

# THE COKESBURY COURIER

## an edition of The United Methodist Reporter

Two Sections, Section A

Vol. 153 No. 52

Friday, May 4, 2007

076453

### Cokesbury United Methodist Church

10030 Scarsdale Boulevard  
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## Prayer Corner

Please keep the following persons in your prayers: **Katy** Kuhlman, **Dot** Margheim, **Gloria** Markovich, **Silver** Richardson (grandson of Pat Richardson who is serving in Afghanistan), **Garth** Sloan (who is stationed in Iraq), and for new member **Denice** Grays and family whose brother passed away recently in Nebraska. If you have prayer requests for the Prayer Chain, please call the church office at 281-484-9243.

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## Financial Seminar Planned for Cokesbury

Have you ever wondered what life might be like if you were living debt free? Imagine what kind of impact we could have at Cokesbury if we had no financial worries. Seem far fetched? Well, it may not be as unobtainable as one might suspect.

As part of our outreach program for our church family and community, I am pleased to announce that starting June 5 at 7:00 pm, Donna and I will be facilitating Dave Ramsey's highly acclaimed Financial Peace University. FPU is a thirteen week program that helps people dump their debt, get control of their money, and adopt new behaviors concerning money that are founded on commitment and accountability. More than 350,000 families have attended Financial Peace University. During and after taking the course, the average family pays off \$5,300 in debt and saves \$2,700 in the first 91 days after beginning FPU. They also are completely out of debt, except for their mortgage, in 18 to 24 months.

Orientation to this exciting program will be May 22 at 7:00 p.m. If you would like to register or if you would like to learn more about FPU, please go to their website at [financialpeaceuniversity.com](http://financialpeaceuniversity.com). You will be hearing more about FPU in the coming weeks. If you have any questions about these classes, please feel free to call Donna or myself at 281-326-0881. We look forward to bringing this wonderful ministry to Cokesbury.

-Jim Bane

## News Flash--Church Gives Money Away!

Cokesbury's stewardship committee has designated Sunday, May 20 as "Talents Sunday." We will follow the example suggested by Jesus in his parable of the talents, in which a master entrusts his slaves with certain sums of money while he is away on a trip. When the master returned home, he discovered that two slaves had invested his money wisely and had a good return to show him, while the third slave had simply buried the money in the ground and returned it to the master without gaining anything from it. Guess which slave disappointed the master!

On May 20, we are going to invite you to take two dollars of the church's money to be invested until Sunday, August 26. You are asked to invest your money over and over until you have a gift suitable to give back to God.

Every Sunday, there will be a table in the commons area where you can sell your goods and services to the congregation. You are encouraged to be creative -- pool your money with friends and auction off a dinner for 8, bake a cake and use the proceeds to make more cakes, set up a lemonade stand (good for kids!), wash someone's car, walk their dog, do their yard while they're on vacation, cook up a casserole, barbecue a brisket, babysit, clean out someone's garage -- the possibilities are endless!

Be thinking about how you can invest this money to honor God. All of our proceeds will go to help us pay our apportionments. Don't miss church on May 20! I'll bet you've never gone to a church that gave money away instead of asking for it!



## Calling All Graduates

**May 6-** The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of Kayla Johnson's 7th birthday from Laurel, Arthur and Alex Johnson.

**May 13-** The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of Carson Miller's 1st Birthday from Jean Bonds.

Attention all high school and college graduates who are graduating this spring.

If you are a member or the child of a member, then Cokesbury would like to recognize you for your hard efforts. Please contact either the church office at 281-484-9243 or Paige Schwartz at 281-481-1010.

## From The Pastor

The old saying goes, "When God closes a door, God opens a window." That seems to be where we are today. We just said goodbye to our dearly loved choir director of more than 12 years. Lotus Ricketts was a joy to work with. We all benefited from her gracious precious and compelling faith. We can never replace Lotus!

And yet, God has called a new person to work with us. His name is Marsh Hudson. Marsh comes to us with many years' experience conducting church choirs, including Pearland UMC, 1st Church Pasadena and, most recently, Old River Terrace UMC. Marsh is genuinely excited about this new position. He has already met with the choir and directed a couple of anthems with them in rehearsal. He is filled with energy and will bring something new to our worship services. Marsh's first Sunday with us will be May 6. He will conduct the chancel choir at both 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

As you know, we will be enjoying a covered dish dinner following the third service -- about noon -- so you will have a chance to meet Marsh and welcome him to the Cokesbury family.

