

THE COKESBURY COURIER

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Cokesbury United Methodist Church

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June 29-Flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in memory of our parents by Jim and Emily Harris.

Come Out Sunday, July 6 at 10:30 a.m. Red, White and Blue Jeans Sunday!

Join your church family and friends on the Sunday following Independence Day for a special celebration! There will be one worship service, at 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary. There will be **no Sunday School** that day only. It will be great to worship all together at one time and place!

Music will be provided by our Chancel Choir, our Praise Team, and two of our favorite special music people, Judy Craddock and Mike Boessling. So we'll have traditional music, contemporary music, Southern gospel music, and brass accompaniment, all in one service! We'll sing God songs and patriotic songs, and enjoy lifting up our voices to the Lord.

Following worship, the Methodist Men will serve grilled hamburgers and hot dogs -- and we will all bring side dishes to share. There will be more music in the fellowship hall, and we'll have plenty of time to visit and enjoy the fellowship of our church family.

You won't want to miss it and bring your neighbors with you, so they can enjoy it, too!

Brian Sawyer Named Margheim Winner



During the late service on June 22, Jean Bonds, President of the United Methodist Women announced that Brian Sawyer is the winner of the initial year of the Dot Margheim Scholarship. She indicated that the choice was very difficult because of the outstanding candidates. Congratulations, Brian.

Brian will be starting his sophomore year at Texas Tech University where he is majoring in architecture and business administration. He is the son of Cathy and Doug Sawyer.

Sign Up Now For Home Meetings

Have you been wondering what's up next at Cokesbury? Curious about our financial situation? Been thinking about Pumpkin Patch, teaching Sunday school, taking Disciple Bible Study or volunteering with our youth? Dying to know about possible plans for our sanctuary, or what those dollar bills we put in the plate each week are going toward?

Sign up for a home meeting with the pastor! A number of meetings have been scheduled, and you are invited to the meeting of your choice. The remaining meetings are:

- Sunday, June 29-Diane Hawkins, hosting
- Monday, June 30-James and Mary Louise Warner, hosting
- Monday, July 7-Amanda and Larry Lohec, hosting
- Tuesday, July 8-Jim and Donna Bane, hosting
- Wednesday, July 16-Sue and Don Smith, hosting

You can sign up by calling the church office at 281-484-9243. Please call ASAP, as some meetings are getting filled up.

Prayer Corner

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

Charlotte Davis, **Dollie** Philpott, **Katy** Kuhlman, **Denise** Agema (Katy's daughter), parents of Theresa Mauney, **Anna** Aquilar, **Judy** Hebbell, **Anniel** Lawrence's father, **Bob** Dixon (back surgery this week), **Beth** Northrup (recovering from surgery), **Mark** Futschik (friend of Tammy Pues, soon to have brain surgery), **Steven** Myers (recovering quickly from minor surgery), **Tamara** Becker (daughter of Danna and Ed Whorton, for a safe and happy pregnancy), **Bill** Royster (father-in-law of Lou Ellington's daughter, anticipating a serious surgery), the people of the midwest suffering from floods 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.

FROM THE PASTOR

Last week, I went to the optometrist and got new glasses. I even got prescription sunglasses, which make me look exactly like Jackie O. Or else the glasses look like Jackie O's glasses -- something like that!

The optometrist examined my eyes and compared the results with my current glasses. There was very little difference in prescriptions. In fact, the only reason I needed new glasses was that my current ones were about 5 years old. Over time, the lenses had gotten scratched up. The polarizing film had worn away (unevenly) from being cleaned many hundreds of times. My eyes had barely changed at all. It's the glasses that got messed up.

So what kind of lenses are you looking through in your spiritual life? Life has a way of scratching up our attitude -- and our faith. A little cynicism here, a bit of mean gossip there, some laziness when it comes to caring for the poor, and pretty soon your once-clear vision is distorted. Things become fuzzy and God's beautiful, perfect truth becomes more and more difficult to see.

As more scratches accrue, we get used to seeing through bad lenses. We no longer notice the fuzziness, and we just assume that we're seeing things the way they should be.

From time to time, it's a good thing to stop and consider the way we see our world. If we're seeing it through bitter or angry or shamed or apathetic lenses, it's time for new glasses!! Ask God to let you see the world as God wants you to see it -- you'll be amazed at the difference!

I hope to see all of you Sunday. We'll be asking our last "hard question" -- why is loving people so hard?

And I hope you're planning to attend our ONE SERVICE on Sunday, July 6 at 10:30. It's going to be "Red, White and Bluejeans Sunday" at Cokesbury!

Love from your pastor,

Sandra Smith



Help Spread Our Name At the Park On the 4th. Of July!

We still need a few people to help hand out 3D glasses at El Franco Lee Park just before the fireworks start. These glasses have our church's name printed on them, and they're designed to lift up our name in the community. They make fireworks look awesome! We'll be giving them away free, and we simply need people to hand them out. If you can help, please call the church office (281-484-9243) and leave a message. Thanks!

UMW To Hear About Hurricane Preparedness

Cokesbury UMW will meet on July 8 at 7 p.m. Our program will be Hurricane Preparedness presented by Phoebe Conerly of the Pasadena Chapter of American Red Cross. Thanks to Linda Heinrich for arranging this program. We will also discuss the Macy's Promotion Day project which will be July 26.

It's time to choose those we want to burn prayer candles for so join us so we can get your input. All ladies of Cokesbury are invited to attend the UMW meetings. We invite you to get to know our ladies and enjoy our fellowship. Hope to see you there.

Children's Church Resumes in September

Friends, due to the Summer vacations there will be no Children's Church worship service until sometime in September.

I thank all those who have supported by being a part to spread the word of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Also, I would like to thank the parents who supported this worship service by sending their children on regular basis.

