

THE COKESBURY COURIER

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Cokesbury United Methodist Church

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Prayer Corner

Please keep the following persons in your prayers: Cathie Goforth's daughter (**Patricia**), **Dot** Margheim, **Charlene** Knox, **Marie** Matziza, **Linda** Simmons and also her mother (**Mrs. Tyce**), Annabell Fookes' sister **Nellie**, **Tori** Warren, **Darrel Raines and family** on the death of his aunt, **Donna** Davidson, **Garth Sloan** during his Iraq deployment and **Molly** Evans. Those with prayer requests for the Prayer Chain should call the church office at 281-484-9243.

From The Pastor

There are two things I'm really looking forward to this week, and you are invited to both of them! First, the second of three Igniting Ministry training sessions is this Saturday, October 7 from 8:30 to 12:30. It will cost you \$10 to be present, and it will be worth every penny and much more than that to come.

As you may know, the 3 training sessions are designed to help us become a consciously and deliberately welcoming congregation. Are we a friendly church? Of course we are -- to each other! But there may be some things we're unconsciously communicating to guests that tell them we're not interested in them. For folks whose job description is "to make disciples for Jesus Christ," that's just not good enough!

Please come. At the 1st session we had 35 people, which thrilled my heart. Our goal for Saturday is 70. We need you!

Now for the next thing. This coming Sunday, immediately following the late worship service, there will be a lunch for everyone is, was or might be in a leadership position here at Cokesbury. The purpose of the Leadership Lunch is to talk about where we're headed as a congregation, and to be challenged to take leadership seriously.

I have some expectations of my leaders, which I would like to communicate to you. And I want your input on the direction in which we are headed. In fact, I'm pretty excited about our future here at Cokesbury, and I can't wait to tell you about it!

If you can attend the Leadership Lunch, you are welcome. There is no charge, but we need to know who is coming so we can arrange for plenty of food, and for child care. Please contact the church office (281-484-9243) to make your reservation.

And of course -- I hope to see you in worship Sunday as well, as we continue our series on "What Methodists Believe."

Love from your pastor,
Sandra Smith



Come to Our Talent Show

Did you know we have some wonderful home grown talent here at Cokesbury? We will be hosting a talent show Saturday, October 21 at 7 p.m. We will be having music, dance and skits. The tickets will cost \$5 with popcorn and sodas available. You may purchase tickets in advance or buy at the door. Proceeds will benefit the new children's playground.

Anyone in the show will need to attend a dress rehearsal on Saturday, October 20 at 7:00 p.m. If you have any questions please see Donna Bane, Lotus Ricketts or Jackie Glass. The youth are also allowing us to bid on their services that evening. Do you need help cleaning your garage, baby sitting, general housework, painting and or miscellaneous chores? Do you know anyone that needs help? Come and let the youth help you out.

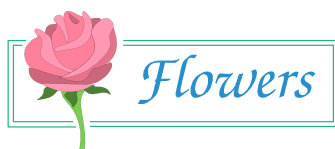
-Jackie Glass

UMM Shrimp Boil is October 21

The Methodist Men will be having a Shrimp Boil on Saturday, October 21. We will be taking your orders each Sunday morning prior to the day of the shrimp boil. A shrimp order table will be set up near the Narthex area. You can pick up your shrimp between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on October 21 at the church. The cost of the shrimp is \$9.50 per pound.

Remember to order for your friends, neighbors and relatives. Funds raised will go towards the support of the church. We are asking all men to join us October 21 at 8 a.m. to assist in the cooking, weighing, packaging and distribution of the shrimp.

-Thanks, UMM



October 8--The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of the birthday of our granddaughter, Zoe Julieanna Zuniga, from John and Julie Hoover.

October 15--The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in memory of George Margheim, from Sherry and Jeb Brooks.

Cokesbury's Statement of Purpose

Learning to serve God and humankind in Jesus' name

Burritos On Sale This Sunday

On Sunday morning, October 8, we will be holding a breakfast burrito sale to raise money for the new playground equipment. Burritos will be sold both before and after Sunday school. Different kinds will be offered so we're sure to have the type you like. We will be selling them for \$1.00 each. Coffee and orange juice will also be available. So come hungry and help us raise money for the new playground equipment.

-Sara Owen-Gemoets Circle & Breneman Circle

Sign-up for Campers' Outing

2006 is the sixth time for our annual outing. The dates are October 13-15 at Rayford Crossing RV Resort south of the Woodlands. Take Rayford/Sawdust Exit #73. It has a heated pool and spa, walking trails, library, stocked pond, game room, and an exercise room. Also it is pet friendly, has RV sites with full hook-ups, and a few furnished cabins. It has a rally room with kitchen facilities. We have special group rates. See me for reservations, and make your deposit to hold your spot. Call me at 281-481-8589 (or 281-684-4475) or Ed Whorton at 281-481-8553.

