

# THE COKESBURY COURIER

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### Cokesbury United Methodist Church

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## Young Adult Summit January 21

Young adults, we want you!

We are asking all young adults in the church to attend a special summit meeting here at Cokesbury on Wednesday, January 21 at 6:30 p.m. Pizza will be served, and child care will be provided after children's choirs.

The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss ministries that young adults would like to see offered at our church. This could include everything from fun and fellowship times to study groups to mission projects and beyond.

Your ideas are needed, and we would love for you to bring a friend.

Please let us know if you can attend by calling Pastor Sandy at 281-484-9243.

## Welcome to the Family!

We are delighted to welcome 3 new members to our church on Sunday, January 11. Kelly Castillo joined us at the 9:45 service. She is transferring her membership from a sister congregation. At 11:00, Bill and Kay joined us. Kay joined us in absentia, since she works most Sundays. Both Bill and Kay are joining by transfer of membership from a sister church. We will happily print their pictures when they become available.



**January 18** -Flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in memory of Dr. Phillip Guthry Hoffman by Richard Allen.

**January 25** - Flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of our 45th wedding anniversary by Bob and Lady Gersteman.



WOW! Last Sunday was great! We started off the year NEW! in SO many ways!

One exciting event was the Youth Praise Team which played for us at MYF. They were GREAT! We need to give Tony a HUGE "thanks" because he has been working with them.

#### Cokesbury Youth SHAREHOLDERS!

Would you like to invest in the youth and send them on their missions trips this summer? Well...for \$20 a share you can! Sign up sheets are in The Commons. If you wish to remain ANONYMOUS, you can! Either just write "Anonymous" in the "shareholders name" slot, or if you just want to write a check for an "x number" of shares and let us fill in the gaps where they are needed on the sign up sheets, that is fine too! Please make checks out to Cokesbury MYF and give to Christie. If you can't find me...you can leave your check in my mailbox at my office door. I'm located in the back left corner of the Fellowship Hall.

We are gearing up for a lot of FUN things...so keep your eye on the Monthly Youth Newsletters! Have an amazing week!

In His Grip, *Christie*

## Cokesbury's Statement of Purpose

Learning to serve God and humankind in Jesus' name.

Save Time!

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

## FROM THE PASTOR

The monk and great spiritual writer Henri Nouwen wrote about his habit of going to the chapel of a small convent at 6:45 each morning for an hour of prayer and meditation.

He says, "My hour in the Carmelite chapel is more important than I can fully know myself. It is not an hour of deep prayer, nor a time in which I experience a special closeness to God; it is not a period of serious attentiveness to the divine mysteries. I wish it were! On the contrary, it is full of distractions, inner restlessness, sleepiness, confusion and boredom. It seldom, if ever, pleases my senses. But the simple fact of being for one hour in the presence of the Lord, and showing him all that I feel, think, sense, and experience, without trying to hide anything from him, must please him."

I really like that thought!

When I spend time alone with God, I experience all of the things Nouwen did. I get sleepy, I am distracted by many things. I conclude that it's not worth the effort of silent prayer and meditation. After all, I'm a busy person!

I forget the most important thing -- just to be in God's presence. After all, the time I spend with God is not meant to enrich me. It's meant to honor God. And perhaps the way to honor him most is simply to be myself, flawed as I am, before him.

How much time do you spend daily alone with the Lord?

I hope you will join me in increasing that time. And don't feel guilty if you're not perfectly in tune with God the whole time. What God loves is for us to be in his presence.

I hope to see you Sunday!

Love from your pastor,

*Sandra Smith*

P.S. For your information -- the recently-sworn-in Senate is 10.2% Methodists. Just thought you'd like to know!



### 2009 Friendship Dinner-Sponsored by Methodist Men

Saturday, February 21-6:30 Fellowship Hall

Catered by Two Brothers-\$10/ticket

Entertainment by Salvation Army "Harbor Light" Choir

## United Methodist Men Prepare for 2009

The New Year has presented the United Methodist Men group at Cokesbury with an opportunity to take a new direction. We do not have an elected President for 2009. Ed Whorton has stepped down from his responsibilities as President after two years of service. We will operate this year by committee, by the will of God, and by trust in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We have decided to change our monthly meeting format. We will no longer have dinner before our business meetings. We will still meet at the same time on the second Thursday of the month for February and March. We will re-evaluate our options at that time and decide what course to follow for the rest of the year. As usual, when a job needs to be done, we will work hand in hand together to accomplish our goal to be a service organization to our church and community. All men who attend Cokesbury are welcome at our meetings regardless of membership at Cokesbury; visitors are always welcome. Please join us as we work together this year. Furthermore, we are always open for suggestions as to ways to improve our organization.

