

# THE COKESBURY COURIER

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### Cokesbury United Methodist Church

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### Prayer Corner

Please keep the following persons in your prayers for health and healing:

**Bill Botkin, Mildred Lohec, Charlotte Davis, Marlette Reed's daughter Cheryl, Dollie Philpott, Jo Calaway, Dot Margheim, Katy Kuhlman,** and for all our servicemen and women who are serving overseas.

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



### Summer Activities at Cokesbury



Stop! Don't make those summer vacation plans yet! The church calendar is quickly filling up. We want to make sure that you are aware of all the events coming up this June. We do not want you to miss out on the fun!

- June 9-13 District Camp at Lakeview for kids entering 4th grade and above
- June 15-21 UM ARMY for 9th graders and above
- June 23-27 Vacation Bible School
- June 27 Senior highs leave for Camp Red Cloud in Colorado

### Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper

Our Methodist Men will begin dishing up their traditional hot, fresh pancakes dripping with butter and syrup, delicious sausage and all the fixings at 5:00 on Tuesday, February 5th. They'll stop serving around 7:00, so hurry by and eat your fill!

Fat Tuesday (also known, in French, as Mardi Gras), is the day when all the fats, sugars and luxurious foods in the house are eaten up before Lent begins the next morning. How lovely of the Methodist Men to help us out with that! This is always a delicious event -- you won't want to miss it.

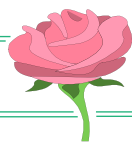
### New Day Service February 9



Come and worship -- it's a New Day! Saturday evening, February 9 at 6:00, we'll host the 2nd of our New Day services. This is a service filled with contemporary music, but each worshiper chooses how to participate. Following a brief message, each person is invited to get involved in one or more stations, each of which offers a chance to interact with Scripture, think through things for yourself, pray, create, respond or meditate.

February's New Day falls on the day before the first Sunday in Lent, so the emphasis will be on the power of the cross and other Lenten symbols. This is your chance to invite someone who may not have a church, may not be able to worship on Sundays, or may feel intimidated by a more formal Sunday morning service. In other words -- bring a friend!

As before, there will be no contemporary service the next morning, so this is your chance to visit a Sunday school class or share coffee and Christian conversation with friends.



### Flowers

**January 27-**Flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of Bob and Lady Gersteman's 44th wedding anniversary.

**February 3-**Flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of Dot Margheim's 88th birthday by Sherry and Jeb Brooks.

### 2008 Flower Calendar

The 2008 Flower Calendar is now available. Contact the office or Danna Whorton.

The remaining available dates are: March 2, May 18, June 22, June 29, September 28, October 5, October 12, October 26, November 9, November 16, November 30 and December 28.

### FROM THE PASTOR

What a great congregation you are!

I was so happy on the night of our first New Day service (that's right, we had church on Saturday) to see so many faithful people in attendance. More than 80 people were there. Many of you have expressed to me that, although more contemporary worship is not your favorite, you wanted to be present to support our church and our praise team. Believe me, that support is much appreciated!

There were indeed some first-time guests with us, and I know they would have felt awkward if they had been rattling around in the sanctuary. Just by being there, you offered them the gift of hospitality. (That's in the Bible, you know.)

I know I can count on you this next time, when the February New Day service comes along. The date for that is Saturday, February 9th at 6:00 p.m. This time, bring a "lightly church'd" friend with you.

The New Day service, and other things we have planned, are designed to bring people into the church. This does not mean that we see newcomers as "prey," who will help us build programs and support the budget. Rather, it means that we want to offer people Christ.

Think how wonderful, how absolutely glorious it would be, if you were the one who helped even one person accept Christ into his or her life. It would be worth any amount of effort, embarrassment, or trouble.

So please -- get used to inviting people to events at Cokesbury. The implications are eternal.

On another note, there are lots of programs and activities being planned for the months ahead, especially surrounding Lent and Easter. This year, Easter is very early -- March 23rd. Did you know that the date of Easter is determined by the moon? Easter turns up on the calendar on the Sunday after the first full moon following the spring equinox. This formula is so complicated that once, in the Middle Ages, Easter was held on the wrong Sunday! But we've got the right date, and we're getting ready for Lent now.

