

Cokesbury United Methodist Church

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Methodist Women To Meet September 9

Cokesbury United Methodist Women (UMW) will meet on September 9 at 7 pm at the church. This will be our annual Pledge to Missions program. It is very important as the pledges help support UMW Missions around the world. All ladies of Cokesbury are invited to attend the UMW meetings. Refreshments will be served following the meeting. Hope to see you there.

Baptism

Lucas Hale Sloan was baptized on Sunday, August 31 during the late service. Lucas is the son of Katy and Garth Sloan, the little brother of Christian and the grandson of Sandy Russell.



Remembering Bob Dixon

Cokesbury mourns the loss of Bob Dixon, a dear member of our church family, who died August 19. Bob had a distinguished career as an Air Force Colonel. He earned many medals for valor and various other accomplishments. He was the pilot of Air Force One, and was responsible for safely delivering presidents and other world leaders to their destinations. Also, Bob carried out a number of other important assignments for the Air Force.

But what we will remember about Bob is his strong faith, his regular attendance at worship, his bright smile, and his kindness to everyone. Our sympathies go to all who cared for Bob, and especially to Beverly Blumrick, whom he dearly loved. Services for Bob were held in San Antonio at the Ft. Sam Houston Cemetery.

Prayer Corner

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

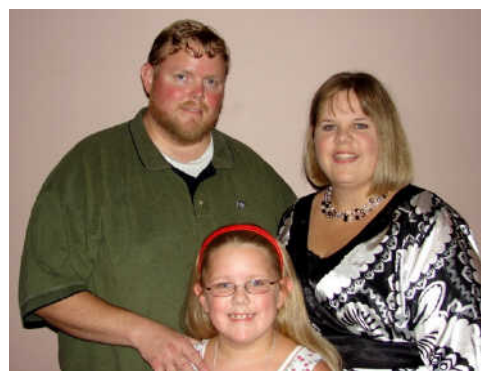
Charlotte Davis, Dollie Philpott, Katy Kuhlman, Beverly Crouch, Shirley Smith, Danna Whorton, Denise Agema (Katy's daughter), parents of Theresa Mauney, Kayren Mingus' mother, all those affected by Hurricane Gustav, and for all our servicemen and women who are serving overseas.

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

Welcome

Please welcome our newest members, Brian and Ramee Matocha who joined Cokesbury on August 24 during the last service. They are shown in the photo below with their daughter Kayleigh.

Brian and Ramee have already gotten into the "giving of their talents" part of membership. They have joined the Chancel Choir and sang with the choir last Sunday.



September 7-Flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of Larry Lohec's birthday from Mildred Lohec.

September 14-Flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of Sarah Loftin's 11th. Birthday from Melissa, Markus and Dakota Loftin.

FROM THE PASTOR

One of the Scripture passages that I love is from Paul's letter to the Galatian Christians. It says, "... the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, gentleness and self-control." And, Paul reminds us, "there is no law against such things," just in case we get to thinking we might get arrested if we exhibit these gifts!

These fruits of the Spirit are the hallmarks of the Christian life. Yet how many of us actually live this way? How many of us actually make this kind of life our goal?

As I was doing some reading this week, I found something interesting and provocative in the book *Journey to the Center of the Faith*, by James Hamish. I'd love for you to read it with me.

"Even hard-to-impress New Yorkers were surprised to see the sign outside the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church that read 'The Power of a Tommy Hilfiger Label.' (Note: Tommy Hilfiger was a very trendy brand of young peoples' clothing a few year ago.) The editors of *New Yorker* magazine wondered if the church might be attempting some sort of cross-promotion with the hottest name in designer clothing.

The Rev. Thomas Tewell explained, "The models in Hilfiger ads all look so happy and vibrant. . . We wear the label 'Christian,' and yet, for many people, our demeanor is stuffy, boring, dull, irrelevant and holier-than-thou. So I said, 'Hey, wouldn't it be great if we had the vitality that when people saw us in the ad they said, 'Gee, where did you get that label and how can I get it?'"

Christians are not always happy. Happiness depends on our circumstances. You get a raise at work, a new grandbaby is born, a friend takes you to lunch, you finish a big project -- you're happy! You lock your keys in the car, miss a big sale, break your ankle, have a fight with your spouse -- you're unhappy. It's all circumstantial.

But joy comes from the Spirit of God. Joy lives within us no matter our circumstances are. Joy comes from the knowing the Lord, walking with the Lord, being connected to the Lord. Can people who see you day by day see the joy on Christ in you? If not, why not?

I hope to see you Sunday. It will be a joyful day at Cokesbury!

Love from your pastor,

Sandra Smith



Children's Choirs Rehearsals To Start

All children, ages 3-1/2 to 5th grade are welcomed to join the Children's Choir. We will start rehearsing on Wednesday, September 10th at 6:30 p.m. The Young Singing Angels (3-1/2 to K) will meet in room 153 (next to the elevator) and the Cokesbury Kids (1st through 5th) will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Please call Donna Bane at 713-326-0881 if you have any questions. Hope to see you there!

New Sunday School Class Forming

On September 14th, a new Sunday School class will begin and will meet in room 210 at 11:00 a.m. This class is being formed to accommodate the need for a young parents class. If you are a parent of young children, please plan on attending this exciting, new class. This class will be temporarily led by Laura and Rod Keith. Your young children, 4 yrs to fourth grade, can attend Children's church, while the younger ones will be cared for in the nursery. Refreshments will be served.

Children's Church Returns

Thanking God first, I invite the children back to the Children's Church, which will start beginning September 7 at 11 a.m. after a summer break.

