

# THE COKESBURY COURIER

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Two Sections, Section A

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### Cokesbury United Methodist Church

10030 Scarsdale Boulevard  
Houston, TX 77089  
(281) 484-9243  
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### Prayer Corner

Please keep the following persons in your prayers: **Katy** Kuhlman, **Piper** Heinrich, **Dot** Margheim, **Silver** Richardson (grandson of Pat Richardson who is serving in Afghanistan), **Garth** Sloan, who is stationed in Iraq; and all of our service men and women stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

If you have prayer requests for the Prayer Chain, call the church office at 281-484-9243.



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### Easter Egg Hunt Coming



The Children's Ministry is planning a HUGE Easter egg hunt to take place on Palm Sunday, April 1. We're calling it...EGGSTRAVAGANZA! We are expecting between 100 and 200 children to be here hunting eggs, enjoying crafts, games and the fellowship of others while learning about the true meaning of Easter.

After the hunt, young and old alike are invited to be a part of our Easter Parade where you will don your Easter Bonnet with all the frills upon it. You can make your hat or buy it. It can be silly, serious, or something in between. You can cast your vote for the best hat by placing coins in the wearer's basket. All the money collected will be donated to the Children's Playground Fund.

We are looking for people to help stuff the eggs on Sunday, March 25 at 5:30 p.m., and we are looking for people who would be able to assist with the hunt on Palm Sunday at 2:00 p.m. If you would like to be a part of this exciting event, contact Jackie Glass at 281/484-6659 or jkcgumc@prodigy.net, or just flag me down at church.

-Jackie Glass

### Last Chance to Get Tickets for Mother/Daughter Banquet

The Fourth Annual Mother/Daughter Banquet benefiting The Bridge women's shelter in Pasadena will be held Saturday March, 31 at 6:00 p.m. The last chance to buy tickets will be this coming Sunday, March 25. Please drop by our table in the Commons Area right outside the Fellowship Hall to purchase tickets. Our theme this year is Sugar and Spice. We will be sharing stories of baking with our Mother's and Daughter's and enjoying lots of baked goods. So, bring your Mother or Daughter or Honorary Mother or Daughter and enjoy an evening of fun with us to benefit The Bridge.

### Cokesbury's Statement of Purpose

Learning to serve God and humankind in Jesus' name



**March 25-** The flowers this week are given in honor of Don and Billy Strong's birthdays, from Barbara Strong.

**April 1-** The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of my UMW mentor, Katy Kuhlman, from Savannah Rose Lohec.

### Cookies Needed for Kids' Easter Party On April 1



All members of the United Methodist Women and Church Council members are asked to bring two packages of cookies for our kids' Easter Party on Sunday, April 1. Big plans are being made for over 100 children. We need lots of cookies. You can bring the cookies to the church kitchen on Sunday morning, April 1.

The Easter egg hunt starts at 2:00 p.m. The Easter hat parade starts at 2:30 p.m.

### From The Pastor

Spiritual writer James Finley writes about receiving advice from a friend. This friend told him to quit trying so hard to pray perfectly.

"My friend said, 'How does an apple ripen? It just sits in the sun.' A small green apple cannot ripen in one night by tightening all its muscles, squinting its eyes and tightening its jaw in order to find itself the next morning miraculously large, red, ripe and juicy beside its small green counterparts.

"Like the birth of a baby or the opening of a rose, the birth of the true self takes place in God's time. We must wait for God, and we must be awake; we must trust in his hidden action within us."

Perhaps we can say the same about any spiritual discipline we have undertaken, whether it's spending more time with God's Word, worshiping more fervently, meditating and reflecting, or consciously serving others in Jesus' name.

Sometimes we work so hard to know and love God, we forget simply to be in his presence.

When I was studying New Testament Greek in seminary (Please be impressed!), I learned that there were two words for "time" in Jesus' day.

One word is "chronos," from which we get our word "chronological." Chronos is time measured in hours, minutes, days, years. It's the time we're used to.

The other word is "kairos." Kairos is God's time. It cannot be measured by clocks or calendars. God acts in Kairos time. He acts when the time is right.

Our job is to trust God, to "wait upon the Lord," as the Scriptures put it.

