



# News From The Rock

April 2011

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

## Administrative Council

The Solid Rock Administrative Council met March 15. The Staff-Parish Committee reported that they have had much discussion regarding the position of youth director and whether it should continue as a part-time position or be expanded to a full-time position. The committee sought input from Administrative Council. A lengthy discussion followed, with many members expressing a desire to expand this area of ministry, but concerned that the cost of funding this position would exceed current giving. Council agreed to bring this opportunity before the congregation to determine if this is a ministry that congregants would support through increased giving.

The Building/Site Team reported that the survey of the building site and test borings have been completed. Finalization of the purchase from Heritage Pointe is in process. The purchase price is \$25,000 for approximately 10 acres. The plan will be submitted to the Indiana Conference for approval.

## Easter at Solid Rock

Easter observance at Solid Rock will begin with a community sunrise service on the hill at the Knight-Bergman Center at 7:00 a.m. Following the service, breakfast will be served in the KBC. A freewill donation will be accepted by the Warren Area Ministerial Association.



# EASTER

Easter worship at Solid Rock at 10:00 will feature all church choirs, the praise team, and drama. Plan to join us for these celebrations of the Resurrection!

## Book Club spring session begins April 26

The Solid Rock Book Club will begin its spring session on April 26, reading and discussing the book *Who Stole My Church?: What to Do When the Church You Love Tries to Enter the 21st Century* by Gordon MacDonald.

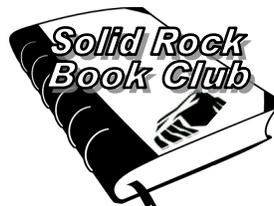
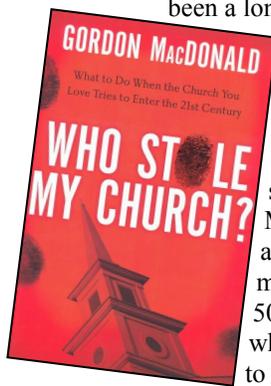
Publishers Weekly says of this book: "MacDonald charts new territory in church growth books by turning what could have

been a long list of dos and don'ts into a highly readable, even novelistic, approach to the subject. With himself as narrator, MacDonald creates a cast of church members in their 50s, 60s and 70s who meet each week to discuss where

their church has been, is now and should go in the future. 'All I know is that someone stole my church and I'd like to get it back,' says one. MacDonald delves into the feelings of the older generation as they watch new leadership take over, see changes in music and use of technology, and begin to wonder how they will fit in. He challenges their understanding of what the church is, then looks at the early church and the modern church and the many cultural influences that transform Christian spirituality. MacDonald is especially strong

when he includes young people's perspectives or brings research to bear on how people view and act on change. This is a challenging, innovative approach to a delicate subject. It's sure to benefit church leaders and members of all ages who dream of a reinvented church."

(Continued on page 2)



## Just Leaning on the Rock!

by Pastor Kathy Newton



We come to the end of Lent with recognition of Holy Week and the celebration of Easter. Holy Week holds in it an opportunity to attend the Last Supper on

**"Easter is not just the celebration of Jesus' resurrection but of our adoption into the family of God"**

Maundy Thursday and to pray in the sanctuary on Good Friday. This to help us remember the great sacrifice

Jesus made for us. We then will arrive at Easter where we are invited to attend a sunrise service with breakfast to follow, and then off to the church building to celebrate with our Solid Rock family.

As we traverse our way through this busy time let us remember the words of Paul. "But Christ lives in you. So you are alive because God has accepted you, even though your bodies must die because of your sins." (Rom 8:10 CEV) Easter is not just the celebration of Jesus' resurrection but of our adoption into the family of God. Thank you Jesus! Because of Jesus, God accepts us as God's own. Therefore we are more alive than we can be in the world. Christ the Risen Savior lives in us, each one of us! If Jesus is in us who can stand against us? These earthly bodies will perish but our souls will live for eternity in the presence of our God thanks in FULL to Jesus whose resurrection we celebrate on Easter. Happy Easter my eternal brothers and sisters.

Shalom,  
Pastor Kathy

## February Offerings

General Offerings ..... \$10,706  
Building Fund Contributions ..... \$8,161

(Continued from page 1)

Anyone wishing to order a book should contact Rochelle DeHaven (468-2773) not later than April 3.

### Meeting Schedule

- April 26: Chapters 1-7
- May 10: Chapters 8-14
- May 24: Chapters 15-Epilogue

All meetings are at the church, beginning at 6:30.

"The joyful news that [Christ] is risen does not change the contemporary world. Still before us lie work, discipline, sacrifice. But the fact of Easter gives us the spiritual power to do the work, accept the discipline, and make the sacrifice."