I warn you, he's looking for new choir members, and from what I can tell about him, he doesn't easily take no for an answer! I hope you will do everything in your power to make Marsh feel at home here.

On another note, I will be starting a sermon series on the Sermon on the Mount on May 6. This sermon contains Jesus' plans for us to live. I hope you don't miss a Sunday!

Love from your pastor,  
**Sandra Smith**



## Come Celebrate Your Family At Cokesbury Celebrate Your Blessings With Joy

Bring Covered Dishes to Share  
For Cokesbury's Family

Sunday, May 6  
At Noon



Enjoy the Fellowship of Your  
Church Family

## Welcome To Our Newest Members!



Pictured above is Denice Grays. She also has a daughter, Dede, who has been attending with her. She has transferred to us from another area church. Our sympathy goes out to Denice and her family on the recent death of her brother. She is currently in Nebraska taking care of arrangements.

Be sure to give Denice a big Cokesbury welcome when she returns from Nebraska.



Pictured above are Nancy and Patrick Hensley, who joined recently at our 8:30 service. They transferred from another area church in Pearland. They have been visiting Cokesbury since last fall, and are both looking forward to getting involved with some of the activities here. Be sure to welcome them with our big Cokesbury welcome when you see them next here at church.

## The MYF Corner

May 30th we will be having our first ever Drive-In Movie night here at Cokesbury! We are expecting at least ten other churches to attend this awesome evening of games, food, live music, guest speakers, and of course, a movie! All youth in grades 5-12 are welcome and cost will be two (2) canned goods which will be donated to SeAM.

Here's what's coming up:

May 4-6 - Beach Retreat weekend

May 26 - Car Wash at Wal-Mart in Pearland

May 30 - Drive-In Movie Nite

June 3-9 - UArmy

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

June 25-29 - Lakeview camp for Junior High

July 9-13 - JUMMP

## Dulin Circle Meets

The UMW Dulin Circle met on April 24 at the home of Jackie Leftwich with 12 members present. Ellie Melanson opened the meeting with a devotional. The program, Importance of Friendship, was presented by Norma Barton. Norma read about some inspiring examples of friendship. There are many scriptures on the value of friendship, one is John 15:13. We discussed how important friendships are in our lives. Ellie closed the meeting with prayer. A lovely luncheon was enjoyed by all. Thanks to Jackie for being our hostess.

-Jean Bonds

## Thanks From the Wallis Family

1 Corinthians 13:13 ... And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love. ... is a favorite Bible verse in our home. It would seem impossible to face the death of a loved one without believing Paul's words in 1 Corinthians. We would like to thank Sandra and all of our Cokesbury family for the love and support we have received these last few months as we have dealt with the immeasurable loss of both of Kris' parents. The prayers, cards, phone calls, flowers, and memorial gifts provided great comfort during such a sad time for us. Special thanks to the Stafford-Wyatt UMW Circle for a beautiful cross and a garden angel to cherish. Cokesbury truly exemplifies Paul's message to, "live a life of faith and hope among Christian brothers and sisters whom we 'love'. Of these three, only love will remain into eternity." What a blessing!

Gary, Kris, and Kaitlyn Wallis

Save Time!

E-Mail Your Article To The Paper or to one of the Editors

newsletter@cumchouston.org

Brad9@flash.net

Klscats@msn.com

Ljo26@sbcglobal.net

## 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:

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.

## UMW To Meet Next Week At Church

Cokesbury's UMW will meet at the church on May 8 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will begin with a salad dinner. Bring your favorite. A silent auction will follow, so bring an interesting new item. A short program for prayer and self denial will follow. Proceeds from the action will go towards our prayer and self denial offering. All ladies of Cokesbury and friends are invited. Hope to see you on May 8.

## Bottled Water Available In Commons Area

Have you ever wanted a nice cool bottle of water at a great price while at CUMC? Well, now it is available through the efforts of the Missions Committee and the generous loan of a small refrigerator from Carol and Jerry Yeane. The refrigerator is located next to the Coke machine in the commons area and the cost is \$0.50 per bottle payable in the can placed on top of the refrigerator. The proceeds will go towards funding the Helping Hands Ministry and also towards other missions projects.

