



# Cokesbury United Methodist Church

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

Reverend Dr. In-Yong Lee, Pastor • [ilee@wnccumc.net](mailto:ilee@wnccumc.net)

• [www.cokesburyumc.net](http://www.cokesburyumc.net)

## **Our Mission**

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

## **Our Vision**

Change lives, ours and others'.

Vol. DLX 560

Through Cokesbury Windows

April 22, 2019

## **Easter Praises**

Happy Easter! Christ is risen indeed!

My heart is filled with gratitude and I would like to express it here. Throughout the Lenten season and on Easter this year, we experienced beautiful things. It started with the Ash Wednesday Service, the creative liturgy for which Mara Cox prepared. With smudge of the cross in ashes on our foreheads, we started walking the penitent journey of Lent.

While we continued various Lenten practices of self-discipline and repentance through fasting, prayers, Bible reading, and others, we as a congregation expressed our thanks to one another each Sunday. We thanked others in the congregation, for their kindnesses, hugs, sweet notes, food, friendship, prayers, leadership, love, service, and many other things on colorful "A Journey through Lent" cards. Jo Walters and Nancy DeVries collected them each Sunday and delivered them to each person the following Sunday.

Our people came out one day (or more) to spruce up our campus for Easter. Our lawn is well mowed and trimmed, new mulch covering the areas around trees, beautiful flowers greeting us every time we come to church. The two big pots on both sides of our main entrance have new, pretty flowers. As much as the outside, the inside of the building was made beautiful, according to the church calendar. Marta's creative and faithful renditions on the bulletin board for Lent and Easter have greatly inspired us. The sanctuary, the Narthex, and the hall area outside the sanctuary were beaming with fragrant flowers on Easter Sunday.

Oh, the choir! The special Lenten music offering of "The Last Living Words" conducted by Robert Kennedy on Sunday, April 7 took our breath away! Fifty members of the joint choir – the Singing Saints and the Cokesbury choir – were amazing together with Marty and the other musicians. We thank all of them. The Good Friday Tenebrae Service by our choir with the special guest singer, John Willoughby, was the best I remember. These music programs were very moving expressions of our faith.

Throughout Lent, six churches in this area – two Presbyterian churches (Amity and Third) and four United Methodist churches (Cokesbury, Central, Memorial, and Commonwealth) – had

weekday joint services on Wednesdays. Preachers took turns to preach or to serve as liturgists. Members of these churches faithfully attended the services, including quite a number of members from Cokesbury. On the last Wednesday, for the first time in our joint services, we celebrated communion. Seven pastors all wearing black robes and purple stoles serving communion together was a wonderful moment to remember. Our special offering of about \$300 has been given to Idlewild Elementary School, who were very grateful for the gift.

Finally, Tammy Gilmore's thoughtful and loving preparation of the prayer stations again helped us tremendously on our journey through Holy Week. I am so thankful for Steve Carter's heartfelt sermon in Easter Sunrise Service, for 34 people who gathered to worship in the outdoor worship space despite the chilly morning, for six men who prepared delicious breakfast in the kitchen, and for all the church members and their family members who glorified God for Jesus' resurrection and for our new life with the living Lord! Praise the Lord for all these and many others I might have forgotten to include here! And thank you, Cokesbury family, for your faithfulness!

*In-Yong*



– Someone gave a gift to the Honorarium Fund in honor of **Linda Horne**.

### **First Quarter Mission Report – 2019**

By Judy Sims

January through March the Mission Committee members agreed to send funds to the following:

- Heifer International – \$200
- Salvation Army – \$150
- Share the Warmth – \$150
- Crisis Assistance Ministry – \$150
- Sarcoidosis of NC – \$100
- Zihua Roofs Society – \$300
- Loaves & Fishes – \$200
- Central United Methodist Church – \$150

Our next meeting will be April 26 at 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like to join us, please come. If you have a request but cannot attend, please let a member of the committee hear from you. The United Methodist Men gave Missions \$1500 from the BBQ. Thanks to all of you for your interest in Missions.

**Prime Timers**

**Thursday, April 25, 11:00 a.m.**

By Kay Dumas

We look forward to an interesting and fun time when Storyteller, Lona Bartlett, ([www.lonabartlettstoryteller.com](http://www.lonabartlettstoryteller.com)) entertains us at our meeting. Come, bring a friend, and enjoy a time together and a delicious lunch for only \$6. No reservation necessary.



**Music at Cokesbury**

**Thursday, May 16 at 7:00 p.m.**

**In the Fellowship Hall**

**Featuring Harold, the Golden Oldie**