-Jerry Yeaney

Veterans--We Need Your Pictures!

Veteran's Day will be celebrated at Cokesbury on Sunday, November 12. We ask that our veterans wear something from your uniform, even if it's only your hat that still fits! This year we have some special plans and we need your help.

We would also like to honor our active service men and women by displaying their pictures. If you have a family member currently serving our country, give me a picture to be displayed by October 22. On a separate sheet of paper, please include their name and rank, branch of service, where they are serving, your name and their relationship to you.

Of course, we have not forgotten those of you who have already served our country! We will have a "Name the Veteran" contest. Dig around in your attics and closets to find a picture of yourself in uniform. If possible, put your name on the back of the picture, or on a separate piece of paper. These need to be given to me by October 22. The guessing game will begin Sunday, October 29.

Prizes will be awarded. All guesses must be in by Veteran's Day. We will reveal the "mystery" veterans names the following week. All pictures that are received and displayed will be returned. Join us in celebration of our Cokesbury veterans in the kitchen area with punch and snacks. Contact Kathy Lemaster if you would like to help with the snacks.

-Johnny Lemaster

UMM-Thursday, October 12-6:30 p.m.

All men of the church are invited. Dinner will be served-come enjoy the fellowship.

New Sermon Series to Begin

As we are finishing up the series of sermons on "What Methodists Believe," a new series will begin Sunday, October 15. The new series is called "Practical Christianity -- Walking with Jesus Between Sundays." The theme of the series is living the faith we talk about on Sundays the other days of the week.

On October 22, the sermon will be "Taking Jesus to Work and School." On the following Wednesday, October 25, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., you're invited to a study/discussion of that topic. The study will be called "More!"

It's hard to be a Christian all the time! All sorts of pressures push us to behave like the rest of the world. This is your chance to talk about those challenges with other Christians in the same spot as you are. Everyone is invited.

-Pastor Sandra

Coffee Project Comes To Cokesbury

Our Missions-Outreach Committee is excited to be sponsoring the United Methodist Committee on Relief Coffee Project at Cokesbury. This project is an innovative way for our congregation to enjoy fellowship and an excellent cup of coffee while helping small farmers in poor countries build a better future for their families. By our participation, farmers will earn a fair price for their products, have access to affordable credit and gain a long-term trading partner they can trust, a fair Trade Organization called Equal Exchange. In addition, for every pound of coffee, tea or chocolate purchased, Equal Exchange will make a small contribution to the UMCOR Small Farmer Fund. Since the start of the UMCOR Coffee Project in 2002, more than 1,700 congregations have participated. We will proudly be serving Equal Exchange coffee on Sunday mornings and during church functions. A buying club will be formed so that church members can enjoy this coffee in their homes. Details about the buying club, proceeds and bazaar booth will appear in future Couriers. For more information about the Coffee Project visit <http://gbmumc.org/umcor/hunger/coffee.cfm>.

-Charlene Provence

Fall Festival Event Update

We will be having a family friendly October 31st. We will have booths for children to participate in fun and games starting at 6:30 and at 7:30 we will start our Trunk or Treating. We will also have a signup sheet for anyone wanting to participate in Trunk or Treating. We will be giving an award for the best decorated trunk. (Trunk or Treating will be people parking in the front of the church handing out candy to our treaters).

There is a date change for the meeting for the meeting regarding this function. We will be meeting on October 22 at a time to be announced later.

-Jackie Glass

Safe Sanctuary Training Announced

One of our highest values is the safety of our children and youth. Our Safe Sanctuary program is designed to help us reduce the risk of a child being abused or molested at our church, or at one of our programs. With that in mind, we are requiring all adults who work with or come into contact with, our children or youth be Safe Sanctuary certified.

A Safe Sanctuary training is scheduled for Sunday afternoon, October 15 at 2:00. It will take about one hour. You will be asked to fill out a permission slip to obtain a criminal background check on you, and we will need to make a copy of your driver's license. In addition, you will need to give us two character references.

Is Safe Sanctuary fun? No! But nothing is more important than the safety of our kids. If you have any kind of contact with them, and you have not already been trained, please come to this training opportunity. Thanks!

What's Going On With Youth

On Saturday, September 30, thirteen of the youth went to our neighbors down the street at Park Manor Nursing Home. We spent some quality time with the folks! Nicole Sikora and her Youth Choir beautifully sang some old-time songs and hymns. Afterwards, we had the opportunity to talk and listen to our new friends. Everyone had a great time getting to know each other. We will be going back sometime in November.

Some of Our Upcoming Events:

Friday-**October 6:** Game night at church- 6-11 p.m.

October 7-8: City Fest-downtown Houston: Some youth will be going both days. Call Peter if you want to go. We will have MYF Sunday, October 8 for those not going.

October 15: Gary Wallis will begin his book study on "The Case for Christ" at 6:30. Room is available for youth willing to commit to a weekly meeting. Normally, it will meet before MYF.

