



Jim & Carol Black , Joe & Martha Coulter, and Mary Rast gave gifts to the Maintenance Reserve Fund in memory of **Letha Ganus**.

Bill & Pat McKenzie gave a gift to the Memorial Fund in memory of **Letha Ganus, Rachel Edwards**, sister of Al Forrest), and **Mary Jane Meredith**.

Deanna Reed gave a gift to the Discretionary Fund in memory of **Jennie Ellison** and **Mary D. Purvis**.

Carrie Winkler gave a gift to the Choir Fund in memory of **Letha Ganus**.

Tim & Mary Freeman and Jack & Irene Murphy gave gifts to the Budget Fund in memory of **Letha Ganus**.

Dot Hailey gave a gift to the Discretionary Fund in memory of **Mary A. Harrison** (aunt of Patricia Moore).

Theresa Hall gave a gift to the Honorarium Fund in honor of **UMAR Teachers**.

Helen, Bo, Em, & Phyl gave a gift to the Memorial Fund in memory of **Mary Jane Meredith**.

Recently in the Hospital

Max Meredith



<u>General Fund</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Contributions	\$22,411.57	\$97,863.52
Tower Rent	\$2,842.85	\$5,685.65
Disbursements	\$35,144.82	\$66,394.64

– Submitted by Jim Atwater



Our Deepest Sympathy

...To Bruce Fowler and his family at the death of his mother, Dot Fowler, on March 2.

...To Martha Simpson and her family at the death of her mother, Martha Young, on March 3.

Thank you!



♥To the Cokesbury Members and Friends of Letha Ganus,

Words cannot express how grateful we all are for everything you all did for us and for Letha.

While we will miss her terribly, we have peace and comfort knowing she is in heaven with the Lord himself!

We thank you for the lunch and generous hospitality you gave us as well as for the love and kindness you all gave to Letha during her illness.

May God Bless you all!

The Family of Letha Mae Ganus

♥Cokesbury people are wonderful. Thanks for all the cards, phone calls, food, visits, and prayers. You make a person feel so blessed.

Dot Hailey

Mitchell Hagler Honored

Mitchell (Mickey) Hagler was honored recently by Central Piedmont Community College. Mitchell, Assistant to the Vice President of Learning, was honored for his 40 years of service to CPCC. A tree was planted in his honor at the Central Campus near uptown. CPCC President, Tony Zeiss, said, “the tree planting is our way of saying thanks and honoring this dedicated employee for his commitment and service to the college. He has been a strong influence on the success of the college and has touched many lives along the way. The tree will serve as a reminder of the positive impact he has had on our students and staff over the past 40 years.” Congratulations Mickey!

– Submitted by Kay Dumas



Circle Sarah has donated the book *Letters of a Young Doubter* to the church library. It is one of the UMW Reading Program books for 2008.

– Submitted by Judy Hagler

Book Review

The Cokesbury Library has added *The Big Picture: Getting Perspective on What’s Really Important in Life* by Dr. Ben Carson. Dr. Carson is a surgeon who successfully separated Siamese twins who had been attached at the back of the head. Their story is told in another Carson book, Gifted Hands.

Dr. Carson first writes about the big picture from a close up view of his own life. He reminds us that sometimes hardship is an advantage; that we have to move beyond a victim mentality; that parenting is life’s most important responsibility; that we have to determine priorities and make choices; and that we have to do what is right.

He then moves to a wide-angle view of the big picture. As a successful African-American, he writes about finding a cure for racial divisions and stresses that education is the great equalizer. As a physician, he not only discusses the crisis in health care, but offers a prescription for treating it.

Throughout the book, Dr. Carson’s strong Christian faith shines through. He comes across as a sincere and compassionate humanitarian. “This book is not about HOW to succeed; it’s about WHY to succeed...It’s about finding a vision for your life that can reframe your priorities, energize your efforts, and inspire you to change the world around you.” Cokesbury youth might find it particularly appealing.

– Submitted by Mitchell Hagler



The Cokesbury Men’s Softball Team is starting Spring Training. We’re looking to have another successful year. All men (16 and older) interested in playing, should contact Randy Pitcock at 704 283-3074 or Jim Dinkler at 704 545-9652.

– Submitted by Randy Pitcock



The 50th anniversary of Cokesbury Church is this year! We hope to celebrate all year long and September 27-28 has been established for homecoming events. Bill & Gwen Coulter are co-chairing the Anniversary Committee and will need many volunteers to help with special events; so your ideas and help will be appreciated.

This celebration will need funding since it is not a budget item. Memorials or honorariums to the Anniversary Fund would be appreciated. The UMW Board voted to give \$500 to this fund.

Along with the 50th anniversary celebration, the Administrative Council voted to begin work on a new photo directory. Bobbi Kinsey has been researching our options.

