

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:

Beverly Crouch, Jay Standridge, Luella Sims, Tim Cates, Wanda Ford, Emilyn Harris, Mara Price, Carolyn Diehl, Lillian Lemaster, Dutch Uran, Kathy Sloan, Laura Bradley's sister (**Patti**), **Nellie Wiist, Ruth Mae Parker, Jackie Bednorz, Bernice Holt,** Rhonda Ruiz's father, **Linda Simmons, Jack and Mary Williamson, Johnny Lemaster, Zach Hopson, Wade Hudson, Betty Sutton,** Katie Sloan's Uncle (**Larry**), **Jess and Fran Stokely** of Christian Alliance and the family of Daniel Terry a United Methodist Worker murdered in Afghanistan. Also, keep in your prayers 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 prayers of thanksgiving for excellent medical tests for **Brandon Johnson**, and the birth of Susan Newton's newest grandson, **Lawrence James** (son of Rosie). If you have prayer requests, call the church office at 281-484-9243.

Attend Short-Term Disciple Bible Studies

Can't find the time for the 34 week full Disciple Bible Studies? Then try the new shorter studies that will be available this fall at Cokesbury. These 8-11 week, in-depth, high commitment Bible studies are modeled after the basic design of DISCIPLE Bible Study, which has enriched more than 1 million lives. The new SHORT-TERM Disciple Class schedule and format makes it easier for those busy people who are unable to commit to longer studies. Weekly group meetings are designed to last 60-90 minutes with a two-part video segment to guide each session with interpretive presentations from biblical scholars, text material, roundtable discussions, and opportunities for reflection, contemplation, or inspiration from the Scriptures studied. Two classes are starting at Cokesbury in September:

Patti Akkola will be teaching *Invitation to Genesis*. This class will meet on Thursday evenings at 6:30-8pm in the Cokesbury Conference Room and the first session will be September 9. If you have children, bring them to enjoy the activities that will be provided for them in the Education Wing.

Donna Northrup will be teaching *Invitation to the New Testament*. This class will meet on Wednesday mornings at 9:30-11am in the Cokesbury Conference Room and the first session will be September 15.

If you would like to consider teaching a new short-term class, here are the other options available in this new format: *Invitation to Psalms, Invitation to John, Invitation to the Old Testament* and *Invitation to Romans*.

Join the Disciple journey! If you are interested in either teaching or enrolling in a class, call Patti Akkola at 281-922-9932 for more information.

-Patti Akkola

Kid's Sunday School Ready For Kick Off!

For all children in 1st through 5th grades, get ready to enjoy Sunday School like never before. On September 5, in celebration of football season, we will be starting a new football-themed series called BLITZ. BLITZ stands for Bold Living In The Zone. In this series, we will learn the top ten plays in God's play book. Not just learning them, but also putting these plays into action will win the game!

Our series starts on September 5 and continues for 5 weeks. Please join us from 9:45 to 10:45, Sunday Mornings in room 165. Wear a jersey or t-shirt for your favorite football team. Snacks will be provided.

-Laurel Johnson



August 22-The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in memory of our fathers, George W. Crawford and John A. Mingus II by Kayren and John Mingus

August 29 - The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of our 45th wedding anniversary by Mary and John Short.

August 29 - The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in memory of Charlotte Davis by Jim and Janell Stalinsky and family.

From The Pastor

A stress management lecturer held up a glass of water and asked: "How heavy is this glass of water?" There were many answers, but the lecturer replied, "The absolute weight does not matter. It depends on how long you try to hold it. If I hold it for a minute, it's not a problem. If I hold it for an hour, I'll have an ache in my right arm. If I hold it for a day, you will have to call an ambulance. In each case, it is the same weight, but the longer I hold it, the heavier it becomes."

Then he continued, "And that's the way it is with stress management. If we carry our burdens all the time, sooner or later, the burden will become increasingly heavy and we won't be able to carry on."

His point is that we cannot carry our burdens all the time. Sooner or later, the burden will become increasingly heavy and we won't be able to carry on. Yet, when we are refreshed, we can carry on with the burden. Finding the opportunity for rest, and the ability to lay the burden down is also very difficult, a challenge within itself. Ask a friend to come over or better yet send the kids to their house for awhile. You are not being lazy, you are making yourself strong. Do something that you thoroughly enjoy without the benefit of a cell phone, pager, or e-mail device. Then do it.

