



News From The Rock

April 2009

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

“Vision Sunday” set for April 19

Solid Rock members will have a first opportunity to see initial plans for their new church building following a carry-in lunch at the Warren site on April 19. At this gathering, architect Brian Hollars will present his first design. Following this presentation, Bill Walter, representing Church Growth Services, will discuss costs of the project and the plan to finance it. After these presentations, those in attendance will break into small groups to provide feedback. All who attend Solid Rock are invited and encouraged to participate in this event.

Follow-up sessions will be held for those who are unable to attend on this date. They are scheduled for April 23, 6:30 p.m. at Heritage Pointe and April 28, 6:30 p.m. at the church offices.

Administrative Council

The Solid Rock Administrative Council met on March 17 at the church offices. The treasurer’s report showed total church assets of \$255,787.24 at the end of February. Total income for January was \$16,729.82, and expenses were \$37,101.38. February saw income total \$14,098.99, with expenses of \$15,604.83. Offerings for February were \$11,261.99. February contributions to the Building Fund totaled \$2,219.90. Council approved a plan to contract with Don Spence to conduct an audit of church accounts for 2007-2008.

Solid Rock trustees reported that the Jefferson Center Church has been shown by the realtor to a number of interested parties. The trustees, in conjunction with the Transition Team, are in the process of determining what contents of the two buildings should be retained. They invite members to provide input on these decisions.

Hearing a report and recommendation from the Transition Team, the Council

approved plans to hold services at Jefferson Center in the months of May and July, concluding with a celebration Sunday on July 26, after which services will be moved to the Warren site until a new facility is completed. Should the Jefferson Center property sell before that time, the final service and celebration would be moved to an earlier date.

The Mountain Missions truck will be in Warren on April 27 or later. More information will be provided when available.

Pastor Kathy reported that two youths are participating in the confirmation class, and six adults are taking part in the membership class.

S.O.S. reported that they are planning a Morning Away with Paula Gast on May 16 at Warren.

Kids Club has been well attended. There were 24 children participating on March 11.

The next Council meeting will be May 19 at the church offices.

Just Leaning
on the Rock!

by Pastor Kathy Newton



Some of Jesus’ last words appeal to the Creator to forgive the people who crucified Him. See these words from the 23rd chapter of Luke, verse 34, “Jesus said, ‘Father, forgive these people! They don’t know what they’re doing.’ While the crowd stood there watching Jesus, the sol-

“Celebrate that Jesus loved each of us enough that He laid down His life and died a terrible painful death for our salvation.”

diers gambled for his clothes. The leaders insulted him by saying, ‘He saved others. Now he should save himself, if he really is God’s chosen Messiah!’”

Jesus’ friends stood by helpless, speechless and petrified while these people crucified Him. Who were these people? I can hear you now questioning my qualifications as a preacher. No, I know these people were Roman soldiers, Roman government leaders, Jewish Temple guards, and even Jewish leaders.

Let’s look beyond the very day this happened and look at why Jesus had to die let alone leave heaven and become human. You see my friends, “these people” are us. It is/was because of our sins and lack of remaining sinless in this world that God had to send Jesus. We cannot blame the soldiers or the leaders. It is God’s love for each of us and God’s great desire to have us “saved” that necessitated Jesus to walk as a human, suffer as a human and die as a human. We are the ones Jesus appeals to the Father for. Us! Celebrate that Jesus loved each of us enough that He laid down His life and died a terrible painful death for our salvation. Praise the Name of Jesus!

Shalom,
Pastor Kathy

Easter at Solid Rock



8:00 -
Sonrise
Service

8:45 -
Breakfast

10:00 - Easter Worship

ALL EVENTS ARE AT THE WARREN SITE

**Tomb, thou shalt not hold him
longer;**

**Death is strong, but Life is stronger;
Stronger than the dark, the light;
Stronger than the wrong, the right;
Faith and Hope triumphant say,
Christ will rise on Easter Day.**

—Phillips Brooks



☞ **I just received word** that my great grandson, Daniel Busemyer, has a kidney infection and an ear infection, and I would like for the people to pray especially for him and his parents, Deborah and John. Daniel was two on November 7 and he is hard to deal with in that he is afraid of giving a urine sample and it is hard to deal with a situation like this. He is their only child and naturally they are very concerned. Thanks.

Mabel Fields

☞ **The Varsity Singers**, Huntington North's show choir, and the Varsity Concert Choir have completed another busy season of contests. Liz Bolinger is a vocalist with both groups. Each group received the grand champion trophy

at the Homestead Classic Showcase. The Varsity Brass, directed by Matt Walter, was named best band in the show choir competition, and also won the People's Choice Homestead Coffeehouse award, which put the group in center stage for the evening events. They performed an instrumental Stevie Wonder medley.

