

THE COKESBURY COURIER

an edition of The United Methodist Reporter

Two Sections, Section A

Vol. 156 No. 48

Friday, April 2, 2010

076453

Cokesbury United Methodist Church

10030 Scarsdale Boulevard
Houston, TX 77089
(281) 484-9243
www.cumchouston.org

Selected Contents

Music Notes.....	8
Thanks For A Successful Blood Drive.....	8
Remember the Needy on Easter Sunday..	8
An Eggs-cellent Adventure.....	8
Kuhlman Circle Celebrates Easter.....	8
A Thank You Letter from Bishop Huie.....	8

Prayer Corner

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

Jay Standridge, **Beverly** Crouch, **Lillian** Lemaster (Johnny's mother), **Wade** Hudson, **Jon** Akkerman, **Luella** Sims, **Cathy** Pleasants, **Mary Louise** Warner, **Carroll** Kuhlman, **Zach** Hopson (Kay Hyle's cousin), Teresa Mauney's parents, Laura Bradley's father, **Marian** Royster, **Mara** Price, **Amanda** Roye, **Kathy** Mekeska, **Gerald** Eddins, **Wanda** Ford, **Jack** Williams, **Tim** Cates, **Joan** Nolen, **Gloria** McWhirt and family on the death of her mother, **Carolyn** Diehl, **Joyce** Garner, **Bill** Norris, Claudia Gentry's brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Tracey Moore's mother, **Shirley**, **Derek** Chamness, **Terry** Allen, **Doris** Sigler, **Gail** Wallace, **Amanda** Richardson, **Allen** Paul, and for all our servicemen and women who are serving overseas, especially Aaron Smalley, Nathan Diehl (Betty Evan's grandson) and Barry King. If you have prayer requests for the Prayer Chain, please call the church office, 281-484-9243. In addition, keep the people and workers in Haiti and Chile in your prayers.

Holy Week Calendar

Thursday, April 1	Maundy Thursday Service and Choir Cantata With Communion	7 p.m.
Friday, April 2	Good Friday Service	7 p.m.
Easter Sunday	Easter Services - Traditional The Fountain (Communion served at The Fountain only)	8:30 and 11:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.

UMW Plans Healthy Meeting

The UMW will meet on Tuesday, April 13 at 7 pm. The meeting is a social event. Last month, we learned about the diabetic diet. This month we will put what we have learned into practice. Everybody is to bring a food item to share. The item can be home-made or store-bought. The only criteria is that it must be healthy. And it must be labeled as to how it is healthy. Healthy can include: low sugar, low salt, low fat, high fiber, high in an important nutrient, or any other criteria that can be considered healthy. If it is home-made, bring your recipe to share. If it is store-bought, bring the wrapper with the nutritional information. Let's see how much variety we can have.

-Laura Bradley

Scouting Award Given To Amanda



On Sunday, March 21, the Cross and Flame Award, which recognizes adult leaders who have given exceptional service to programs for young people, was presented to Amanda Lohec.

The award was given during the 8:30 service which was being led by Girl Scout Troop #496. This award recognizes Amanda for her many years of service as a troop leader here at Cokesbury.



Flowers

April 4-Easter Lilies.

April 11-The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of Daniel Gentry's birthday by Thomas and Claudia Gentry.

Cokesbury's Statement of Purpose

Learning to serve God and humankind in Jesus' name.

From The Pastor

Well, it is here: Easter. Like Christmas, there is anticipation and excitement mixed with the desire to make everything right. This is a struggle. To get to Easter's victory we struggle through the darkness. Mary Magdalene came to the tomb while it was still dark, but the darkness was soon overcome with the Light. Maybe that is the message you need to hear this day. Perhaps for whatever reason you are in the darkness right now. Family concerns grab you. There are problems at work. There is anxiety about your health and your future. The loss of someone you love hurts you. Easter promises us more than the stars to light our darkness. Easter promises us that in the midst of our deepest darkness the Son rises to overwhelm darkness with Light forever. So, for me, I must relax about "making Easter perfect." God has already done that. I just need to participate in it.

So, travel through Holy Week: Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Through the Lord's Supper, Thursday allows us to taste and see the goodness of Lord in the shadow of the cross. The meal itself brings us together to share in the One whom we love and worship, the One who saves us daily and eternally. Friday is necessary. Jesus shows us the way through the ordeal.

Blessings in Christ's Name,

Bill Newcomb



Survey The Wondrous Cross



Here at Cokesbury, it is a tradition to bring fresh flowers to church on Easter morning to decorate our rustic outdoor cross. It is a beautiful sight and a powerful message of new life. You will also have an opportunity to have your family portrait taken by the cross. Portraits will be taken before all three services. The cost of the portrait package is \$30 and includes one 8x10, two 5x7s, and four 4x6s. All proceeds will benefit Cokesbury's General Fund.

