

THE COKESBURY COURIER

an edition of *The United Methodist Reporter*

Two Sections, Section A

Vol. 154 No. 2

Friday, May 18, 2007

076453

Cokesbury United Methodist Church

10030 Scarsdale Boulevard
Houston, TX 77089
(281) 484-9243
www.cumchouston.org
www.mycokesburyspace.com

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Home Meetings Coming in June

Again this year, our pastor will be scheduling home meetings open to members and guests of the congregation. These will be informal gatherings that will last no longer than two hours at anyone's home. The purpose of these meetings is to allow the pastor time with parishioners who are interested in what's currently happening at Cokesbury and what's on tap for the year ahead. As always, feedback will be welcome! If you would like to host a home meeting in June or early July, call Sandra Smith at 281-484-9243.

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 Karen Mingus' mother, **Shirley** Crawford. If you have prayer requests for the Prayer Chain, please call the church office at 281-484-9243.

Children's Choir Power Up This Sunday

On Sunday, May 20th at 6:30 p.m., the Cokesbury Children's Choir will perform their end of year musical. The Young Singing Angels will open the evening with song, followed by The Cokesbury Kids as they perform the musical "Power". You won't want to miss this great event. The music is lively, the actors are too cute, and the message is POWERFUL! There will be a cookie and punch reception following our performance. Hope to see you there!



-Ms. Donna

Save Time!

E-Mail Your Article To The Paper or to one of the Editors
newsletter@cumchouston.org

Ready for Pentecost!

Happy birthday, Church! The Day of Pentecost is coming on Sunday, May 27. Pentecost is the day the Holy Spirit came down with power and authority and the church was born. We remember the sound of the rushing wind, and the tongues of fire that descended on the heads of those who believed and were committed to the Risen Lord.

In honor of that day, you are invited to do two things:

First, wear your brightest clothes that day. We want our whole sanctuary to be filled with flame colors -- red, orange, yellow, bright purple or blue.

Second, each household is invited to bring a brightly colored candle to burn on our altar table. Red, orange and yellow candles are preferred. Bring a pillar candle or a taper with candleholder, but please try to find unscented candles. We don't want our choir to fall over from the combined fumes of dozens of different scented candles! You can drop your candle off in the narthex before you enter the sanctuary. If you can, come a little early so the candles can be arranged on the altar table. Pentecost is also the day our Confirmation Class will join the church, so let's make the celebration special for them.



May 20- The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in memory of **Winopal Brooks** by Sherry and Jeb Brooks.

May 27- The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of the birthdays of **Sherry & Jeb Brooks** by Dot Margheim.

YOUTH CAR WASH

Saturday, May 26
9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Pearland Wal-mart on FM 518

Wal-mart will match up to the first \$1,000 raised. The money will help support summer youth programs.

FROM THE PASTOR

Yes, you heard right last Sunday – we really are giving money away next Sunday! Sunday, May 20 will be the first day of our Talents Program, sponsored by our Stewardship Team.

This program is based on Jesus' Parable of the Talents in Matthew 25:14-30 (a talent is a large sum of money). In this parable a master goes away on a journey leaving three slaves in charge of his property while he is gone. One slave receives five talents, the second receives two talents and the third slave receives one talent.

When the master returns, he discovers that the first two slaves have invested his money wisely and have a large return to show. But the third slave merely buried his talent in the ground, returning it to the master with no increase at all. The third slave is then cast off into darkness, where there is weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth.

Next Sunday, we are all going to be treated like slave number 2. We'll be passing out dollar coins and you are invited to take two of them. Children are invited to participate with their parents' approval.

You are invited to invest that money creatively over and over again, until the last Sunday in August, when all the talents will be called in. There will be tables in the Commons where you can sell your wares or offer your services.

Some examples: use your money to buy a cake, sell it and make more cakes; sew a garment, make a flower arrangement, wash someone's car, clean out their flower beds, carve something out of wood, bake a casserole.

