

THE COKESBURY COURIER

an edition of The United Methodist Reporter

Two Sections, Section A

Vol. 156 No. 15

Friday, August 14, 2009

076453

Cokesbury United Methodist Church

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Selected Contents

Youth Update	8
Music Notes.....	8
Children's Choir	8
SeAM Helping With Back To School.....	8
Rainbows Along the Way.....	8

Bible Drive



We all have extra bibles in our homes. How many are enough? You decide, but donate the extras to the New Beginnings Class' bible drive. They will be given to SeAM, who gives them away in their Thrift Store. Help reach out to others. Start sorting through your closets and shelves now and watch the Courier for more details!

-Sherry Brooks

New Beginnings Class Reaches Out



The New Beginnings Sunday School Class, plus friends, prepared and served a meal to all guests, staff, and volunteers at the Ronald McDonald House (RMH) on July 30. Some class members not in attendance provided food, also. The plan was to feed around 110 to 120 people and a little over 100 were served.

Kathy Lemaster went overboard, as usual, and had decorated the serving and dining areas with an Hawaiian theme. Cecelia Stewart, a friend of Kathy's, and an art teacher, provided joy to all the children (plus some adults) with her "face painting" skills. The evening was a huge success with appreciation shown by RMH staff and guests alike.

Those in attendance were Laura & Rob Bradley, Kirsten & Darrel Raines, Carole & Jim Krafka, Cecelia Stewart, Linda Trevathan, Kelly Smith & Don Powell, Sherry & Jeb Brooks, Kathy & Johnny Lemaster, Donna & James LeNoir.

Donna and James LeNoir are Carole Krafka's sister and brother-in-law, and Kelly Smith is a friend of Don Powell.

-Jim Krafka

Prayer Corner

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

Charlotte Davis, Katy Kuhlman, Beverly Crouch, Al Anderson, our ECDC teachers and public school teachers, all those working on our Mobile Medical Clinic, our new Sunday school teachers and youth volunteers, 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.

Acolytes Needed

Acolytes are still needed for both services. If you are 3 grade or older, please have your parents contact Sherry Brooks at 281-481-5968 or e-mail me at jebrooks@sbcglobal.net. We will arrange for training and get you started. Acolytes are a vital part of our worship experience and a wonderful way to start your service to the church.

-Sherry Brooks

From The Pastor

Pringles New Fangled Potato Chips made their way into the market and to the delight of 100's of thousands people worldwide. The introduction changed the way America looked and tasted the potato chip. The chip industry recoiled and fought the process of Pringles Potato Chips by successfully suing and getting the Food and Drug Administration to change the labeling from potato chip to "potato food" because the "chips" were not slices off the old potato but a ground potato, skillfully sized, seasoned, and packaged.

Now 25 years later, Pringles Potato was sued again in Great Britain. The Supreme Court ruled Pringles was indeed a chip, not a food, and was ordered to pay \$160,000,000 in back taxes. Why? Whereas snack foods like potato chips are taxed, Pringles certainly owed the taxes because it is a "chip" not a food.

Pringles Potato Chip created a better product and faced monumental consequences. So, what does this have to do with the church and you as an individual? The answer is simple but profound: stay with your dreams but watch out for these pitfalls.

First, along with praise expect criticism. Hear both, but remember every great idea has its critics. You will know you have really done something great when the establishment critiques you!

Second, count on that same establishment to belittle your "new fangled idea" especially when your product gains a following. Yet, recall those who bought into your idea--who purchased your own version of a "new fangled potato chip." These are your real allies and the people you want to please.

Third, remember who your customers are for these are the ones saying "thank you" every time they use or benefit from your product. John Wayne is often cited as having said, "the critics never liked me but the people did." Today, his name is legendary as an actor. The critics' columns simply lined the bottom of bird cages and have long since been thrown away.

I hope we let ideas float to the top like a balloon here at Cokesbury. After all, that is where they will be seen. And then together we will see how all our ideas will work together for the good of the church. Consequently, we will accomplish what Paul said to Titus: "Be obedient, be ready to do whatever is good, to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate and always to be gentle toward everyone." (Titus 3:2-3).

