

■ April
■ 2009
□ Volume 31, Issue 4



COKER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The COKER COURIER

www.coker.org



IN THIS ISSUE:

Stewardship
New Member Celebration
page 2

■ ■ ■
For Children
page 3

■ ■ ■
For Adults
page 4

■ ■ ■
Holy Week and
Easter
page 5

■ ■ ■
Leadership Nominees
Come & See
page 6

■ ■ ■
Reaching out
page 7

■ ■ ■
Health & Wellness
Memorials
page 8

■ ■ ■
Worship & Prayer
Walk the Labyrinth
page 9

■ ■ ■
April Calendar
page 10

■ ■ ■
Church Life
New Members
page 11

■ ■ ■
Student Ministries
page 12

Church-Wide Chicken Dinner-April 19

The Coker Emmaus Community is sponsoring
a **CHURCH-WIDE** Chicken Potluck Dinner
followed by a worship service
on Sunday, April 19, 2009.

Come enjoy Sunday dinner with your church family. The chicken potluck dinner is the treat of the Emmaus community for the Coker congregation. All members of the Emmaus community are asked to bring a side dish, bread, dessert or soft drinks. Chicken, coffee, tea, and water will be provided. The potluck will start in the Gym at 5:00 pm.



Following the dinner, ALL ARE INVITED to join us in fellowship and worship beginning at 6:15 pm in the Sanctuary. Music and a brief business meeting will precede the worship. Our speaker, Tina Engle, will share her spiritual journey. We will share together in the service of Holy Communion.

Childcare is available.

You do not have to have been on a Walk to Emmaus or Chrysalis Flight to participate. Everyone is welcome. Come and be blessed as you bless others.

Courier Stewardship ...

The Coker Courier is not exempt from these times of economic belt-tightening, so we're trimming our mailing list. Thank you to all who have responded. One more reminder ... if you use www.coker.org, you know that the monthly Courier newsletter is online in a pdf format, making it readable and printable for all. Please notify Betty Sheaffer if you want your name removed from the Courier mailing list. Call 494-3455, ext. 233 or email at betty.sheaffer@coker.org.

Stewardship Thank You



Gratitude

Thank you for the response of the Coker congregation to the church budget crunch. Stepping out in faith in these challenging and uncertain times, 603 persons have pledged \$1,959,901. That includes sixty-five second mile pledges totaling \$67,560. These gifts put Coker in a far better place than we originally anticipated. The Finance Committee, Staff-Parish

Relations Committee, Trustees, staff and lay leadership team have worked faithfully to trim our expected expenditures as much as possible. Because of the commitment of the congregation, vital ministries can continue.

The Budget Sub-committee has recommended the 2009 levels for Council of Ministries, Finance and Administration, Trustees, and Mission Outreach. The areas not yet finalized are Conference Apportionments and Staff Expenses. The Budget Sub-committee tentatively agreed to include only 83% of Coker's Apportionment expense in the budget to give SPRC flexibility to do what they have to do to reach a budget number for Staff Expenses. Paying connectional benevolences (apportionments) in full remains a top priority and will be re-examined as the year progresses. The Staff-Parish Relations Committee has already identified reductions in Staff Expenses. SPRC has decided not to fill five staff vacancies. SPRC is working with the Southwest Texas Conference Cabinet on pastoral appointments since this will have a big impact on staff expenses. Although we hoped to have four clergy appointed by the Bishop and Cabinet to Coker's pastoral staff, we will have to revert to three appointed clergy positions, presently held by Pastors Barbara Galloway, Sharon Stewart, and Dave Felps. This work is in progress but will not be completed until early April. Some additional expense savings are possible, but staff layoffs may be necessary to achieve a balanced budget.

We want the budget process and all of Coker's finances to be completely transparent to the congregation. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ralph Beck or any member of the Finance Committee.

Coker UMC has a reputation for generously responding to a need when it is identified. Thank you for your commitment to the work of God through Coker UMC. Coker is blessed by the support of members and friends through prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. **Thank you.**

Ralph Beck, Finance Chair
492-2484

COKER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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San Antonio, TX 78216-1896
(210) 494-3455

FAX: 494-8537 www.coker.org
DIAL-A-PRAYER: 979-2654

Coker Day School: 494-5061
Mother's Day Out: 494-4481

Ministers

Senior Pastor

Pastor Barbara R. Galloway
ext. 242

Associate Pastors

Rev. Sharon Stewart, ext. 226
Rev. Dave Felps, ext. 224
Rev. Dr. Roy Taylor, ext. 238

Minister of Music & Arts

Rev. Dave Collett, ext. 239

Program & Support Staff

Director of Adult Education & Fellowship

Gail Hatcher, ext. 230

Director of Children's Ministries

Cheryl Kendall, ext. 227

Director of Student Ministries

Mary Anne Waldrip, ext. 269

Church Business Administrator

Jodie Sell, ext. 231

Admin. Asst. / Campus Coordinator

Sheri Halford, ext. 262

Pastors' Secretary

Sue Osborn, ext. 261

Membership Coordinator

Donna Emery, ext. 232

Communications Coordinator

Betty Sheaffer, ext. 233

Media Director

Jason Roe, 380-2423

Financial Administrator

Janice Gentry, ext. 222

Nursery Supervisor

Lynn Fitch, ext. 245

Come meet new members at our

New Member Celebration

Sunday, April 26

**Following 11 o'clock Worship
Wesley 703/704**

Please join the Coker UMC staff and lay leaders
for "Salsa y Mas" as we get better acquainted with the new members who
have joined since October 2008.



