



Jewell Garrison gave a gift to the Budget Fund in memory of **Lois Garrison**.

Judge & Katie Lane gave a gift to the Room in the Inn in honor of the 60th anniversary of **Tim & Mary Freeman**.

Jim & Carol Black and Jack & Irene Murphy gave gifts to the Budget Fund in honor of the 60th anniversary of **Tim & Mary Freeman**.

Tom & Mickey Helms gave a gift to the Maintenance Fund in memory of **Kevin Ellison**.

Carol & Dianne Holmes gave a gift to the Carolina Cross Connection in honor of the 60th anniversary of **Tim & Mary Freeman**.

Recently in the Hospital

Brittany Casteel
Rachel Cox

A Christian is...

- ★ a mind through which Christ thinks.
- ★ a heart through which Christ loves.
- ★ a voice through which Christ speaks.
- ★ and a hand through which Christ works.

– Author unknown
via *Gleanings*

**Pilot Club of Charlotte
29th Annual “Love Lights”**

for

Alzheimer’s Disease Research

Saturday, November 17

5:00-9:00 p.m.

Around beautiful Freedom Park Lake

To light a candle *in memory* or *in honor* of loved ones, you must complete a form (which can be found on the table in the narthex) and mail to:

Pilot Club of Charlotte, Inc.

2419 Hatherly Road

Charlotte, NC 28209

Questions: 704 814-4567

All proceeds benefit Pilot International Foundation

Alzheimer’s Disease Research Fund.

www.geocities.com/pilotclubofcharlotte

– Submitted by Kay Dumas



<u>General Fund</u>	<u>September</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Contributions	\$31,092.34	\$275,338.15
Tower Rend	\$2363.40	\$25,585.48
Disbursements	\$32,123.05	\$280,648.05

– Submitted by Jim Atwater

We will gather on **Thursday, October 25** at 6:15 p.m. for dinner and a brief discussion at 7:00 p.m. of plans for the Bethlehem Christmas Party on December 15 and 2008 UMM activities. We have about 20-25 men each time we meet so if you were not able to be with us in the past, you will want to attend this month. Please join us on the 25th and feel free to bring guests or friends. Please let Tom De Vries know you will be attending by Tuesday, October 23 via a call 704 566-9594 or an email tomdev@umich.edu.

– Submitted by Tom De Vries

IT’S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!

It’s time to start filling shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. This project of Samaritan’s Purse provides us with the opportunity to share God’s love with children around the world. The shoe box gifts bring joy to children who may have never received a Christmas present. Brochures and additional information are located in the church narthex and in the area outside the Fellowship Hall. You will need a brochure for each shoe box that you fill. Individuals and groups are encouraged to participate. All filled shoe boxes must be delivered to the church by November 11. Remember, the first ingredient to pack in your shoe box is prayer!

Shoe Box Sunday for Children

During Sunday School on **November 4**, all children will meet during the Sunday School hour to learn about and fill shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. This is a unique mission opportunity for our children to express God’s love to other children around the world. Each child will be asked to bring at least one appropriate gift to include in the shoe boxes. But... we need your help to fill the shoe boxes. This is an opportunity for everyone to be a part of Operation Christmas Child by donating small gifts for the children to include in the shoe boxes that they pack. Look for the collection box in the narthex of the church. Thank you in advance for your help!

– Submitted by Donna Pharr



Up Close and Personal

During the first part of 2007, **Alyssa Sisavath**, her mom, Tanoy, and her brother, Corey, began attending Sunday School and worship at Cokesbury. Alyssa also became a member of the Middle High UMYF. Alyssa lives with her mom, brother, her stepfather, Jeremy, her grandmother, Tune, and her grandmother's friend, Mr. Ron. Right now she does not have any pets but enjoys hanging out with her aunt's four dogs.

Alyssa is 12 years old and in the seventh grade at Crestdale Middle School. Her favorite subject is Drama and she enjoys playing volleyball and football. Even though she doesn't always enjoy school, she knows that a good education is important.