God knows what we need to grow, and God's plan for us is perfect. Put yourself into God's hands and see what happens



Love from your pastor,  
**Sandra Smith**

P. S. Don't forget the Easter Eggstravaganza on Sunday, April 1 at 2:00 p.m. It's an Easter egg hunt designed for our kids and our community. Come and help us make folks welcome at Cokesbury! It's going to be a blast.

### Mother/Daughter Sugar 'n Spice Banquet Saturday, March 31

4th Annual Mother/Daughter Banquet  
Proceeds Benefit *The Bridge*  
\$10 for Adults and \$6 for Children  
Tickets available in the Commons area

### UMM's Shrimp Boil Coming on April 14

The Cokesbury United Methodist Men will be conducting a Shrimp Boil on Saturday, April 14.

We will be taking your shrimp orders each Sunday morning prior to the day of the shrimp boil. A shrimp order table will be set up near the Commons area. You can pick up your shrimp between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 14 at the church.

The cost of the shrimp is \$9.50 per bag.

Remember to order for your friends, neighbors and relatives.

Funds raised from this activity will go towards the support of the church.

We are asking all men to join us Saturday, April 14 at 8:00 a.m. to assist in the cooking, packaging and distribution of the shrimp.

Thanks, UMM

### Church -Wide

Clean it Up/ Toss It Out Day!  
Saturday, March 24  
9:00 a.m.

Come and help us spruce up for spring!

## The MYF Corner

On March 9-11 we went to Brazos Bend State Park for a wonderful weekend of camping in God's beautiful creation! We went on long walks observing the many friendly alligators, we spent the nights star gazing and singing worship songs around a warm fire, and had a great time just getting to know each other a little better!

On March 13, we went to Crossroads at Park Place UMC to help with their homeless outreach program. We helped prepare the meals, handed out clothes, and had the opportunity to share our faith with them. Afterwards we went to America's Incredible Pizza on Fairmont where we ate all the pizza we wanted and played all the games we could!

On Thursday the 15th we went to Armadilla's for a couple games of bowling! And despite their sprained ankles, Scott and Andrew still managed to throw their share of spares and strikes! And the surprise bowler of the day was Kaitlyn who bowled a stellar 117! We then stuffed our bellies with some good ole Cici's pizza!

Our St. Patty's Day "Parent's Nite Out" was a wonderful success! We had a great time having fun and playing games with the little kiddos, and we raised a good amount of money for some of the many youth trips we'll be going on this summer!

Here's what's coming up:

April 20-22 - Junior High Breakthru Retreat weekend

April 27-29 - Senior High Breakthru Retreat weekend

May 4-6 - Beach Retreat weekend

June 3-9 - UMArmy

June 15-24 - Camp Redcloud in Colorado for Senior High

June 25-29 - Lakeview camp for Junior High

July 9-13 - JUMMP

August 1-3 - Schlitterbahn!!

Peter Bonnano, Youth Director

## Rainbows Along the Way

*Airless and Clueless*

From his seat in his friend's living room, Jack looked around at his fellow guests.

As a new resident of Dimwit Junction, he was aware of the Dimmies' unique way of thinking. Still, he'd found them friendly so when Dimmie James invited him over to meet more of his friends, Jack welcomed the chance to do so.

"I got this new game!" James announced. "It's called Trivial Pursuit and it really makes you think."

Jack had played the game before, though not with Dimmies, so he figured it would be an interesting experience.

James explained the rules; they distributed the cards, and started the game. Then after a while, Jack began to wonder if he had underestimated the Dimmies because their answers were if not correct then understandable. Until, that is, Dimmie Helen took a turn.

She rolled the dice, and landed on the Science and Nature square. James extracted a card from the box and read the question.

"If you are in a vacuum, and someone calls your name, can you hear it?"

Helen grimaced in thought and cocked her head. "In a vacuum? Well - I guess I'm not sure. Is it on or off?"

We'll probably never be in a vacuum - cleaner or otherwise - but we do answer when we hear someone call us. But in a spiritual sense, what if it's God calling?

Though God doesn't speak audibly today, he does speak to us through his Word, but also occasionally through events, advice from others and often through mental nudges.

His directions vary as much as the methods he uses and of course, each is designed to perfectly fit our needs and situations. So knowing this, how do you respond?