We participate in two shrimp boils each year to raise money so that we may sponsor other activities at our church such as the Friendship Banquet, Shrove Tuesday pancake supper, breakfast at Bella Vita, and Easter and Christmas activities. We contribute to charities such as SeAM and we contribute on a regular basis to the Boy Scout program and youth program, and provide monetary support of our church budget.

I thank everyone who has helped me the past two years as president of Methodist Men and I will continue to support this church with my prayers, my presence, my gifts, and my service. God bless and Happy New Year.

-Ed Whorton



## Music Notes



**Youth Choir** Great job Sunday at Rehearsal! The Youth Choir will begin work on a musical called, "Living on the Edge" (music by Michael W. Smith). We had 11 youth to start off and we will be working all winter and spring to produce the musical at the end of school. We also had 6 parents to show up in support. I am very excited and look forward to working with our youth in a meaningful way. Our plans include taking a Mini-Tour (2 to 4 days) before summer youth activities crank up.

Any youth interested in being a part of this musical should be at rehearsal on Sundays from 4:00 - 5:00 by January 25. All youth in grades 6 through 12 are welcome.

**ALL Choirs** are back in full swing! Please joins us at our regular Wednesday rehearsal schedule times: 5:30 Choir Chimes, 6:15 Handbell Choir, 7:00 Men's Chorale 7:30 Chancel Choir.

In Him, *Marsh*

## 2009 Cokesbury Leadership Roster

### Council Members

*Lay Leader	Don Smith
*Church Council Chairperson	Craig Elings
*Vice Chairperson	Jerry Yeaney
*Secretary	John Hoover
*Lay Delegate to Annual Conference	Jim Krafka
Lay Delegates representing South District	Hap Garies, Linda Garies, Carol Yeaney, Jerry Yeaney
At Large Members of Church Council	Jay Hyle, Wendell Sullivan, Bob Newlin

### Administrative Committees

#### Finance Committee

*Chairperson	Carol Barber-Uran
*Treasurer	Hap Garies
*Assistant Treasurer	Lou Ellington
*Financial Secretary	Gloria Hurley
*SPRC Representative	Gary Wallis
*Stewardship Chairperson	Carole Krafka
Members at Large	Gloria Pace, Bill Sutton, JoAnn Koontz, Jon Akkerman Suzanne Warren

### Trustees

*Chairperson	Johnny Lemaster	
Vice Chairperson	Tom Roper	
Secretary		
<u>Class of 2009</u>	<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>
Steve Provence	Johnny Lemaster	Tom Roper
Jerry Yeaney		Linda Trevathan
Jo Callaway	Janis Shields	John Mingus

### Stewardship

*Chairperson	Carole Krafka
Representative from Finance	

### Staff Parish Relations Committee

<u>Class of 2009</u>	<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>
Carol Yeaney	Amanda Lohec	Karen Akkerman
Gary Wallis-Chairperson	James Warner	Jeb Brooks
Jim Bane	Diane Hawkins	Doug Warren
At large member	Don Smith, lay leader	
Lay delegate	Jim Krafka	

### Committee on Lay Leadership (Nominations and Personnel)

Chairperson	Sandra Smith	
<u>Class of 2009</u>	<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>
Sue Smith	Jon Akkerman	Gary Warner
Dean Hebbel	Craig Elings	Charlene Provence
Carolyn Lofland	Janis Shields	Jay Hyle
At large member	Don Smith, lay leader	

### Memorial Fund Committee

Chairperson	Lou Ellington
Representative from Trustees	To be named 1/09
Representative from Finance Committee	To be named 1/09
Pastor	Sandra Smith