In her limited spare time, Alyssa enjoys listening to music. She sits or lies down on her bed and enjoys listening to all kinds of music. Well...except for country, and even some of that is okay! She also enjoys participating in UMYF at Cokesbury.

Because of his involvement in humanitarian efforts, Bono of U2 "is her idol", and she thinks that "U2 is the greatest band of all time." Although she is unsure of her ultimate goals in life, because of the influence of Bono, she does know that she wants to be involved in humanitarian efforts and to become known as a humanitarian.

- Submitted by Donna Pharr

CCC Presentation

On **Sunday, October 28**, during the Sunday School hour, there will be a presentation by the youth and adults that participated in Carolina Cross Connection this past summer. The presentation will be in the Fellowship Hall and will include a picture video presentation as well as time for the youth and adults to share their personal experiences. Everyone is invited and light refreshments will be served.



Trick or Treat for UNICEF

Once again this year, the children will Trick or Treat for UNICEF – the **United Nations Children's Emergency Fund**. The children will visit the Fellowship Hall to collect on October 28 prior to the CCC Presentation. Be sure to bring your loose change and currency to place in the collection boxes. All money collected will be donated to UNICEF to help children in 156 countries around the world.

- 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.

Other Churches Worshipping at Cokesbury:
Islesia El Siloe, Pastor Felix Herera
Tuesdays & Friday 7:00-10:00 p.m.
Providence of God Free Methodist Church
Pastor Calby Patva
Sundays 6:00 p.m.

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

COKESBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INC.
6701 Idlewild Road
Charlotte, NC 28212
(704) 537-5818
www.cokesburyumc.net

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit
Org.
U.S. Postage
Paid
Charlotte, NC
Permit No.
1412



Vol.CCLXVII 297

Through Cokesbury Windows

October 15, 2007

The Last Word on Stewardship

Having shared materials on good stewardship, shared sermons, and submitted our pledges for the ministry of Cokesbury Church for the ensuing year, we now share one final word on the matter. This word comes from Dr. Callahan, a renowned lecturer and author of the book "12 Keys to a Vital Church" who speaks of church members in two groups: marathon runners and excellent sprinters. He identifies marathon runners as those who were born in the traditional church of yesterday who are accustomed to viewing life as a commitment with responsibilities. These persons are able to see themselves planning life so as to be able to organize things for the long haul. Investments and life insurance are all part of the same picture that includes annual gifts to their church. But we know that subsequent generations are organized differently and are inclined toward more immediate gratifications.

Excellent sprinters are persons who can do a great deal in a short period of time. Sprinters are less inclined toward making annual commitments, not because they care less for God or God's church, but because they are simply not organized that way. They need to give their gifts to God and God's church in a different way. We have not usually thought in such different ways but we do have a few examples. It was the excellent sprinters among us who gave generously to the Liberian mission this past Lenten season that raised better than \$30,000 for an orphanage. It was the excellent sprinters among us who raised better than \$4,000 for Pat Moore's African mission trip. It was the excellent sprinters among us who raised better than \$20,000 for the habitat house mission. The excellent sprinters among us may not have submitted a commitment card for our stewardship drive, but that does not mean they are any less committed to the cause of Christ than the marathon runner.

Our goal, at this state of the life of our church, is to find more ways for both excellent sprinters and marathon runners to participate in the stewardship life of the church. That may mean that the Finance Committee may need to identify those parts of the church budget that can be funded, not with the gifts of the marathon runner, but with the gifts of the excellent sprinter. We can do this by setting those parts of the budget outside the final budget figures to be raised as funding as needed for those ministries. We certainly need to identify those who are excellent sprinters and begin to negotiate ministries with them that we might know to what they would like to give their monies. Indeed, it may be that quite a number of our members would prefer to identify the ministry they would like to fund rather than identify the amount of money they will give to the whole budget enterprise. Praise be to the Lord our God! What an exciting prospect and twist to the usual method of financial commitment. With God's help, we will enter this new day and find ways to prosper the Lord's work and increase the appeal of God's church.

Peace!
Pastor John