



Dot Hailey gave a gift to the Discretionary Fund in memory of **Betty Alexander**.

Carol & Dianne Holmes gave a gift to the Habitat Fund in honor of **Jim Wood** and **Maryhelen Wood** and in memory of **Mr. & Mrs. James Torbet, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Routh, Jackie Cresswell, Mary Wilson, Betty Alexander, and Fannie Pharr.**

Jim & Connie Short gave a gift to the Liberia Mission in memory of **Jackie Cresswell**.

Tom & Polly Shropshire gave a gift to the Memorial Fund in memory of **Pearl Horne**.

Judy Sims gave a gift to the Music Fund in honor of **Buddy & Etta Woodall**.

New Mt. Tabor UMC gave a gift to the Memorial Fund in memory of **Pearl Horne**.

Joe & Martha Coulter gave a gift to the Liberia Mission in memory of **Jackie Cresswell** and **Pearl Horne**.

Dan & Kay Dumas gave a gift to the Liberia Mission in memory of **Jennifer E. Holmes**.

**Recently in the Hospital**

Tom Helms  
Wimburn West



The Work Team would like to thank everyone for helping with the barbecue. Especially the ladies, for the delicious desserts. Again, this was a team effort.

– Submitted by Bill Coulter

**Spring Garden Tour  
Saturday, April 14**

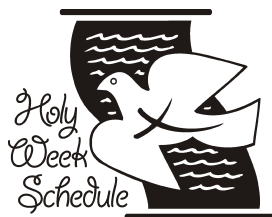
Join Cokesbury friends as we travel to Concord to tour the beautiful Memorial Garden, alive with spring blooms, including over 17,000 tulips – then on to Troutman to enjoy a delicious family-style dinner, including country ham and fried chicken at Julia’s Talley House. We will vanpool/carpool from the church at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 14. The cost is \$13.50. (Donations accepted for transportation and tour.) Call the church office by Wednesday, April 11, to let us know you plan to go! For more information, contact Kay Dumas or Irma Fike.

– Submitted by Kay Dumas



The children’s Easter Egg Hunt will be during the Sunday School hour on **Palm Sunday, April 1**. This will be the perfect time to teach the children about the meaning of Easter and also have some fun before the solemn observances of Holy Week. Look for more information in the usual locations!

– Submitted by Donna Pharr



**Thursday, April 5**

– Holy Thursday Service with Communion –

7:00 p.m.

**Friday, April 6 – Good Friday –**

“The Seven Last Words of Christ” by Theodore Dubois

7:00 p.m.

**April 8 – Easter Sunday**

**7:00 Sunrise Service followed by Breakfast**

**9:45 Sunday School**

**10:55 Easter Worship Service**

**What I Learned from Room in the Inn**

(This was written by Davis Wall, grandson of Bill & Gwen Coulter.)

Upon arriving to volunteer at my grandfather’s church for Room in the Inn, I noticed that no one was there. Apparently, we had to set-up before they could come, since we had 12 guests, 6 men, 2 women, and 4 children. We gave them all one mattress, one pillow, a fitted bedspread, a bed sheet, a thick blanket, a pillowcase, and a bag that had some hygiene essentials. There also were some women who had volunteered to come and cook dinner for the guests and for the hosts, including myself. They cooked up a storm of grilled cheese, countless bowls of delicious chili, with cornbread muffins to the side; I know for a fact that the guests were pleased with the food – I was!

After everyone was finished eating, this little five year old boy came up and took my hat right off my head! So I chased him around trying to get it back, and met with success after a couple of tries. Then I showed him how to hit a little blow-up ball with his hand. So when he knew how to play a little bit of baseball, we played. He was pretty good for a first timer. We then sat down, wore out from playing baseball, and he wanted me to read “The Little Red Hen” to him. So I used by acting skills and read it to him. Then we read another version of “The Little Red Hen”, then again, and after that once more. I don’t know what he likes more, my acting, or the story? Well, right when he wanted me to read it again, my dad walked in to take me home. I was happy that I didn’t have to read it again, but at the same time sad, because I had to leave him there with no one else to play with.

I also had the chance to meet a former marine whose parents were from Hawaii. He explained to me how he was trying to get back home to Hawaii, and how he ended up in Charlotte. In my opinion, I think he was very wise and intelligent, and that he was just in a rut for the time being. He also spoke a lot from experience. I know he’s been around the block a couple of times because he admitted that he’s gone through all kinds of trials, and when you go through that, then you learn.

There also was a young girl there that went to Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School. I didn’t know that homeless children went to school; I knew that they didn’t go to work, but I didn’t know what they did. I also admit that I thought that homeless people were lazy and poor, but they’re just the opposite. They do work hard for their money. The only reason they’re homeless is because they can’t afford a house or an apartment in Charlotte, because it’s just too expensive. They also are very appreciative of what they do have, what they’re given, and they always seem to have a positive attitude.