Due to their outstanding performances during the contest season, the Varsity Singers/Brass was one of ten groups invited to compete in the Indiana State School Music Association state show choir competition on March 21 in Indianapolis. The choir placed sixth in this state competition, and the band placed third.

☞ **The weekend of February 28-March 1**, Carolyn Winters, daughter Michelle Sexton, and granddaughters Staci Sexton and Selena Ramos enjoyed another "family fun" time together at her daughter Nicki DeLaney's home in Festus, MO. The reason for the celebration was watching granddaughter Elyse, a junior in high school, and grandson Emmett, a sophomore, performing in "The Music Man."

Elyse was Mrs. Paroo, a perfect role as she likes to be the "boss." Emmett played Mayor Shinn. The whole cast was wonderful and provided two hours of laughter. The cast members and some parents came to Nicki's home afterwards for the cast party. It was a night to remember!

☞ **The Scholarship and Kriegbaum School Loan team** will be meeting soon. If you are interested in applying for either of these, please contact Rosalie Walter for more information.

☞ **Barbara Kleinhans**, we missed your article last month. You always inspire us or give us some laughter. I am looking forward to more coming.

Carolyn Winters

☞ **We always enjoy and appreciate** the specials that are shared with us during Sunday Worship. Also, thank you to the committee that contacts and schedules. So many times, we just sit and enjoy and forget what goes into preparing for the morning worship service. Thank you.

☞ **Randy Neff and Andy Bolinger** have been on a basketball team that plays in a league at Bluffton. It hasn't been reported in the newspaper yet, but their team was the first place winner in the tournament. Yeh guys!

☞ **Taryn Oyer**, granddaughter of Ron and Myrna Neff, will be heading to Aguascalientes, Mexico in June on a mission trip to work on construction, build relationships with the orphans, and also reach out with other ministries around the community. The site is the Children of Hope Orphanage. Taryn is a sophomore in the Nursing Program at Ball State University. She attends Pathway Community Church in Fort Wayne. She will be serving as a team-leader for high school students in the GenONE youth group going on the trip.

United Methodist Women

The first 2009 meeting of the Solid Rock United Methodist Women was held on March 5 in the Calico Room at Heritage Pointe. Two new members, Marian Hoffman and Joyce Shepherd, joined 16 members. All women are invited to attend. The women of Solid Rock are more than welcome to join us in the mission work of the church.

Seventy-five percent of our membership are residents of Heritage Pointe.

President Myrna Neff welcomed the group and led devotions. The Purpose was recited and prayer calendar shared. Joys and concerns were voiced, followed by prayer led by Carolyn Winters.

Each missions coordinator was asked for updates, and a Mission Moment was shared.

The topic of the program presented by Carolyn Winters was "Call of Prayer and Self-Denial." Approximately six of the group assisted her with the program.

If you feel called to serve the Lord in mission with these ladies, call any of the ladies mentioned above. We serve the Lord and have a good time! If you don't want to cook lunch after you get home, join us and visit with us at the tables in the Fahl Dining Room. Reservations must be made ahead of time with Ann Brauchla. Thursday is pie day! We hope you will join us. You'll have a joyful heart!

News From The Rock

is published each month by

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P.O. Box 322
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www.solidrockumc.com

April 2009 Worship Schedule

Sunday School at 9:00
Worship at 10:00
at Warren

Office: 375-3873
Jefferson Center: 375-2997
Warren: 375-3871 or 375-3872
Parsonage: 375-3686

Pastor: Rev. Kathy Newton
pastorkathyn@yahoo.com

Editor: Gary Walter
walter@citiznet.com

News deadline for the May newsletter:
April 19

UMYF Schedule for April

April 5, 4:00-5:30 at the Warren site: We will be having a discussion group with some members of our congregation. We will be talking about growing in faith and challenges we have faced.

April 19, 4:00-5:30 at the church offices: We will be working on our Faith Journey Projects.

All youth in grades 5-12 are invited to come! Call Marie (375-2060) or Barb (375-2650) if you have any questions.

Also, a BIG thank you to everyone who has provided treats, and to Lana Myers for organizing that for us! We have really enjoyed all the wonderful snacks!

Cares Ministry begins

The purpose of this ministry is to make our church more personal as we celebrate life events. It is a way to stay connected with your church family! The congregation was divided into small groups identified by names of precious stones. Each group has a "gem" for a coordinator. If you have not received your letter of explanation from your gem, please contact Rosalie Walter (375-3789). The letter states the purpose of this ministry and how it may be used. Most importantly, pray for one another and as Hebrews 10 states: "draw near to God," "hold on to hope," "do not give up meeting together," and "encourage one another."

