



# Cokesbury United Methodist Church

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## **Our Mission**

*To be a transformed and transforming community in Christ.*

## **Our Vision**

Change lives, ours and others'.

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Through Cokesbury Windows

March 13, 2017

The following document was distributed to the congregation on Sunday, March 12. I'm submitting it here for those who were not there due to weather situations and for other reasons. Please read it thoroughly and if you have any questions, please share them with us by calling the church office, emailing me ([ilee@wnccumc.net](mailto:ilee@wnccumc.net)), or dropping a written note, by Sunday, March 19. And we will do our best to answer them, because your questions are essential. Please note the short period of time you have available. However, we would like to hear from everybody who has questions, before making the final decision by the end of March whether Cokesbury will host the South Charlotte site of Urban Promise. Thank you very much.

*In-Yong*

## **Q & A about Urban Promise(UP)**

### **1. What is Urban Promise?**

Urban Promise is a Christian non-profit organization, which provides an afterschool program for the underprivileged children. Their approach is long-term and holistic with their three-pronged goal—Reach a child, Raise a leader, and Restore community—a truly community-empowering one. Please check out their website at [www.urbanpromisecharlotte.org/](http://www.urbanpromisecharlotte.org/).

### **2. Why is Cokesbury talking about it?**

Cokesbury has been approached by Urban Promise through Church at Charlotte, which is one of our two fellow churches that have worked together for Idlewild Elementary School, along with New Charlotte Church. Before learning about the possibility of this collaboration, In-Yong had a tour at the South site of Urban Promise a few months ago and was greatly impressed. Urban Promise is looking for opening an East site and asked Cokesbury whether we could host it.

### **3. What other sites does UP have?**

Their South site located at Forest Hill Church facility (6210 Old Pineville Road, Charlotte, 28217) is in its fourth year, with 105 kids (K-8th) and 30 "Street Leaders". They opened a West site at a church in the fall last year.

### **4. What is a "Street Leader" (SL)?**

UP calls the high school students from the community who have been trained and who mentor and tutor the younger children "Street Leaders". 100% of their first-year SLs graduated from high school in June, 2015 and 100% of them are enrolled in colleges, which is significant!

5. **How many hours a day will UP work at Cokesbury, if we decide to host them?**  
They will open Monday-Friday from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m. during school days, and Monday-Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for seven weeks during the summer.
6. **How many children and how many SLs will we have?**  
Their goal for the first year is to have 60 kids and 20 SLs.
7. **From what schools will the kids come?**  
UP's director, Jimmy McQuilkin, had already talked with Principal Larenda Denien at Idlewild Elementary School, who is very excited about the plan. They decided to focus solely on children at Idlewild at this site. The teachers and staff will select the children who will be served.
8. **When does UP want to start the program here?**  
They hope they will be able to open it at the East site this fall, in late August as schools start a new year. They will recruit SLs from neighboring high schools, including East Meck High, this semester, and train them at existing sites during the summer, and deploy them this fall. SLs are paid for their service.
9. **Who is funding the program?**  
It is the director's job to get funds. Jimmy already secured over half of the funds that are necessary for Urban Promise needs at the East site from two churches – Forest Hill Church and Church of Charlotte.
10. **Our utility bills and the cost of toiletries will go up. How will we afford it?**  
UP has offered to donate \$500/month towards that. At the two existing sites, one place has a custodial staff who takes care of cleaning, and at the other site, UP does most of the cleaning. Our Trustees are currently working on that issue.
11. **What about the insurance coverage?**  
UP has their own liability insurance which will fully cover any incidents. But we will notify our insurance company, just to make sure.
12. **Who will make the final decision?**  
We shared this idea with the Trustees first on February 23. With their blessing, we brought it to all leaders' meeting on February 27, to which Jimmy came with two others and explained the project and answered our questions. The leaders present greatly upheld the plan and it was decided to share it during the worship on March 12. It is because the program will affect the entire congregation's life and therefore everybody's input would be important. As you know, everybody was invited to the South site visit on March 6, and the tour was very informative and impressive. This document has been prepared, not only to share the facts but also to give the whole congregation opportunities to ask questions and to give us your input. If there are any questions unanswered in this document, please write them down and submit it to the church immediately. After collecting your feedback and addressing it appropriately, the GO Team will make the final decision by the end of March.
13. **Will they abide by our Safe Sanctuaries policy?**  
Absolutely. Theirs is very rigorous already, but they will make sure that they uphold ours also.
14. **How do we share the space when Cokesbury has events during their time?**  
We already asked them. Jimmy said that they will remain very flexible, so that both can share the space well.



– Sue Keene gave a gift to the Prime Timers in honor of **Dan & Kay Dumas**.



Dear Cokesbury Family,

Thank you for making mom's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration so special! She was overwhelmed by the birthday cards, donations, and birthday wishes. A very special thanks to Kay and Dan Dumas, Dot Hailey, LeAnne Craig and all the Prime Timers for hosting the party and making the delicious meal. And thank you for your warm welcome to family and friends who attended the celebration. We are truly appreciative!

*Sue Keene*



**Music at Cokesbury**  
**Southern Express**

By Kay Dumas

If you have been enjoying our music each month, you know how good this band is. If you have not, you will not want to miss Southern Express with Michael Benton on Thursday, March 16 at 7:00 p.m. No admission – we'll pass the hat.

Come between 6:00 and 7:00 p.m. and enjoy a grilled all-beef hot dog with all the trimmings, including chili, slaw, onions, chips, pickle, beverage and dessert for only \$4, prepared by the UMM.

Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join you!

## **Annual Lenten Food Drive ro Crisis Assistance and Starfish**

By Bill Coulter

Goal: 1,000 pounds  
6 week during Lent

### **Prime Timers**

**Thursday, March 23**

**11:00 a.m.**

By Kay Dumas

Our line dancers will not join us this month due to illness, but we have a special meeting planned. In-Yong and GO Team members acknowledged that there should be better communication with the congregation and they seek an opportunity to talk with the Prime Timers. Upon their request, I invited them to come to the Prime Timers' meeting next Thursday, so that we all can listen to one another carefully concerning the project idea of Urban Promise. Everyone will be heard and will have an opportunity to ask questions. After an hour of discussion, we will enjoy our food and fellowship. Everyone is welcome. No reservation necessary. Lunch is only \$6.

### **Nicky's Book Club**

By Jane Swenty

Nicky's Book Club will meet Saturday, April 1 from 10:00-12:00 at the Moran home. The book we are reading and discussing this month is Proof of Heaven, a Neurosurgeon's Journey into the Afterlife by Eben Alexander, MD. If you are interested in joining the group, please contact Nicky Moran at 704 365-5474.



By Phil Cox

April 1 will be a church-wide WORK DAY to make OUR grounds beautiful for the upcoming Easter season. We will start at 9:00 a.m. weeding, trimming bushes, planting flowers, picking up trash, and anything else that needs to be done.

Please support the church in any way you can, whether doing one of the above jobs, or holding a tool for someone, handing out water, running an errand or even a monetary support. Any and all donations will be accepted.

If you have any questions, please see one of the Trustees. Hope to see you there!

### **UMM and Charlotte Rescue Mission**

By Ed Bolster

The UMM are partnering again with the Charlotte Rescue Mission to help with Dove's Nest which is the women's part of the mission. We will be collecting ladies razors, regular size body wash, and regular size lotion. Your help will be greatly appreciated. There will be a bin located at the front of the church for your donations.

### **Cokesbury Belles**

By Bobbi Abele

One last call for you to join our widow's social group that meets once a month for lunch. Call Mary Freeman if you have questions.