

# THE COKESBURY COURIER

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**Cokesbury United  
Methodist Church**  
10030 Scarsdale Boulevard  
Houston, TX 77089  
(281) 484-9243  
www.cumchouston.org

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### Prayer Corner

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

**Donna** Northrup and family on the death of Roger, Betty Evans and family on the death of her grandson Bryan, **Jay** Standridge, **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.

### Galactic Blast VBS Out of This World



A "spacetacular" transformation took place this past week at Cokesbury as a record-setting 104 young cadets shared a "Cosmic Adventure Praising God" at our annual Vacation Bible School. These space explorers spent the week discovering that God is wonderful, incredible, amazing, magnificent, and awesome! Quarters were collected to support the mission's project: Heifer International which provides livestock to families in need around the world. A "startastic" closing program was presented followed by a cookie and punch reception. Thanks to our fearless leader,

Alison Myers, and all youth and adult helpers for a God-filled week that was "out of this world!"

P.S.: An extra special thank you goes out to the Affinity, Becomers, New Beginnings, and New Disciples adult Sunday school classes for providing delicious meals for the youth and adult helpers during VBS.

### Learn What Methodists Believe and How It Works At Cokesbury

Don't forget the one-time-only Orientation next Sunday, July 11, 10:00 a.m. Grab a cup of coffee and join Patti Akkola in the Bride's Room.

### Johnny Hite Awarded 2010 Margheim Scholarship

Cokesbury UMW presented the Dot Margheim memorial scholarship on Sunday, May 30 at the 11 o'clock service. The scholarship is awarded to a recent high school graduate or current college student who is active with the Cokesbury youth program. The winner this year is Johnny Hite. We have very fine youth at our church who are a credit to their school, church, community and family. Congratulations to all the applicants and we wish you the very best in all you do. Previous years' winners were Scott Pace and Brian Sawyer.

All the ladies of Cokesbury are invited to attend our UMW meetings. Our next meeting is Tuesday, July 13 at 7PM at the church.



**July 11**-The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in memory of Marilyn Brugman from Marcus, Karla, Andrew, Allison and Anya Parker.

**July 18**-The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of Whitney Sullivan's birthday from Wendell, Debbie, Janie and Wendy.

### From The Pastor

Time Magazine's issue of "The 100 Most Influential People in the World" has become an interesting read for me. There are those whom I expected to be included and many who were included were unknown to me. One unknown person, but now a friend through the written page, is Matt Berg. Seeing his picture for the first time, he looks like a very calm guy, tranquil to the point of deception, especially since he is responsible for over 100,000 children in Africa. He became a technology director for ChildCount+, a network of community health workers who regularly examine local children in Africa, treat their ills and then text back the status of every sick child they find. This improves monitoring, provides faster interventions and better immunization and treatment campaigns.



This is impressive as ChildCount+ has only been in existence at the writing of the Time Magazine article for a mere nine months. Matt Berg has a passion for children's health care. Passionate people are the spark plugs for igniting great efforts throughout our church, too.

How do we find our passions in ministry for the Lord?

Who snags your attention "when something" must be done?

Where do you find yourself gravitating to when you are in "neutral" with your commitments?

What gives you pleasure or brings a smile to your face?

When you take time to think about all your commitments, what do you really want to do "first"?

"How" immediately follows. Once you have acknowledged the need, if you begin to start measuring "how" you will accomplish the task, you may well be on the trail to discovering your passion for the Lord's work.

Not everyone will be a Matt Berg who makes his or her way to Time Magazine. But like Matt's biographical writer points out, "Remarkable as Berg's work is, its greatest achievement will come when he's no longer the [only] one doing it." (Brackets are mine)

If you follow these methods of finding your passion in ministry, you will be fulfilling the greatest commandment of all, "to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength and your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:39) After all, Jesus taught us this.

Blessings in Christ's Name

*Bro. Bill*

### Jess Stokely to Speak at UMW Meeting

The founder of Christian Alliance, Jess Stokely, will be speaking at the United Methodist Women's meeting on Tuesday, July 13 at 7 p.m. Christian Alliance provided advice and assistance to Cokesbury when we were building our Mobile Medical Clinic (MMC). Our MMC, packed with medical supplies and equipment, was shipped to Grace Children's Hospital in Port au Prince last March. A Christian Alliance volunteer just returned from Haiti so Jess will be able to update us on the status of the MMC. See the photo on the back page.

### Recharge Your Spiritual Batteries!

Bible study opportunities help us see who we are in God's eyes. When we gather in small groups and search for inspiration and direction, we find a deeper spiritual commitment that better equips us to live our lives. Gary Wallis starts his new Bible study class next Wednesday, July 14, 6:30-8:00pm, in the Cokesbury Library. His first topic will be on an Old Testament person (maybe Elijah or Moses) and will run two to three weeks. The sign-up sheet for his class is in the Narthex.



My family and I would like to thank each of you for your prayers, concerns and support during my husband Roger's illness and upon his death. At a difficult time like this, you realize how important your church family is to you. Your prayers and visits helped so much to get me through it. Thank you for helping us to have such a wonderful Memorial Service and saying good-bye to my best friend. Thank you for all of the flowers, cards and food.

God Bless all of you,  
Donna Northrup & family



Summer is well underway, and we have UM Army and Big House behind us. As sad as it is that these trips are over, we do get to look forward to our Shareholder's Dinner at the end of the summer! We will start making our plans for this event at the end of July.

We are also looking forward to Lakeview District Camp. We will leave very early in the morning on July

12. Meet at the church at 6:45 a.m. to load up. We will leave at 7:00 a.m. Check in at Lakeview is at 10:30 a.m. I will already be at Lakeview eagerly awaiting your arrival!