—Henry Knox Sherrill

### News From The Rock

is published each month by

#### Solid Rock United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 322

Warren, Indiana 46792

[www.solidrockumc.com](http://www.solidrockumc.com)

#### Worship Schedule

Sunday School at 9:00

Worship at 10:00

at 227 N. Main Street, Warren

Church Phone: 375-3871

#### Church Office

427 N. Matilda

Office Phone: 375-3873

Hours: 9 a.m. to Noon

Pastor: Rev. Kathy Newton  
pastorkathy@solidrockumc.com  
Phone: 375-2329

Youth Director: Andy Hayward  
andy\_hayward@taylor.edu

Editor: Gary Walter  
gary@solidrockumc.com

Secretary: Norma Smith  
norma@solidrockumc.com

Treasurer: Myrna Neff  
myrna@solidrockumc.com

Financial Secretary: Wanda Spahr  
wanda@solidrockumc.com

News deadline for the May newsletter:  
April 17

## U.M.W. Guest Day

The Solid Rock United Methodist Women will be observing "Guest Day" Thursday, April 7 at 9:30 a.m. in the Calico Room at Heritage Pointe. Ann Brauchla-Slaughter will have the Mission Moment. We will have a guest speaker from Huntington speaking on "Human Trafficking."

This program will introduce issues related to human trafficking in our world today. This modern-day slavery affects women, girls and families in many negative ways. This meeting is open to all ladies of the church. Come and bring a guest.

Each month the United Methodist Women meet on the first Thursday of the month. We meet at Heritage Pointe so that the women there will have the opportunity to meet with us. Programs have been planned for the year. In May, "The Train" lesson will be given by Ann Brauchla-Slaughter. June's program, "Discovering Haiti," will be given by Martha Plummer. In July will be another "Guest Day" and the guest speaker will be, Deb Johnson, who is our district officer for Social Action. She will be speaking about "The Holocaust." August's lesson is "Pentecost: A Might Wind" given by Freddie Couch. In September, Myrna Neff will give the lesson, "Reconciliation: Journey of Jacob." October will be another "Guest Day" and the program is "A Book Review" by Margaret Bell. In November we will bring our Thank Offering and the lesson given by Barbara Hart will be "Letting Go to be Thankful + Pledge Lesson." Pastor Kathy Newton will bring us a Christmas program.

The purpose of United Methodist Women is "The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship, and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church."

"The resurrection gives my life meaning and direction and the opportunity to start over no matter what my circumstances."

—Robert Flatt



United Methodist Women

## United Methodist Youth Fellowship

Thanks to everyone who has been providing the youth with snacks and drinks for the meetings!

Upcoming events:

- April 3, Meeting, 4-5:30, "Cost of discipleship"
- April 10, Bible study after church
- April 17, Meeting, 4-5:30, Media
- May 1, Meeting, 4-5:30
- May 8, East of Chicago pizza after church
- May 15, Meeting, 4-5:30
- May 13, UMYF Boys Campout
- June, UMYF Girls Day Away

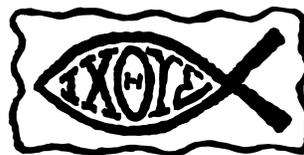


## The Fish

The fish is used as a frequent title in inscriptions of the early church. The Greek letters for "fish" are formed acrostically by the Greek for "Jesus Christ, the Son of God, Savior." The symbol is also connected with baptism (converts, as small fish, follow the main fish).

A symbol of a fish was also a means of relaying a message. It could mean either a funeral was about to occur or that Christians were meeting for the sacrament of communion. According to historical records of the early church, the fish symbol displayed outside a pagan home meant someone had died. If the fish sign appeared outside a Christian home, it was a secret message that Christians were invited to come and share in the celebration of the Lord's Supper at night in secret.

— Jerry Mac Gregor & Marie Prys



## The Easter Lily

The lily that blooms around Easter is a symbol of Christ's resurrection because it rises from a seemingly lifeless bulb decaying in the ground. It is also used as a symbol of Christ himself. The lily, a symbol of purity, is often used to represent the Virgin Mary.



## Men's Fellowship

The Solid Rock Men's Fellowship met on March 12, 2011, at Heritage Pointe with 15 men in attendance. Randy Hensley opened the meeting with prayer. Breakfast was served by Kim's Katered Affair.

Marion Bell shared devotions based on 1 John 3:17-18

and Deuteronomy 8:2-11, "Lest We Forget."

The group voted to provide assistance to a local resident.

Closing prayer was offered by David Spahr. The next meeting will be April 9, 2011.



## Missions Update

*Crystal Lucas teaches missionary children in Tanzania through Wycliffe Bible Translators, one of several missions supported by Solid Rock. She is a granddaughter of Jerry and Lois Walter*

I recently got the chance to visit your church over the Christmas season. Due to the short time of my visit, I didn't get to meet with many of you one-on-one. However, I was very thankful for the chance to visit with a few of you, and to be able to worship with you.

Entering your church was a welcoming experience. I appreciated the welcome that many of you gave me without even knowing who I was. I pray that this community continues to grow and flourish as you come together as a unified church.

