



Jim & Carol Black gave a gift to the Maintenance Reserve Fund in honor of the 50th anniversary of **Henry & Bonnie Springer**.

Ed & Diane Bolster gave a gift to the Budget Fund in honor of **Bill Coulter** and in memory of **Lillain Saint Prix**.

Jane Starnes gave a gift to the UMW Fund in honor of **the men who delivered the desk for her**.

Carol & Dianne Holmes gave a gift to Carolina Cross Connection in memory of **Martha Young, Dot Fowler, and Conrad Holmes**.



Crisis Assistance Ministry would like to thank Cokesbury Church for the \$1,000 gift and for continuing to help families who face financial crisis in our community.



<u>General Fund</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Contributions	\$20,997.10	\$118,860.62
Tower Rent	\$2,842.82	\$8,528.47
Disbursements	\$31,540.70	\$97,935.54

– Submitted by Jim Atwater

AND THE WINNING COUPLE IS...

Congratulations to **Phil and Marta Cox**, the winning couple of the Youth Fundraiser encore performance of *The Not So Newlywed Game!* We extend a special thanks to Phil and Marta and all of our other *Not So Newlywed couples* – Jim and Mary Ellen Atwater, Allen and Sue Heafner, and Randy and Teri Pitcock.

It was a fun evening that started off with a chicken and dumpling dinner that was coordinated by Marta Cox and prepared by Marta and a kitchen crew that included Teresa Fesmire, Mary Freeman, Jane Parks, Barb Fesler, and Tony Dyer. Sandy Fowler had the momentous task of coordinating the Youth as table servers and did so without a hitch! After dinner the show began! Our announcer, Dylan Fesmire, did an outstanding encore performance as did our game show host, Melissa Chappell, with rookie co-host, Karsen Dyer, by her side. Jonathan Wembo and his assistant, Priscille Wembo, did an outstanding job as our ad presentation team. And we could not have done it without our crack sound system team of Bruce Fowler and Jim Dinkler. Of course, all good things must come to an end... and then there is clean-up! Leading the clean-up team were Wayne and Jane Chappell with lots of help from Teresa Fesmire, Tony Dyer, and Mary Freeman.

In addition to those indicated above, I want to thank Houston Hall and Tommy Pharr for doing anything and everything they were asked to do, and then some. And, to all the Youth and their parents, for their hard work and enthusiasm before, during, and after the event! A special word of thanks goes out to those that cooked *all those chickens* and *baked all those delicious cookies!* Be sure to also remember and support our paid sponsors – **Chappell’s Home Renovations, Coulter Maintenance Contractors, and Cox Doors**. Donations were also made by **Stonehaven Software Solutions** and **Chili’s Restaurant** on Sardis Road North.

And, finally a **GREAT BIG THANK YOU**, goes out to all of you that purchased tickets and otherwise supported the Youth in this fundraising event. We hope you had fun and we want you to know that your support, and that of our sponsors and donors, raised **\$705.24** that will help make it possible for the Youth to participate in **Carolina Cross Connection** and the annual **Youth Beach Retreat** this summer.

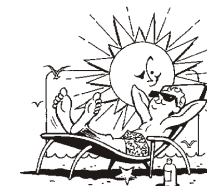
– Submitted by Donna Pharr



INTERNATIONAL LUNCH

The International Lunch will be **May 18**, and we will enjoy Namaste India (on the corner of Independence Blvd. and Sharon Amity), which has a wonderful buffet, so you can try several things. The cost is \$9.95 plus drink, tax, and tip. Please sign up in the Narthex.

– Submitted by Houston Hall



BEACH WEEKEND

Need a weekend away at the Beach? Your Board of Christian Education is planning your weekend away...August 1-3. More news is coming, but mark your calendar NOW!!!

– Submitted by Houston Hall



Confirmation is moving along well, thanks to the following mentors who have taken on this very special task: Mary Ellen Atwater, Joyce Brooks, Tommy & Donna Pharr. Our Confirmation service will be **May 11**.

– Submitted by Houston Hall



We are excited to announce that we are going to create a new pictorial directory of our church family. The directory will help us to connect names with faces. It will be an ideal outreach tool and will capture the history of our church congregation.

Please participate! All we ask is that you have your picture taken by the professional Photographer and meet with a Portrait consultant at the church. For the next several weeks, we will be making appointments before and after services and meetings at the church. Please sign up as soon as possible to get the best appointment to fit your schedule.

- Every participating family/household that selects a pose for the directory will receive a free directory and a complimentary 8x10 Custom Natural Portrait.
- You will come to the church only once for photography and for portrait viewing.
- The program is available at no cost to the church budget.
- You will have the opportunity to order additional portraits during your scheduled appointment time.
- If you wish to purchase extras, the portraits come with a 100% Satisfaction Guarantee.
- Whether you decide to dress formal or casual, you will want to make the most of this opportunity.

The Scheduled Dates for Photography and Portrait Viewing Are:

May 20, 21, and June 2 from 3:00-9:00 p.m.

If you have any questions, please contact Bobbi Kinsey at 704 845-8484. We look forward to seeing everyone in the directory. Our new pictorial directory just won't be complete without you!

– Submitted by Bobbi Kinsey

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 Herrera
 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. CCCVIX 309 **April 30, 2008**
Annual Conference News and Notes

This has been and will prove to be a busy year for the Annual Conference of Western North Carolina. We have already had a mid-year conference earlier in February and will send delegates to the church's General Conference to be held soon in Texas. Our Annual Conference will meet in June and will be followed by the Jurisdictional Conference at which Bishops will be elected with a new Bishop to be assigned to the Western North Carolina Annual Conference. There have already been quite a number of organizational meetings and there are likely to be many more.

From our mid-year Conference, there were two significant items, among others, decided that you should know about. First, is that the Conference decided to add another District which will be the Lake Norman District. Its membership will be composed of churches from the Charlotte and Statesville Districts principally, and a few from one or two other Districts. The Superintendent for that District will be the Reverend Dr. Lillie Jones who now holds a Conference office post. The second item to come from the mid-year meeting was the approval of dashboard indicators for churches. The name is taken from the dials and indicators on your car's dashboard. These will be simple and easily verifiable indications of how a local church is developing in real time. The hope is that churches will be able to plot their course throughout the year and know when improvement in certain areas are needed without having to wait for Charge Conference to hear and see numbers that indicate how the church is doing. Churches will be able to make corrections to worship, evangelism, visitation and other areas, and know where their weaknesses are, and obtain help and encouragement from the church's bountiful resources.

The other item now upon us is appointments. As noted already, Bishop J. Lawrence McCleskey will be retiring this year and we will be assigned a new bishop when the Jurisdiction Conference meets later this year. We send our prayers and well wishes to the Bishop in his retirement and our thanks for his leadership in this Conference. Other appointments throughout the Conference have been stormy at best with appointments having been made and adjusted as the Bishop and Cabinet struggle with the issues and personalities involved. We send them our prayers, for no matter what the outcomes, we know this is very difficult work, that there will be people pleased and others unhappy with the results, and it will be our hope that through it all, God will manage to bless the church and advance it in the coming years. Our Superintendent, George Thompson, will be with us another year and we continue to lift him in our prayers as he has endured successful by-pass surgery and is recuperating nicely in the hospital. By the time this newsletter reaches you, we hope to report that he is healing at home. Finally, your pastor will be returned to Cokesbury for another year of service. I seek your prayers that God will keep me relatively healthy, inspire me to new heights in ministry and mission, and through me to speak the enduring words of the Gospel that Cokesbury might renew its strength and witness for the community and world around us.

Peace!
 Pastor John