– Submitted by Judy Hagler,
Administrative Council Chair

YOUNG ADULTS

Two events are planned for the Young Adults. A reception will be held after the Good Friday service on **March 21** at 8:15 p.m. and a trip to the Charlotte Checkers game is planned for **April 4th**. The game begins at 7:30, we will meet at the church at 6:00 and go together. The tickets are \$12. Contact Houston Hall at 704 537-5818 or email hhall-cumc@carolina.rr.com to sign-up.

– Submitted by Houston Hall

YOUTH FUND RAISER

Mark your calendars! On **April 19**, everyone is invited to join the Youth for an evening of delicious home cooked food and fun during their annual fund raiser event. Once again this year you will dine on a home cooked “TV dinner” after which you will be entertained by an ENCORE! of the Youth’s own production of the *Not So Newlywed Game*. Tickets will go on sale soon!

– Submitted by Donna Pharr

ATTIC SALE

Cokesbury’s Annual Attic Sale sponsored by the United Methodist Women is just a few weeks away. We need your help to make it a success! What can you do?

- ✓ Clean out your attic, basement, garage and closets and bring your items to the church the week of March 31-April 3 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. and in the evenings between the hours of 7:00 and 9:00 p.m.
- ✓ Bring your baked items to the church on Friday, prior to 4:00 p.m.
- ✓ Pick up a flyer on the table in the narthex and share it with friends or post on a bulletin board where you work.
- ✓ Tell all your friends and family about our gigantic sale.
- ✓ Volunteer to help. Call Attic Sale coordinators, Irma Fike, Jane Deal, or Beverly Able.

ON FRIDAY EVENING, APRIL 4, BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 5:00 AND 8:00 P.M. AND ON SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 5, BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 7:00 A.M. AND NOON - SHOP - SHOP - SHOP. Don’t miss all of our outstanding bargains!!

– Submitted by Kay Dumas

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:
Ilesia 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
 Houston Hall, DIR. OF CHRISTIAN ED.
 Louise Ward, FINANCIAL SECRETARY
 Marty Gregory, MUSIC DIRECTOR
 Joan Gillis, SECRETARY
 Dennis Cannon, SEXTON

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Through Cokesbury Windows

Vol. CCCVI 306

March 15, 2008

Holy Week and Easter

Permit me to remind you of our Holy Week worship. We will share with our friends at Memorial UMC, Central UMC, and Third Presbyterian Church. Sunday, March 16 at 5 p.m. we will gather at Central UMC for a Seder meal; at Central UMC on Wednesday, March 19 at 7 p.m. for a presentation of the Stations of the Cross; at Third Presbyterian Church on Thursday, March 20 at 7 p.m. for Maundy Thursday worship with foot washing and Holy Communion; at Cokesbury UMC on Friday, March 21 at 7 p.m. for a presentation of the Requiem by John Rutter. We will celebrate Easter with a sunrise service at 7:00 at our outdoors pavilion and come inside for breakfast offered by the United Methodist Men. We will not have a 9:00 worship service but will share in Sunday School at 9:45 and Easter worship at 10:55.

Holy Week and Easter are the central events of our faith and define for us why in the first century there was a gathering of people talking about a new religion and speaking the name, “Jesus Christ”. This group of persons, small at first, blossomed to thousands very quickly, migrated around the Mediterranean world, absorbed nations, cultures, and ethnicities, and became a world religion of millions. The phenomenon of what became known as Christianity has also absorbed us here in the 21st century and Cokesbury Church is now a part of that phenomenon. We must recall what made this movement so irresistible then, that we might recapture it for ourselves and our time.

There were two issues of an immense and compelling nature that began this movement and that will propel us today. The first is news that God raised someone from the grave! In all the myths and legends of the first century and beyond, there is no record of anything close to the prospects of a person being raised from the grave. In all the philosophical discussions and imaginative thoughts of that time or this, the human imagination is not able to pierce death and the grave. The closest anyone could come to such as this is the belief that at death the human spirit would break away from the prison of the flesh and take wings. As Christians, we should note that this thought is not a part of our faith, but arose from the Greek philosophers of Aristotle and Plato. But there, in the first century, was a small group of persons claiming that one Jesus of Nazareth had been raised from the grave and that many persons had seen him, talked to him, and shared meals with him. Their witness is recorded for us in the gospels.

The second compelling issue was the inability of persons to stop talking about it. This was such a fantastic and fascinating proposition that as one person convinced another that it actually happened, the joy of the prospects of what it could mean for all of us was so exciting that people could not help but tell the story to others: friends, family, and strangers. In our 21st century world, we live with what seems to be mountains of miracles first century persons could not begin to imagine, that we may have lost the luster of resurrection from the grave. But, I assure you, that neither computers, nor flight, nor space travel, nor cellular phones, nor internet connections, nor medical surgery, nor life sustaining drugs can begin to compare to the incredible and unspeakable power of resurrection from the grave. Find it in your heart to be excited, again! Peace!

Pastor John