Yours for a "new fangled idea" as we make disciples for Jesus Christ.

Sincerely Yours in the Service to the Master,
Bill Newcomb
Senior Pastor



Have Your Backpack Blessed August 23

Cokesbury invites all children to bring their backpacks on Sunday, August 23 to church for a special blessing. The blessing will be during our 11 am service. Though we call it blessing of the backpacks, we are really blessing each boy and girl who will be carrying those backpacks to school beginning August 25. Children are welcome to come early for Sunday School at 9:45 and then stay for worship at 11 am. Each child will also receive a Cokesbury backpack name tag to attach to their bag.

-Alison Myers

VBS Reunion Scheduled



Save the date! On Saturday, August 22 from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m., 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. In addition to planting the tree, the children can plant other items in our flower beds. There will be games and refreshments available as well. Please join us.

-Alison Myers, Children's Director



August 16 - Flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mildred Lohec by the Lohec Family.

August 23 - Flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of the 40th Wedding Anniversary of Don and Sue Smith.



There will be a parent meeting on Sunday, August, 16. The meeting will be at 6 pm. The youth will meet at 5:30 pm for a dinner and then go upstairs for games at 6 pm. The parents will meet downstairs at this time. One of the topics of the meeting will be Pumpkin Patch. Cokesbury has the patch again this year with the proceeds going to the youth.

MYF will be starting at 5:30. There will be a snack supper provided. We are trying to increase attendance at MYF. So please come and bring a friend. If you were a helper at VBS, please attend the VBS reunion on Saturday, August 22 from 9:30 to 11:00 am. Funds raised during VBS have been used to buy a tree. There will also be native prairie grasses planted in the back of the church.

-Linda Hite & Laura Bradley, Interim Youth Directors

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

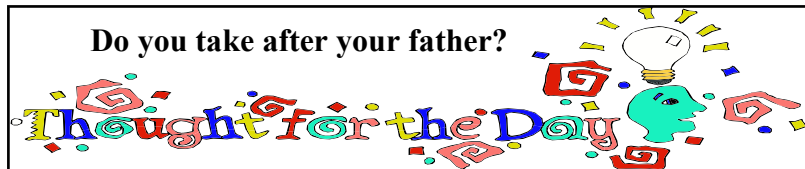


Cokesbury Children's choirs will resume on September 9 at 6:30 pm. We will be having a Meet and Greet in the Fellowship Hall on September 2 at 6:30 pm. Children ages 3 through the 5th grade are welcome.

Parents and children are both invited to ask questions and get to know Mrs. Amy prior to class starting. Let's help our choir program grow...invite a friend!

Please bring a can good with you to the meet and greet. We will be collecting throughout the year to help area charities.

-Amy Smith



Jan Floro Can Help Organizations Grow!

Jan Floro of Church Grow Now serves as a consultant to Cokesbury. She is a hands-on successful church educator, evangelist, and administrator. She is available to assist any group within our church to meet its goals, and inspire them to reach their dreams. Individuals, Sunday School groups, and larger organizations within the church can benefit. Give her a call. You as a church have contracted for her services and she wants to be of assistance. Her business name is Grow Church Now! The web site address is: www.growchurchnow.com and her telephone number is 713-826-7809.

Please Park in The Front/Side of Church

Yes, let us obey the handicapped and guest parking areas, but please park on Sunday mornings on the side parking lots and front of the church first, then move to the back when the spaces are filled. This will give the adequate impression that there really is something going on at Cokesbury when people pass by our church!

Bargain Shoppers Needed

Can you believe it is already time for back to school sales?! The children's Sunday school classes likes to use this time of year to stock up on basic craft supplies, since they are being offered at such low prices. For example, the following great buys can be found this week: OfficeMax has scissors for 20¢ and crayons for a penny, while Staples and Walmart have glue and crayons for 25¢. But, at these great prices they only let you buy a few (usually 2 or 3). So, we need your help. If you happen to be near one of these stores and can spare a few cents, we would really appreciate you picking up a few of these bargains for us. There is a donation bin in the Commons where you can drop your supplies. Your support is greatly appreciated.

