

Cokesbury United Methodist Church

10030 Scarsdale Boulevard
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(281) 484-9243
www.cumchouston.org

Sign Up For Veterans Day Contest

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 will be displaying pictures of our veterans, and we will have a "Name the Veteran" contest. Everyone needs to pick up an entry form in the narthex to name the veteran. They will be available this Sunday. 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

Consecration Sunday Is Coming

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a Biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay their bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

This year, we have chosen the New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program as a way to teach Biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship emphasis this year. New Consecration Sunday is based on the Biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive.

Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. Our question is, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship, our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship. Please join your church family that day, even if you feel strongly about not turning in an estimate of giving card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one need feel personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card. For two reasons, it is very important for every member of Cokesbury to be present in worship on Sunday, November 19.

Reason #1 -- it's our 45th birthday, and we will be celebrating! Our guest speaker, Rev. Elijah Stansell, will be here to preach and there will be a wonderful meal served at noon. The Birthday Celebration Lunch will be free. In order to have plenty of food (and birthday cake!) we will be asking everyone to turn in a reservation card. You will be hearing more about this in the days ahead.

Reason #2 -- this is every member's opportunity to make a commitment to God by estimating our giving for 2007.

This is a very spiritual time in the life of our church. Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in New Consecration Sunday events.

Love from your pastor,
Sandra Smith

Prayer Corner

Please keep the following persons in your prayers: **Dot** Margheim, **Jay** Ricketts, **Garth Sloan** during his Iraq deployment, **Katy** Kuhlman and **Kris** Wallis and family on the death of her father. If you have prayer requests for the Prayer Chain, call the church office at 281-484-9243.

It's Time To Celebrate!

Cokesbury is Alive and going strong at forty-five!

You are invited on November 19 to Commitment Sunday To a birthday lunch free to all And to eat birthday cake--we have it all!

Come--bring your family and friends
Come--remember our past
Come--give for God's future
Come--be a blessing and be blessed
Cokesbury is forty-five!

Committee:
Tom Green--Commitment Service
Mary Short--Photo Remembrance and lunch
Jennifer Pogue--Birthday Decorations, Cake and Party

From The Pastor

We are fast approaching the holiest time of the year. I'll bet you think I'm talking about the season of Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas. And those are times when we can feel exceptionally close to God. But that's not what I'm thinking about. I'm thinking about the upcoming Consecration Sunday, November 19. As your pastor, I am anxiously waiting to see how we're doing as a congregation. Are we going to live by faith or not? Are we willing to make a commitment to God or not? Do we have the spiritual maturity to take a step up?

Consecration Sunday is not about giving money to fund the church's budget -- that's just a side effect. Consecration Sunday is about having faith that God's promises are reliable and can be counted on.

Consecration Sunday is about making the choice to trust God with all that we have and all that we are. This is a deep spiritual matter. For our church and every other church, making a financial commitment is putting our treasure where our mouth is. It's walking the talk.

Please be in worship with us on November 19, and stay for our 45th birthday celebration afterwards. My friend, the Rev. Elijah Stansell will be our guest speaker, which is reason enough to come! And I want every member of Cokesbury to experience this deeply spiritual and holy time in our church's life.

In the meantime, I will be praying that you and God will grow closer together through your faithful action. God bless you!



Love from your pastor,
Sandra Smith



Welcome to our newest members! Tom Roper, shown in the top picture joined the church last Sunday at the 8:30 service. He is a former member of Park Place U.M.C.

Linda Trevathan joined Cokesbury at the 11:00 a.m. Service last Sunday. She is a former member of Windsor UMC in San Antonio, and she lives in the Bela Vita subdivision.



November 5--The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of the birthday of my husband Joe Pieberhofer from his wife Liz.

Also, in memory of Philip Owens, from Nancy Owens and family.

November 12--The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of our veterans.

Cokesbury's Statement of Purpose

Learning to serve God and humankind in Jesus' name

Bazaar is This Week-End!

It has been a year since our last bazaar. This year's bazaar promises to be our very best one ever! We are having the best food, the best vendors, the best attendance, the best weather ever! This is an opportunity to buy some church cookbooks and join the Coffee Club after trying out the delicious blends. Eat a delicious lunch, shop, shop till you drop and especially drop by the Busy Bees booths and see what these lovely church ladies have been working on since our last bazaar.

Bazaar times will be Friday, November 3 from 9:00 to 5:00 p.m. and on Saturday from 9:00 to 4:00 p.m.

You Belong in Cokesbury's Picture

We want every member to be a part of Cokesbury's 45th Birthday Celebration. For this special occasion we are taking pictures to be displayed in the narthex on Sunday, November 19.

On Sunday, November 5, between 9:45 and 10:45 a.m. our photographers will be visiting all Sunday School classes to take pictures.

On Sunday, November 12, group pictures will be taken. Please come to the commons area next to the church kitchen according to when you joined Cokesbury for a group picture. We know that you might have to come to church early or leave your Sunday School class for a time. However, please take time to do so because we really want you in your group picture. WHY? Because only you fill that place in Cokesbury's history!