For Children



1st Friday Kids' Klub

Bring your basket for an **EASTER EGG HUNT** and fill it with Jesus' love!

April 3 6:00 – 9:00 pm
Kinder - 5th grade Cost \$5/child

Drop off in the Gym; pick up in the Upper Room of the John Gibbs building.

Sign up on Sundays at the Children's Welcome Table or call Children's Ministries. Parents - we

1st Friday Kiddie Co-Op

Bring a basket—you're having an egg hunt too!



April 3
6:00 – 9:00 pm
6 months - 5 years

Cost ... parents, you volunteer your time for an upcoming 1st Friday night

You must register your child by Monday, March 30; there will not be any drop-ins!



Sunday School this month ...

- **2 year olds** are showing God's love to others.
- **3 year olds – kinder** will hear the stories about Palm Sunday, Jesus' Last Passover, Easter, Jesus is Risen, The Road to Emmaus, and The Gift of the Poor Widow.
- **1st-5th grades** will hear stories of He lives! And they will explore the account of the appearance of Jesus on the road to Emmaus.

Summer Sunday School Volunteers needed to teach 1, 2, 3, or 4 Sundays, or more if you want! Share your heart with children this summer as they (and you) have a FUNspirational time. Please call Wendy Roten at 494-3455, ext. 259 to volunteer.

Vacation Bible School....July 20-24! REGISTRATION BEGINS MAY 3.

WANTED: extreme adventures ready to trek to the E.D.G.E. experiencing and discovering God everywhere!!! Would you like to spend a whole week this summer camping on the edge, complete with extreme adventures, exciting challenges, great music and hours of fun?

Sign up for VBS leadership role and join in an incredible week of adventure and growing in God's love at Camp E.D.G.E. Call Children's Ministries if you are interested in drama, snacks, games, science experiments, crafts, or serving as preschool director.



Camp forms now available in the church office ...

Children's 2009 Summer Camps at Mount Wesley

- Entering 3rd - 4th grades ... June 14-17 & August 16-19 - \$220
- Entering 5th - 6th grades ... June 21-25 & July 5-9 - \$275



Travel to the Bayou with us this summer during our **Thursday Summer Fun Days** - "Where fearless kids shine God's light"
June 11 and 25, July 9, August 6 and 20

for kids entering kinder – 3rd grade

New this summer...**Mission 45** - an opportunity for children to share God's love with their community and the world

June 16 and 30, July 14 and 28, August 11

for kids entering 4th and 5th grade and those completed 5th grade

Cost: \$10 per child per date, not to exceed \$25 per family per date. Registration starts May 3, limit 25 for each date.

• **News from Coker Day School ...** Registration for 2009-10 school year is going on NOW!. Call Judy Garrett at 494-5061.

REQUIRED CLASS for those working with children or youth

Child/Youth Protection Class

Sunday, April 26
12:30 pm in Gibbs 1106

If you plan to volunteer this summer or in the fall with Sunday School, mission trips, VBS, music camp, you must attend.

HeBrews Coffee Hour

Head over to The HeBrews Coffee Shop to join other parents of young children! Join us for some coffee, visit with other parents, & pick up some new ideas. Different topic each month.

Wednesday, April 22
9-10 am in Wesley 801

No fee, No fuss - Just a lot of fun!
Childcare available in Wesley 701

*Annie Viers, a Marriage and Family Therapist and member of Coker, will be on hand to answer parenting questions and share a great cup of coffee!
Sponsored by Day School & Mother's Day Out

Wednesday Night Bible Adventure

6:30 – 7:30 pm...Upstairs Rector every week
Kinder – 5th grade

Join us as we continue to JOURNEY TO THE CROSS and GO AND TELL about that Easter morning.



For Adults



United Methodist Women

Meetings

- **JOY** - Tue., April 7 at 9:30 am in Wesley 802
- **Sharing & Caring** - Tue., April 7 at 10:00 am in Wesley 703
- **Executive Board** - Tue., April 7 at 12:00 noon in Wesley 802
- **Monthly Gathering** - Tue., April 14, leave at 10:00 am (see information below)
- **Faith & Hope** - Tue., April 14 at 6:30 pm in Wesley 802
- **Quilters** - Thu., April 9 & 23 at 1:00 pm in Wesley 805
- **Reflections** - Thu., April 16 at 9:30 am at the home of Sharon Ford, 20003 Messina, 545-0076

Have you seen the Women's Ministries page on the Coker web site? www.coker.org

Coker Cookbooks make great birthday, graduation, and bridal gifts - \$12. Available in the church office.

Monthly Gathering ...

Join us for a Field Trip to WOMAN AT THE WELL HOUSE



Tuesday, April 14

Leave at 10:00 am from the upper parking lot and return at 11:30 am.
Lunch on your own!

UMW **May** general meeting will focus on "things" for the UMW craft booth for Cokerfest. Please gather your crafty items, bring them to the May meeting. Or give them to Sara Ramirez anytime or to your circle chair. We can share in preparing items on the craft day—beads, knitting, ribbon, wire, things you having not finished, etc. It will be a fun morning putting things together on **May 12**. We will start at **9:00 am and end at 1:00 pm**. Sharing and Caring Circle will serve a light lunch.



