THE COKESBURY COURIER

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Prayer Corner

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

Jay Standridge**,** Lou Ellington's sister (**Mary** Williams), **Orlean** Garrett, **Mara** Price, **Beverly** Crouch, **Nellie** Wiist, **Lillian** Lemaster (Johnny's mother), **Wade** Hudson, **Luella** Sims, **Willie** Nolen, **Dutch** Uran, **Wilma** Wallis (Gary's mother), **Zach** Hopson (Kay Hyle's cousin), **Emilyn** Harris, **Ruth Mae** Parker, Joanne Gray's mother and aunt (**Bernice** and **Dana** Holt), **Heather** Linhart, Laura Bradley's sister (**Patti)**, Rhonda Ruiz' father, **Pat** Heugatter, **Wanda** Ford, Julie West's father, **Lou** Locasio, **Lorna** Moore, **Jack** Williams, **Tim** Cates, **Whitten** Jamison, **Becky** and **Melissa** Morgan, **Carolyn** Diehl, **Bill** Norris, **Kathy** Sloan, **Becky** Ware, **Terry** Allen, **Gail** Wallace, 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.

We also offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the improved health of **Tracey** Moore and **Jackie** Bednorz. If you have prayer requests for the Prayer Chain, please call the church office, 281-484-9243.

Finance and Church Council To Meet Together On August 16

There will be a combined Finance Committee and Administrative Council meeting on Monday, August 16, from 6 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Members of these committees will be planning the financial future of our church. **Please place this on your prayer list. It is that important!**

Shareholder's Dinner

As usual, UMARMY and Big House were amazing. These youth led mission trips give youth and adults the opportunity to work together to spread God's love in a very tangible way as well as a chance to engage in passionate worship together. These trips would not have been possible without the generous support of our shareholders and church family. We invite all shareholders and other supporters, as well as our entire church family to join us in a celebration at The Fountain service on Sunday, August 15. The Fountain is at 5:00 and the dinner will be right after worship. Please come and hear the youth speak about their experiences this summer and join us for food and fellowship afterwards**.**

-Linda Hite, Youth Director

UMW To Meet August 10

The August General Meeting of the United Methodist Women will take place on Tuesday, August 10. We will have a salad and dessert meal followed by a short presentation. The presentation will describe the United Methodist Mission Projects in which Cokesbury participates. The meal will begin at 7 pm. Bring a salad or a dessert to share.

-Laura Bradley

Come to VBS Reunion

All Galactic Blast and Vacation Bible School kids and volunteers are invited back to Cokesbury for our VBS Reunion on Friday, August 13 at 6:30 p.m. We will have refreshments, games, and drawings for door prizes. We hope to see you there!

Flowers

August 8-The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of Kay Hyle on our anniversary by Jay Hyle.

August 15-The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mildred Lohec by Larry, Amanda, and Savannah Lohec.

From The Pastor

Friends! How we need them. Someone with whom to share our hearts and laughter is rare. To be harassed unmercifully about our faults and faux pas by those who enjoy us just for being who we are is a delight. Having a friend is a desire of the heart that if left unattended, makes joy obscured in an otherwise beautiful world.

Friends come to us at the right time to encourage and to admonish. It is a rare confidant who will risk themselves by reproving us. Count them as rare jewels among the imitating rhinestones.

Ephesians 5:19 says: "Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord." Planted there by Christ, this is the song of the soul. It is the melody of redemption, or joy and resurrection. That is why we continue to sing songs of the sacred. I recently came across a piece of prose that read "a friend is someone who hears the song in my heart and sings it for me when my memory fails." Listen for the voices of your friends. They may be singing a song that you have forgotten, of redemption, joy, and resurrection.

Blessings in Christ's Name, *Bro. Bill*

New Choir Director Hired! Welcome Teresa Mauney

It is with joy the Staff Parish Relations Committee announces the selection of Teresa Mauney as Director of Music Ministries at Cokesbury. After consulting with the Chancel Choir and in view of her extensive musical ability, Teresa was selected.

As you know, Teresa has been the organist/instrumentalist at Cokesbury for the past three years. Now she has been asked to step up to the demanding position of Director of Music Ministries. This is a change for us as a church as Teresa will be both the director and the accompanist for our worship services. In addition, she will lead the other music ministries of the church including "The Fountain" and Bell Choir.