### Endowment Fund Committee

Chairperson	Jeb Brooks
At large	Carole Krafka, Mary Short, Charlotte Davis

### Early Childhood Development Center Board (Terms run through May 2009)

Director	Marcie Devine
*Chairperson	Suzanne Warren
SPRC representative	Diane Hawkins
Parent representatives	
At large	Charlene Provence, Kathy Lemaster

## Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper Is Coming

Mark your calendars for the United Methodist Men sponsored Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper. This years event will be held on Tuesday, February 24 from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

### Program Committees

#### Ministry Coordinators

*Caring Ministries	Denise Grays
*Youth Coordinator	Kris Wallis
Children's Ministry Team chairperson	Alison Myers
*Family Ministry chairperson	Kathy Lemaster
Blood Drive	Lisa and Bob Newlin
Church Historian	Marna Seaman
*United Methodist Men president	By Committee
*United Methodist Women president	Jean Bonds
SeAM trustee	Rob Bradley

### Worship Team

*Chairperson	Kirsten and Darrel Raines
Communion Steward	Doug Warren
Ushers	Carolyn Lofland
Acolytes	Sherry Brooks
Paraments	Carol Yeaney
Flowers	Barbara Craft, Mary Louise Warner
Contemporary Service representative	Cristi Pace
Wedding Coordinator	Kay Hyle
Music Staff	Marsh Hudson
At large	Theresa Graham
Pastor	Sandra Smith

### Publicity Team

*Chairperson	Jon Akkerman
At large:	John Hoover, Jim Bane, Ed Whorton Danna Whorton, Hap Garies, Linda Garies, Bob Newlin

### Children's Ministry Team

*Chairperson	Alison Myers
At large:	Charlene Provence, Anna Aquilar Laurel Johnson, Linda Hite, Donna Bane, Lisa Nelms

### Hospitality Team

*Chairperson(s)	Theresa Graham
At large:	Jerry Yeaney, Misako Herring, Lori Marshall, Gloria Pace, Linda Simmons Jean Foltz, Sue Smith, Lisa Newlin Jo Callaway, Charlene Knox, Hap Garies Linda Garies

### Missions Team

Chairperson	Laura Bradley
Members:	Bill Sutton Dennis Akkola Betty Sutton Fay Stafford Jo Ann Gray Peggy Smith Claudia Gentry Chuck Dyrud Charlene Provence Patti Akkola Jim Krafka Carole Krafka

### Family Ministries Team

Chairperson	Kathy Lemaster
Members	Janis Shields, Joyce Garner, Ramee Matoka, Brian Matoka, Johnny Lemaster

## Missions Information

The Helping Hands Ministry at CUMC affects the lives of a lot of people in the Houston area. This ministry would not be possible without the contributions of a lot of CUMC members. My fear when listing names of people that make a difference is that I will forget someone's name. Please let Jim Krafka know of any omissions

When you see any of the following named individuals please thank them for what they did during 2008, and most of them continue to do. If you don't know about this ministry, ask one of these individuals or call 281-481-3102 for more information.

Contributed during 2008: Karen & Jon Akkerman, Patti & Dennis Akkola, Anna & Ray Aquilar, Jean Bonds, Barbara Craft, Charlotte Davis, Lynda & Carl Detwiler, Maymie DuBard, Chuck Dyrud, Craig Elings, Jo Farris, Jo Felts, Linda & Hap Garies, Joyce Garner, Carisa Goodman, Theresa Graham, Denise Grays, Margo & Tom Green, Betty Grigsby Nancy Hensley, Suzanne & Bill Houck, Gloria Hurley, Janice Johnson, Laurel & Art Johnson, Billie & Jack Kestler, Carole & Jim Krafka, Sandy & Annie Lawrence, Carolyn & Ed Lofland, Laura & Art Morgan, Herb Parker, Karla Parker, Cathy & Larry Pleasants, Charlene & Steve Provence, Lotus & Jay Ricketts, Jimmy Roller, Tom Roper, Lois Seeley, Peggy & Jim Smith, Sandra Smith, Winnie & Elgene Smith, Faye Stafford, Betty & Bill Sutton, Linda Trevathan, Martha & Irwin von Kriegenbergh, Sharleta Vochoska, Kris & Gary Wallis, Danna & Ed Whorton, Carman Wilhite, Laura Williams, Patsy Womack, Fran Wright Carol & Jerry Yeaney, Laura & Rob Bradley.