

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:

Jay Standridge, **Billie** Kestler, **Linda** Garies, **Beverly** Crouch, **Wade** Hudson, **Jon** Akkerman, **Luella** Sims, **Thomas** Gentry (Claudia's husband), **Ray** West, Walt Pasciak's parents, **Patsy** Richmond on the death of her sister, **Carroll** Kuhlman on the death of his step-daughter, **Amanda** Reel, **Rodney** Nolen (Sara Musselman's brother), **Dale** Powell (Marlette Reed's nephew), **Amy** Harbridge (sister of Dean Hebbel), **Zach** Hopson (Kay Hyle's cousin), **Trisha** Altier (Alison Myer's sister), **Don** Piecznski (Cary's dad), **Jim** Rogers (Helen Perry's friend), **Jack** Williams (Rick's dad), **Richard** Orr (Gloria Hurley's nephew), Sandy Russell's brother (**Tim**), Laura Bradley's parents, **Ashlyn** Mundt (former member) **Elizabeth** Angelos, **James** Perry, **Richard** Salisbury, 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. In addition, keep the people and rescue workers in Haiti in your prayers.

Ash Wednesday Service

February 17
7:00 p.m.

Cokesbury's Haiti Disaster Relief

Just like a bride's hope chest, the Mobile Medical Center will go into service with her own special 'Hope Chest'. Cokesbury family, friends, neighbors along with other Methodist Churches brought their gifts and donations for the chest (the blue shipping container next to the clinic). Kay Hyle and Patti Akkola thank the many volunteers that showed up to help! The volunteers packed and loaded 116 boxes of health kits and medical supplies. Plus, there were about 250 more pieces of mobility equipment (wheelchairs, stationary and rolling walkers, and crutches). If you were at church on Dedication Sunday, you may have seen the hallway filled with the equipment. It was a beautiful sight! Most of the equipment was a gift from the Resurrection Lutheran Church in Spring. As a mission project, this church gathers and refurbishes mobility equipment and donates it to people that need it. The clinic and her 'hope chest' are scheduled to leave Cokesbury this week. They will be taken to a Houston port staging area and will leave for Haiti on the first ship available.

We can still accept cash donations. You can make the check payable to Cokesbury UMC and note 'Haiti Relief' on the memo line. Or you can make a donation to our wonderful friends at Christian Alliance who guided us through the process of building the clinic. They also made the blue shipping container (Hope Chest) available so we could make sure the clinic had medical supplies and equipment. You can mail a check directly to them at 4401 Rice Dryer Rd., Pearland Tx 77581.

The Stafford-Wyatt Women's Circle hosted the Open House on Saturday. The women served lots of goodies and had learning activities and prayer time for children. They welcomed visitors to Cokesbury and took them on a tour of the clinic. Everyone enjoyed the DVD about the Mobile Medical Clinic. Jim and Carole Krafka created a second DVD about the fun and busy time we had 'Packing For Haiti' this past week and plans are to present it in next Sunday's 11 am service. Cokesbury can be sure that the clinic and all of the medical supplies and equipment will be gratefully appreciated by the people in Haiti. Thank you for your prayers and your support for this disaster relief project.

-Patti Akkola



February 7-Flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor my mom Bernice Holt's 90th birthday from Jo Ann Gray.

February 14 - Flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of Johnny's 19th birthday, Mandy's 16th birthday, our 23rd wedding anniversary and Melanie Thompson's 16th birthday from Rod and Linda Hite.

From The Pastor

Folks, let's face it, 40 years ago we would not have thought about I-phones, instant messaging, cell phones and Skype! Why, that was for science fiction.

Forty years ago in 1970, we thought transportation was king. We headed out for the main drag, had talks over the hoods of our cars, and listened to music. General Motors was the tallest icon of our culture.

Forty years ago, TiVo was not on the horizon and communication was not by cellular phones nor was instant messaging. Yet, along the way, transportation was replaced by communication. Our tallest icon of our culture stands on the fallen shoulders of transportation and gives us a continuing new product in the craze of communication and information technology. Google is lauded as an information gatherer not as an oracle of original works. Even Wikipedia is more highly used than the pages of the World Book Encyclopedia even though its information is not the most accurate and openly bears the personality and the biases and prejudices of the writer!

Forty years ago, we didn't think this day would come. I am not lamenting this by-gone forty year period. It is here and it is exciting. Yet, I have this concern. Whatever happened to person-to-person communication or do we dismiss its value because it isn't by cell, text or instant messaging?

Are we shaped by technology or do we use technology to communicate our values? How do I make this point come across? Let me ask you this question. When was the last time you were having a face-to-face conversation that you did not answer the interrupting cell phone call or not check to see if the caller were of more importance than the person who asked for five minutes of your time.

People need the Lord and we need to hear it and repeat it. Rather than being used by communication, use it to shape your message of hope.