Be watching for further news regarding Missions projects for Cokesbury and how you can be a part of these ministries. Many of you are already involved, so you can spread the word of how easy it is to participate. Regular reports will be publicized regarding the missions water project and other mission opportunities.

Your Missions Committee

## Youth Support Area Teenager in Crisis

On Mother's Day, May 13, in conjunction with the carnation sale, the youth will be taking donations to support the family of Justin Penton-Shaulis. Justin is a 13-year-old in our area diagnosed nine months ago with osteosarcoma on his right femur. Since that time Justin has been through biopsies, chemotherapy, x-rays, MRI's, echo hearing test, bone scans, blood transfusions. He has also been given platelets, endured physical therapy, many hospital stays and a major limb salvage surgery as well as knee reconstruction. On May 28 Justin will finish his last round of chemo. He will continue physical therapy until he regains strength and use of his leg.

While Justin has endured physical and emotional challenges while overcoming his illness, his family remains faced with insurmountable medical expense.

Please consider making a contribution to celebrate Justin's victory over this disease and help his family with much needed financial support.

## Owen-Gemoets Circle Meets

The Sara Owen-Gemoets Circle met April 24 at Billie Kestler's home at 10:00 a.m. Our chairperson, Linda Heinrich, was in charge of the meeting.

Eleven members attended. We were happy to have one new member, Lois Yeager, present.

Linda reminded everyone to attend the general meeting on May 8 at 7:00 p.m. It will be a salad supper and a silent auction. It was decided that we will give Dr. Joe Pouzar money for his trip to a remote place in Mexico.

In the place of a bake sale, we decided to have a no-bake sale to raise money.

Barbara Strong brought our program. She used some interesting items from the book, *Chicken Soup for Mother's Soul*. She asked that each of us tell two things that we remember about our mothers.

Since Billie had a captive audience, she played a few pieces on her Lowrey electric organ. Finger food was served as people arrived.

Billie Kestler

## Help, Our Grass Is Growing

As you surely have noticed, it is spring and everything is growing, including the grass at the church. From now until the cooler weather of the fall, most of the grounds need work every week. We can still use some individuals or teams to help with the mowing and edging. Please let me know if you are available, if even on a one-time or part-time basis.

-Rob Bradley

## Breneman Circle Meets

The Breneman UMW Circle met in April in Margie Remely's Home. Twelve members attended. Our guest was Debbie Carter. Donna Northrup, our hostess, gave the devotional. Betty Sutton presented the program which was a short background on five of our well known hymns and their writers including Charles Wesley, Thomas Ken and John Newton. Carol Yeane led the ladies in singing the first verse of each. Afterward all enjoyed good food and fellowship.

-Betty Sutton



## Treasurer's Report

### Giving for April 15

Budgeted.....	\$6052
Bond Fund.....	\$300
CDO Income.....	\$425
Designated Giving.....	\$285
Total Giving.....	\$7062

### Giving for April 23

Budgeted.....	\$5382
Bond Fund.....	\$95
CDO Income.....	\$180
Youth Minister giving.....	\$30
Designated Giving.....	\$1345
Total Giving.....	\$7032

### Bank Balances

Operating.....	-\$2589
Bond Fund.....	\$400
Designated Savings.....	\$42643
Total.....	\$40466

Apportionments. are paid through

March.

## By The Numbers

April 22

8:30 a.m. Service.....	88
9:45 a.m. Service.....	28
11:00 a.m. Service.....	170
Total Attendance.....	286
Sunday School Attendance.....	177



## Swim Party for Kids Coming Up

The children's ministry will be hosting a Swim Party at the YMCA located at 2700 YMCA Dr., Pearland, on May 26 from 10:00 a.m. till noon. The party will be held for kid's age 5 thru 12, siblings are welcome. We will have goodie bags for the school aged children. No drop-offs please. We will also be having snacks and drinks. Please RSVP by calling Charlene Provence at 281-464-2495 or by emailing charleneprovence@mac.com. Please contact me if you have any question at 281-484-6659. Hope to see you there.



HAVE FAITH