

THE COKESBURY COURIER

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Cokesbury United Methodist Church

10030 Scarsdale Boulevard
Houston, TX 77089

(281) 484-9243

www.cumchouston.org

www.mycokesburyspace.com

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Flowers

July 1- The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of the birthday of Misako Herring, from her daughter Nicole.

Welcome !



Cokesbury welcomes our newest member, Marlette Reed, who joined the church this last Sunday, June 24, at the 8:30 service. She transferred from another church. She is now a member of the New Disciples Sunday School class. **Please be sure to give her a big Cokesbury welcome when you see her next!**

Blood Drive Planned

Cokesbury's annual blood drive is coming up soon. It will be held here at the church on Sunday, July 22, from 9:00 to 1:00 p.m.

All those who give blood or even attempt to do so, will be entered in a drawing for a really nice barbeque grill.

Prayer Corner

Please keep the following persons in your prayers: **Katy** Kuhlman, **Dot** Margheim, **Gloria** Markovich, the youth who are at Lakeview, **Denise** Crouch Barcelo and **Frank** Barcelo as they celebrate their marriage to each other, **Silver** Richardson (grandson of Pat Richardson who is serving in Afghanistan) and **Garth** Sloan (who is stationed in Iraq), and for all our servicemen and women who are serving in these areas. If you have prayer requests for the Prayer Chain, please call the church office at 281-484-9243.

UMW Plans Outing to Hope Village

Cokesbury United Methodist Women will have their annual outing at Hope Village on Tuesday, July 10. We will carpool from Cokesbury's rear parking lot leaving at 10:45. We do need a head count in order to have enough seating. Please call your circle chairperson or Jean Bonds at 281-485-1542 by July 6. All ladies of Cokesbury and friends are welcome. Hope Village is located on FM 2351 in Friendswood.

-Jean Bonds

New 11:00 a.m. Class is Forming

A new Sunday School class will be starting this Sunday, July 1, at 11:00 a.m. The class will be led by John and Ellen Sekumade. It is open to all ages. We will be starting with a study of the book *Christianity for Dummies*. We will meet in the new education wing.

There will also be a covered dish supper at the Sekumade home on Saturday, June 30, at 6:00 p.m. so that prospective members can meet each other. Call Ellen at 281-648-1211 for directions.

New Pictorial Directory

Please sign up to have your family picture taken to be included in our Church Directory. Sign up sheets are located in the Commons. You will receive a free 8 X 10 portrait and a free directory. Pictures will be taken:

Wed., July 25 ~ Friday, July 27
3:00 - 9:20 p.m.

and
Saturday 28
10:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Our directory will not be complete without you. Please sign up for an appointment today. Please contact Gary Warner (281-481-4759), Janis Shields (281-481-8023) or the church office (281-484-9243).

FROM THE PASTOR

Every time I drive into the church parking lot, I see a family of killeers, who have made our house their home. Some people call them "kildees," but where I grew up, we added an "r" to the end of their name.

Killeers nest on the ground, which makes them vulnerable to all sorts of predators, including lawn mowers. But God has equipped them for survival. Almost as soon as the baby killeer chicks hatch, they can run, following their parents away from danger. They are the cutest baby birds ever -- they're born with the same coloration as their parents, except they are fuzzy. They look like they have crew cuts on their little baby bird heads.

In addition, God has trained the killeer parents to care for their children. When danger approaches (such as a curious pastor), the mom and dad run away from the nest, dragging one wing behind them. They are pretending to be injured and unable to fly -- "sitting ducks," as it were. They run along the ground, calling out to be sure to get the predator's attention. They lead the predator away from the nest -- and then, when they are far enough away so be sure the predator has been distracted, they fly away to safety.

As I was watching them today, I realized that killeers are a metaphor for Christ. We are the weak and helpless babies; Jesus is the one who risked himself for us. He was willing to give up his own life to save us.

Now, by his Holy Spirit, we learn to run away from sin and evil. In every way we grow up into Christ, learning to imitate him in every part of our lives. In this way, we honor the Lord.

I'm proud to say that the kind and generous folks who mow our yard have the killeers' nest carefully staked out so they don't run over it.

I hope to see you Sunday. The killeers will be here -- I hope you will be, too!

