



Cokesbury United Methodist Church

6701 Idlewild Road, Charlotte, NC 28212 • 704 537-5818

Reverend Dr. In-Yong Lee, Pastor • ilee@wncumc.net

• www.cokesburyumc.net

Our Mission

To be a transformed and transforming community in Christ.

Our Vision

Change lives, ours and others'.

Vol. DXXXIV 534

Through Cokesbury Windows

March 12, 2018

Blessed Are They

Believe it or not, I started having problems here and there in my body that I had never had before. Growing a number of gray hairs is nothing. Dosage of my reading glasses is getting higher and higher. Both my hip joints give some discomfort nowadays. It used to be so easy for me to fall asleep and stay asleep. As soon as my head hit the pillow, I fell asleep. Nowadays? No, not any more. Sleep eludes me for hours in the middle of the night, however hard I try to go back to sleep. It doesn't happen all the time, but it annoys me.

Years ago in Asheville, I visited a senior member of the church in her hospital room. She told me, "Believe me, In-Yong. Aging is not for the faint of heart." I kept that in mind. As I experience this and that change in my health, I start understanding her words better and better. I found the following poem, "Beatitudes for Friends of the Aged" written by Esther Mary Walker, and I really liked it.

Blessed are they who understand
My faltering step and palsied hand.
Blessed are they who know that my ears today
Must strain to catch the things they say.
Blessed are they who seem to know
That my eyes are dim and my wits are slow.
Blessed are they who looked away
When coffee spilled at table today.
Blessed are they with a cheery smile
Who stop to chat for a little while.
Blessed are they who never say,
"You've told that story twice today."
Blessed are they who know the ways
To bring back memories of yesterdays.
Blessed are they who make it known
That I'm loved, respected and not alone.
Blessed are they who know I'm at a loss
To find the strength to carry the Cross.
Blessed are they who ease the days.
On my journey Home in loving ways.

(Continued on Page 2)

Living with my mother also helps me to understand the challenge of aging. We will soon have an awesome opportunity to hear from our senior members at church their memories, experiences, wisdom, hope, and resilience at the Listening Session on Sunday, April 15. Right after the morning worship that Sunday, we will have Lunch Bunch, which will be followed by the Listening Session.

Please mark your calendars now and plan to be there, so we can enjoy our time together. I'm so looking forward to that day!

In-Yong



– Carrie Winkler gave a gift to the Budget Fund in memory of Jane Kellis.



Thank you everyone for the cards, calls, prayers, and loving support you have given me during my illness.

Love,
Mary Rast



By Bobbi Abele

In case you haven't heard, Cokesbury now has an active Facebook page. Go to your own FB page and search: Cokesbury UMC. When you "like" the page, you will start receiving posts from the church page. If you do not have a Facebook page but would like to see it, you can go to the church website, scroll down to the black bar going across, and click on the "f" on the right side. The website is: cokesburyumc.net. You can post a church event by calling Bobbi Abele or Irma Fike with the information.

Church Safety Workshop

Cokesbury will have a Church Safety Workshop on **Saturday, March 24** from 10:00 a.m. to noon in the sanctuary. Officer Johnathan E. Frisk with CMPD will speak to us, preparing us for any active shooter situation (heaven forbid) at our church. We have also invited congregations of Amity Presbyterian, Third Presbyterian, Central UM, and Memorial UM churches to the workshop. Please come and be trained for your safety. Also, invite many others, so that they too may be prepared.



By Tammy Gilmore

We are in need of individually wrapped candy for our Easter Egg Hunt to be held at noon on Easter Sunday, April 1. There is a donation basket in the narthex. Candy donations are needed by March 18. Candy should be small enough to fit in Easter eggs. Chocolate is fine to donate. The age group for our Easter Egg Hunt is toddlers up to and including fifth graders. The Easter Egg Hunt is open to Cokesbury children and our neighbors.

Easter Experience

By Tammy Gilmore

Join us for some special activities on Easter weekend. In the Fellowship Hall, there will be interactive prayer stations focusing on deepening your understanding and

experience of some of the major events of Jesus's path to his resurrection as well as general stations witnessing God's love for us. The Easter experience begins at 5:00 p.m. on Good Friday as well as Saturday, March 31 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and Easter Sunday 9:30 a.m. and concluding at 2:30 p.m. As part of the activities, there will be a traditional Easter Egg Hunt at noon on Easter Sunday for toddlers to 5th graders. To volunteer to help with any of these events, please contact Tammy Gilmore at 704 488-5395.



Music at Cokesbury

Thursday, March 15 at 7:00 p.m.

Hot Dog Supper at 6:00 p.m.

By Kay Dumas

If you have not enjoyed one of our Music at Cokesbury events, you have missed some outstanding entertainment. We have had outstanding individuals and groups entertain us. The Queen City Ringers in December were wonderful. Remember our objective is to reach our neighbors and invite them to Cokesbury. Join us on Thursday, March 15 for a delicious hot dog supper prepared by the Cokesbury UMM followed at 7:00 by Michael Benton's group, Southern Express. Come and enjoy and bring family, friends, and neighbors. Donations will be accepted and refreshments will be served.

Sean's Topiaries
Sunday, March 18
11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

By Kay Dumas

Our UMAR student, Sean Reilly, will have topiaries featured at the Starving Artist Market, 4000 Raleigh Street, on Sunday, March 18 from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Prime Timers
Thursday, March 22

11:00 a.m.

By Kay Dumas

Join the Prime Timers and welcome our newly elected City Council Representative, Matt Newton. We will have an opportunity to learn what is happening in east Charlotte and plans for the future. Lunch is provided for only \$6. No reservation needed.