So, don't forget your flowers and come ready to take your portrait.

Bid Farewell to the Whortons

Ed and Danna Whorton have been members of Cokesbury for over 30 years. We have enjoyed their musical, creative, and leadership talents for many years, but it is now time for them to enjoy their much deserved retirement. Ed and Danna will be hitting the open road in their 35 foot camper. Their last Sunday with us will be April 18. So, please join us on Saturday, April 18 at 4:00 p.m. for a farewell picnic. Please bring hamburgers or hot dogs to barbeque and a side to share. We will enjoy a meal together at about 4:30 or 5:00, and play games in the Fellowship Hall. Ed and Danna will also have their camper parked up here so you can see their soon to be home. Please join us.

Lakeview District Camp

Lakeview District Camp will be July 12 through July 16. Children as young as having just completed 3rd grade are eligible. We will receive registration forms mid April. Early registration deadline is May 9. If you register early, the cost is \$190; otherwise, the cost is \$225 due on June 6. We ask that you prayerfully consider being a chaperone to this rewarding and meaningful camp experience for our children and youth. If you are interested in going as a chaperone, please contact Alison Myers or Linda Hite.

-Linda Hite, Youth Director

Your Easter Offering at Work

Your Easter offering supports the hundreds of Methodist missionaries commissioned by the Methodist Church. As we are all aware, the economy has played havoc with money and along with that the level of generosity has decreased because the level of income has also diminished. So, when you make your gift for the "Easter Offering," do so with glad hearts because you can and you will be supporting hard-working men and women who love the Lord and share in the most remote of places. Most of the countries neither you nor I will ever visit, but the Methodist Church will be there. Your money will be, so in essence you will be there. Our goal is a lofty one: \$7400 and all of it goes to World Service, the financial foundation stone for our missionary work around the world and here in the United States.



We had a fantastic time last weekend at Cokesbury. We started off with an overnight camp out at Cokesbury. We played games, stargazed, worshiped at sunset, ate s'mores and sang songs around the campfire. It was great to see all the folks that came out to fellowship with us. If you didn't get to come, be sure to join us next time.

Jackie Glass and I also went to the training for adults for Big House this weekend. We are really getting excited about this trip! We will be having a meeting about what to bring and what to expect at camp very soon.

Training for all adults going to UMARMY is MAY 1 from 8 am to 2 pm at Lakewood UMC, Houston. I have heard some great things about our camp director, and I am really excited to start preparing for this camp too!

The Spring Carnival is April 24 from 10- 2. Youth are needed to help run games. The Youth Praise Band will play between 11 - 1. Come on out and hear them. They are fantastic!!

Youth Sunday and Senior Recognition Sunday are April 25. **Seniors, be sure to get your pictures and biography information to me as soon as possible.** The Senior Luncheon will be right after the 11:00 service April 25.

Beach Retreat will be May 14-16. Sign upon the sheets on the Youth Board. This is the big kickoff to start our summer and welcome the incoming 5th graders to youth!

We finally have our dates for Schlitterbahn confirmed. We will leave Wednesday, August 4 and return Friday August 6. Sign up sheets are on the Youth Board. If you are going, be sure to sign up so we have enough vehicles!

In His Service, **Linda Hite**

A Thank You Letter from Bishop Huie

Grace and peace to you in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Apostle Paul writes, "now to God who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever."

These words seem a fitting doxology on behalf of you - pastors and congregations who paid your apportionments in full in an extremely challenging economic year. Many of you made great sacrifices to fulfill your responsibility to the Annual Conference and the General Church. I deeply appreciate what you have done.

With Joy and appreciation I am enclosing this Bishop's Certificate of Appreciation to your church for your readiness to open your hearts to the needs of others and to share what you have with them. Because of your church and others, the Texas Annual is able to share abundantly with others. Thank you.

Your 2009 giving enabled the Texas Annual Conference to pay 100% of our connectional support for World Service. Through World Service The United Methodist Church supports mission locally, nationally and globally. In addition, we support higher education and theological education in the United States and around the world. We underwrite ministries of discipleship and service. Your sacrifice also undergirds the ministries of the Texas Annual Conference. Without your sacrifices, clergy pensions and health benefits, new church starts, Partners in Mission, youth ministries and much more would not be possible. You are, indeed, Christ's servants in the world.

On behalf of the Texas Annual Conference, I celebrate your outstanding accomplishment and encourage you to continue your benevolent support for 2010.

