

# 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, **Roger** Northrup, **Beverly** Crouch, **Lillian** Lemaster (Johnny's mother), **Wade** Hudson, **Luella** Sims, **Carroll** Kuhlman, **Martha** VanKriegenbergh, **Willie** Nolen, **Mollie** Evans, Anne Nolen's mother (**Betty**), **Dutch** Uran, **Wilma** Wallis (Gary's mother), **Zach** Hopson (Kay Hyle's cousin), **Emilyn** Harris, **Mara** Price, Laura Bradley's sister (**Patti**), **Wanda** Ford, **Jack** Williams, **Tim** Cates, **Carolyn** Diehl, **Bill** Norris, Tracey Moore's mother (**Shirley**), **Kathy** Sloan, **Thomas** McDearmont, **James** Tandburg, **Sike** Smyers, **Paul** Hickman, **Becky** Ware, **Terry** Allen, **Gail** Wallace, **Amanda** Richardson, our Big House youths and adults, 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.



### Sunday July 4



### Just One Worship Service at 10:30 A.M

Come to worship and celebrate America's birthday with your Cokesbury family. There'll be patriotic music and a message, as well as communion. The VBS kids will also sing this Sunday.

There will be NO Fountain Service .

### New Bible Study Classes

There are many new Bible study opportunities being offered at Cokesbury. One of these may be right for you.

**College Bible Study:** has resumed for the summer. The class meets upstairs in the Junior High youth room each Sunday morning during the 9:45 Sunday School hour. For information, contact Chudi Abajue by email at chudiabajue@hotmail.com.

**Wednesdays With Gary:** Gary Wallis starts his new Bible study series on Wednesday night, July 14, from 6:30-8:00pm in the Cokesbury Library. He selects various topics that reflect everyday challenges and guides us to Scriptures that have the answers. Use the sign-up sheet in the Narthex to reserve your place.

**Methodist Orientation:** Sunday, July 11, 10:00-10:45am, *What Methodists Believe and How It Works At Cokesbury*. Grab a cup of coffee and join Patti Akkola in the Bride's Room. It's open to everyone – visitors and members alike.

**Young Adults Sunday School:** This class is lead by Jennifer Howard and meets upstairs in room 210 at 9:45 on Sunday mornings. It is aimed at people in their 20 and 30s, but if you are not that age, but still consider yourself a "young adult"...join us!

### Kids Entertain With A Variety Show



The Cokesbury Kids and the Young Singing Angels were hilarious and of course adorable in their first ever variety show. The Young Singing Angels started off the afternoon with a tribute to Dads. The Cokesbury Kids followed with everything from marshmallow eating contests and Abbott and Costello comedy, to slightly fractured fairy tales. The whole night was topped off with a handbell rendition of "Take Me Out To The Ballgame". You just had to be there.

The children are taking a break for the summer, but please join us in the fall when we reconvene. The Cokesbury Kids Choir will become the Cokesbury Kids Club. Oh, there will still be singing! But, we will also focus on service projects and learning about Jesus. Please join us, it will be a lot of fun!

### From The Pastor

I recently ran into an evangelist. He could hardly let go of me as he was so excited about.....his house! I went to see an environmentally friendly house that advertised zero electrical bills. Rudy Wright does not know it, but he is an evangelist for "green living." After hearing him speak, I felt like I had found the pearl of great price!

Rudy Wright has built the first of its kind in northeast Texas, an "emerald house" so green, so environmentally friendly that his was the house with the lowest organic emissions in Texas. This house is solar powered. The 6480 watt grid-tied solar home will produce more than enough electricity for the home and the excess is sold to the electrical grid company. From its six inch walls with eco-friendly spray foam insulation (made from soy beans!) to the landscaping around the house featuring Texas native flowers and shrubs and way down into the ground with cistern water for the flower bed, Rudy is an evangelist for making this earth a better place to live.

I was even more amazed by the enthusiasm of the builder than I was with his house, even though I was greatly impressed with having a zero electric bill and providing a better environment for the next generation. I cannot help but to yearn for an evangelist like Rudy for Cokesbury and the gospel of Jesus Christ. He was confident of the product; we need evangelists confident of the Christ and His saving power. Rudy did not back down from skeptics. He uplifted the benefits of a better home and world. This is what an evangelist for the Christian faith accomplishes.

