

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:

Charlotte Davis, **Katy** Kuhlman, **Beverly** Crouch, **Betty** Biggins, Teresa Mauney's parents, all those working on our Mobile Medical Clinic, those undergoing medical tests, 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, 281-484-9243.



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Donate At Blood Drive This Sunday

The blood mobile from the Blood Center of Houston will be at Cokesbury UMC on Sunday, July 19th. If you can give blood, do it and if you can't give, you surely know someone who can. Encourage them to donate. It doesn't cost a dime and it can help so many people. We have many in our church who benefit from these types of drives.



Medical technology has provided many life-saving discoveries over the years, but there is still no substitute for blood. In a medical emergency, often the most important element is the availability of blood. Blood donations can help a variety of individuals: trauma victims, surgery patients, premature babies, individuals with anemia, cancer patients and many more.

Youth as young as 16 can now donate. Youth who are 16 years old and 122 pounds (with parental consent), or at least 17 years old and 110 pounds, and are in general good health can donate blood. If your son or daughter is 16 years old and has expressed interest in donating blood, but was not old enough, now could be their opportunity. By becoming a blood donor your son or daughter is showing great civic responsibility, maturity and a sense of community pride. Through their blood donation, your son or daughter has the potential to save up to three lives!

Home Meeting Scheduled

Our new pastor would like to get to know everyone better. So we are scheduling a series of home meetings. The following home meetings have been scheduled, but we need more:

The home of Dennis & Patti Akkola Thursday, July 30 7:00 p.m.

If you would like to attend this meeting, please sign up in the Narthex or call the church office 281-484-9243. We need at least two more evening meetings. Please carefully consider offering your home. If you would like to host a meeting in your home, please call the church office. The following dates are available for the pastor:

Tuesday, July 23, 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, July 28, 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, August 4, 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, August 6, 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, August 11, 7:00 p.m.



July 19 - Flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in memory of Marilyn Brygman from Marcus, Karla, Allison and Andrew Parker.

July 26 - Flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of our family members from Denice Grays.

From The Pastor

It is not basketball season but there is a coach who has outlived his legendary winning ways to help us apply them to life. John Wooden won ten national championships, had an eighty eight game winning streak, groomed many players for stardom in the NBA. Apparently is not ready to add critic to his legacy for he refuses to malign another person.

For instance, when he was asked about another coach, Bobby Knight, Wooden would only respond, "I think Bob Knight is an outstanding teacher of the game of basketball, but I don't approve of his methods. But I am not a judge, and I'm not judging Bob Knight. There is so much bad in the best of us and so good in the worst of us. It hardly behooves me to talk about the rest of us."

In your life and mine, in your work and mine, there are a number of potential (even "worthy") targets of our own outspoken criticism. If we are not careful, they can take up all of our time. If we are not careful, we can be sidetracked into thinking our opinions are more important than our actions.

It's what you do that ultimately makes a difference. Talk won't do enough. Opinions are not enough to make a difference. Criticism, anybody can do that. You and I prove who we are by the way we live.

Paul asked, "So why do you condemn another Christian? Why do you look down on another Christian? Remember, each of us will stand personally before the judgment seat of God." (Romans 14:10)

Let's strive for building a legacy here at Cokesbury not by correcting others but by doing something ourselves that God may be made known. Let's work on making Christ's invitation to be a better life, full of salvation, and Spirit-filled living our passion. Will you join me in prayer about this and then see what you can do to make this passion occur through our church at Cokesbury?

Blessings in Christ's Name,
Bill Newcomb




VBS Reunion Scheduled

Save the date! On Saturday, August 22, we will have a reunion of all VBS participants and volunteers. During VBS, the children raised over \$300 to plant a tree on the church grounds. On this date we will plant and dedicate that tree in honor of the 2009 VBS children. We invite all campers, camp leaders, volunteers and anyone else who would like to attend. In addition to planting the tree there will be games and other fun. Watch for more information to follow.



-Alison Myers, Children's Director



Cokesbury was the site of two recent marriage ceremonies. Please wish both couples many blessed and happy years together.

Kelly Castillo and Russell Fields
Saturday, June 27

Ruth Ann Gilman and Daniel Byers
Saturday, July 11

Youth Director

Christie Burnette has resigned her Youth Director position at Cokesbury United Methodist Church. On behalf of the Staff Parish Relations Committee, we received her resignation with reluctance and grief. We did not want her to leave and were saddened by her leaving. Christie has brought much to the life of Cokesbury and certainly to our youth. We wish her nothing but good will as she leaves. Christie's last day with us will be Friday, July 24. "Christie, we are glad you came our way even for this short while."

The Staff Parish Relations Committee will start quickly addressing the needs of the youth of our church and make plans for filling this position. Please, keep the Staff Parish in your prayers and re-assure our youth that they are valued and important to you as an individual, to the church at large, and to the Lord. In these turbulent times, reassurance of our good will is needed.

-Brother Bill



UMARMY was WONDERFUL! We had a great week in Baytown and I was very proud of the youth and their willingness to serve God and their neighbor! Thank you for your prayers and support!

Next week, we leave for District Summer Camp at Lakeview. It should be another great week as we explore faith forming relationships.

Please keep us in your prayers!

Many of you have heard by now that I have taken a position at another church. This is a bittersweet decision. I have grown very attached and have a lot invested in these youth here at Cokesbury, but God has opened a door and the opportunities are great! I feel very strongly "that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose for them." My time here was short, but it served a purpose. The friends I have made while serving at Cokesbury will remain in my heart forever and I thank God for the time I spent here.