As Jesus said in Mathew 18:20 "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

God Bless Our Children.

Humbly Serving Our Lord,
-Anniel Lawrence

Youth Notes from Christi

We had an awesome time at UMARMY spreading the love of God in Bay City! If you missed the slideshow Sunday, I have copies on cd's come by my office and pick one up.

I have to cancel our "youth room renovation part 1" this week June 25th. There was death in my family and I need to tend to that situation. I know you all understand. We will continue with the schedule and meet on July 2nd at 10 a.m. for anyone interested in helping with the room.

We will have a Parents Meeting on Sunday, June 29th from 4:30 to 5:30 pm in the youth room upstairs. Please come if you are in town, I would like to get to know you all better and put your faces and names with your kids.

Remember in your prayers our seven youth and two adults who will be in Colorado next week on a backpacking trip.

In His Grip,
Christie



Shown above are Cokesbury's UMARMY campers at Bay City. High School Students: Hank Dugie, Catherine Felts, Johnny Hite, Alex Johnson, Scott Pace, Andrew Parker, Heather Pues, Megan Roper, Amy Rossi, Daniel Sawyer, Kyle Warren and Sonya Wilson. College Student: Brian Sawyer. Adults: Chudi Abajue, Laura Bradley, Rob Bradley, Cristi Pace, and Christi Burnett.

Help Midwest Victims With Flood Buckets

The Texas Annual Conference office has put a call out for Flood Buckets. There is a need for these buckets due to all of the flooding in some northern states and also along the Mississippi River.

Efforts have already begun to organize an effort so that CUMC can provide as many of the flood buckets as possible. Donna and Jim Bane have already offered to donate twenty (20) of the empty 5-Gallon plastic buckets with lids. They will be available at CUMC this week for any one wishing to do a completed Flood Bucket

The Texas Annual Conference web site shown below gives the information for what is included in a Flood Bucket plus what should be done with them when we complete the buckets. The web site is: http://www.txcumc.org/news_detail.asp?PKValue=663

There are lists of what is required to do a flood bucket on the "Missions Table" display and also on the "Missions" bulletin board in the hallway just outside of the Conference Room, plus there will be copies available for people to take with them.

Grace and Peace, CUMC Missions Committee

Thanks, Guys

Notice that you have to wear sunglasses in the kitchen and children's education wing bathrooms lately due to the shine off the floors? Well, you can thank Chuck Dyrud who did the work along with some assistance from Tom Roper and Anniel Lawrence.

By The Numbers

June 22

8:30 a.m. Service.....	84
9:45 a.m. Service.....	40
11:00 a.m. Service.....	129
Total.....	253

Cokesbury's Statement of Purpose

Learning to serve God and humankind in Jesus' name.

Music Notes



Yea! Our "Sue Cox" Choir Chimes are officially consecrated. Thanks to Roger and Donna Northrup, Fran Wright, Denice Grays, and Laurel and Kayla Johnson, for faithful and dedicated work for several months. We invite other *intergenerational* chimers, from grade school to retirees, to come join us. We will resume rehearsals on Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. after Labor Day-watch for reminders.

Red, White and Blue Jeans! We are going to celebrate God and country on Sunday, July 6 at 10:30 a.m.-just one service that day. Special music will be presented by both the Chancel Choir and the Contemporary Worship Team as well as a special piano performance by Teresa Mauney. We will have brass as well.

And after worship, we will have music for our luncheon from the Men's Chorale, David Blystone and Judy and Mike!

Come on our and bring friends, neighbors and family.

In Him, *Marsh*

Dana Reads Bible At the Capitol

Dana Marek was recently in Washington D.C. on the National Day of Prayer. While there, he came upon a Christian group reading through the Bible on the Capitol lawn and happened to have his Bible with him. They allowed him to read from his Bible. Is that cool, or what?



Rainbows Along the Way

What We Remember

The day was dry and dusty as Matilda the elephant and her herd stopped at the riverbank. Theirs had been a long trek over the veldt before they came to a halt at the rim of the broad sheet of brown water and joined other pachyderms there ahead of them.

As Matilda waited her turn to drink, she noticed the surface of the water ripple and there appeared a turtle shell followed by a turtle's beak. Not unusual, Matilda thought, since turtles were quite common in the river. However, another elephant who was about to drink had also noticed the turtle. Suddenly, the other elephant whipped up her trunk, stretched it out to encircle the floating turtle, then she lifted her head to fling the hapless reptile across the river to the bank on the other side. The turtle thunked to a landing, slid a ways through the dirt then scabbled down the bank and into the river where he slipped out of sight.

Matilda watched in amazement at the act, and then turned to the elephant who had done the flinging. "Why did you do that?" Matilda queried.

The other turned slowly to regard her questioner. She was older than Matilda, her face etched with deep lines, but her eyes were thoughtful. "Because twenty years ago right here when I was about to drink, that very turtle surfaced and nipped my trunk! It hurt and I couldn't forget it or who did it."

Matilda's eyes got bigger. "You're Henrietta - I've heard of you. I know elephants are supposed to have great memories but yours is legendary because it's perfect! And that's why you recognized that turtle after all these years!"

Henrietta lifted her head proudly. "I'm the one. Turtle recall."

That's silly, but of course neither elephants nor people have a perfect memory and yet if we don't, then God certainly does. However, there is one thing that he purposely forgets and that's our forgiven sins. "As far as the east is from the west," said the Psalmist, "so far hath he removed our transgressions from us." (Ps. 103:12). And if you think about it, since the east and west never meet then as far as God is concerned, when he removes them they're gone! And what he removes he forgets, which leaves us free to serve him once again.

-Anne Adams

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:

Fifth Sunday: New Beginnings Class

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