I am not musing about "houses." I am enthralled with the the idea that out there in the Cokesbury membership, there is another kind of Rudy, passionate about the gospel and ready to speak of a better world for people to live in "both now and forever more." Cokesbury needs passionate people who have a hunger to broadcast the good news to anyone, neighbor or stranger at Home Depot. Are you the Rudy for Christ? Paul wrote to the church at Rome: "I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes first for the Jew, then for the Gentile." (Romans 1:16)

I went to see a new-fangled house and met an evangelist. May we hear: "I met somebody from Cokesbury United Methodist Church and found the pearl of great price."

I am ready to listen to your story.

Grace and Peace,

*Bro. Bill*



### VBS 2010 Is Set To Launch!



Houston, Cokesbury's Galactic Blast Vacation Bible School mission is a go for Monday, June 28 at 6:00 pm. Register your child now to be a cadet on this VBS mission!!! You can call the office at 281-484-9243 or email Alison at kevali313@sbcglobal.net for a registration form. Our program is free of charge for all children from potty trained 3 year olds to those entering 5th grade. Any youth entering 6th through 12th can sign up to be a youth helper as well. The cadets this year will be praising our wonderful, incredible, amazing, magnificent, awesome God! We hope you can join us for this cosmic adventure Monday, June 28 through Friday, July 2 from 6 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.

Those still wishing to volunteer their help can do so at the information table in the Commons or contact Alison Myers at 713-870-7361.

-Alison Myers, Director of Children's Ministry

### Next Courier Article Deadline

If you have any articles for the next Cokesbury Courier that comes out on July 9, please get them to us by 9:00 a.m. on Friday, July 2. We have an early deadline due to the July 4 holiday.

-Editors



**June 27-**The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of Misako Herring's birthday by Nicole Herring.

**July 4-**The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of all our service men and women by the United Methodist Men.



This week several of our Junior High kids are going to Kountze, Texas, for Big House. This work camp is very similar to UMARMY except that it is for Junior High students and lasts 4 days instead of 7. Please keep our youth and adult chaperones in your prayers as we travel to camp and work this week for the Glory of God.

This Sunday, June 27, join us at The Fountain at 5 p.m. for awesome worship and then we will be going to the home of Don and Sue Smith for a POOL PARTY!! We will return to the church at 8 p.m., which is a little later than our usual MYF time. Be sure to join us for hamburgers and swimming.

If you haven't signed up to help with VBS already, be sure to check out the list in the Commons area and sign up. VBS is June 28 through July 2 from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Our youth helpers are a vital part of VBS here at Cokesbury. It wouldn't happen without your help! You guys are amazing.

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

## Youth Schedule

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

## Rainbows Along The Way

*Opossums and Possibilities*



When manager Matt Bennett opened the Sherman Animal Care Complex in San Antonio recently, he probably expected it to be an ordinary day. As usual, he prepared to assist the animals under his care and especially any injured or orphaned wild animals brought in by concerned citizens. His job was to treat them as best he could and if they needed more intensive care the wild animals would be transported to the Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation center near Kendalia. From there they would be nursed back to health and hopefully released in the wild.

Then there arrived an injured mother opossum with five babies in her pouch, brought in by a concerned citizen who told the staff she had been shot. At first Matt feared she was dead because he observed no motion and she seemed cold and stiff. But when she suddenly gulped for air that was the cue to start on rescue efforts. After installing her in an incubator to warm her up, Matt began efforts to raise her body temperature and since the babies were still attached, he did not remove them. She continued to breathe, and though he added a heating pad, she remained chilled. Someone suggested a warm water enema. "I can't say I've ever given an enema to anyone much less an opossum," Matt recalled. "It's not something I recommend to anyone with a weak constitution."

He began the procedure, wrapping her "like a taco in heating pads." Then after a few minutes, he reached into the wrapping and discovered she was becoming warm and soft! Then after Matt gave her subcutaneous fluids she became more alert.

After a few hours of continued treatment, Matt sat there with her and she "was a different animal completely. She looked at me as I handled her, following my hands with her eyes. She even opened her mouth and drooled as opossums often do when nervous. She was alive and warm."

Then a volunteer arrived to drive the animals to the WRR vet clinic and Matt described his feelings: "I could not help but feel warm myself. She would soon get proper veterinarian care and she might just make it. Something wonderful just happened here. This momma opossum came to SACC near death, cold and stiff. Without attention she would have surely perished leaving her babies to die also. The few hours I spent with her changed her life. We gave her a fighting chance."