Please pray for and encourage Teresa in this new adventure.

Help Children At Ronald McDonald House

The New Beginnings Sunday School Class will be providing a meal to the residents of the Ronald McDonald House on Tuesday evening, August 31 at 7 p.m.. Houston's Ronald McDonald House offers loving, home-like environments, where families can find support and share experiences with others while on their journey to overcome a critical childhood illness. If you would like to help supply part of or help serve the meal along with our class, contact Jim Krafka. We will be also taking the can pull tabs we have been collecting since our last visit. We have many tabs to take thanks to all of you have contributed.

In addition to the meal, the Ronald McDonald House can always use other supplies for the residents to help them reduce their costs while their child is undergoing treatment. The following items are in continuous use. If you would like to supply any of these items, place them in the box in the library and the class will take them on August 31: individually packaged breakfast items such as muffins, POP Tarts and breakfast bars; snacks such as granola bars, crackers, chips, pretzels, cookies and popcorn; fruit; tuna lunch kits; coffee (regular); microwaveable soups – individual servings; trash Bags (7-10, 13 and 45-55 gal.); paper products (paper towels, toilet paper, tissue); storage and freezer bags (gallon, quart); 12 oz or 16 oz hot beverage cups; bath size bar soap; toothbrushes and toothpaste; powder dishwasher detergent; liquid laundry detergent; liquid dishwashing soap; postage stamps; AA batteries; phone cards; Visa, Master Card, and AMEX Gift Cards ($5 - $10).

-Jim Krafka

Help The UMW Make Health Kits

Cokesbury's United Methodist Women are engaged in a summer outreach project. They are making health kits. The kits are needed at all times in cases of disasters and storms or floods because disasters can strike at any time. Theresa Graham will take the kits to Lakeview in September. From there, they will go to the storage facility in Louisiana. We invite members and friends of Cokesbury to join us in this worthwhile project. If you would like to participate, contact Jean Bonds, 281-485-1542 for a list of needed items. UMW members are asked to bring their completed kits to the September 14 business meeting. In addition, a box will be set up in the Commons in early September as a drop off spot for completed health kits. We hope you will consider helping with this worthwhile project.

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Youth Update

We have started making preparations for our annual Shareholder's Dinner. We will share our UM-ARMY and Big House stories during The Fountain worship on Sunday, August 15, and have our Shareholder's dinner afterwards. If you went to Big House or UMARMY (youth, college student or adult) please come help us show our appreciation to our church family for all their amazing support. Several of you have already signed up to speak about your experiences. If anyone has not signed up yet and wants to speak, let me know as soon as possible. We will also get together Friday, August 13, at 1 p.m. at Cokesbury to make the cheesecake for dessert.

During Sunday School we will continue to meet in the Fellowship Hall with Gary Wallis' class for two more Sundays. We will resume our regular classes August 22.

This past Sunday we had an amazing planning meeting with the youth with lots of great ideas brought up. Keep watching here and in the *Quick Connection* for more details. I'm looking forward to all our Fall activities and growing closer to God as we study the Bible together and worship together.

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

Celebrating Our 50 Years: 1961-2011

We Cokesburians are on our journey in celebrating 50 years and we have had a good start! Our commemorative quilt is in the making. It is going to be beautiful and will be inspirational for many years into our future. If you have not donated money for your name or family's name to be on our quilt please do that as soon as possible.

You may also have a past member's name embroidered on our quilt. The past member could have died or moved away.

Quilt envelopes are in the narthex with detailed information in the envelopes. The money donated will pay for our celebration and dinner.

Another event on our journey to our 50th birthday is a new church 2011 pictorial family directory. Alison Myers will be the chairperson for the new directory. We will begin taking pictures for the directory in February 2011. I am notifying you early so we can all get in shape for those glamorous photos!

-Mary Short, Birthday Chairperson

Thank You

Our thanks to all of you for your prayers and cards at the loss of our Mother and Grandmother, Billie Felts. We felt your love and support, and shall never forget that you were there with us as we lost a very dear person in our lives. Please know how much your prayers meant to us, and it shall never be forgotten.