What I have learned from this service is to never judge a book by its cover. Also, to never take things for granted, because there are always those who are less fortunate, whether they’re here or in Africa. I also had a blast talking with them, playing with the children, and eating with everyone. I have learned a lot from Room in the Inn.

If I compared this service to a story in the Bible, I would compare it to the story of the Good Samaritan. The guests would be the needy man and the wealthy, rich population of Charlotte would be the church priest and the Pharisee, I would be the Good Samaritan. I would compare myself to him because I went, helped serve them food, gave them shelter from the weather, and cold. I also gave them fellowship, which would come hard from others, because they would judge too quickly.



On **April 21**, everyone is invited to join the Youth for an evening of delicious home cooked food and fun during their annual fund raiser event. This year you will dine on a home cooked “TV Dinner” of meatloaf with salad, vegetables, bread, beverage and dessert after which you will be entertained by the Youth’s own production of the **Not So Newlywed Game** – a take-off of the 60's and 70's game show *The Newlywed Game*. The game will feature Cokesbury’s very own *not so newlywed* couples – Floyd and Irma Fike, Bill and Jane Swenty, Mitchell and Judy Hagler, and a special “just-for-the youth” Saturday night appearance by Pastor John and Pat Moore. Ticket prices for the family event are only \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 12 years of age, and a maximum ticket cost of \$30 per family. All proceeds will benefit summer Youth activities including the Summer Beach Retreat and Carolina Cross Connection. Be sure to purchase your tickets from any UMYF member. You don’t want to miss this!

– Submitted by Donna Pharr

### Youth Lock-In

On Friday, March 16, eighteen youth and seven adults met at the church to enjoy a dinner of pizza. We then were off to Carolina Lanes for Xtreme Bowling – bowling like you’ve never seen – “an adventure of lights, music, and wild bowling challenges”! After bowling, we were back at the church and “locked-in” for a night of snacks, movies, games, and fun. Most of the Youth bedded down during the wee hours of Saturday morning. However, Teresa Fesmire, Tommy Pharr, and I stayed up **all night long** with a handful of the diehard Youth. We all had a blast!

– Submitted by Donna Pharr

**Mission Statement**

*As disciples of Christ, we are called to look upward  
in celebration of God's grace, mercy, and love;  
to reach inward in worship, study, prayer,  
and to send outward in mission and servant ministry  
the love of Christ in our community.*

**Church Staff**  
John A. Moore, PASTOR  
Donna Pharr, COORDINATOR OF  
CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES  
Louise Ward, FINANCIAL SECRETARY  
Marty Gregory, MUSIC DIRECTOR  
Joan Gillis, SECRETARY  
Dennis Cannon, SEXTON

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# Through Cokesbury Windows

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## A Sterling Council

Through the course of time, there have been many councils to meet and deliberate on one matter or another. Some notable to history are the Council of Nicaea the result of which produced the Nicene Creed, and the Council of Trent at which important heresies were addressed. Since then, there have been many lesser councils, almost as many as there are churches, which deliberate on the mundane matters of church governance. The Council at Cokesbury has been changing in some important ways you should know about.

The Council still receives reports of the work of committees and sub-committees as information. However, your Council is no longer dominated by reporting, but rather only the amount of reporting that informs the Council of important ministries and up-coming events is shared orally with other information received in written form. The Council also continues to make decisions and send projects and issues to committees for work and investigation where appropriate. Your Council, however, has decided to make decisions by consensus as often as possible and vote only when consensus cannot be reached. These small and simple changes can make a big difference in the attitude members bring to the task of governance and create an environment of cooperation and care.

Perhaps the biggest change in your Council is that your leaders are spending more time considering the guidance of the Spirit of God and seeking to know God’s will for the life of God’s church at Cokesbury. The source of the Council’s discussion comes from the presentation of God’s Word in worship, the study of scripture in Sunday School classes and Disciple Bible Study, and from presentations from speakers at seminars offered by the District and Conference. These things can and will make a dramatic difference in the maturity of your leaders, their ability to guide this church, and the joy with which they pursue their work. The only thing that may be missing from your Council is an active celebration of what God has done and is continuing to do in our midst, but I think this celebration may not be long in coming.

I suggest to you that we should help your Council in their work with a few simple and powerful actions. First, when you have opportunity, you should visit the gathering of your Council and experience their transformation. You are always welcome and the more, the merrier. Second, you should pray for your Council and its leaders. If you believe in God, if you believe that God has wonderful things in store for Cokesbury Church, then pray for your Council that God would bless the work of their hands and the thoughts of their hearts. Third, rejoice in the Lord and in the work of God’s people. We have many flaws and are burdened with many sins, yet God is at work among us to accomplish God’s will. We must be careful to rejoice in the good being done before criticizing what has not been done. If we can do these things, we can participate in the great things being done and hasten the great day of the Lord at Cokesbury!

Peace!  
Pastor John