

THE COKESBURY COURIER

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Cokesbury United Methodist Church

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Selected Contents

Youth Update.....	8
Spotlighting Our Graduates.....	8
Re-enroll In Kroger's Program.....	8
By The Numbers.....	8
Thank You.....	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, **Luella** Sims, **Carroll** Kuhlman, **Don** Smith, **Martha** VanKriegenbergh, **Willie** Nolen, Anne Nolen's mother (**Betty**), **Dutch** Uran, **Melynda** Barrows, **Jimmy** Wootton, **Wilma** Wallis (Gary's mother), **Bela** dos Santos, **Jeanette** Tofte, **Zach** Hopson (Kay Hyle's cousin), **Emilyn** Harris, **Linda** Simmons, **Mara** Price, **Gerald** Eddins, **Wanda** Ford, **Jack** Williams, **Tim** Cates, **Carolyn** Diehl, **Bill** Norris, Tracey Moore's mother (**Shirley**), **Derek** Chamness, **Terry** Allen, **Gail** Wallace, **Amanda** Richardson, and for all those serving our country or working in Iraq or Afghanistan 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.

Youth Confirmed on Pentecost



Our confirmation class was confirmed during the 11:00 service on Pentecost Sunday, May 23. Pictured are (from left to right) Stephanie Schwartz, Samantha Schwartz, and Sarah Loftin along with Pastor Bill. Matthew Piecznski has also completed confirmation classes with this group, but will be confirmed at a later date.

Children's Church Takes A Summer Break

On Pentecost Sunday, we celebrated the birthday of the church during children's church. Kids love parties!! We also celebrated the last children's church until after summer. We know lots of people travel over the summer so the teachers and I have decided to not have children's church this summer. We appreciate the parent's support and letting the kids join the teachers during children's church this year. Everyone enjoy your summer and we will meet up again at 11 am on September 12 with a new revamped children's church!!



May 30-The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of Jay Hyle's birthday from Kay Hyle.

June 6-The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in memory of Shirley H. Crawford from Kayren C. and John A. Mingus.

No Fountain Service on May 30

On Sunday, May 30, we will not have our usual 5:00 p.m. Fountain Service due to the start of the Texas Annual Conference. We will resume on June 6. Our pianist Teresa Mauney will be providing music for the June 6 service in the absence of our Youth Band who will be at UMArmy.

Give To Book Drive

Savannah Rose Lohec, 14, is having a book drive from now until June 20. The books are going towards her silver project for Girl Scouts, which is to build a library for children and youth here at Cokesbury. She is also running a book drive for the ECDC. Please donate both religious and non-religious books suitable for children and youth. There will be a donation box in the Commons.

Youth Schedule

June 6 - June 12- Sr. High UMArmy
June 20 Father's Day-No MYF
June 24 - June 27- Jr. High Big House
June 28 - July 2- VBS!!
July 12- July 16- Lakeview Camp
July 18 - July 21- District Youth Week
Activities with other churches
August 4- 6- Schlitterbahn,
New Braunfels

From The Pastor

Paul wrote to Timothy: "May the Lord show mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, because he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains." (2 timothy 1:16) In this telling statement, Paul was saying that some had been humiliated by his imprisonment for the sake of the gospel. They abandoned him. Whether it is because of the gospel or circumstances, when loneliness hits us, it hurts.

The Word of God is not bound or in chains but sometimes we are. And then under the circumstances, we must do the best we can. This story may not be fresh, but its humor and pathos points us toward hope under "difficult" circumstances.

An old Italian lived alone in New Jersey. He wanted to plant his annual tomato garden, but it was very difficult work, as the ground was hard. His only son, Vincent, who used to help him, was in prison. The old man wrote a letter to his son and described his predicament:

Dear Vincent,

I am feeling pretty sad, because it looks like I won't be able to plant my tomato garden this year. I'm just getting too old to be digging up a garden plot. I know if you were here my troubles would be over. I know you would be happy to dig up the ground for me, like in the old days.

Love, Papa

A few days later the father received a letter from his son:

Dear Pop,

Don't dig up that garden. That's where the bodies are buried.

Love, Vinnie

At 4:00 A.M. the next morning, FBI agents and local police arrived and dug up the entire area without finding any bodies. They apologized to the old man and left. The same day, the man received another letter from his son:

Dear Pop,

Go ahead and plant the tomatoes now. That's the best I could do under the circumstances.