Prayer Shawl Friendship Coffee

Knitters and crocheters are gathering to bless finished prayer shawls, work on new prayer shawls, visit, and teach interested ladies the art of both needlecrafts.

**Please join us on Monday, April 20
10:00 am in Wesley 703/704.**



SAF & CALLL in April



Wednesday, April 1, 8, & 15 ... 10:00 am - 1:00 pm in Wesley 703
CALLL's study of Easter from the Back Side will continue. Join us any time.

Thursday, April 2 ... 11:30 am - 1:00 pm in Wesley 703
SENIOR ADULT FELLOWSHIP meets for their monthly Pot Luck Luncheon. Bring a dish of Mexican-type food to share and enjoy a FIESTA PARTY! Wear your bright colors for Mariachi music.

Friday, April 10 ... 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Join CALLL for a tour to Stonehenge II near Hunt, Texas. Lunch will be on your own in Kerrville at Billy Jean's Restaurant. Bus - \$3.00.

Friday, April 24 ... 9:00 am - 12:00 noon in Wesley 703
CALLL's Brown Bag Lunch/Games Day. NOTE THE TIME CHANGE – the church closes at 12 noon for Fiesta Friday. Bring your lunch. Decaf coffee and water will be provided. We have a variety of games or bring your favorite. Sign up is not required. Just come and enjoy the fun.

You MUST make a reservation to go on tours or trips. Stop by the CALLL table on Sundays or call Margaret Griffin at 341-4080.

SAF-Senior Adult Fellowship

CALLL-Coker Adult Life-Long Learning



Coker Men's Ministry

Promoting Men's Ministry at Coker

Upcoming April Events and Opportunities

- Every Monday in April - UMM breakfast and Bible study; 6:30 am in Wesley 703/704. Contact Tom Ellis at 490-5128 or tellsaia@aol.com
- Wednesday, April 15 - Lunch with the Guys; 11:30 am at Luby's on 281 & Bitters. Contact Ed Von Dran at 930-2834 or evondran@atei97.com
- Saturday, April 18 - WILD GAME DINNER (see details below)
- Sunday, April 19 - Golf with the Guys; Silverhorn Golf Course. Contact Tommy Waldrip at tommy@flatrockadvisors.com
- Saturday, April 25 - Angel Food Ministries. Contact Jack Collins at 408-1677 or collins.jack@sbcglobal.net

Wild Game Dinner, BBQ & Gathering



Everyone welcome! Hosted by Coker Men's Ministry and UMM

Saturday, April 18 6:00 pm in the Gym

Tickets ... \$10 - Adults; \$5 - Children 12 and under
Tickets on sale in the gazebo between services every Sunday through April 12th
Also on sale at the door on Saturday April 18th.

Entertainment by Russ Murphy, Inspirational Country Music 2008 Songwriter of the Year
Join us for food, fellowship, and music. Enjoy brisket, venison, wild hog, beans, coleslaw, and more. Desserts provided by UMW.

Holy Week & Easter

Palm Sunday - April 5

All children are invited to wave palms and join in the celebration at all services! In the Sanctuary, shouts of "Hosanna" begin worship as children process waving palms. Pastor Barbara Galloway will offer an inspiring message entitled "Humbled and Obedient." The Agape Choir leads music at 8:15 am, and the Chancel Choir at 9:30 and 11:00 am. In the Upper Room at 11:00, the Celebrate Band leads worship with palms for children and a message by Pastor Dave Felps.

Worship Services at 8:15, 9:30, 11:00 am – Sanctuary
11:00 am Celebrate Service – Upper Room



Maundy Thursday - April 9

A time for meditation, healing prayer and footwashing will be offered in the Chapel from 5:30 to 6:30 pm.

The service remembers and celebrates the Last Supper that Jesus had with His disciples before His arrest in Gethsemane. Before we celebrate the Lord's Supper, Pastor Barbara Galloway brings the message "Jesus Sets the Example".

Worship Service at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary



Good Friday - April 10

There are two worship opportunities: Noon in the Chapel, 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

The 12 noon-1:00 pm service in the Chapel will be led by Pastor Sharon Stewart. The Chapel will remain open until 3:00 to give us time for reflection, prayer and meditation on our Savior's sacrifice of love for the world. You are invited to stay all three hours or for the portion that best fits your schedule.

Worship Service from 12 noon– 1:00 pm; Meditation until 3:00 pm in the Chapel

Our 7:00 pm service commemorates the events of Good Friday and prepares us for Christ's resurrection on Easter Day. This service will include the reading of the Passion narrative from the Gospel of John. Pastor Barbara Galloway delivers the message "His Final Answer to Our Questions". The Chancel Choir and Coker Orchestra will conclude the service with *Stabat Mater*, a thirteenth century Latin poem given a modern musical setting in English by Duane Hoff. The poem is a witness to the crucifixion by the three Marys: Mary the Mother of Jesus, Jesus' Aunt Mary, and Mary Magdalene. The service concludes in darkness and the Sanctuary will be stripped of adornment symbolizing for Christians the despair and desolation at Jesus' death.

Worship Service at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary



Holy Saturday - April 11

Join Pastor Sharon Stewart for Holy Saturday worship at 5:00 pm in Coker's historic rock chapel. Everyone is welcome ... come and bring a friend.