And when your soul is burdened and worry is your constant companion, give your burden to the Lord. Christ's calling upon our lives not just says it is a good idea to lay down your burdens. Jesus invites: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)



Join Disciple Bible Study IV Under the Tree of Life

Are you interested in participating in the best Bible study ever created? If you have never read the Bible but have felt a nudge to pick it up and read it, DISCIPLE is the course for you. This exciting approach to Bible study focuses on the disciple as a learner and believer. DISCIPLE is a 34 week group study that meets weekly for about the length of the school year. Darrel Raines will be teaching *Disciple IV: Under the Tree of Life*. This study covers 13 books of the Old Testament and 7 of the New Testament. Beginning September 9, the class will meet on Thursday evenings 6:30pm in the Cokesbury Library. If you are interested in joining Darrel's class, please contact him at 281-486-6771 or call Patti Akkola at 281-922-9932 for more information. Darrel is one of Cokesbury's favorite teachers and his class roster is almost full. He has room for 1-2 more persons so act fast and call today!

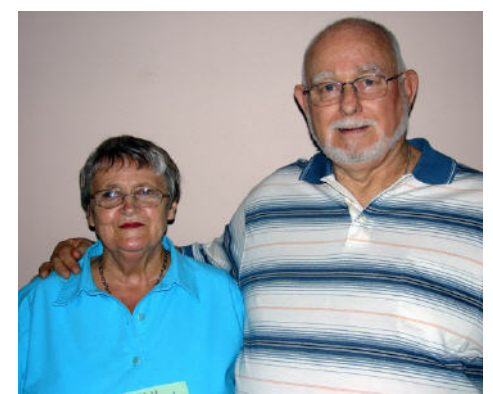
Blessing of the Backpacks Is This Sunday

All the children are invited to the service this Sunday, August 22 and invited to bring their backpack. At both the 8:30 and 11 am services, Brother Bill will give a blessing to the children and their backpacks. We want the kids to enjoy their year but also remember Jesus is with them every step of the way. The children will receive a backpack tag to remind them Cokesbury cares for each of the children.

-Alison Myers, Director of Children's Ministries

Welcome To Our New Members

Welcome our newest members who have joined in the last few weeks. Shown at left is Sheila Holloway who joined in July. On the right are Annette and James (Jim) Gatewood who joined Cokesbury during the 11:00 am service on August 8. When you see them, please welcome them.



Youth Update

As we sadly bid goodbye to summer, we start to look ahead to the new school year. We have a lot of exciting things coming up this fall. This month, the youth had their Fall Planning Meeting. We will have a Scavenger Hunt for SeAM on September 5 during Youth time. If any parents are interested in being a driver, please let me know.

As you guys have requested, we will start our Bible study of Genesis this Sunday morning, August 22. We'll meet at 9:45 in our room upstairs. Junior and Senior High will meet together as we study the history of Abraham, Isaac and Joseph. Our study will be very active, so come ready to move!

The youth will be helping to work the Pumpkin Patch in October. The proceeds of the patch will go towards Children's Ministries.

Our first game night of the Fall will be Friday, September 3 from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. I hope you all can be there!

This Sunday at Youth, we will start working on our Prayer Stations. Everyone come and bring your great ideas!

IHS, Linda Hite, Youth Director

Hear Rob Landes In Concert October 3

Cokesbury has an outstanding opportunity to hear Rob Landes in concert Cokesbury on Sunday, October 3 at 4 p.m. He will perform at a very special "Fountain" on that Sunday afternoon. Landes is the musician in residence at St. Luke's United Methodist Church, Houston, and is a premier pianist, organist and Christian entertainer. He regularly performs in Galveston's entertainment centers as well as in many churches in the Houston area. You may have heard of his band as well, The Rob Landes Trio.

There will be a reception to follow in the Fellowship Hall. This is one where you will want to invite your friends!

Tickets will be available at the door. Proceeds from the event will help our church reach its mission goals such as paying our United Methodist missionaries and Lydia Patterson Institute. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THIS OUTSTANDING OPPORTUNITY.

Editor's Note

If the paper looks a little different, we had some computer problems on publication day. We should be back to normal by our next issue.