Love from your pastor,

-Sandra Smith



P.S. We have a new feature at Cokesbury. When you call the church office (281-484-9243) and no one is available to answer the phone, you will be directed automatically to voice mail. Staff members now have their own private mailboxes, so you can leave a confidential message for each of us. On my voice mail box, you can also get my home phone number (281.479.2520). The staff wants to be accessible to meet your needs.

VBS Volunteers Needed



Yes! There is still time to sign up to help at Vacation Bible School. VBS will be August 6 - 10 from 6 to 8:45 p.m. each night. We still need 3 more teachers. If you can't be there during that time, we could also use your help assembling materials and sending out invitations before VBS. Or, you could sign up to bring snacks or other needed supplies. It's fun and easy to help our children soar to new heights during Lift Off, VBS 2007. To help, sign up in the Commons or contact Laurel Johnson at 281-481-8125 or by email at ljo26@sbcglobal.net or Alison Myers at 281-648-9808 or by email at kevali313@sbcglobal.net

- Laurel Johnson

Come Celebrate the Fourth at Cokesbury Covered Dish Dinner--Sunday, July 1



Come celebrate America's Birthday with your Cokesbury family on Sunday, July 1. Come to the worship services and hear beautiful, inspirational, and patriotic music. Our choir will sing, the bells and band will perform, and Rev. Sandra will preach.

After the 11:00 a.m. service we will have a covered dish dinner for everyone at 12 noon. Bring your favorite covered dishes to share--chicken, barbeque, potato salad, baked beans, tasty desserts. We really want to celebrate and we want everyone to join us. This is going to be a great time to remember our country and the freedoms we have and to join our Cokesbury family in doing so

After the meal Johnny Lemaster will lead us in a flag burning ceremony. Flags that are old, torn, or faded will be discarded in this fashion. If you have flags that you would like to discard, please bring them for the burning.

-Mary Short

MYF Corner

Last week the senior high youth traveled to Camp Red Cloud in Colorado for its first ever adventure camping trip! We drove over 1000 miles through the beautiful scenery of Texas and New Mexico before we arrived in the breathtaking mountains of Colorado. All throughout the week we experienced amazing things that we've never seen or done before, such as rock climbing a hundred foot cliff, or hiking a 12 mile round trip up an 11,000+ foot mountain, or white water rafting down a 46 degree river, or jumping off a 50 foot platform!



And all the while we did these exciting activities, we learned so many valuable life lessons, such as working together as a team, showing patience and trust towards one another, and relying on Jesus and our brothers and sisters for strength and support. It was such an awesome trip where we experienced God's wonderful creation and learned more about God and grew closer with Him and each other!

-Peter Bonanno, Youth Director

New Disciples Say Thanks

Thanks to all who supported our hugely successful BBQ sale on Sunday. We underestimated the response and therefore by popular demand, we're going to do it again!

Mark your calendars for Sunday, August 5th and plan to come hungry.

We're increasing the amount of brisket cooked so hopefully no one leaves disappointed. Shoot, on Sunday even Bubba's momma went home without brisket. That just ain't right. This turned out to be a good benefit for the church coffers and next time promises to be even bigger.

Thanks again!

Happy Wedding Day!

Denise Crouch and Frank Barcelo were united in marriage on Saturday, June 23 at 11:00 a.m. at Cokesbury. Denise is the daughter of Bob and Beverly Crouch. Pastors Allison Cambre and Sandra Smith officiated at the ceremony. The entire Cokesbury family offers "congratulations and God bless you!" to the happy couple.

Parents Night Out

Bring your kids to church for an evening of games, crafts, food and fun, while you enjoy a night out. As part of our Talents Project, the Hite family will be providing care for your children Friday, July 20, from 6:30 pm to 10:30 pm. The cost is \$20 for the first child in a family, \$15 for the second child, and \$30 maximum per family. Be sure to sign up at the Talents Table. Space is limited, so sign up early.

Make a Change

Don't forget to return your jars of coins that benefit our Evangelism and Missions Ministries.

It's Your Time to Help with Helping Hands

The following folks 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.