Worship Service at 5:00 pm in the Chapel

Easter - April 12

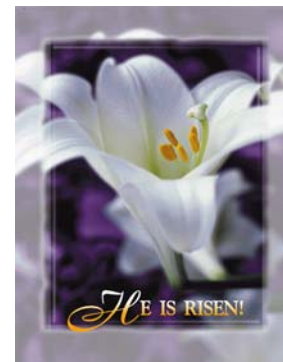
7:00 am Sunrise in the Gibbs Prayer Garden
8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 am in the Sanctuary
11:00 am in the Upper Room

7:00 am - Pastor Sharon Stewart preaching ... Pastor Sharon begins this service of Light and Word in the darkness of the Gibbs Prayer Garden. The light from the Paschal (Christ) Candle will lead us as the service continues in the Upper Room.

8:00 am - Pastor Roy Taylor preaching ... Coker Chancel Choir and Coker Brass lead joyful resurrection celebration.

9:30 am and 11:00 am - Pastor Barbara Galloway preaching ... Join us as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ with beautiful lilies, outstanding music and a message of hope and inspiration. In the Sanctuary, Coker Chancel Choir and Coker Orchestra will lead and energize our joyful alleluias.

11:00 am - Pastor Dave Felps preaching... Our contemporary *Celebrate!* worship service in the Upper Room brings the Easter message through joy-filled praise music in a more casual atmosphere. Pastor Dave and the *Celebrate!* band will lift up Christ's resurrection in fresh and innovative ways.



Holy Week Music with the Coker Choir and Orchestra: The Coker Orchestra will be playing in worship for the April 10th 7:00 pm Good Friday service with the Chancel Choir and again on Easter Sunday, April 12th at 9:30 and 11:00 am Sanctuary services with the Chancel Choir. At 8:00 am Easter worship, the Chancel Choir will be joined by the Coker Brass.

Nominees for District Leadership Awards

Coker UMC nominated the following members for District Laity Awards for their outstanding service. The awards were presented on March 24 at the San Antonio District Laity Celebration at Laurel Heights UMC.



Ted Caravantes Christian Service Award -Award recognizes leaders who demonstrate the courage of their faith by helping those in need. **Charlie and Laurie Miller's** need to reach out to others is a testament to their faith in Christ; they regularly do for the least of us through global and local missions. They feed the hungry through Angel Food Ministries. They are members of the Coker Guyana mission team and have traveled there six times; they have been part of Piedras Negras mission trips to the Alleluya House and Casa Bethesda. They are not only involved with, but Laurie is a board member for Christian Assistance Ministry. Laurie and Charlie have been faithful in their work with Church Connections, refurbishing churches that need assistance; they have used many of those same skills in working on Habitat for Humanity houses. They are part of Coker's Shield-a-Badge ministry, a group that supports the men and women in law enforcement through prayer and notes of caring. In her spare time, Laurie is part of our Prayer Shawl Ministry, making prayer shawls for members and friends of Coker and for our servicemen and women at BAMC/Fisher House who are experiencing difficult times of illness or loss.

Youth Ventures In Ministry Award – Maloree Kendall and Clayton Jenks. *On Higher Grounds* serves as a coffee bar and fellowship gathering place for the congregation before Coker's *Celebrate!* worship service. These young ladies faithfully serve coffee and cappuccinos every Sunday before worship. They visit with members and guests coming in, making them feel warmly welcomed. They maintain this area with huge smiles and servant hearts, from collecting monies to taking orders, to cleaning up the area after worship. *On Higher Grounds* is also a place for our youth to gather to visit and eat. This ministry serves many people of different ages, and these young ladies have helped make that happen.

New Ventures In Ministry Award – Coker Men's Ministry. Coker Men's Ministry (CMM) was started in September 2008 as a means of organizing and promoting Men's Ministry at Coker UMC. Their mission statement is: For every man at Coker to be connected and growing in a relationship with Christ and other men through *fellowship, study and service*. Although Coker has always had a very strong United Methodist Men's organization, it was evident that the younger men were not always able to connect with this group because of their busy lifestyles. CMM was formed to promote all men's ministry opportunities at Coker, including new programs and those established by the United Methodist Men. Some of CMM's activities are geared for young husbands and fathers; others are designed to join the younger men with the older men. Over 300 men are targeted by CMM's weekly, monthly, and annual activities.

Come & See



How do we encourage others to know Jesus Christ? One of the ways is to invite them to Coker UMC to come and see. The following article is one in a series of what some members are doing to illustrate open hearts, open minds, open doors.

Kindness Evangelism

by Patricia Jarrett



"KINDNESS EVANGELISM" - to focus on demonstrating the love of God by offering humble acts of service. Two of us have visited businesses in the Coker area to deliver a Starbucks coffee traveler and cookies to the workers in the businesses. We arrive at the business between 10:00 and 10:30 am - coffee break time. We introduce ourselves and the church location and give them the coffee and cookies.

We found that the businesses were welcoming, interested, and surprised by our visit which led to a conversation about Coker and the long history of the church and its ministries. This outreach helps create an opportunity for the persons we visit to come to Coker to see what Jesus is doing at the church just around the corner. Some of the people we talked to did not know that there was a church in their

neighborhood. Coker UMC is truly a hidden jewel. We are blessed by the Lord with a great sense of His presence, His joy and love in our hearts as we extend hospitality into the neighborhood. We hope this will be an ongoing ministry at Coker.

Reaching out ...