It's certainly a wonderful feeling to realize you've helped an animal like that but did you ever think you could do the same for a person? After all, sometimes we encounter people who are cold and seem almost dead – emotionally and spiritually – and often feel frustrated because we want so much to help them. However, often we think we're powerless to do so – because, after all, they seem shut down emotionally but also to God. But are they?

As Matt found with the opossum, the answer is warmth and that for the spiritually chilled that means the warmth of God's love. Often just as we think someone is completely shut down and cold, just showing a bit of loving concern may help them.

Do you know someone like that? Perhaps God is nudging you to start the thawing process!

-Anne Adams

## 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:  
**4th Sunday:** Debbie Carter, Barbara Craft, Jo Felts, Nancy Hensley, Tracey Moore, Sandy Russell, Peggy Smith, Linda Trevathan, Kris Wallis, Carol & Jerry Yeane.

**1st Sunday:** Karen Akkerman, Rob Bradley, Claudia Gentry, Gloria Hurley, Carole & Jim Krafka, Anne & Robert Nolen, Paige Schwartz, Cindy Simmons, Winnie Smith, Carman Wilhite.

## Cokesbury: Celebrating 50 Years of Connection and Commitment to Christ

Cokesbury's 50th birthday celebration has started. Our birthday committee has met. Plans are being made! Our birthday theme is Cokesbury--Celebrating 50 Years of Connection and Commitment to Christ. The date of the celebration will be the second or third Sunday in November, 2011. The journey to that date has already started!

A commemorative quilt is in the making. The birthday committee wants every member and past member and pastors to have their names embroidered on the quilt. The cost is \$10 per person or \$30 for a family. This money will help pay for our celebration and dinner.

Envelopes will be available during Sunday School and between church services for members to donate the money for having their names on our quilt. Quilt envelopes will be available for six months, but we would like you to have your name embroidered on our quilt sooner than later.

More details will be coming your way. Cokesbury is a true blessing. It is a holy place where we meet Christ and each other, where we grow in Christian faith and love, and where we share that faith and love with our world.

Mary Short, Birthday Chairperson

## ECDC 2010



What a wonderful school year we have had. Thank you parents, children, staff and Cokesbury UMC family for your support. Have a great summer!

-Lori Brown, ECDC Director



## Treasurer's Report

### Giving-June 1 - 12

General.....	\$15,950
Bond Fund.....	\$145
Designated Giving.....	\$532
Total Giving.....	\$16,627

### Expenses Through June 1-21

Payroll.....	\$14,170
Church Overhead.....	\$3,274
Program Expenses.....	\$696
Apportionments.....	\$0
Retirement Bond Pmt/Interest.....	\$0
Total Expenses.....	\$18,140

### Bank Balances - June 21

Operating.....	\$447
T-Mobile.....	\$13,705
Designated Savings.....	\$54,782
Total Cash Balance .....	\$68,934

Sandy Hinson, Treasurer

## By The Numbers

### June 13

8:30 a.m. Service.....	77
11:00 a.m. Service.....	107
The Fountain.....	57
Total.....	241

### June 20

8:30 a.m. Service.....	84
11:00 a.m. Service.....	94
The Fountain.....	47
Total.....	225

## Cokesbury's Statement of Purpose

Learning to serve God and humankind in Jesus' name.

## A Fun Day in Kemah

This past Wednesday 46 adults and children spent the day at the Kemah Boardwalk. It may have been hot outside but that didn't keep us from having a fun time. We got to see and touch BIG and little stingrays. The kids loved this! Then we sat around the fountain for lunch before heading over and riding some amusement rides. Some even hung around to let the kids play in the water fountain. Everyone had a wonderful experience! If you missed out on this trip, there will be more in the future. Keep your eyes and ears open for our next outing.

-Alison Myers, Director of Children's Ministry

## Re-Enroll in Kroger's Neighbor Program

Thanks to all of you who participate 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 have to re-enroll every year. We are re-enrolled. The new year begins July 1 and runs through April 30, 2011. For individuals to re-enroll, take the letter from the table outside our narthex doors to Kroger. 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. Then purchases made after July 1 will be eligible. Certain purchases such as fuel are excluded from the program.