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, Ryane & Waylon Sheffield, 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

Cokesbury's Statement of Purpose

Learning to serve God and humankind in Jesus' name.

By The Numbers

August 9

8:30 a.m. Service.....	69
9:45 a.m. Service.....	31
10:30 a.m. Service.....	83
Total.....	183



Music Notes



Thank you again for "YOUR FAVORITE HYMNS" as you can see we are already singing them.

Calling ALL Voices! On Wednesday, August 19 at 7:00 pm the Men's Chorale will resume rehearsals followed by the Chancel Choir at 7:30 pm. Don't forget to bring your voices to the choir room upstairs. Anyone who would like to sing in the choir, come on! Now is the time to start. Choir Chimes and Handbells will start back in September.

FREE CONCERT! The French horn ensemble, Esprit de Cors will present a free concert at 3:00 pm on Sunday, August 16 at Houston Baptist University campus in Maybee Hall.

A BIG THANK YOU!

In Him,
Marsh

SeAM Helping With Back To School

Southeast Area Ministries (SeAM) is beginning its annual Back-to-School program to help needy students living in their service zip codes. Following interviews to determine eligibility, parents will be offered a choice of two of three items: voucher for school supplies from Fiesta, voucher for school clothing from Fiesta or a shoe card redeemable at Payless Shoe Store.

In addition to the above program, SeAM is starting a program to have socks and underwear available year round to those in need. This will include school age children or adults such as homeless persons. Because of the wide age range, all sizes of socks and underwear are needed. Donations can be placed in the SeAM food tubs or in the large "soup can" in the kitchen. The church or organization supplying the most socks/underwear will win the "Golden Underwear Award".

You can help with this worthwhile program by donating to the socks/underwear program or by making a monetary contribution. Monetary contributions may be made directly to SeAM (P. O. Box 267, South Houston, Tx 77587) or through Cokesbury. In either case, be sure to mark SeAM BTS on the memo portion of the check.

-Rob Bradley, Cokesbury SeAM Trustee



Rainbows Along the Way

Songs We Never Heard

Jim turned back to acknowledge the applause and with a gesture brought his band members to their feet to take a bow. Then he lifted his baton and they began with the next number in the set.

Because it was a routine number and Jim knew it so well, he ventured a quick glance behind him to check out the audience. This was a new venue for the band, a private social club dinner encompassing a mature audience that were both dancing and also sitting at their tables chatting. Then a nearby table caught his eye. They were a group of eight mature women who were all deeply engrossed in conversation, though one woman in particular dominated the conversation. She spoke so loudly that occasionally Jim could hear her even over the music.

The number - a bouncy Spanish tango - ended and then the band played a slow ballad, followed by an intermission. The musicians laid their instruments aside and left the bandstand but Jim lingered nearby. After all, he knew it was at such intermissions that audience members stepped up to give a compliment and occasionally make a request.

"Oh, your band plays so well!" Jim looked up to see the speaker was from the nearby table, and actually was the one who was doing most of the talking. "Oh, it was so great to hear such a variety of music!"

Jim smiled his thanks but couldn't help but wonder how she could recognize the quality of the music if she'd been talking so much.

"Oooo - it was just wonderful!" The woman oozed then abruptly piped up. "Do you take requests?"

Jim found his tongue. "Oh, yes - we're glad to accommodate."

"Wonderful - could you play 'Stardust'?"

Jim frowned slightly. "But we've already played that - in fact it was just before our break."

The woman gazed vaguely off into space. "Oh, I wish I'd known it. That's my favorite song!"

Ever happen to you? I know I have, and usually what I miss isn't particularly important. However, it's very important when I miss God's presence in my life, and I fail to recognize it.

Perhaps he provides something or someone that enables me to complete an assignment, or maybe it's just a nudging whim that gives an answer to a troublesome quandary. Yet so often I don't notice when he provides what I need and only later realize what he's done. Sometimes I only recognize his presence when the event is past and I look back. Of course ideally I should be so constantly aware of his presence that I realize he's constantly with me, but what's so reassuring is that what he does in my life is not based on whether or not I recognize it or not. In other words, it doesn't depend on me - but on who and what he is.

-Anne Adams