Host a baseball evening, cook a brisket, mow a yard, walk dogs, water plants while someone is on vacation, babysit, wash windows, have a lemonade stand outside the church on a Sunday morning, raise and sell flowers or tomatoes, knit something, quilt something, have a silent auction, have a garage sale – the sky's the limit on ideas!

You can also combine your money with other folks for a bigger project, or work together as a family or with friends.

It will be so much fun to see how what increase our investment brings us!

All proceeds will go to help pay our annual apportionments – the missions beyond our own doors.

Besides – have you ever heard of a church *giving money away*?

I'm looking forward to next Sunday – not because of the Talents Program, but because we'll have another chance to worship the Lord. I hope to see you there!

Love from your pastor,
Sandra Smith



Financial Peace University Orientation Next Week

Did you know that achieving financial freedom involves 80% behavior and only 20% of knowledge? Signing up for Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University will help you change that behavior. The orientation class will be held next week on Tuesday, May 22nd at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary. You can register online at Daveramsey.com or during the class. The thirteen week session will start on June 5th. Come join Donna and me as we learn about "changing your family tree" with this exciting program that teaches all about gaining financial freedom. Please call me at 281- 326-0881 if you have any questions.

-Jim Bane

Music Notes from Our New Director

Thank you **ALL** for the warm welcome! I am enjoying Hand Bell and Chancel Choirs very much, and we have begun a lot of music to be shared in the future.

Also, thanks **SO** much for allowing me to (safely) attend my daughter, Christine's graduation on May 19 in Florida!

Our Men's Chorale will present some special music soon and we have a celebration planned for July 1 for Independence Day!

God bless you all and I want to invite **Lots** of you to come and be a part of the CUMC Music Ministry, especially in our Chancel Choir! We will welcome you as well as train you and we have some really fun plans in the near future too...

In Him,
Marsh

P.S. Wonderful job, Children's Choir!

The MYF Corner

On May 4-6 the Youth went down to Galveston for their annual beach retreat! We had an awesome time playing games, hanging out at the beach, roaming the Strand, checking out some endangered turtles at the Turtle Hatchery, and learning more about God during our worship times! With over 30 youth and volunteers, it was one of our largest beach retreats ever!



On Mother's Day we sold carnations to benefit the family of Justin Penton-Shaulis, an area youth who has been successfully battling Osteosarcoma. A special thanks to all who helped raise over \$350 for Justin!

On May 26th we will be having a Fundraising Car Wash at the Walmart on 518 and Dixie Farm Road in Pearland. It will be an all day event from 9am - 6pm, or until we run out of soap! All proceeds will go towards the various missions trips and

summer camps the youth will be attending this summer. This will be a donations-only fundraiser and Walmart will match a certain amount of our proceeds, so come on down and show your support!

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 26 - Car Wash at Wal-Mart in Pearland

May 30 - Drive-In Movie Nite

June 3-9 - UMArmy in Huntsville, TX

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 Bonanno

Calling All Graduates

Attention all high school and college students 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.

A Tribute To Moms and Dads

It's not easy being moms and dads. Those of us who are, know that without a single doubt. Our kids are gifts to us from God. We are examples to them of how to live good lives. We, as moms and dads know that we teach our kids by words and examples of right and wrong, being successful and dealing with disappointments, love, and faith. We have unconditional love for our kids as shown to us by Christ, and we know that God is watching over us as we live our family lives.

Thanks to all of you who helped make our family covered dish dinner a success. Thank you Worship Committee for the moms and dads gifts, and thank you Darrel Raines for our family stories on Cokesbury's website.

-Mary Short, Family Ministries Coordinator

Annual Conference Begins May 27

The Texas Annual Conference will convene on Sunday evening of Memorial weekend and conclude on Thursday of that week. During that time, both clergy and lay delegates will hear reports on the mission of the church, attend workshops designed to strengthen churches, and hear preaching from Bishop Will Willimon. In addition, delegates will elect delegates to attend General Conference (the policy-making body of the church) and Jurisdictional Conference (smaller groups of annual conferences), both of which will meet in 2008. At all conferences, there are equal numbers of clergy and lay delegates. At Cokesbury, we are fortunate to have 5 delegates to annual conference this year. John Hoover is our elected delegate. In addition, Hap and Linda Garies and Carol and Jerry Yeane will attend as at-large representatives from the South District.

