tuesday. You can give me a call if you can't get it there and we will pick it up. We love what you bring to us, and it is easier if we can plan on how much room we need to display your items. In the past, we have received some beautiful items we felt we could have displayed better if we would have an idea how much room we would need. You can reach me at 281-481-0569, or call the church office.

Donna Northrup

Saucy September Is Our SeAM Theme

Southeast Area Ministries needs an increased supply of tomato sauce, and we can help them with that. The Becomers Class encourages our wonderful Cokesbury family to support SeAM regularly. "Saucy September" on your grocery list will remind you to purchase tomato sauce to help meet the needs of the families who depend on SeAM. The large soup bin in our kitchen makes it easy to give your donations.

- Cathy Pleasants

How Things Pan Out

Ted heaved the ice-filled cooler into the boat and turned to watch Gil climb in with just his fishing tackle and rod and wondered just how experienced a fisherman he was. After all, they had just met and they were going fishing because Gil was a potential customer, and Ted wanted his business. Still, Ted had heard from others that Gil really didn't know how to fish and was also considered a weird character.

Ted powered up the boat, then fifteen minutes later, he cut the engine and they cast out their lines and waited for a strike. As time passed Ted caught three fish, packed them into the ice chest, then each time cast out again. Finally Gil caught his first fish and it was a big one.

"I probably have room for it in the cooler," Ted told him as Gil unhooked the catch.

"No, thanks, but say do you have a tape measure?"

Ted rummaged in his tackle box and produced one. Gil measured his fish and then to Ted's surprise, he released it. Then he set up his rod again and cast out. A short time later he caught another large fish. Again he measured it and again he released it. Ted was confused. Gil's fish were actually larger than Ted's!

When this happened a third time, Ted no longer could contain his curiosity. "Look," he said, "you've been catching some really big ones but you measure them and release them. Why?"

"It's easy - they're too big for my frying pan."

That fellow certainly had it backward since he could have just cut up the fish or got a larger frying pan. Yet, how many of us do that exact thing when it comes to our service for God? It can happen when he challenges us with a new task, and we turn it down because it just seems too big and difficult. It would seem that we want our work for God to fit our ideas, and so we turn down work that might stretch us and our faith.

So the next time we have a new challenge we have a choice - to throw it back because it's too big and we lack the faith to handle it, or we can accept it and watch God provide an entirely new frying pan!

-Anne Adams

MYF Activities

September 8-Lock-in 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.
September 10-Youth Sunday

We Need Jars

Busy Bees are collecting jars again this year for Gifts In A Jar. We need quart as well as pint and smaller. They must be glass as we must sterilize them. Place them in the kitchen. Call Donna Northrup if you have questions at 281-481-0569.



Treasurer's Report

Giving for August 20

Budgeted..... \$4,170.34
Bond Fund.....\$285.00
CDO Income.....\$1,225.00
Total Giving for August 20..\$5,680.34

Giving for August 27

Budgeted..... \$5,149.00
Bond Fund.....\$145.00
CDO Income.....\$90.00
Youth Minister Giving.....\$20.00
Designated Giving.....\$400.00
Total Giving for August 27...\$5,804.00

Bank Balances as of September 2

Operating Balance.....\$2003.00
Bond Fund.....\$2,534.00
Designated Fund.....\$13,587.00
T-Mobile Account.....\$37,598.00

Apportionments are paid through May.

Sandy Hinson, Treasurer

Thank You

My daughters and I wish to express our gratitude to our friends and "family" at Cokesbury who over the past month have been the hands, hearts and feet of Christ. Throughout the surreal experience -- from the night of August 3rd when I received word of my father's admission to an Austin Hospital, throughout Tori's illness and hospitalization, to the day of my father's memorial service -- we were not without a phone call, a card, a meal, a helping hand, baby-sitting, transportation or comforting embrace. I may never know the identities of all the "CUMC Secret Angels" bearing gifts at my doorstep, but know that we were touched and relieved by God's grace through you and we are.....

Eternally grateful,
Lisa Ferguson Warren

No Shoulders broad enough,
No heart big enough....
No one could take his place.
No photo album or memories
Can fill the empty space.
But in our hearts, we will discover
Gifts he left behind-
His courage, honor, strength and love
Will ease our hearts and minds

Editor's note: Robert W. Ferguson passed away on August 26 after a brief illness. Graveside services were held last Saturday at Rosewood Cemetery. Cokesbury extends condolences to Lisa and the rest of her family. Contributions may be made in Robert's name to Bastrop First UMC, American Cancer Society or Houston Hospice.

Adult Class News

Becomers (Room 252)

This Sunday we will finish our study article, "Developing a Heart for God." The following week we will begin our new booklet, *Who is God in Three Persons?* Adults of all ages are welcome with us for Bible study and discussion.

New Disciples (Room 166)

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

New Beginnings (Room 156)

The class lesson will be on Universal Christian Beliefs.

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

We will not be meeting on September 10.

Wesley Class (Conference Room)

We are studying the book, *Jesus Did It Anyway*, by Kent Keith.

Adult Bible Study (Room 210)

We will be studying Chapters 30,31, and 32 of Exodus.

Good News Class (Room 153)

We are studying the book "Who Is Jesus?" and it is being led by Jack Kestler.

By The Numbers

September 3

Worship Attendance 8:30.....75
Worship Attendance 9:45.....41
Worship Attendance 11:00.....116

Save Time!

E-Mail Your Article To The Paper
newsletter@cumchouston.org