Be sure to join us July 18 for a special District MYF cook out in Lake Jackson at Chapelwood United Methodist Church. We will leave Cokesbury at 4:30, and return at 8:30. Any parents interested in driving, please let me know. This event will kick off South District Youth Week. On Wednesday, July 21 we will also be going to the La Porte Wave Pool as part of South District Youth Week. Details will be available soon.

We are going to Schlitterbahn in New Braunfels August 4 through August 6. The sign-up sheet is on the youth board. More details will be available soon.

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

## Cokesbury Loses One Of Its Stalwarts

Long time Cokesbury member Roger Northrup passed away on June 22. He had been ill for a short time but had suffered a stroke several months back. A memorial service and celebration of his life was held here at Cokesbury on June 26.

Upon his retirement from teaching, Roger and Donna and two of their children Lee and Beth moved to Houston from Ohio in 1982. Daughter Darla had already made the move and made the pitch for Mom and Dad to come. Margie and husband Mark moved later, and son Jim and family were the last to come. This is indeed a closely knit family.

Roger and Donna were married 60 years and were high school sweethearts. They were preparing to celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary along with family and friends when he became ill and had to be hospitalized.

Roger served in the Army in World War II. After coming home from military service, he began teaching school. He taught in Ohio for 31 years, teaching science in high school and middle school. He chose to teach in the tough inner city schools of East Cleveland for several years where he excelled in reaching and inspiring students who might not ordinarily excel in school.

After moving to Houston and joining Cokesbury, Roger went to work at Cloth World along with Donna and managed the store for a while. Later he worked in the deli at Randalls. He was a volunteer docent at the Houston Zoo, imparting his knowledge of biology and animals to children and adults alike. He also did volunteer work at Memorial Southeast Hospital but wound up working for one of the doctors there organizing the office as well as wheeling patients to and fro. He suffered a stroke during this time and had to retire for good. That didn't slow him down at church, however. Each Sunday, he would man the front door with his walker ushering and handing out bulletins as he had done for many years.

Both Roger and Donna sang in the choir for several years. When Donna started running the church bazaar, Roger was right there manning his familiar station of taking in and handling the money. He also organized the Good News Sunday School Class, and it has been running strong ever since.

We extend our condolences to Donna, Jim, Darla, Lee, Margie, and Beth and their families upon the death of Roger. He was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, and Christian, someone we could all aspire to be.

-John Short

## Youth Schedule

July 12- July 16- Lakeview Camp  
 July 18 - July 21- District Youth Week-Activities with other churches  
 August 4- 6- Schlitterbahn, New Braunfels

## 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:

**2nd Sunday:** Patti & Dennis Akkola, Linda Garies, Theresa Graham, Margo & Tom Green, Linda Hite, Laurel Johnson, Carolyn Lofland, Herb Parker, Cathy Pleasants, Lois Seeley.

**3rd Sunday:** Sherry Brooks, Lynda Detwiler, Maymie DuBard, Jo Farris, Joyce Garner, Betty Grigsby, Karla Parker, Janis Shields, Martha von Kriegenbergh, Patsy Womack.

## By The Numbers

June 27

8:30 a.m. Service.....69  
 11:00 a.m. Service.....102  
 The Fountain.....60  
 Total.....231

## Cokesbury's Statement of Purpose

Learning to serve God and humankind in Jesus' name.

## Junior High Youth Attend Big House



What a great time we had at Big House! Four youth (Amanda Bates, Rachel Glass, Sarah Loftin & Samantha Schwartz) and three adults (Jackie Glass, Linda Hite and Nathan Sutton) from Cokesbury spent a long weekend in Kountze, TX, working out in the hot Texas heat, worshipping together, and growing in Christ. Thank you, Cokesbury, for all your prayers and your support.

-Linda Hite

## Mobile Medical Clinic Arrives at Grace Children's Hospital in Port au Prince, Haiti



## Rainbows Along The Way

### Confusing Depiction



"Hey, look at this!" Myra turned to her husband. "It's certainly a gloomy scene but it's so real!"

It was a rainy afternoon and Fred and Myra were killing time at the local art museum and while normally Fred would be bored at such an activity, the current exhibition of Western art proved interesting to him. So they browsed, admiring a variety of western scenes including cowboys lassoing cattle, bronco busting and chuck wagon races. Then Myra paused to admire one particular work.

"These are all great but this one's unusually good." Myra told Fred when he paused. "It's so well done you really feel the scene."

At first glance, the picture showed cowboys loading cattle on a railroad car just before a thunderstorm, but what made that painting so memorable was the skill of the artist and how he depicted the scene. Driving the steers up the ramp, their muscles straining were grim cowboys brandishing whips and prods. One balking steer tossed his horns so they were starkly visible against a dark and brooding horizon. In the background, hulking clouds billowed in layers against the darkening firmament and the jagged lightning flashes were vivid.

"Wow, that's realistic," Fred told Myra. "Driving cattle to the slaughterhouse. What could be more gloomy than that?"

"Well, it does seem so hopeless for those poor steers," Myra agreed and then stepped forward to squint at the label posted on the wall beside the frame. "Hey, this is interesting. Apparently, the cattle aren't going to be slaughtered. The painting's titled 'Changing Pastures.'"

Just as Fred and Myra assumed the painting depicted tragedy and desperation, sometimes I assume that when I struggle on my spiritual journey, it means certain tragedy and adversity. Yet often just as I'm sure that's the case, I somehow realize through the difficulties that God is nudging me into a new area of service or a new task for him. And I also discover that if I had not encountered that distress I would not have considered that new direction. Tragedy? Definitely not – he just wanted me to "change pastures."

-Anne Adams

Sing His Praises

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