Cokesbury's Statement of Purpose

Learning to serve God and humankind in Jesus' name

By The Numbers

August 8

Worship Attendance 8:30.....62
Worship Attendance 9:45.....125
Worship Attendance 11:00.....67
Total Worship Attendance.....254

August 15

Worship Attendance 8:30.....68
Worship Attendance 9:45.....74
Worship Attendance 11:00.....83
Total Worship Attendance.....225

Sunday Counters

8/22-Rob Bradley and Kathy Lemaster
8/29-Gloria Pace and Peggy Smith
9/5-Suzanne Warren and Johnny Lemaster
9/12-Joe Pieberhofer and Craig Elings
9/19-John Hoover and Theresa Graham
9/26-Madeline Martin and Kathy Lemaster

Treasurer's Report

Giving - August 1-8

General.....\$19,412
Bond Fund.....\$245
Designated Giving.....\$358
Total Giving.....\$20,015

Total Expenses Through August 13

Payroll.....\$7,013
Church Overhead.....\$12,625
Program Expenses.....\$669
Apportionments.....\$0
Retirement Bond Pmt/Interest.....\$92
Total Expenses.....\$20,400

Bank Balances

Operating.....\$50
T-Mobile.....\$9,710
Designated Savings.....\$50,362
Total Cash Balance.....\$60,122

-Sandy Hinson, Treasurer

It's Your Time To Help at Helping Hands!

The following people have agreed to help with the Helping Hands Ministry the next two Sundays:

August 22: Debbie Carter, Barbara Craft, Jo Felts, Nancy Hensley, Tracey Moore, Sandy Russell, Peggy Smith, Linda Trevathan, Kris Wallis, Carol & Jerry Yeaney

August 29: New Beginnings Sunday School Class

Music Notes

Thank you, church family for such a warm welcome to my new position here! It is such an honor, as well as humbling, to be chosen Director of Music Ministries here at Cokesbury. I look forward to a new time with new ideas, as well as preserving special traditions we hold dear. I have already been in meetings with different groups here at the church, discussing new plans with the children, youth, and adult groups. There will be more information in the coming newsletters concerning these different groups.

Summer is coming to a close, schools are preparing to begin classes, and this signals the beginning of a new season. The Chancel Choir began rehearsal on August 4 in preparation for their return to the loft on Sunday, August 22. This will also mark the beginning of my directing and accompanying the choir. We are all excited about getting back into the services. The first anthem for this coming Sunday is taken from Psalm 51, "Restore My Joy", which has become something of a motto for us all. Come to the services Sunday, and see what we mean.

With joy,

Teresa

Church Enjoys Music During Summer

During the summer when the choirs took a vacation, Cokesbury enjoyed some beautiful special music during worship from guests not part of our choir. Judy and Mike Boessling performed their usual lively music. Amy Klassen Bogan (daughter of Donna Klassen) was guest soloist during both services on August 1. Amy is shown along with son Drew, daughter Maddie, and husband Robert Bogan. On August 8, the congregation was treated to hearing Carole Pouzar, Dee's granddaughter as guest soloist during both services. She is attending the University of North Texas.



A Blast At VBS Reunion

This past Friday was Cokesbury's 2nd annual VBS reunion. The Fellowship Hall was full of little cadets that returned to enjoy another evening of Galactic Blast. They had some of their favorite snacks, reenacted a scene from the Bible time, and even got in a human knot but figured out how to untangle it. To end the evening, the kids looked at the moon through a telescope.

The children also heard the final count on their mission project for Heifer International. The grand total the kids raised was \$335. This is enough to buy a water buffalo and a promise basket. The water buffalo will take one family out of poverty by providing protein-rich milk, strength to till soil, manure to fertilize the land and much more. Also, water buffalos are happy to eat coarse grasses and other plants that are not suitable for harvesting. The promise basket provides livestock to families that will provide protein to their diets and income for the them to pay for clothes, school, housing, medicines, and more. Thank you everyone for a successful Vacation Bible School and reunion. See you in 2011 at our "Shake It Up Cafe."

-Alison Myers, Director of Children's Ministries

Thanks for "Pulling" for RMH

A portion of the "pull Tabs" collected by CUMC members and friends since July 2009 are shown below. Stop by and see the total collection on the table outside of the Conference

Room window. These will be delivered to the Ronald McDonald House (RMH) by the New Beginnings SS Class on August 31 at the time the class will be preparing and serving a meal to the residents and staff at the RMH.

-Jim Krafka