Keep looking for Lenten and Easter activities.

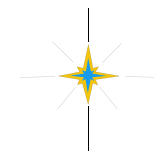
I hope to see you Sunday. Anything can happen at Cokesbury on any given Sunday morning -- you won't want to miss it.

Love from your pastor,  
Sandra Smith



### Tree of Lights

Please join us in recognizing the following Tree of Lights dedication in memory of:



Phillip Owens  
from  
Nancy Owens & Family



### Welcome to our Newest Members

Please extend a warm Cokesbury welcome to our newest members, the Carter family. Pictured above are Mark and Debbie Carter with their three children, Frances and Will (on the left) and Elizabeth (on the right). The Carters have been attending Cokesbury for quite some time since moving here from Knoxville, TN. They are very active in our youth program, UMW, Sunday School and VBS. We are so happy to have the Carters join us.



If you intend to fill out a pledge card, please do so by February 1. The budget planning depends on estimated giving by our members.

2007 Annual Giving Statements are on the tables near the Library. Please pick up your statement and save the church postage.

HAVE FAITH



## Upcoming Youth Stuff

This Friday the 25th the youth will be attending a concert featuring the Robby Seay Band at Friendswood UMC. We will be meeting at Cokesbury at 6pm or you could meet us at Friendswood UMC at 6:45pm. Cost is \$5 and all proceeds go to World Vision's AIDS relief program.

We will be having regularly scheduled MYF this Sunday from 5:30 - 8pm. The youth will be selling subs for Superbowl Sunday during the last two church services on February 3rd for \$5. And MYF will be watching the Superbowl at the Parsonage from 6pm - ??? on February 3rd.

-Peter Bonanno

## A Note of Thanks

Dear Pastor Sandy and Congregation,

Thank you so much for all your prayers and concerns in this rough time in my life. To know that so many people are pulling and praying for me has helped me get through this. My mom has told me of all the calls and it has overwhelmed me with appreciation for you all.

Thank you and God bless all of you!

-Cheryl Randall

## Calling All Cars

The Children's Choir set design committee is looking for a race car prop. If you have access to a child's race car bed (without the mattress) or know of someone who has one that we may borrow, please let Laurel Johnson or myself know. OR if you know of someone who could make a race car prop for us by May 4th, please let us know.

-Donna Bane

## Nanny Wanted

Full time nanny needed for a fellow church member. This will be a Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. to care for 2 and 7 year old children. Must drive and be able to pick up child from school. Exceptional pay for special person.

Please call Heidi Wiess at 832-455-7037.

## Come to Spring Lakeview Retreat

February 8, 9 & 10 is the Spring Lakeview retreat at our beautiful Methodist Conference Center near Palestine, Texas. We retreat from Friday evening till Sunday morning, eating, playing games outdoors, fishing and table games indoors if we have bad weather or at night. We have a conference room that we have our activities in and 7 cabins for sleeping arrangements.

Come one or bring all the family and I'm sure you'll enjoy the peacefulness of our retreats. No phone, TV, loud radios or newspapers for two whole days! Doesn't that sound great!!! Make your reservations through me by this weekend to reserve a spot. Rooms are going fast so let me know at 281-481-8589.

-Carol Yeaney

## 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:

**Fourth Sunday:** Barbara Craft, Jo Felts, Nancy Hensley, Suzanne Houck, Janice Johnson, Peggy Smith, Faye Stafford, Linda Trevathan, Kris Wallis, Laura Williams and Carol & Jerry Yeaney.

**First Sunday:** Karen Akkerman, Jean Bonds, Charlotte Davis, Gloria Hurley, Sandy Lawrence, Laura Morgan, Lotus Ricketts, Winnie Smith, Sandra Smith, Sharleta Vochoska

## Nikki

It is with deep sadness that we say goodbye to Nikki Sikora. Nikki has served as Assistant Director of Praise and Worship for the past 2 years. In addition, Nikki has worked as a volunteer with our youth, worked with the Youth Choir and contributed beautiful music to our traditional services. Nikki has now accepted a job as the Praise and Worship Team Director at a United Methodist church in Pennsylvania, only a short distance from her home town. We will miss Nikki, but we wish her God-speed as she moves into this new phase of her life.