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:

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

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

Singing In The Rain

The Hospitality committee has an umbrella ministry which was started to help our members and guests get to and from their cars in a downpour without being completely soaked! Our goal Easter weekend was to have at least 10 umbrellas, we purchased 6 and the other 4 were donated by Phyllis Beaty. Thanks Phyllis, we couldn't do it without the support of people like you!

-Kay Hyle

Thanks From Beth

Thank you for all the support I have received during my recovery. Your prayers and concerns as well as many other supports were greatly appreciated.

It is hard to believe that I received so much love and concern. It was just what I needed during this ordeal. I wish blessings for everyone.

-Beth Northrup

Summer Fun For Kids and Moms

Are you looking for inexpensive activities to do with your children this summer? Cokesbury United Methodist Church has the answer. The Moms of Cokesbury Can DO Kids will be hosting a playgroup every Wednesday for the month of June and July from 9:30 am to 11 am. The first playgroup will be on June 6th and rumor has it the activity is a water day. Water balloons, mini pool, sprinkler, bubbles and more will be provided. Bring a sack lunch to enjoy a picnic after the activity. Other activities that are being planned are an arts day, trips to the zoo and the fountains at Kemah boardwalk, and others. All activities are geared for children entering the 5th grade and younger. Please contact Alison Myers for details at 281-648-9808 or kevali313@sbcglobal.net.

-Jackie Glass

Children's Bake Sale Update

The 4th & 5th grade Sunday School class would like to thank everyone who supported our recent bake sale.

We raised a total of \$271.12! The proceeds will benefit two organizations that help our community, the local SPCA and Texas Children's Hospital. Thanks again from all of us!

-Kay Hyle

Cokesbury's Statement of Purpose

Learning to serve God and humankind in Jesus' name



Treasurer's Report

Giving for April 29

Budgeted.....	\$8,311
Bond Fund.....	\$125
CDO Income.....	\$6,105
Designated Giving.....	\$760
Total Giving.....	\$15,301

Giving for May 6

Budgeted.....	\$11,067
Bond Fund.....	\$408
CDO Income.....	\$6,035
Designated Giving.....	\$16
Total Giving.....	\$17,526

Bank Balances

Operating.....	\$2,880
Bond Fund.....	\$809
Designated Savings.....	\$47,087
Total.....	\$50,776

Apportionments. are paid through April.

-Sandy Hinson, Treasurer

By The Numbers

May 13

8:30 a.m. Service.....	120
9:45 a.m. Service.....	57
11:00 a.m. Service.....	173
Total Attendance.....	350
Sunday School Attendance.....	156

Party, Party, Party!

The children's ministry will be hosting a swim party at the YMCA (281-485-6805) 2700 YMCA Drive, Pearland, TX 77581 on May 26 from 10 a.m. until noon. The party is open for all kids that attended Kindergarten through 5th grade during the 2006-2007 school year. We will be giving these kids goodie bags for all their accomplishments this year at school. We will be providing snacks for all. Siblings are invited but will not be receiving goodie bags. NO DROP-OFFS. You may call the YMCA for a list of pool rules. Hope to see you there. Please RSVP with Charlene Provence, 281-464-2495 or email at charleneprovence@mac.com.



-Jackie Glass

HAVE FAITH

Playground Fundraiser

Do you have children's clothing? Do you have too many toys? Do you have too many games? STOP! DON'T THROW THOSE ITEMS OUT. The Playground Team will be hosting a children's garage sale. We will be asking our children to bring items to our garage sale to raise funds for the playground. Please look for more details soon to follow.

-Jackie Glass