PHOTO DATE--SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Joined Cokesbury	Picture Time
1961 to 1969	9:40 a.m.
1970 to 1979	9:55 a.m.
1980 to 1989	10:10 a.m.
1990 to 1999	10:25 a.m.
2000 to 2006	10:40 a.m.

Deadline Is Almost Here for Operation Christmas Child

Make a difference in a child's life this Christmas. Again this year, the Stafford-Wyatt circle of the UMW is sponsoring Operation Christmas Child which sends gifts to needy children around the world through Franklin Graham's Samaritan's Purse. Send a shoe box filled with treasures to a child who has never received a present, a child who has suffered because of war, natural disaster, poverty or neglect. This is our fourth year to participate at Cokesbury. Our goal this year is 100 boxes.

Please plan to take time to pack a shoe box (or two) or donate items on the list below. We have been told that a plastic shoe box is best as it can be useful in many ways to the child who receives it. They can be lined with a colorful bandana or t-shirt and the lid just snaps on top. These and many of the items to include in the box can be found at local dollar stores. It is important to include \$7 inside the box to cover shipping costs. Cash is also helpful.

Place your shoe boxes in the collection box outside the narthex between November 5 and November 19. This is a fun and easy way to reach out to a child in need. It can be especially rewarding if we involve our young children in the project. Take them shopping and allow them to help choose the items and then pack the box. What a wonderful opportunity to teach about sharing God's love with those less fortunate.

How to Pack Your Shoe Gift Box

1. Find an empty shoe box or a plastic box.
2. Decide if your gift will be for a boy or a girl and the age category: 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14.
3. Fill the box with a variety of gifts (see list below). In a separate envelope, you may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. If you include your name and address, the child may write back.
4. **Important:** Please enclose \$7 or more inside your box to help cover shipping and other costs. Checks are acceptable, payable to **Samaritan's Purse**.
5. Bring your shoe box gift to church between November 5 and November 19.

Suggested Gifts

Toys: Small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, plastic kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky, etc.

School Supplies: Pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, coloring books, writing pad or paper, solar calculators, etc.

Hygiene Items: Toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, comb, washcloth, etc.

Other: Hard candy, lollipops, mints, gum, sunglasses, flashlights (with extra batteries), ball caps, socks, T-shirts, toy jewelry, hair clips, watches, etc.

Do Not Include: Used items, war-related items (toy guns, knives), chocolate or perishable food items, liquids (shampoo, lotion, bubbles), medicines (vitamins, cough drops), breakable items (mirrors, china dolls).

-Kris Wallis

Helping Hands

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

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

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

Future Deadlines

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

Items to Paper	Paper Issue Date
November 13	November 17
November 27	December 1

By The Numbers

October 29

Worship Attendance 8:30.....	99
Worship Attendance 9:45.....	54
Worship Attendance 11:00.....	118
Total Worship Attendance.....	271

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.

CDO Staff Attends TAEY Conference

During the October 5-7 weekend, eight members of our CDO staff were able to continue their professional growth by attending the Texas Association for the Education of Young Children. They had the opportunity to listen to Dr. T. Berry Brazelton and Dr. Bruce Perry as keynote speakers and to participate in numerous break-out sessions on a variety of topics: literary, math, science, music. Also many vendors were present with the latest educational toys, books, and equipment for our review. Pictured along with the speakers are participants Rebecca Frausto and Irma Gallagher.



Position Open at Cokesbury

Cokesbury UMC is looking for a part-time Assistant Director of Praise and Worship. This person would work closely with the pastor and the Director of Praise and Worship to plan and implement the contemporary worship service. If you are interested, please contact the church office at 281-484-9243.

Thank You

Thank You to all who came out on Parents's Work Day to paint, clean and sew.

It was a joy to work with parents and staff to accomplish the painting and sewing of bean bags.

A total of 54 hours was donated for an in-kind contribution of \$586.

All of your work is greatly appreciated by the staff and children. We are all enjoying the bean bags and the new look of the furniture.

Thanks! Thanks!



Treasurer's Report

Giving for October 15

Budgeted.....	\$6,025.00
Bond Fund.....	\$200.00
CDO Income.....	\$1,050.00
Youth Ministry.....	\$10.00
Designated Giving.....	\$1,020.00
Total Giving for 10-15.....	\$8,305.00

Giving for October 22

Budgeted.....	\$5,824.00
CDO Income.....	\$470.00
Bond Fund.....	\$330.00
Designated Giving.....	\$2,467.00
Coke Income.....	\$100.00
Total Giving for 10-22.....	\$9,191.00

Bank Balances As Of October 28

Operating Balance.....	\$3,688.00
Bond Fund.....	\$5,199.00
Designated Fund.....	\$18,791.00
T-Mobile Account.....	\$37,587.00
Apportionments paid through June.	

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. Any age adults are welcome with us.

New Disciples (New Location-Room 208)

We have 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.

New Beginnings (Room 156)

We have begun a new lesson series on Challenging Traditional Christian Beliefs, led by Darrel Raines. On November 18, we will have "Fish and Fund" at the Brooks' home.

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 have started a study of the book of Leviticus based on the book by John Hartly, other commentaries and the Bible.

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.