Grace and Peace, Janice Riggle Huie

Easter Lilies

In Honor Of:

Brother Bill

Warner and Iococca Families by Peg and Joe Iococca
Our son Shannon's 40th birthday from Don and Sue Smith
My Mother, Willie Keys, from Carolyn Lofland
Our Grandchildren from Ed and Carolyn Lofland
The Choir from Carolyn Lofland

In Memory Of:

Juanita Roder from Charles Roder

George E. Ellington from Lou H. Ellington

Jack Bonds from Jean Bonds

Edwin Parker from Marcus, Karla, Andrew, Allison and Anya Parker

Marilyn Brugman from Marcus, Karla, Andrew, Allison and Anya Parker

Our Grandparents and Grandson from James and Mary Louise Warner

Ned Botkin from Bill and Linda Botkin

Barbara Chapin, sister from Ellie Melanson

Bob Melanson from Wayne and Lori Baker

Billie Tucker Kestler from husband Jack Kestler

Dr. Dewese Y. Campbell from his family

John Garner from Joyce Garner and Leslie Kettmann

Billie Kestler from Gary, Kris and Kaitlyn Wallis

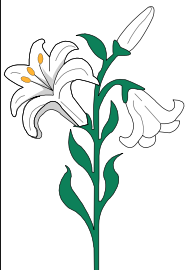
Grandma Clara Roddam from The Rossi Family

Stephanie Suzanne Klassen from Donna Klassen

Mammaw GG from Kay Hyle

Billie Kestler from Marna Seaman

David Wright from Fran Wright



Music Notes



EASTER IS coming! Christ is risen...He is risen indeed! All singers please feel free to join the Chancel Choir as we sing "Hallelujah" from Handel's Messiah Sunday morning. Copies of the music will be available in the choir loft. The choir will sing "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" arranged by Mark Hayes, in keeping with worship themes during Lent.

Thank you to Craig Elings, Carole Krafka, and John Short, as well as to Teresa Mauney, for leadership in "Song of the Shadows" with Cokesbury Chancel Choir on Maundy Thursday.

Our Handbell Choir, Choir Chimes, and Men's Chorale will be presenting music in worship soon. Watch bulletins and newsletters for more.

Thanks to so many of you for your uplifting remarks and kind support of all of our music ministries! It means a lot!

And "Hooray" to our children for their terrific contributions to worship Sunday (and to their leaders!).

In Him, *Marsh*

Kuhlman Circle Celebrates Easter

The Katy Kuhlman Circle of Cokesbury's UMW celebrated the season of Easter with friendship, Bible readings, prayer, a program, and Easter decorations and a sandwich luncheon at Annabelle Fookes' lovely home on a beautiful morning, Tuesday, March 23. Seven members attended.

We began our meeting with the reading of Matthew 23:1-12. Afterwards our circle chairperson Barbara Strong led us in our business meeting. We discussed helping the youth with their bake sale on April 24, and a coat and sweater party for SeAM. We remembered some of our UMW members who have passed away and what they have meant to us.

Donna Northrup presented a very interesting program on hearing impairment. She gave us some good tips on speaking to people who do not hear well.

After the program Annabelle displayed Easter decorated candles she had made. Several of our circle members donated money for our circle mission project and received the lovely Easter candles. We then enjoyed a delightful sandwich luncheon on an Easter decorated table with a cute bunny and lots of Easter eggs.

-Mary Short

Thanks For A Successful Blood Drive

A great thank you to everyone who came out on Saturday, March 27 for Cokesbury's first blood drive of 2010. A total of 26 people attempted to give. Of that total, 19 donated whole blood and 4 donated double red cell apheresis. The drive benefited the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center.

-Rob and Laura Bradley

Remember the Needy on Easter Sunday

This Sunday is Easter Sunday and the first Sunday of April. What better way to honor the day than to bring food for the less fortunate for Southeast Area Ministries' food pantry. You can bring any non-perishable food items and place them in the large plastic tubs outside the Narthex or in the Commons. Items we are currently low in supply are canned beans and canned miscellaneous vegetables.

-Laura Bradley, SeAM Pantry Manager



Treasurer's Report

Giving-March 14-21

General.....	\$10,092
Bond Fund.....	\$30
Designated Giving.....	\$1,743
Total Giving.....	\$11,865

Bank Balances -March 12

Operating.....	\$3,820
T-Mobile.....	\$13,699
Designated Savings.....	\$52,743
Total Cash Balance	\$70,262

-Sandy Hinson, Treasurer

An Eggs-cellent Adventure



The clouds and rain did not keep the kids away for an Egg Hunt two weeks ago. Though they had to hunt for eggs inside, it gave them a chance to see the inside of our church. Thank you to everyone for helping prior to, during, and after the Eggstravaganza. Your support is much appreciated.

-Alison Myers

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:
1st Sunday: Karen Akkerman, Claudia Gentry, Gloria Hurley, Carole Krafka, Anne & Robert Nolen, Winnie Smith, Carman Wilhite, Kay & Bill Young

2nd Sunday: Linda Garies, Theresa Graham, Margo & Tom Green, Laurel Johnson, Jack Kestler, Carolyn Lofland, Herb Parker, Cathy Pleasants, Lois Seeley