April Mission Moment

Christian Assistance Ministry (CAM)

Founded in 1971, the Christian Assistance Ministry is a non-profit cooperative ministry currently supported by 65 member churches of all denominations, including Coker UMC. With the help of 300 volunteers each week (12 from Coker), CAM helps over 61,000 clients annually at its downtown, northwest, and day center locations. Volunteer opportunities include receptionists, interviewers, food and clothing workers, Day Center hosts, and Bible study leaders.

CAM's mission is to provide immediate, temporary assistance to those in a crisis situation in a compassionate, Christian manner. The focus is to prevent and move people from crisis to stability. Assistance may include food, clothing, housewares, financial aid, nutrition and budget training, job information, Bible study, and referrals to other agencies.



CAM operates one of the largest food pantries in Bexar County, and each fall Coker's members generously donate to CAM's food pantry. The Koinonia Sunday School class has "Undie Sundays" in June for CAM and sponsors an ongoing collection of toiletries outside its classroom in Wesley Hall.

Our difficult economy has greatly increased CAM's clients and decreased CAM's volunteers as many are now returning to work or caring for grandchildren full time. If you can help, please call 222-1553 to learn more about CAM's volunteer opportunities. **During April, the Feinstein Foundation will match the money CAM raises to feed the hungry.** Thank you for giving generously, as your support will be rewarded.

*Having done unto the least of these, my brethren,
you have done it unto me.
Matthew 25:40*

Make plans now to participate in the next mission trip to Piedras Negras, Mexico. We will be working at the House of Mercy Orphanage, Casa Bethesda Orphanage (special needs children), and at the Alleluia UMC school. **Dates are May 1-3; cost is \$100/person.** On this trip there will be some construction projects, but the primary purpose is to extend God's love to the children. Please sign up and pay by April 19. There will be an informational meeting on April 19 at 12:15 pm in Wesley 804. For more information, contact Gary Reaves (494-0454) or Cathie Buxie (494-0169) (email CEBuxie@yahoo.com). **THIS WILL BE THE LAST TRIP BEFORE THE PASSPORT REQUIREMENTS CHANGE ON JUNE 1.**

What is the MISSION VESSEL?

You will find the Mission Vessel in the foyer of the Sanctuary. Many of you have seen it and no doubt have wondered what it is and why it's there. Its primary purpose is to receive the monthly Mission Moment donations.

It is also available to receive gifts for Second Mile giving to Coker Mission programs that include local, national and international projects.

Many times folks have special celebrations to which they would like to make a donation to Coker. Perhaps it is to celebrate a wedding anniversary or a birthday for yourself or a loved one. Gifts can also be given in honor or memory of someone. Monies will be used for supplies, scholarships, and other needs of volunteers for mission projects at the discretion of the Mission Outreach Committee in concert with the expressed wishes of the donor.

Why not make a deposit in the Mission Vessel soon?



Angel Food Ministries



Sign up in the Gazebo between services on Sundays, April 5 & 12
Distribution - Saturday, April 25...8:30-10 am

Join Carl and Marge Coppock on April 6 & 27 to work on the **P.E.T. (Personal Energy Transport) project** in Luling. Call Carl at 497-6346 for more information. A small group leaves from the HEB parking lot at 1604 and 281 at 8:00 am and returns around 3:00 pm. For information about this worthwhile charity and mission opportunity, visit www.giftofmobility.org



Coker Guyana Team Report

The children of Capoe Village get their first look at a sample of books which will be sent to fill their new children's library. The Coker Guyana team worked on the almost completed library for the village of 350 + people. Their work was to install a covered patio so the children could read outside but stay shaded from the sun.



The children are very excited about the library and having books to read. Currently no books are allowed to be taken out of their school after hours. The children therefore have no opportunity to practice their reading skills or study at home as there are no other books in the village located on the northwest edge of the Amazon jungle. Heart of Guyana will soon be shipping over 2,000 pounds of books!

The team also installed a water collection tank on the 10x22 ft. building which will house the library.

Thank you for the generous support and prayers that were with us in Guyana. We delivered the wonderfully decorated Coker 125th anniversary bags to the ladies at the Holy Family Home, filled with umbrellas, undies, toiletries, and more.



Health & Wellness

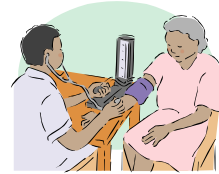
April is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

According to the National Cancer Institute, almost 150,000 men and women are diagnosed with colorectal cancer in the United States each year. Colorectal cancer is the second-leading cause of all U.S. cancer-related deaths, and some 300,000 surgical procedures are performed to treat colon disease.

If you notice a change in bowel habits, dark stools, rectal bleeding, cramping/abdominal pain, or persistent weakness and fatigue, see your doctor right away. Most of these symptoms are likely to be caused by conditions other than colorectal cancer, but they could also be signs of colon cancer so you should get checked out immediately. Ask your physician if you need to be tested. The American Cancer Society recommends a Fecal Occult Blood test every year and a Colonoscopy every 10 years beginning at age 50.

Thanks to all the team participants who are supporting the Susan G. Komen San Antonio Race for the Cure® and to UMW for providing the brunch.

Volunteers needed to do BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS on April 19.
Please call Liz Hoelscher at 378-9522 to help.



Please check www.coker.org/wellness/ideasbank Health and Wellness to observe or make additions to our Ideas Bank, and watch for our Needs Assessment coming soon.