Some of you mentioned that you are consistently praying for me—what a huge encouragement this was for me to hear! Sometimes, living so far away, it feels like I am on my own in this endeavor. While I know this isn't truly the case, it is wonderful to be reminded that I have prayer warriors standing behind me all along the way. Please know that God is answering these prayers in mighty ways, not only in allowing me to continue my ministry in sometimes difficult daily-life situations, but in the ways that God is touching the lives of



my students and those around me as well.

Please continue to pray for the following:

- Wisdom for my future
- Wisdom in teaching (for me and other teachers at Haven of Peace Academy)
- That my words would bring light, freedom, and encouragement—as well as loving truth—to my students and those around me
- Grace and courage for my students who are making decisions to live for Christ, despite what their parents and families might believe, and that others would follow in their footsteps

Thank you for your support, encouragement, love, and prayers!

In Him  
Crystal Lucas

## United Methodist Women

Members of Solid Rock United Methodist Women gathered at 9:30 a.m. on March 3 for their first meeting since December. Regular features of a short devotional opening, declaration of the U.M.W. Purpose, and recognition of missionaries having birthdays on this date were led by Myrna Neff, President. Carolyn Winters led the group in heartfelt prayers of joy and concern—for our members, for the church, and for our troubled world.

Regular business was conducted by President Myrna, and concluded with a full-scale report by Treasurer Barbara Hart of the finances of the Solid Rock U.M.W. unit for the past year. Mission giving to our church district is largely supported by unit members, who pledge for the year, and when this amount is increased by varied small projects throughout the year, the total giving of the Solid Rock U.M.W. for the year to mission service with women, children, and youth throughout United Methodist projects, schools, etc., was \$1,323.65.

The annual recognition in our group of the service of Prayer and Self-Denial was led by Carolyn Winters. A special offering was taken to support the working and especially the retirement lives of the many women in United Methodist missionary service. The focus of their lives continues to be a service of love and care for women, children, and youth.

Guests are invited to next month's meeting on April 7. Two women from "Trade as One" Life Church will discuss human trafficking—a crucial concern of our world and all followers of Jesus.

## He saw the list

Come with me to the hill of Calvary. Watch as the soldiers shove the Carpenter to the ground and stretch his arms against the beams. One presses a knee against a forearm and a spike against a hand. Jesus turns his face toward the nail just as the soldier lifts the hammer to strike it.

Couldn't Jesus have stopped him? With a flex of the biceps, with a clench of the fist, he could have resisted. Is this not the same hand that stilled the sea? Summoned the dead?

But the fist doesn't clench ... and the moment isn't aborted.

The mallet rings and the skin rips and the blood begins to drip, then rush. Then the questions follow. Why? Why didn't Jesus resist?

"Because he loved us," we reply. That is true, wonderfully true, but—forgive me—only partially true. There is more to his reason. He saw something that made him stay. As the soldier pressed his arm, Jesus rolled his head to the side, and with his cheek resting on the wood, he saw:

A mallet? Yes.

A nail? Yes.

The soldier's hand? Yes.

But he saw something else. Between his hand and the wood, there was a list. A long list. A list of our mistakes: our lusts and lies and greedy moments and prodigal years. A list of our sins.

The bad decisions from last year. The bad attitudes from last week. There, in broad daylight for all of heaven to see, was a list of your mistakes.

He saw the list! He knew the price of those sins was death. He knew the source of those sins was you, and since he couldn't bear the thought of eternity without you, he chose the nails.

Max Lucado  
in 3:16: *The Numbers of Hope*



## Men's Fellowship Fundraiser

East of Chicago Pizza

April 12  
5:00-8:30 p.m.



## Easter's meaning

In a 2010 Barna Group survey, two-thirds of Americans knew that Easter is a religious holiday. But only 42 percent connected its meaning to Jesus' resurrection. And only two percent of adults said they would describe Easter as the most important holiday of their faith.

Not everyone who connects Easter to religion has the facts straight. Two percent of Americans said Easter is about Jesus' birth. Another two percent said it's about Jesus' "rebirth." And one percent said it's a celebration of his second coming. Another three percent described Easter as a celebration of spring or a pagan holiday.

In the same survey, 31 percent of active churchgoers said they'd definitely invite an unchurched friend to worship with them on Easter weekend.

This Easter, share the truth and joy of the holiday with someone who doesn't know Jesus. News of the resurrection is too good to keep to ourselves!



## The Least I Can Do

For all that You've done  
For all that You do  
For all that is beautiful all that is true  
For saving my life  
The least I can do  
Is fall on my knees and  
worship You

You gave Your Life that we  
might live

Assurance that only You could give  
Your glorious death claimed vict'ry  
With an empty tomb  
The least I can do is worship You



- Mark Roach  
CCLI License No. 871788



NON PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
WARREN, IN 46792  
PERMIT NO. 62

Address Service Requested