Reach Out! Teach a Child

The new Sunday School year for children starts in September. We are looking for teacher volunteers, right now. Volunteers only need to teach for a 3 month period and you'll be sharing that responsibility with 3 other people. So, that means you will only need to teach 6 times in that 3 month period. If you can help, please sign up in the Commons or contact Laurel Johnson at 281-481-8125 or by email at ljo26@sbcglobal.net.

"Teach a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it."

—Proverbs 22:6

-Laurel Johnson

Check Out Spotlight on Missions

Be sure and check out the "Spotlight on Missions" table in the hall outside of the Conference Room window. Currently "Spotlighted" are Partners In Mission (PIM) projects. Be watching for the next Missions opportunity that YOU could be involved in.



Music Notes



A BIG "Thank You!" to our Men's Chorale and Chancel Choir, for really "pitching in" and singing so well in worship at Cokesbury! My first two months have been great! What a welcoming church family and what talent too. Not only do we have several dedicated singers, but we also have several instrumentalists (oboe, cello, French horn, flute, etc.) as well. Look for many occasions in the future in which instruments will be heard in worship, including this Sunday (guest trumpet player, oboe and handbells) for a patriotic celebration!

The Chancel Choir will be on vacation from July 4 to August 12 and will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, August 15. **New singers are welcome!** Watch the newsletter and bulletin for announcements regarding our schedule and new offerings which will include choir chimes and a youth choir. Again, thanks for your support and have a super summer!

-in Him, *Marsh*

Update of FPU

Financial Peace University has gotten off to a great start. We are finding out that FPU is not just for those who are trying to get out of debt, but also for those who just want a better handle on their finances. We have 30 members in our class and our professions range from "just out of college" to "already retired". Most of us are those in between. We are all learning a thing or two about what and what not to do with your money. It's really a great course! We are learning to seek financial peace by using the "baby steps". The first baby step is to get our emergency fund in place. SO, we are riding the coat tails of the children's ministries garage sale on July 21 to be held in the fellowship hall. Each FPU household will set up their own tables and bring their treasures to sell and they will be able to keep those funds to help build their personal emergency funds. We invite you to come to that garage sale to do some shopping and to meet the class members. We have 6 who do not go to Cokesbury. We also invite you to visit our class as our guest any Tuesday night at 7:00 in the sanctuary. We will not be meeting on July the 3rd, but will be meeting on July the 10th, when Dave Ramsey will present (on video) "Dumping Your Debt!"

We may start another course the first of year. Let us know if you might be interested in attending.

- Jim and Donna Bane

New Disciples Start New Study

Iran is continuing uranium enrichment despite the wishes of the U.N. The Iranian president vows to "wipe Israel off the face of the earth". How do current events in the Middle East affect Christians today? What does the future hold in store for Israel and why should Christians care? Is a Russian, Iranian military coalition in the making? How do all of these events compare to the prophecies of Ezekiel? Over the next several weeks we're going to take a look at these and other questions through the "Third Lens of Scripture" by looking at Old Testament prophecy as well as the words spoken by Jesus in the New Testament. Come join us in Room 208 to see what the Bible has to say about what could possibly be world altering events.

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



Treasurer's Report

Giving for June 10

Budgeted.....	\$7,073
Bond Fund.....	\$278
Designated Giving.....	\$882
Total Giving.....	\$8,233

Giving for June 17

Budgeted.....	\$6,392
Bond Fund.....	\$100
Designated Giving.....	\$165
Total Giving.....	\$6,657

Bank Balances

Operating.....	\$7,844
Bond Fund.....	\$1,291
Designated Savings.....	\$47,859
Total.....	\$56,995

Apportionments are paid through April.

-Sandy Hinson, Treasurer

In Sympathy

Cokesbury extends condolences to the family of Clint Keith who passed away recently. Services were held on Saturday, June 16. Clint had been a member here at Cokesbury for several years and enjoyed singing in the choir among other activities until health issues slowed him down. Our sympathy goes out to Rod and Laura Keith, the grandchildren, and all of the Keith family.

Cokesbury's Statement of Purpose

Learning to serve God and humankind in Jesus' name

By The Numbers

June 24

8:30 a.m. Service.....	78
9:45 a.m. Service.....	51
11:00 a.m. Service.....	124
Sunday School Attendance.....	158
Total Attendance.....	253