Memorials given from February 13 to March 12, 2009 in memory of

Byron Cole—Eddie & Eadie Youngblood, Ralph & Jeannette Moffitt, Fred & Ila Knight, Bill & Frances Mahanay, Carl & Joyce Hagle, Sam & Toni Smith, Sue Bell & Frances Jones, Mrs. Rivers Lodge

Hollis Calvert—Ralph & Jeannette Moffitt, James & Mary Lysinger, Tommy & Sandra Burns, Ford & Merry Nielsen, John Mugg, Bob & Trudy Stensland, Bobby & Laquita Gibbens, Doris & Verl Green, Ron & Marlene Bailey, Jo Gibbens, Questors Class, Gary & Ellen Alkire, John & Diana Doran, Lois Gordon, Jim & Mary Sue Hubbard, Elva Sanders, Buddy & Patsy Weeber, Daravene Thomas, Jerry Fulenwider, Reflections Circle, Claudia & Cathy Serrin, Shirley Landon, Joe Ed & Elnor Lamb, Harry & Ruth Auth, Jim & Gloria Baker, Sam & Toni Smith, Don Snyder, Deac & Jean Davis, Jim & Shirley Adamek, Jim & Virginia Barlow, Vic & Bettye Hauser, Mr. & Mrs. Pete Bosquez, David & Joanna Hubin

David Campbell (Beau Campbell's brother)—Herb & Alice McDougall

Devin Newkirk (Bob & Barbara Baker's son)—Jim Gilliland

Dale Ellis Leonard (Don Leonard's father)—Dave & Anita Oberle

Frank Davis (Virginia Shearer's brother)—Jack & Ginny Trawick, Jim & Gloria Baker

George Atkinson—Carl & Joyce Hagle

Hazel Stephens (Beth Hilburn's mother)—Herb & Alice McDougall, Becomers Class

James "Jim" Allen (Cyndi Abbott's brother)—Joe Ed & Elnor Lamb

Jack Harding (Ed Harding's brother)—Jim & Gloria Baker

Joe Christmas (former member)—Eddie & Eadie Youngblood

Dr. Katherine "Kay" Rodgers (friend of Mileys & Hagles)—Colette Miley, Carl & Joyce Hagle

Marshall Burnett (Joyce Campbell's friend)—Joyce Campbell

Tom Reeder (Joy Moore's brother)—Jo Gibbens, Jim & Gloria Baker, Harry & Ruth Auth, Jim & Mary Sue Hubbard

Worship and Prayer

Saturday, April 4

Communion
5:00 pm in Chapel

Sunday, April 5 Palm Sunday

Communion
8:15, 9:30 & 11:00 am Worship Services
in Sanctuary
Celebrate! 11:00 am in Upper Room

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Maundy Thursday, April 9

5:30-6:30 pm in Chapel
7:00 pm in Sanctuary

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Good Friday, April 10

12 noon-3:00 pm in Chapel
7:00 pm in Sanctuary

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Holy Saturday, April 11

5:00 pm in Chapel

Easter Sunday, April 12

7:00 am Sunrise Service in Prayer Garden
Pastor Sharon Stewart

8:00 am Worship Service in Sanctuary
Pastor Roy Taylor

9:30 & 11:00 am Worship Services
in Sanctuary
Pastor Barbara Galloway

Celebrate! 11:00 am in Upper Room
Pastor Dave Felps

No Children's Church

Saturday, April 18

5:00 pm in Chapel

Sunday, April 19 2nd Sunday of Easter

8:15, 9:30 & 11:00 am Worship Services
in Sanctuary

Celebrate! 11:00 am in Upper Room

11:00 am - Children's Church

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Saturday, April 25

5:00 pm in Chapel

Sunday, April 26 3rd Sunday of Easter

8:15, 9:30 & 11:00 am Worship Services
in Sanctuary

Celebrate! 11:00 am in Upper Room

11:00 am - Children's Church

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Mid-Week Communion

Wednesdays at 6:00 pm in the Chapel



April Prayer Focus

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these.
Mark 12:30-31

Monday

God of grace, help me love you by spending more time each day with you.

Tuesday

Lord Jesus, lead me to deal lovingly with all those I encounter.

Wednesday

Loving Shepherd, guide me to help those people who are in need of physical, financial, emotional, or spiritual help.

Thursday

Gracious Savior, give me the understanding to offer hospitality to stranger and friend alike.

Friday

Holy God, show me how my words and actions can glorify you.

Saturday

Almighty God, empower me to forgive others as well as myself.

Sunday

Loving God, create in me the path I need to follow to be a witness of your love in the world.

DIAL-A-PRAYER: 979-2654

Hear a new prayer of comfort and encouragement each day of the week.
Prayer Room in Sanctuary's Narthex open daily



Healing Service

Monday, April 6

7:00 pm

Historic Coker Chapel

Come... watch... sing...
be silent or participate...
pray... be still and know...
share the sacrament of
Holy Communion...
invite a friend...
pray for others...
witness and share
the compassion of Christ.

Healing & Wholeness Ministry

Walk the Labyrinth on Wednesday, April 22

The Spiritual Enrichment Ministry team is sponsoring a labyrinth walk on Wednesday, April 22 in Wesley 703/704 from 5:00 until 8:00 pm. No prior experience is needed, and resources will be available to enhance your walk. Most people take about 15 minutes to walk the labyrinth, but you may take whatever time you need.

