



# 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

July 24, 2017

## **It's Just a Show**

I visited LeAnne Craig at the hospital on Monday, July 24. She went to the ER on Wednesday the previous week and went back home the next day, only to go back to the hospital on Friday and had been staying there ever since for the infection in her body. After dealing with a tremendous amount of stress for about three months before, during, and after family deaths, finally her body was saying, "enough is enough". She would appreciate your prayers for her.

After that, I visited Teta Kotay. She had a surgery the previous Monday, as Kay Dumas shared with us during the prayer time in worship service Sunday, and was recuperating at home. Thankfully, her surgery went well. Even though she was still weak, clearly she was recovering. She and I sat down and talked about her health conditions, her family and friends, and her next plans in life. Teta is such a gentle soul that I felt at home while I talked with her. We talked and laughed together.

TV was on the whole time, but we didn't pay too much attention to it. But something drew both our attention and it was an episode on "Dr. Phil". I had seen one or two episodes before. This time, it was dealing with a mother's case, who is an alcoholic. She was on stage with her young adult daughter and Dr. Phil. She had been drinking for a while now, and it was apparent that she couldn't control the urge to drink. Liquor bottles were hidden everywhere at home and she was drunk all the time, causing a great stress on her family members.

Teta and I asked each other why on earth she would publicly share her predicament and embarrass herself big time. We had a couple of theories. First, probably it was her way of saying to her family and friends, "I'm sorry. I really want to quit it. Help me". Second, they might have paid her a lot for showing up on TV. She kept crying and looked really miserable. We felt sorry for her.

What bothered us were Dr. Phil's final words. He was urging her to say, "I am sick and tired of this crap and I will quit it right now, or I will not be allowed to stay on this stage." I winced. Would public humiliation cure her alcoholism? Yes, they provided a counselor who would help her, but still I couldn't help but think, "This is just a show. They do it to satisfy the viewers who do not understand what addiction is like."

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The problem was that Dr. Phil, together with the production team, was reinforcing the misunderstanding that addiction is the result of lack of self-control, lack of will power. It might be part of the reasons, but it's not all. Addiction is a disease, as depression is. Who would yell down your neck, humiliating you, thinking it will cure your disease? It will not. If anything, it will exacerbate it, make it even worse. What the woman needs are professional help, prayers, AA group involvement, and a loving community that surrounds her with love, understanding, and prayer.

Oh, by the way, when you have a surgery scheduled, please notify me with the date, time, and place in advance, so that I can be there with you. When you are hospitalized, please let me know also. If you learn about somebody else's, please share it with me, so that I wouldn't miss any. Thank you.

*In-Yong*



- Nancy Cottingham gave a gift to the Budget Fund in memory of **Nancy Angel, Bob Burns, Eleanor Hampton, Chuck Hailey, and Cecile Almond.**
- Deanna Reed gave a gift to the Budget Fund in memory of **Cecile Almond.**
- Frieda Huntley and Family gave a gift to the Memorial Fund in memory of **Eleanor Hampton.**



Thank you Cokesbury, for the cards, thoughts, and memorial donations made in my mother's memory. And a big thank you to Pastor In-Yong, Marta, Marty, and John for the special memorial service. I especially thank you for making her a part of the Cokesbury faith family after she made the move to Charlotte. She was very fond of her church.

*Sue Keene*



On Sundays, come early, have a snack at the Café and visit with friends.  
(If you would like to bring snacks for Sunday's Café, please sign-up outside the Café window.)

## Back Pack Blessings

By Sara Joines

On **Sunday, August 27**, please have your children and youth bring their back packs to the worship service for a special blessing. Teachers and students will also be blessed and prayed for as we look forward to a new school year.



By Sara Joines

If you are looking for a place to relax and have fun over the Labor Day weekend, come and spend it with your church family at Camp Tekoa. If you would like a registration form, please see me or email me at [sjoines@cokeburyumc.net](mailto:sjoines@cokeburyumc.net).

## Books for Urban Promise

By Etta Woodall

We look forward to being the east side site for Urban Promise in September. Children from Kindergarten through fifth grade will attend the after school program from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday. The program is in need of books for these young children to read. Julia's Café and Bookstore, as well as the public library, have children's books for sale. Maybe there are some in your own library you would like to donate. We will be collecting these books through the summer.

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**Prime Timers Summer Luncheon  
(Complimentary)**

**Thursday, August 10 at Noon  
Join us for food and fellowship!**

## School Supplies for Urban Promise

By Etta Woodall

The Urban Promise program will begin on Monday, September 11 for the young students from Idlewild Elementary School (grades K-5). There will be several opportunities to serve: tutors and reading buddies for the younger children and also mentors and tutors for the teenagers. More information will be forthcoming.

School supplies are needed for Idlewild School and Urban Promise. The Urban Promise program needs general school supplies such as: pencils, pens, notebook paper, rulers, crayons, markers, color pencils, scissors, glue, folders, erasers, clip boards, highlighters, tissues, hand sanitizer, and Expo markers. (There will certainly be an ongoing need for these supplies throughout the school year.)

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, August 27 when we will bring these school supplies to the altar during the offering time. This program will be such a positive influence on the whole community!



By Tom DeVries

Mark your calendars now for the  
United Methodist Men's  
16<sup>th</sup> Annual Fish Fry!  
**Saturday, September 23**  
**4:00-7:00 p.m.**  
in the Fellowship Hall  
Adults \$8  
Ages 6-10 \$5  
Children under 6 eat FREE

Tickets will be available in August from any  
Methodist Men's Member.