Sincerely Yours in Christ' Service,
Brother Bill



Men to Host Friendship Dinner

The Cokesbury Methodist Men are hosting their annual Friendship Dinner Saturday, February 6 at 6:30 p.m with catering by Two Brothers restaurant. Entertainment for the evening will be provided during and after dinner by the Wayne Gordon Trio. If you do not have tickets, call Ed Shields or Johnny Lemaster to reserve tickets at the door.

Give Generously to Souper Bowl of Caring



This Sunday, February 7 is the first Sunday of the month and Cokesbury normally has a food drive for Southeast Area Ministries (SeAM). This first Sunday, it will be combined with our annual Souper Bowl of Caring collection. Please remember those less fortunate on Super Bowl Sunday. The MYF will be collecting non-perishable food and monetary donations before and after the two services. Everything collected at Cokesbury will go to SeAM. Food collected at area grocery stores will go to the Houston Food Bank where it will be redistributed to area food pantries such as SeAM. Nationally, this is the 21st year for Souper Bowl of Caring.

-Laura Bradley, SeAM Pantry Manager

UMW To Hold Valentine Dinner

The UMW is having its annual Valentine dinner on Tuesday, February 9. It will start at 7:00 pm at the church. The menu will be lasagna, salad, and breadsticks. The dessert will be home-made cheesecake. The youth are preparing and serving the meal as a way of thanking the women for the support that the women have given the youth. Entertainment will be Heather Pues and Melanie Thompson singing show tunes. They are professional quality, so don't miss it. Cost is \$8 paid at the door. RSVP to your circle chair by Sunday, February 6.



Join Us for a Baby Shower

Wow! Alison Myers had a GIRL, after **three** bouncing baby boys. Please join us in showering her with girly things. We will be throwing a Baby Shower for Alison on Saturday, February 6 from 10:00 a.m. until noon. There will be lots of fun, and fellowship. You are all invited and we hope to see you there.



We had a great time this week learning about Abraham's covenant with God. Keep thinking about your covenant with God and how you want Him to be involved in YOUR life.

I want to send a huge thank you to all of you that came out Saturday to help with all the packing for Haiti. It was fantastic to see all of our church working together from the youngest age group on up to reach out to our neighbors in Haiti.

The next two weeks are full of great fellowship opportunities. Friday, February 6 is the United Methodist Men's Friendship Dinner, and we get to serve the dinner! Wear black pants and a white shirt (if you have them) and be at the church at 6 pm. We will help clean up afterwards. It is always a lot of fun to serve at this event, and we get to eat too!

Sunday, February 7 is Super Bowl Sunday, and also the day of the Souper Bowl of Caring. We will be in the Narthex before and after both services collecting non-perishable food and donations that will benefit our own SeAM. For MYF that night we are having a Super Bowl party! THE LOCATION HAS CHANGED!! We will meet at church in the Fellowship Hall. The party is from 5 to 9:30. We're eating hamburgers and hot dogs and all that goes with them. It's going to be a lot of fun, so bring a friend!

Monday, February 8 is the first cooking lesson. We will be making cheesecake for the UMW Valentines Dinner (and maybe an extra one for us!) We will meet in the kitchen at the church from 5 to 7 pm.

Tuesday, February 9 is the United Methodist Women's Valentines Dinner. We are cooking, decorating, and serving the dinner. Please be at the church at 5:30. We will serve dinner at 7 pm. If you have it, wear something pink or red.

Until I see you again, may God watch over you and bless you.

In His Service, **Linda Hite**

Katy Kuhlman Circle Meets

Eight members of the Katy Kuhlman Circle met at the lovely home of Barbara Strong on Tuesday morning at 10 a.m. on January 26. Our circle chairperson Barbara Strong led us in our first meeting of the year. We all enjoyed delicious lemon or cheese cake and coffee as we sat around Barbara's dining room table and had our meeting.

Barbara led us in a discussion of our church's mission statement or motto: "Open Hearts, Open Doors, Open Minds." We also discussed our circle's projects for this year and where our meetings would be held. We enjoyed visiting with each other and sharing our ideas for Christian service for the new year.

Two members of the our circle, Marlette Reed and Barbara Strong, also recently attended the Committee on Nominations meeting held at Deer Park UMC. They served as representatives of Cokesbury.

-Mary Short

Leadership Training Opportunity

You have a great opportunity to come to a Leadership Training Seminar this Saturday, February 6 at Friendswood UMC. The entire program starts at 8:30 a.m. and lasts until 12:30 p.m. If you cannot stay the whole day, the training sessions from 11:00 - 12:30 would be the best part to catch. Admission is FREE! Join us if you can.

Dulin Circle-Laughing and Serving

The Dulin Circle met on Tuesday, January 26 at Carolyn Breathed's home. We had 13 members present and Jean Bonds, our president also attended.