## Reach Out with the Becomers Class

The Becomers Sunday School class will be extending their mission project of collecting OTCs (over-the-counter medicines) for The Bridge throughout the month of February. If you would like to join our effort, you may drop off any over the counter medications, (they are currently in need of cold medications for adults and children), in the marked box that you will find on the bench next to the mission table in the hall outside the Narthex.

They were VERY grateful for what we have brought them so far. These donations will be taken to them on a weekly basis.

Thanks for your help.

-Donna Bane



## Music Notes



Best Wishes! From all of us to Nikki Sikora. And a big thank you for all your music leadership while you were here!

Calling all **Youth Choir!** Don't forget. Sundays at 4:30 is your rehearsal time. Please! **Choirchimes** invites ringers, young and not as young, to chime at 5:30 on Wednesdays.

*In Him, Marsh*

## Class to Study The Miracles of Christ

Beginning February 3rd, the New Disciples class will be hosting a Bible study focusing on the Miracles of Christ. This will be a Bible based, discussion oriented class open to anyone who would like to attend.

We will meet in the Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School hour (Sunday at 9:45 am) and we will have 15 minutes of social time before kicking off our discussion at 10 am. We are expecting participation from several members of our youth group as well as from our regular Sunday School class, so know that there will be a range of age groups represented.

We plan to spend at least four weeks with this, but could go longer depending on the level of response and how well the class is received. Gary Wallis will facilitate these discussions and can be contacted by anyone requiring further information.

## Friendship Dinner Tickets on Sale

Tickets will go on sale Sunday for the Methodist Men's Friendship Dinner, scheduled for Saturday, February 16th at 6:30. A delicious barbecue meal will be served, and the entertainment will be outstanding! Tickets cost \$10 each, and are available from any member of the UMM. Everyone is welcome.

## Egg Cartons Needed

The Children's ministry needs your help collecting egg cartons for our community Easter egg hunt coming up in March. We would like to collect about 400 egg cartons (the 12 count size). There is a collection bin located in the Commons for you to drop them off any time you like. Thanks for your help.

-Alison Myers

## Visit A Sunday School Class

All classes meet at 9:45 a.m. unless otherwise shown:

Adult Bible Study (Room 210)

Affinity Class (Room 209)

Becomers (Room 252)

Good News Class (Room 153)

New Disciples (Room 208)

New Beginnings (Room 156)

Omega (Room 153-11 a.m.)

Wesley Class (Conference Room)

## Coke Machine Volunteer Needed

For about two years, I have been taking care of the coke machine by collecting the proceeds and keeping it well stocked. I have recently moved out of the area, which makes it harder for me to keep up with product purchase and sales. This is a behind the scene service provided to the youth who receive the net proceeds. If you would like to take on this project, please contact me at 281-468-3576. I usually fill the machine on Wednesday night or Friday during the day.

-Ed Whorton

## Would You Like to Help Edit the Courier?

Would you like to volunteer to help publish our church newspaper, the *Courier*? We are looking to train additional people on this fun way to serve the church.

The Courier is published every two weeks. We put the paper together on Monday morning and e-mail it to our publisher in Dallas where it is printed with other news and mailed back to members. Basic computer skills are needed. We use Page Plus and word processing software plus the internet. Training would be provided. With additional editors, each editor might only be needed once every month or so. If you are interested, contact either Laurel Johnson at 281-481-8125 or Rob Bradley at 281-992-2604 for more information.

## By The Numbers

January 20

8:30 a.m. Service.....90

9:45 a.m. Service.....30

11:00 a.m. Service.....159

Total.....279

## Cokesbury's Statement of Purpose

Learning to serve God and humankind in Jesus' name.