-Our love to you,
Jo and Catherine Felts

Third Graders To Receive Bibles

The Third grade Bible Presentation is scheduled for September 12 during both the 8:30 & 11 am services. If you have a child entering the third grade this 2010-2011 school year, a sign up sheet will be on the Children's bulletin board. Each bible will be personalized with the child's name and signed by the pastor.

Treasurer's Report

Giving-July

General	$25,543
Bond Fund	$380
Designated Giving	$1,552
Total Giving	$27,475

Expenses July

Payroll	$15,349
Church Overhead	$5,157
Program Expenses	$1,008
Apportionments	$0
Retirement Bond Pmt/Int	$10,866
Total Expenses	$32,380

Bank Balances - July 31

Operating	$374
T-Mobile	$8,710
Designated Savings	$52,247
Total Cash Balance	$61,331

Sandy Hinson, Treasurer

Children's Church Resumes September 12

Children's Church is also scheduled to begin on September 12 during the 11 am service. Children's Church is for children in K-3rd grade and takes place upstairs in room 252 (room across from the elevator).

By The Numbers

July 25

8:30 a.m. Service	74
11:00 a.m. Service	85
The Fountain	62
Total	221

August 1

8:30 a.m. Service	62
11:00 a.m. Service	120
The Fountain	37
Total	219

Cokesbury's Statement of Purpose

Learning to serve God and humankind in Jesus' name.

Houses for Haiti - Finishing Up

It was a hot day but the volunteers were energized and enthusiastic. All components of our last House for Haiti were constructed Saturday morning and early afternoon. Everyone there contributed greatly to getting the work done, and I'll mention the word HOT again. Those that participated were Amanda Bates, Mandy Hite, Joseph Bitner, Aaron Akkola, Patti and Dennis Akkola, Teresa Akkola (photographer-good job), Linda and Rod Hite, Johnny Hite, Laura and Rob Bradley, Tom Roper, Jack Kestler, and Jim Krafka. Peggy and Jim Smith and Candy Palmer provided a great lunch for everyone.

We will be finishing up our last House for Haiti this Saturday, August 7 at 7 am. We will be painting the third house. Wear grubby clothes. If we have enough manpower we will be taking apart the house built by the MYF. All three houses will then be ready to ship.

Pictured above are Linda Hite (right) instructing Amanda Bates on the finer points of using a power drill.

-Laura Bradley

Rainbows Along The Way

The Fonly Syndrome

"I just don't seem to be getting anywhere," Yvonne told her friend Jean. "I'm just not happy…" then she continued, a whining twinge coming into her voice. "If only things were different …if only I didn't have so many problems… if I had more money…."

Jean sighed, weary and frustrated with Yvonne's consistent whining. But this time instead of just tolerantly listening and sympathizing, she decided to try a new approach.

"You know, I think your problem is that you've got 'Fonly Syndrome.'" Jean told her friend.

That jolted Yvonne out of her misery-filled reverie. "Huh? What's that?"

"You've got all the symptoms. I knew it when you said you'd be better off 'if only' such and such was true. You've got it when you find excuses for difficulties instead of seeking solutions."

"'Fonly?'" Yvonne paused again, then smiled slowly. "Oh, I get it – 'if only' – 'fonly.' I see what you mean."

Do you have the Fonly Syndrome? We all do occasionally, since it's easier to complain and feel sorry for ourselves than to confront and attempt possible solutions. Of course, it also gets sympathy from others – at first. Of course eventually they tire of the complaints.

However, continued affliction the Fonly Syndrome stalls us spiritually. That's because complaining and not confronting the difficulty means we're not growing or maturing as Christians. So how do you confront your problem? One way is to consider the reason for it and asking why it's occurring. It might be because God is trying to teach or direct us by means of the difficulty. For example, does he want us to develop our faith in him? Or is he trying to divert us to a new path of service or redirect us from a false path? It could be any number of reasons.

But no matter what it is, continued affliction of the Fonly Syndrome never really accomplishes anything. Do you have it? If so, what will you do about it? It's your choice – will you wallow in self-pity or stride forward in confident anticipation leaving the Syndrome behind?

-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:

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