The labyrinth is a prayer tool to guide healing, deepen self-knowledge, and empower creativity. Walking the labyrinth clears the mind and gives insight into the spiritual journey. It urges action. It calms people in the struggles of life transitions. To those of us seeking a way to live our faith, it stirs the creative fires within. To others who are in sorrow, the walk gives solace and peace. The labyrinth is a sacred place to order chaos and calm the frightened heart, or it could provide a time for thanking and praising God. It can be a place of refuge for those who are overwhelmed and seeking. This experience is different for everyone because each of us brings our unique hopes, dreams, history, and longings of the soul.

Walking the labyrinth is a metaphor for the spiritual journey and has three stages:

1. As you walk the Path of Release toward the center, tell God how you are feeling—confused, lonely, worried, frightened, angry, etc. Try to let go and turn those feelings over to God.
2. The center is the Path of Illumination and represents the presence of Jesus Christ. Pray for God's Holy Spirit to guide you.
3. The path returning from the center is the Path of Union. You carry the gift you received and the presence of God back into the world.

Each Week:

April 2009

SUNDAY

- 7:00-9:30 am-Breakfast not on 4/12
- 7:40 am - Agape Singers
- Worship - 8:15, 9:30 & 11 am in the Sanctuary; Celebrate! at 11 am in the Upper Room
- 8:15 am – Men’s Breakfast Club
- 9:30 am - Catch the Spirit Membership Class
- 9:30 am - Sunday School for all
- 11 am - Children’s Church (Not on 1st Sunday)
- 11 am - Prayer Group
- 4:30 pm - Sing For Christ Youth Choir
- 5:30 pm - Youth Dinner
- 6 pm - CSM Confirmation
- 6 pm - Middle & High School CSM Youth Fellowship

MONDAY

- 6:30 am – UMM Breakfast & Study
- 9 am – Co-ed Exercise
- 7 pm - Al-Anon Group

TUESDAY

- 6:30 pm - Rhythms of Praise
- 7 pm – AA Group

WEDNESDAY

- 9 am – Co-ed Exercise
- Mid-Week Manna
5:00-6:30 pm - Dinner
- 5:30 pm - Coker Young Musicians
- 5:30 pm - Coker Children’s Ensemble
- 6:00 pm - Communion in Chapel
- 6:30 pm - Kids’ Bible Adventure
- 6:30 pm/7:00 pm - Classes for Adults
- 7:00 pm - CSM Youth Bible Studies
- 7 pm - Chancel Choir rehearsal

THURSDAY

- 10 am - Hearts in Tune
- 6 pm - S-Anon Group (12-step program for families of sex addicts)
- 6 pm - Festival Bells Jubilee
- 7 pm - Celebrate! rehearsal
- 7 pm - Al-Anon Group
- 7 pm - Moving Spirit Dancers rehearsal

FRIDAY








- 9 am – Co-ed Exercise
- 5 pm - Overeaters Anonymous Group

SATURDAY

- 10 am - Parents of Adult Children with Addictions Group
- 5 pm – Worship Service

CSM - Catalyst Student Ministries

Please note that committee meetings are listed in the Sunday Connection calendar.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 ●Mid-Week Manna	2 ●11:30 am-Senior Adult Fellowship-Fiesta Party	3 ●1 st Friday Kids’ Klub ●1 st Friday Kiddie Co-Op	4 ●6:30 am-Race for the Cure ●Race for the Cure Brunch ●Communion
 ●Communion ●Angel Food sign up ●6:00 pm-Youth Peter’s Walk	6 ●7:00 pm-Healing Service in Chapel	7 ●6:30 pm-Down Syndrome Support	8 ●Mid-Week Manna	 ●5:30-6:30 pm-Meditations & Foot Washing in Chapel ●7:00 pm-Worship in Sanctuary	 ●9:00 am-CALLL trip to Hunt, TX ●12 noon-3 pm - Worship & Meditations in Chapel ●7:00 pm-Worship in Sanctuary	 ●8:00 am-12 noon - Spring Spruce-Up Day ●5:00 pm-Worship in Chapel
 ●7:00 am-Sonrise Service-Prayer Garden ●8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am-Sanctuary worship ●11:00 am-Celebrate! Worship in Upper Room ●9:30 am-Children’s & Adult Sunday School (no Youth Sunday School)	13 ●Church Campus closed	14 ●10 am-UMW Monthly Gathering	15 ●Mid-Week Manna	16	17	18 ●Mission Moment ●6:00 pm-BBQ & Wild Game Dinner
●19 ●Mission Moment ●Blood Drive ●Blood Pressure Checks ●5:00 pm-Church-Wide Emmaus Pot Luck Chicken Dinner ●6:15 pm-Worship	20 ●10:00 am-Prayer Shawl Ministry Coffee	21 ●10:00 am-Care Caps Ministry	22 ●Mid-Week Manna ●5:00-8:00 pm-Labyrinth Walk	23	24 ●9:00 am-CALLL Brown Bag Lunch/Games Day ●Church Office closes at 12 noon	25 ●8:30-10 am-Angel Food Distribution 
26 ●12:15 pm-New Member Reception ●12:30 pm-Child/Youth Safety Class	27	28	29 ●Last Mid-Week Manna until fall	30		