In His Grip,
Christie

Come To Shareholder Dinner July 26

The youth will be holding a Shareholder dinner on Sunday, July 26 at 5:30 p.m. to show their appreciation to all those that helped send us to Big House or UMARMY this year. All who helped fund our mission trips to UMARMY and Big House are invited to come and listen to testimonies and see a slide show of our trips. You will receive a personal invitation to the event.

Campers Spread God's Love in Baytown



Despite some heavy rain on Tuesday and a few sick campers, our large group of UMARMY campers had a great week in Baytown. The camp was hosted by St. Marks UMC in Baytown. Shown at left is the framing for a new porch installed by the camp. The entire camp photo is shown at the bottom.

Attending from Cokesbury were Mandy Hite, Johnny Hite, Melanie Thompson, Dakota Loftin, Alex Johnson, Daniel Sawyer, Kaitlyn Wallis, Andrew Parker, Sonya Wilson, Kyle Warren, Megan Roper, Sarah Koons, Heather Pues, Scott Pace, Cristi Pace, Julie West, Linda Hite, Nathan Sutton,

Tom Roper, Laura Bradley and John and Christie Burnette. Our group included six rookies!

Thanks to the New Beginnings Sunday School class who provided funds for the Monday night meal. Thanks also to all of you who kept the camp in your prayers.



Cokesbury's Statement of Purpose

Learning to serve God and humankind in Jesus' name.

By The Numbers

July 12

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| 8:30 a.m. Service..... | 79 |
| 9:45 a.m. Service..... | 34 |
| 10:30 a.m. Service..... | 97 |
| Total..... | 210 |



Music Notes



Upcoming Special Music

On Sunday, July 19, there are two musical solos planned. At the 8:30 service, **Marsh Hudson** will perform a solo. And at the 11:00 service **Amy Bogan**, Donna Klassen's daughter, will perform a solo.

On Sunday, July 26 our **Women of Praise** will perform special music at both the 8:30 and 11:00 services.

I would like to thank the Chancel Choir for the past year of wonderful music. Enjoy your summer vacation!

In Him,

Marsh

Rainbows Along the Way

Surprise!



Rocky squirted whipped cream on the chocolate sundae, added the cherry, and slid the finished product across the counter to the waiting customer. As the youngster picked up his spoon and dug in, Rocky heard the tinkle of the bell above the front door. It was another hungry patron for his drug store soda fountain.

However, instead of a young couple dropping in for a soda or a malt, or another youngster for a cone, this new customer was different. With a waffling gait, the newcomer shuffled through the door, and cocked his head to regard the scene. His was a long face, crowned by shaggy black hair that also lined his cheeks and flowed down onto his broad chest. Rocky's new customer was a gorilla.

Horrified customers backed away as he shambled down the drug store's aisle to the soda fountain in the rear. There he hunched himself up on a stool and looked around, till he saw the youngster sitting at the counter. The child shrank back as the gorilla glared at him and the sundae.

"That looks good," he growled and pointed. "I'll have one of those."

As Rocky recovered from the shock, he reached for a glass dish, and then for the ice cream scoop. He noticed that his customers were gradually dispersing out the front door, along with the as the youngster who slipped off the stool and also fled.

As Rocky dropped the scoop into the dish then pushed down on the syrup dispenser to add the chocolate, he began to get an idea. If this creature were going to drive away his customers then maybe he could still make a profit. Reaching his spoon into the jar to extract a cherry, he squirted the whipped cream on top, and as he did so he noticed the sign behind the counter: "Sundaes - 50 cents." That was the beginning of the idea.

He served the gorilla, who took up the spoon with one hand and with the other presented a \$20 bill. Rocky gingerly picked it up, and with a glance back at the customer who was spooning the ice cream into his broad mouth, turned to the cash register to ring up the sale. The solution was taking shape - what could a gorilla know about money?

A moment later as the gorilla was scooping up the last of the ice cream, Rocky turned back from the cash register. He returned a \$10 bill.

The gorilla pushed the empty dish back on the counter, picked up the bill, and regarded it carefully. Rocky felt a tense pause and then spoke to break the silence. "We don't get too many gorillas in here."

The gorilla continued to consider the bill he held. "I'm not surprised at \$10 for a sundae."

We don't have to be a gorilla to be surprised at the unforeseen and unexpected in our lives, particularly when it involves something spiritual. Indeed, when we encounter the unanticipated - no matter what it is - it's often frustrating because we feel unprepared and helpless. However, frequently God uses these unexpected struggles as well as other difficulties to help us grow spiritually. It works like this: when we have a problem we will hopefully seek God's help and solutions, something we might have never done unless we had the problem and felt helpless. When we trust him and see how he helps us, then we will rely on him again and thus be stronger in our faith. However, whether our struggles are unexpected or not, they all can help us grow spiritually - for his glory and our benefit.

-Anne Adams

College Bible Study Class

Sundays at 9:45 a.m.-Room 210

For information, contact Chudi Abajue 281-974-2443 or chudiabajue@hotmail.com

It's Your Turn To Help With Helping Hands

The following folks have signed up to help with Helping Hands for the next two weeks:

3rd Sunday: Anna Aquilar, Lynda Detwiler, Maymie DuBard, Jo Farris, Joyce Garner, Betty Grigsby, Karla Parker, Martha von Kriegenbergh, Danna Whorton, Patsy Womack

4th Sunday: Barbara Craft, Jo Felts, Denice Grays, Nancy Hensley, Suzanne Houck, Janice Johnson, Tracey Moore, Peggy Smith, Linda Trevathan, Kris Wallis, Carol & Jerry Yeaney