October 21: 9 a.m.-Noon. Youth will be helping in a service project at Christian Alliance in Pearland. We will be helping cleanup from the fire that destroyed the food warehouse earlier in the summer.

-Peter Bonanno

Cokesbury's 45th Coming in November

You will be invited to Cokesbury's forty-fifth birthday celebration coming in November. But in the meantime here are some facts about Cokesbury they you may not know.

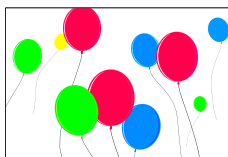
1. Cokesbury is the oldest established church in the Southbelt Area.

2. Cokesbury was established in November of 1961. King of Glory Lutheran Church was established soon after that and Sagemount Church was established in June 1966.

3. Cokesbury's first building was a portable building.

4. Cokesbury's first Pastor was Sam Duree.

5. Since Reverend Duree, Cokesbury has had nine other pastors - Paul Wallace, W.C. Hall, Howdy Dawson, Edwin Willis, Jim Bankston, Mac Hood, Allison Cambre, Sara Owen-Gemoets and Sandra Smith.



-Mary Short

Prayer Cards Now Available in Narthex

There's something new on Sunday mornings at Cokesbury. In the narthex, next to the double doors leading to the sanctuary, there is a wooden stand which will hold "Prayer Cards." By filling out a Prayer Card, you can make a joy or concern known to your church family during the Sunday morning prayer time.

You can also designate whether your joy or concern appears in the newsletter, goes to the prayer team, or is meant for the pastor only. All you have to do is fill out a card, and hand it to the pastor or to an usher. Or, you may place it in the offering plate. These cards will replace the prayer board by the doors leading from the narthex to the office area.

Children's Choir News

We have 11 new 1st graders in the Cokesbury Kids Choir. They are Garner Anderson, Bailey Dreger, Whitney Dreger, Kayla Johnson, Samantha Merrill, Alex Munoz, David Pogue, Valerie Provence, Lauren Schatte, Christian Sterling and Arianna Wiess. The 4th and 5th graders who have volunteered to be the "big brother/sister" for these 1st graders are Donald Alexander, Amanda Bates, Greyson Chisholm, Sydney Dreger, Rachel Glass, Noel Lawrence, Savannah Lohec, Walter Piecznski, Madeline Warren and Mallory Warren. It's the job of the "big brother/sister" to make sure that the 1st graders know what to do at rehearsals and performances. This job is very important!

The books and CD's of our Christmas play was distributed to all members and we have started working on the words and choreography of the dynamic songs that are in the musical.

The secret agents for September were Amanda Bates, Alex Munoz and Whitney Dreger.

We will be singing at the 8:30 service on Sunday October 8th. Hope to see you there!

-Miss Donna

October is Bring a Friend to Sunday School Month

During the month of October we are asking all children ages 3 through 10 to bring a friend to Sunday School. Our goal is to have 20 friends during the month of October. If we meet our goal, we will have a celebration party on the first Sunday in November. That means, if each child were to bring one friend during any week in October, we will meet our goal. Of course, the adults can help too, by inviting grandchildren, nieces, nephews, etc. Help us increase our Sunday School attendance by inviting a friend! Thanks,

-Laurel Johnson



Treasurer's Report

Giving for September 17

Budgeted.....	\$5,803.76
Bond Fund.....	\$10,471.00
Designated giving.....	\$1,645.00
Total Giving-Sept. 17.....	\$17,919.76

Giving for September 24

Budgeted.....	\$3,836.36
Bond Fund.....	\$50.00
Designated Giving.....	\$2,390.00
Total Giving-Sept. 24.....	\$6,276.36

Bank Balances as of September 30

Operating Balance.....	\$2,521.98
Bond Fund.....	\$11,568.57
Designated Fund.....	\$15,696.00
T-Mobile Account.....	\$37,597.60

Apportionments are paid through May.
Sandy Hinson, Treasurer

Adult Class News

Becomers (Room 252)

Our study book is "Who Is God In Three Persons?" by John Tyson. It is guiding us through scriptures about all aspects of the Trinity. Adults of any age are welcome with us.

New Disciples (New Location-Room 208)

Beginning Sunday October 1, we started a new series of lessons titled, "Families in the Family of God". This is a Bible study that covers several weeks and focuses on our individual roles within our families and what roles we play in the family of God. We'll talk about the many aspects of family life and the struggles we have to overcome in order to maintain the family. This should prove to be enjoyable and educational study and we'd like to invite adults of all ages to join us as we embark on this worship experience.

New Beginnings (Room 156)

A new lesson series has begun on Challenging Traditional Christian Beliefs. It is being led by Darrel Raines.

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

We have begun a new study on the Sermon on the Mount. Join us at 11 a.m.

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.

Affinity Class (Room 209)

We are discussing the book "Meet The Methodists," by Charles Allen. The class is led by Bill Sutton.