Joys

Congratulations

- Sandy & Phil Cooley on the birth of their granddaughter, Bayla Anne Kaskey, 2/20, to parents Andria & Michael Kaskey
- Amanda & Mike Fauver on the birth of their son, Joshua William, 2/20
- Claire & Anthony Escamilla on the birth of their daughter, Sarah Carolina, 2/23
- Don & Mary Ann Smith on the birth of their granddaughter, Reese Kathryn Ueckert, 3/1
- Donna & Mike Stone on the birth of their grandchild, Camden Lee, 3/9, to parents Marcus & Meagan

Baptisms

Hailey Josephine Williams
Dorothy Ann Hausman
Ava Micaela Polanco
Connor Dale Deaton
Emma Kate Deaton



Sunday, April 19
7:30 am-1:00 pm
Mobile Unit in the parking lot

Hospitals & Rehab

- Christus Santa Rosa - Velma Tyler
- NE Baptist – Mary Roberson
- Regent Care Center – Brad Cozens
- Stone Oak Care Center – Ted Glenn, Gayle Littleton, Ginny Walker
- Warm Springs Rehab – Jamie Chaffin

Sympathy

- Louise Calvert & family on the death of her husband, Hollis Calvert, 2/13
- Mary Ruth Lynch & family on the death of her mother-in-law, Yvonne Lynch, 2/13
- Trey Tuma & family on the death of his grandmother, Deborah “Debbie” Yokum, 2/14
- Family of Dr. Kathryn “Kay” Rodgers, former Coker Member, upon her death 2/14
- Grant Huguenin & family on the death of his father, George Huguenin, 2/17
- Cyndi Abbott & family on the death of her father, T.J. Allen, 2/18
- Delia Rincon & family on the death of her aunt, Lydia Hernandez, 2/19
- Galen Ballentine & family on the death of his mother, Edith Ballentine, 2/27
- Verna Scanlan & family on the death of her sister, Irma Kinney, 3/3
- Steve Lutz & family on the death of his wife, Nancy Lutz, 3/13
- Virginia Shearer & family on the death of her brother, Frank Davis
- Don Whipple & family on the death of his sister-in-law, Joyce Whipple

Presence

February 14 & 15
Worship-939 Sunday School-545

February 21 & 22
Worship-951 Sunday School-512

February 28 & March 1
Worship-976 Sunday School-479

March 7 & 8
Worship-820 Sunday School-429

Gifts...as of Feb. 28, 2009

	2009	2008
Income	\$ 467,715	\$ 413,509
Expenses	- 404,096	- 396,594
Balance	\$ 63,619	\$ 16,915

Mission Moment

February - Youth Mission Trips
\$3,809

DEADLINE:
Newsletter Articles
APRIL 15

Contact Betty Sheaffer at
494-3455, ext. 233 or e-mail
betty.sheaffer@coker.org.



Joyce Carnahan



Diane English



Dorothy Hausman



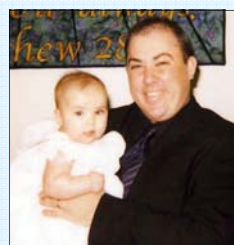
Adrianna & David Kirkpatrick



Kathy & Anthony Krejci
Joshua, Grant & Colton



Daryn Polanco



James C. Williams & Hailey



Joanie & Larry Wisian



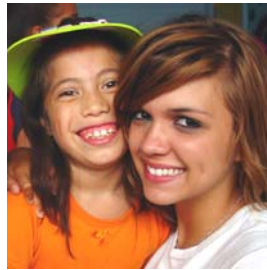
This month's Sunday school lessons will be:

April 5 and 19King David - Samuel 17, select studies in 2 Samuel 11 and 12, Psalm 32 and 101

April 26King Solomon - select studies in 1 King 3, 10 and 11

Small Investment/High Return

If you desire to make an investment in this summer's youth mission trips, please return your support to the church office or by mail. Your support may yield opportunities for life-changing experiences for the youth and the people they will serve this summer.



Fundraising opportunities for summer mission trips:

Sign ups at the youth tables in the Gibbs Building

- Saturday, April 18 – Sign up to help serve at the Wild Game Dinner in the Gym, 6-8 pm
- Saturday, May 16 – Dinner Around the World - more info to come

Attention High School Seniors ...

Applications for scholarships are due Sunday, April 5. The complete application must be turned in that day!

Mark your calendar for Senior Recognition Sunday on May 17.



Sunday Night CSM

5:30 pm - Dinner \$3

6:00-7:30 pm - Youth Group

CONFIRMATION Dive In

- April 5 *Peter's Walk*
- April 12 NO class - Easter
- April 19 Emmaus Chicken Potluck Dinner @ 5:00 pm; Class @ 6:00 pm - *I Choose to Live as a Christian and the Vows of Confirmation*
- April 26 *Our Historical Beliefs: The Creeds*

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- April 5 *Becoming a Man/Woman of God*
- April 12 NO CSM - Easter
- April 19 Emmaus Chicken Potluck Dinner @ 5:00 pm; Youth Group @ 6:00 pm - *Becoming a Man/Woman of God*
- April 26 *Becoming a Man/Woman of God*

HIGH SCHOOL

- April 5 *Jesus America*
- April 12 NO CSM - Easter
- April 19 Emmaus Chicken Potluck Dinner @ 5:00 pm; Youth Group @ 6:00 pm - *Jesus America*
- April 26 *Jesus America*

Inspiration

Look for an inspirational video or story that you can access online to be featured in this corner each month.

This month's feature is LAMININ at http://www.tangle.com/view_video.php?viewkey=152b5103d741aca61093

corner