Children's Church is offered at the 11 a.m. service only. Following the Children's Message time in the service, children up to fourth grade may go upstairs for their own time of worship, including singing, praying and a special message. All children's Church volunteers are Safe Sanctuary certified.

I thank all of the parents and volunteers who have been assisting as well as supporting in the past to make this service possible. Hope that they will continue doing so to spread the 'word' of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Mrs. Donna Bane will be leading on second, fourth and fifty Sundays and I on the first and third Sundays.

Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." The peace of Christ be upon us all. Amen.

-Anniel Lawrence



Remember our **New Youth Times** Beginning September 7:

5pm - Hangout time - This is NOT mandatory. It is a time to come and play foosball, shoot pool, listen to music and visit with friends upstairs in our rooms.

5:30pm - Snack Supper - Please bring \$2 to help offset the cost to feed our "hungry" selves.

6pm - Lessons, Games, etc...

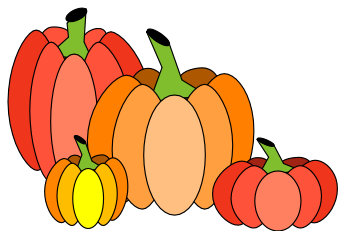
7pm - Games, hangout, etc...

7:30pm - PICK UP!! GO HOME & GET SOME REST FOR SCHOOL!

There's a lot of other stuff going on...please look on the youth bulletin board at the youth newsletter for information on new Sunday school, Seniors '09, Youth Leadership Team, "The Event" for 6th graders, and more...

Have an amazing week!
In His Grip,
Christie

The Pumpkins Are Coming!



Our front lawn will turn bright orange again this year as we host Pumpkin Patch! The pumpkins will arrive on Saturday, October 11 and will be on sale through October 31st.

All profits from the pumpkins will go to youth mission and ministry.

And on October 25, please join us for Pumpkin Fest – classic car show, bake sale, Blessing of the Pets and other activities. YOU are welcome!

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)

Teachers Needed

Children's Sunday School will begin an exciting new year in September. There is a place for YOU as a child's teacher. This is a fun and rewarding way to serve the church. Please see Laurel Johnson (281-481-8125) or Alison Myers (281-648-9808) if you are interested in this fun opportunity. You can also reach us by e-mail at ljo26@sbcglobal.net.

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

Second Sunday: Patti & Dennis Akkola, Linda Garies, Carisa Goodman, Theresa Graham, Margo Green, Laurel Johnson, Billie Kestler, Carolyn Lofland, Herb Parker, Cathy Pleasants, Charlene Provence and Lois Seeley.

Cokesbury's Statement of Purpose

Learning to serve God and humankind in Jesus' name.

By The Numbers

August 31

8:30 a.m. Service.....	68
9:45 a.m. Service.....	35
11:00 a.m. Service.....	105
Total.....	208

Morning Greeters Recognized In Services

On Sunday, August 17th, the Sunday morning greeters were dedicated by Pastor Sandra at the Church Sanctuary. We thank the greeters for serving the Lord by welcoming people in Church.

Holy Bible KJV- Hebrews 13:2 "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."

Anniel & Sandy Lawrence
Chair persons-Hospitality Committee

News from the Stafford/Wyatt Circle

On Thursday, August 21, seven members of the Stafford/Wyatt UMW circle met to plan out the remainder of our service projects for 2008. We discussed the flood bucket program, Operation Christmas Child, the Dot Margheim Scholarship Fund, SeAM, and our annual Christmas party for the ladies at The Bridge. All of these programs reach out to people in our church, our community, and the world. We have a lot of fun participating in these programs. If you would like to help too, please join us! We meet on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. here at the church.

-Laurel Johnson

Wednesday Morning Bible Study Begins

Are you interested in learning more about the Bible? Would you like to study God's Word with some friends, old or new? Linda Garies will be leading a new Bible study beginning September 3rd, two days after Labor Day. It will meet each Wednesday morning at 10:00 at the church. The initial subject of the study will be decided in the initial meeting. Everyone is welcome. Note: this is a change from the original day chosen.

Rainbows Along the Way

Divine Thermals

"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings as eagles, they will run and not grow weary, and they will walk and not be faint." (Isaiah 40:31 NIV)

Eagles are lazy. Noble, but lazy.

Sounds like a strange thing to say about our national symbol. Yet what else would you call it when you see an eagle soaring high in the sky with no apparent effort. Lazy? No, they've just learned to take advantage of the thermals.

Since eagles soar to scan the earth below for their prey, they instinctively spread their wings to catch the heated air updrafts or thermals that are created when the sun heats the air and it begins to rise. Eagles fly high enough to find a thermal, and then with wings spread, they ride the updrafts and they start to circle.

Isaiah used this image when he wanted to illustrate to show how God provides for us. For just as the warm elevating updrafts enable the eagle to soar with little effort, so does God's loving provision and encouragement enable us to soar above any difficulties we may have as we serve him.



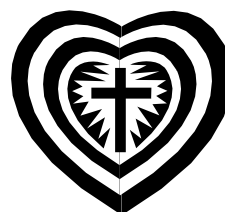
-Anne Adams

SeAM Needs Your Plastic Bags!

Southeast Area Ministries (SeAM) needs your plastic bags. Recycle them to us. In the Food Pantry, we use typically over 100 bags a day for bagging of the clients food. So, we go through a lot of bags quickly.

Bring them to the church and put them in the big soup can in the kitchen by the refrigerator. Help us to help others.

-Rob Bradley
Cokesbury SeAM Trustee



Save Time!

E-Mail Your Article To The Paper
newsletter@cumchouston.org

A Note From A New Aggie

Hey Cokesbury,
I miss you all so very much and I can't wait to come home for a visit! Thanks for being such an amazing family of church members.

-Catherine Felts