I love you, Vinnie

"Under the circumstances" Vinnie did the best he could do. I imagine both Vinnie and Pop chuckling: one behind bars and the other behind the garden hoe. Neither was really alone any more. Whatever your circumstances are or whenever you are tempted to judge someone, remember the word circumstance. Then pray for the best results, no matter what the dilemma may be.

Blessings,

Bro. Bill



T Minus 30 Days Until VBS Blast Off



Galactic Blast Vacation Bible School at Cokesbury is June 28-July 2. Are you ready for the mission into space? An information table is in the Commons and sign up sheets are available. The theme this year is space. Pre-registration has started. The first 25 families that register get a free Take Home CD filled with music and computer games. There are still some left. For more information, please contact Alison Myers at 713-870-7361

We still need 6 more teacher and teacher assistant volunteers! Please call Alison if you are able to help.

Children's Ministry Planning A Kemah Trip

Are you looking for something to do this summer? Do you like Kemah Boardwalk? Children's Ministry has scheduled a field trip to Kemah for Wednesday, June 16 at 10:30 am. The trip consist of visiting the Sting Ray Exhibit, hot dog lunch and three rides. The cost is \$5 per person. A sign up sheet is on the Children's Ministry Board and all money is due by Sunday, June 6. All are invited to attend. Any questions please contact Alison Myers at 713-870-7361 or kevali313@sbcglobal.net.

College Bible Study Resumes

Our College Bible Study class will resume this summer. The class meets upstairs in room 210 each Sunday morning during the 9:45 Sunday School hour. The first class will start on Sunday June 13 and continue for the summer. For information, contact Chudi Abajue by email at chudiabajue@hotmail.com



We are closer and closer to being finished with our House for Haiti. We just have some trim work to paint, door handles to put on, and a ladder for the bunk beds to build. Then we collapse it and ship it off. How exciting to be able to be a part of this great mission opportunity.

Speaking of great mission opportunities, the Sr. High leaves for UArmy at Orange, TX June 6, right after the 11:00 worship service. We want to thank Cokesbury for making this trip possible. Without the adults who have volunteered to take a week out of their lives to work alongside of us, we couldn't make this trip. Without the shareholders who have invested so generously we couldn't make this trip. Without the generous donations of food and paper goods, we wouldn't be able to do this. Thank you so much Cokesbury for your tremendous support!

Attention all Jr. High Big House participants, youth and adult! There will be a mandatory meeting Thursday, May 27 at 7 p.m. It should last between an hour and an hour and a half.

If you missed the early registration for Lakeview District Camp, it's not too late to go! Anyone who has completed 3rd through 12th grade is eligible to participate. The registration fee is \$220. Forms and payment are due by June 6. Please see Linda Hite or Alison Myers if you have any questions. Forms are on the youth board.

If you are going to Lakeview as a counselor, there is a mandatory counselor training June 5, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Pasadena UMC.

Due to our mission trips and camps, MYF will need substitute counselors June 6 and July 11. We will be using a video curriculum those weeks. If you are interested in helping, please contact Linda Hite. For a complete summer schedule, please see page 1.

In His Service, **Linda Hite**, Youth Director



We would like to thank the members of our church who generously helped with the flag fund to purchase a new flag. Thanks to the following: Dennis and Patti Akkola, Peggy Smith, Barbara Strong, Jo Ann Koontz, New Disciples Sunday School Class, Becomers Sunday School Class, Affinity Sunday School Class and Chuck Dyrud.

Memorial Day

Please join us Sunday, May 30, as we honor all veteran who have died in service to our country during all worship services with patriotic musical offerings.



Treasurer's Report

Giving-May 2 to 16

General.....	\$24,367
Bond Fund.....	\$220
Designated Giving.....	\$1,923
Total Giving.....	\$26,510

Expenses Through May 16

Payroll.....	\$8,748
Church Overhead.....	\$6,403
Program Expenses.....	\$2,179
Apportionments.....	\$0
Retirement Bond Pmt/Interest..	\$8,388
Total Expenses.....	\$25,718

Bank Balances - May 16

Operating.....	\$1,585
T-Mobile.....	\$13,702
Designated Savings.....	\$50,719
Total Cash Balance	\$66,006

Sandy Hinson, Treasurer

Re-enroll In Kroger's Program

Thanks to all of you who participated in Kroger's Neighbor to Neighbor program and have designated Cokesbury UMC as your receiving organization. For the 2009-2010 year ending on April 30, Cokesbury received a check of \$441.61 from Kroger.