Charline Knox, our chairman, brought our meeting to order and Betty Sutton gave a very inspiring devotion on laughter and how important it is in life to be able to laugh.

Charline led a discussion about a project for our new circle. We voted to make one of our projects a program of visiting the shut-ins that are members of our church and also visiting people in the nursing homes and assisted living homes in our area that have no one to visit them.

Betty Sutton passed out a list of items that the Early Childhood Development Center at our church is asking members to help provide for the program. We all agreed that we would try to help the ECDC program by donating what we could from their list.

Marjorie Kehr presented a very interesting program about "The Serenity Prayer". She told about the author of the prayer, and how it has come to be such an important prayer to so many people. Marjorie reminded us that the prayer is used by many twelve step programs, including Alcoholics Anonymous.

After our meeting ended, we enjoyed the fellowship of having lunch together.

-Carolyn Breathed

Meet the Friendly Folks

We are the over 55 Friendly Folks of Cokesbury who meet every second and fourth Thursday to play board games from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. with a break in the middle to enjoy covered dish lunch. Please come join us. Bring your friends, relatives and neighbors too!



We would like to recognize Lillie White who earlier transferred her membership. We will include a photo of her in a later issue. You can meet Lillie yourself most Sunday's right here at Cokesbury. She is a member of the Good News Sunday school class.



Music Notes



Chancel Choir will present "Song of the Shadows" by Joseph M. Martin and Pamela Martin. All singers, please come on Wednesdays to rehearse at 7:30. The projected date is for April 1 (No fooling!) during the Maundy Thursday service.

Cokesbury's (new) String Ensemble will begin after the Super Bowl, for obvious reasons. Please tell all violin, viola, cello and string bass players. Friends are definitely welcome. We will be intergenerational (youth and adults) and will play during worship and other times as well.

Watch for Choir Chimes and Handbell Choir to play again soon in worship. We are working on pieces for both ensembles. New "chimers" as well as "ringers" are welcome to come on Wednesdays: Choir Chimes from 5:30 to 6:15 and Handbells from 6:15 to 7 p.m.

In Him, *Marsh*

Confirmation Class Begins February 21

Confirmation begins in February. Do you have sixth graders or above who ask questions like: Why do we pray? Why did Jesus have to die? What is so bad about sin? If so, then Confirmation Class may well be exactly what you need. Contact Reverend Newcomb as soon as possible as these questions will begin to be answered on February 21. Classes will meet after the 11:00 a.m. church service and last about 1-1.5 hours.

Get Ready For Fat Tuesday

Mark your calendars for the United Methodist Men sponsored Shrove Tuesday (Fat Tuesday) Pancake Supper. This year's event will be held on Tuesday, February 16 from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Come out for the free pancakes, waffles, bacon and sausage.

Fat Tuesday (also known, in French, as Mardi Gras), is traditionally the day when all the fats, sugars and luxurious foods in the house are eaten up before Lent begins the next morning. This is always a delicious event -- you won't want to miss it.

Become A Youth Shareholder!

Would you like to invest in the youth and send them on their mission trips this summer? Well...for \$20 a share you can! Sign up sheets are in The Commons. Please make checks out to Cokesbury MYF and give to Linda Hite. If you can't find me...you can leave your check in the Youth mailbox located by the pastor's office.

Kuhlman Circle Ladies Go Back to School

Katy Kuhlman Circle has begun going to school with Stuchberry's Reading Program. The group consists of Gloria Pace, JoAnn Koontz, Barbara Strong and Marlette Reed. They are reading at 8:30 a.m. each Wednesday morning. If you would like to join us in helping children with their reading skills, contact one of us.

Cooking Night For Kids

The Children's Ministry will be cooking up some fun on Friday, February 12. All children and their families are invited to join us in the kitchen at 6:30 p.m. for our first ever cooking night. We will be whipping up some sweet treats and of course, eating them. This event is for children 4 year of age through 5th graders. A nursery will be provided for 3 years and under.

-Alison Myers



Treasurer's Report

Giving-January

General.....	\$24,484
Bond Fund.....	\$295
Designated Giving.....	\$2,984
Catch - Up Fund.....	\$5,905
Total Giving.....	\$33,668

Bank Balances -01/11/10

Operating.....	\$695
T-Mobile.....	\$13,689
Designated Savings.....	\$63,125
Total Cash Balance	\$77,509

-Sandy Hinson, Treasurer

Sunday School Teacher For Hire

Brother Bill wants to visit and present a Sunday School lesson soon to your Sunday School Class. He will be available February, March, and April to present overviews of the home meetings and projections as to how the church can minister to the membership we now have and thereby create an inviting place for those desiring to make Cokesbury their church home as well. Please call Bro. Bill at 713-484-9243.

By The Numbers

January 31, 2010

8:30 a.m. Service.....	91
11:00 a.m. Service.....	108
Total.....	199