Our answer determines if we operate in spiritual freedom or spiritual vacuum.

-Anne Adams

## SeAM To Aid Low-Income Seniors

SeAM will again be an Outreach Enrollment Site for the Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program (CEAP). CEAP is administered by Sheltering Arms Senior Services and provides federal funds to assist with future electric or gas bills during March-December 2007. The main eligibility requirements are that the household be low income, reside in Harris County, have one senior (60 or older) or have one adult with a verifiable disability.

SeAM will handle applications for 21 zip codes including most of the nearby Harris County zip codes. To make an appointment, call SeAM at 713-944-9379 on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday **between 10 a.m. and noon.**

-Rob Bradley, CUMC SeAM Trustee

## It's Your Time to Help with Helping Hands

The following people have signed up to help with Helping Hands for the next two weeks:

**Fourth Sunday:** Jo Felts, Suzanne Houck, Janice Johnson, Peggy Smith, Faye Stafford, Kris Wallis and Carol Yeany.

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

## Owen-Gemoets Circle Meets

The UMW's Sara Owen-Gemoets Circle met on February 27 at Nancy Owens' home. There were 10 members present.

The program was given by Linda Heinrich. Linda led us in discussions concerning our church and prayers.

Members will bring items to our next circle meeting to be donated to Dr. Pouzar for his mission trip to Mexico. A lunch was enjoyed by all. We were reminded of the Sugar 'n Spice Banquet to be held March 31. It benefits the Bridge.

Billie Kestler

## Thank You

All of the wonderful dishes of food were so delicious. There are some great cooks among you. The family appreciated all your effort in preparing the meals and your thoughts and prayers along the way. God bless you.

-The family of Andy McBride

## Help Feed the Youth

The MYF needs volunteers to sign up to provide meals on Sunday evenings for MYF meetings. If you would like to help support our young people in this way, please contact Kris Wallis at 281/464-3881.

Save Time!

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

## By The Numbers

March 18

Worship Attendance 8:30.....63  
Worship Attendance 9:45.....45  
Worship Attendance 11:00.....131

Total Worship Attendance.....239

Sunday School Attendance.....163



## Treasurer's Report

### Giving for March 4

Budgeted.....\$11,299  
Bond Fund.....\$265  
CDO Income.....\$3,185  
Youth Minister.....\$15  
Designated Giving.....\$95  
Total Giving for 3/4.....\$14,859

### Giving for March 11

Budgeted.....\$6,740  
Bond Fund.....\$335  
CDO Income.....\$3,390  
Designated Giving.....\$843  
Total Giving for 3/11.....\$11,308

### Bank Balances As Of March 17

Operating Fund Balance.....\$1,852  
Bond Fund.....\$1,611  
Designated Savings.....\$41,966  
Total Cash.....\$45,429  
Apportionments have been paid through February.

-Sandy Hinson, Treasurer

## Church Repair List

Did you see something in the church that needs repair? Add it to the Repair List on the bulletin board outside the Conference Room. This will help our repair volunteers know what needs work.

## Adult Class News

### Becomers (Room 252)

This Sunday we'll meet in the fellowship hall, led by Jim Bane. This will be the third session in a series of large-group discussions he has facilitated for us about Methodist beliefs on redemption and salvation. All are welcome. We begin a new study booklet soon, "Go Fish!" We'll return to our classroom upstairs and we encourage you to study with us!

### New Disciples (New Location-Room 208)

We have started a new study focusing in the book of Mark. Who was Mark? What is different about his Gospel from the other three? Why does he spend half the book on the death and resurrection of Jesus? How does his message speak to us today? These and other questions are examined in this study.

### New Beginnings (Room 156)

We have begun a new lesson series on Challenging Traditional Christian Beliefs, led by Darrel Raines.

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

We have started a study of current events and possible Biblical interpretations. Join us at 11 a.m.

### Wesley Class (Conference Room)

We are using a Lenten Study thru Easter called *Bound for Golgotha* by Randy Cross.

### 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. We will be covering Chapters 24.

### 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 studying the Book of I Corinthians from the Bible. The leader this week is Bill Sutton. We are also working on putting together sewing kits for a mission project.