Kroger's policy is that organizations and individuals must re-enroll every year. The new year begins July 1. Please re-enroll by taking a letter from the table outside the Narthex to Kroger after June 1. The letter has the barcode for Cokesbury that will link your Kroger Plus card to Cokesbury for the upcoming year. Once the letter is scanned one time, you only have to use your Kroger plus card as you normally do.

Cokesbury's Statement of Purpose

Learning to serve God and humankind in Jesus' name.

By The Numbers

May 16

8:30 a.m. Service.....	67
11:00 a.m. Service.....	90
The Fountain.....	198
Total.....	355

May 23

8:30 a.m. Service.....	63
11:00 a.m. Service.....	123
The Fountain.....	42
Total.....	228

Spotlighting Cokesbury's Graduating Seniors

Join us in congratulating our Cokesbury Youth who are graduating from high school.

Sonya Wilson has been a member of



Cokesbury UMC since she was born. She will graduate this year from J. Frank Dobie High School. At Dobie, she has participated in choir, including a trip to New York City, and Best Buddies.

Being on a Special Olympics team sponsored by Pasadena ISD has been a busy and important part of Sonya's high school time. She has played softball, volleyball, basketball, tennis, and soccer. She received her letter jacket for Special Olympics. She is happy she can continue with Special Olympics after she graduates.

Sonya has been an active member of Cokesbury MYF for many years. She has been on 4 UArmy missions, been to Lakeview several times, and played many roles in the live nativity.

Sonya also participates in activities at Webster Presbyterian Church. She has been a member of the youth handbell choir, the youth choir, and the Faith choir.

This year, Sonya has been working at Cici's Pizza. She plans to continue this job after she graduates.

Sarah Koons has been attending



Cokesbury with her brother (JK Koons) and mother (Julie West) since she was a toddler. She has

been accepted at A&M Galveston and will be majoring in Marine Biology. Although she will be fairly close to home, she will be living in a dorm on campus so that she can study and fully immerse herself in the college experience. She is seriously considering the Veterinary Program as a long term goal and may transfer to A&M College Station to continue her studies in that program. Sarah has 2 dogs at home that she adores, and loves to hang out at home and read. Sarah is looking forward to having her own house so that she can have a giant Flemish rabbit and as many dogs and cats as she would like. Sarah's family is very proud of her accomplishments and her focus on her education.

Lucia Katherine Glass was born on July 28 in the late evening. She was premature and only weighed 4 lbs. 13 oz. She had to stay one extra day in the hospital before she could come home from the hospital. She was watched by her grandmother when she was little until she went to school. She has attended Frazier Elementary, Thompson Jr. High, and Dobie high School.



Lucia was diagnosed with Asberger's Syndrome, a type of Autism, when she was in the 4th grade, but she has always been in regular classes, which is a great accomplishment that she is proud of.

Lucia likes animals, computer and video games and sleeping. She plans to go to San Jacinto College for two years and then transfer to UHCL to get a degree in Biology. Then she plans to transfer to a veterinarian college program. She would like to become a vet and live on her own.

Will Carter was born in Knoxville, TN.



He moved to Clear Lake the summer before starting 9th grade. It was a big adjustment for Will. He left his friends, the mountains, his church family, and the house he had always called home. The move to Texas was a test of faith.

But Will proved to be a resilient young man. He became acquainted with cousins he never knew before, and yet had much in common with.

With the help of his extended family, he had many "outdoorsman" experiences, which eased the transition and has shaped his career choice as much as the academics at Clear Lake High School.

In high school, Will has played the viola for four years. He has taken advanced classes, and has proven that he is no slouch as an academic. He has been accepted at Texas A & M University at College Station in the Agricultural and Biological Engineering Program. His goal is to use his outdoors experience to help engineer common sense ways for man to coexist with nature in a sustainable manner.

During these last four years, he has been blessed by having good friends, a great neighbor, and a supportive church family. He looks forward to spreading God's love in this new chapter of his life.

Heather Le'Anne Pues was born July 11, 1992 in Houston, Texas. Ever since she could talk, she could sing. Heather was



blessed with a beautiful singing voice and hopes to carry that gift with her. She has been involved in choir at Dobie High School as well as the Youth Band at church. In the fall of 2010, she will be attending Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, to major in Music Education first and then plans on double majoring with Music Theatre. Heather's aspiration is to become a Broadway Singer and introduce people to God through song. She plans on continuing her mission work and is grateful for the support her friends, family, and the church have given her.

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:

5th Sunday: New Beginnings Sunday School Class

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