Children's Church

We have been discussing the events in Jesus' life during what we call Holy Week. We have talked about Palm Sunday, the cleansing of the temple, Mary's anointing of Jesus, Passover, the Last Supper and Communion, the Garden of Gethsemane, and the Jesus' death on the cross. The meaning and significance of each event has been discussed and the children have had wonderful questions. Feet washing at church was a new experience for many of them. There will be no Children's Church on Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday as we participate with our church family in the celebration of those days.

Men's Fellowship

The Solid Rock Men's Fellowship met on March 14, 2009, in the Calico Room at Heritage Pointe. Gary Walter opened the meeting with prayer. Breakfast was served

by Kim's Katered Affair to 16 men.

Marion Bell led devotions, with reflections on Psalm 8 and our responsibility to care for God's creation.

The group will host an East of Chicago fundraiser on April 21, from 5:00 to 8:00.

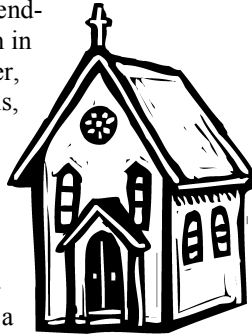
Marion Bell closed in prayer. The next meeting will be April 11.

Look like a church

As members of the Building and Site Committee, the most frequently uttered phrase we heard was that the church members wanted the proposed new building to "look like a church." We heard it from every age group attending the first carry-in in the park last summer, and from individuals, who, upon hearing we were on this particular committee, wanted us to know that first and foremost, the building must "look like a church." On occasion, the words "traditional" or "with a steeple" were voiced, but always, "like a church" was stressed.

To every architectural firm we interviewed, our first stipulation was that the building must "look like a church" whenever asked what the expectations were for style, accommodations, ministries and spaces. As the architects shared information regarding the considerations we needed to explore, they were always brought back to the emphasis that regardless of any decision, the building must accommodate the almost universal stipulation of "look like a church."

On February 8, after the morning church service, many families gathered at the Sportsmans Club for a carry-in lunch and meeting with members of the architectural firm to share ideas and discuss how those ideas might be implemented once actual construction begins. Being able to watch and eavesdrop on several groups' interactions was truly a blessing. The level of energy in the hall was exciting and palpable. There were four generations of families working and talking together, with total commitment, trying to get a view of what was going to be possible, what could be accomplished immediately and how to plan for the future to accommodate any changes that might become necessary. Even though everyone knows not all of the suggestions



on the "wish lists" are going to be possible, it is important enough for all of them to want to be sharing in the planning from the very beginning.

I couldn't help but think that it is the people of Solid Rock who will tell the story of the Church, rather than what face the building will present. The structure will be bricks and mortar, but it is the people who have prayed and worked together to bring it about as a joint venture, with all their caring, compromising and heartfelt goodwill to make it a success, that will bring glory to God. And it is my belief this is what "looks like a church."

- Barbara Kleinhans

S.O.S. to host Saturday women's event on May 16

S.O.S. is planning a morning with Paula Gast for all women on May 16 from 9:00-12:30 at the Warren site: "How Can I Ask God to Bless Me When the World is in Such a Mess?" Paula, wife of District Superintendent Rev. Chip Gast, is a very special woman to many of the people of Solid Rock Church. Our relationship with her goes back to the early 1980s when Chip pastored at the South Parish churches. She is a gifted speaker, brings scripture to life, and amazing things happen when she prays. Mark the date and plan on attending. More information will be in the bulletin and next month's newsletter.

Mountain Mission truck coming to Warren

Clean out those closets! The United Methodist Mountain Mission truck is coming to Warren. The goal of this mission is to provide affordable, good, usable clothing and household items to people in areas of need through Opportunity Stores, provide employment, encourage spiritual growth, assist victims of disaster and help those who cannot help themselves.

Bring your items to the Warren site before April 27 for pick up. Processing Supervisor Dolly Barnett said that the only thing that they have ever had a surplus of was MAYBE winter women's clothing and Christmas items. So they can use EVERYTHING. In these difficult economic times, more and more people are shopping in the Methodist Opportunity Stores. The demand is great. If you have any questions, please contact Becky Parker at the church office.

Solid Rock is now

online!



www.solidrockumc.com

**Men's Fellowship
Fundraiser**

**East of Chicago
Pizza**

**April 21
5-8 p.m.**



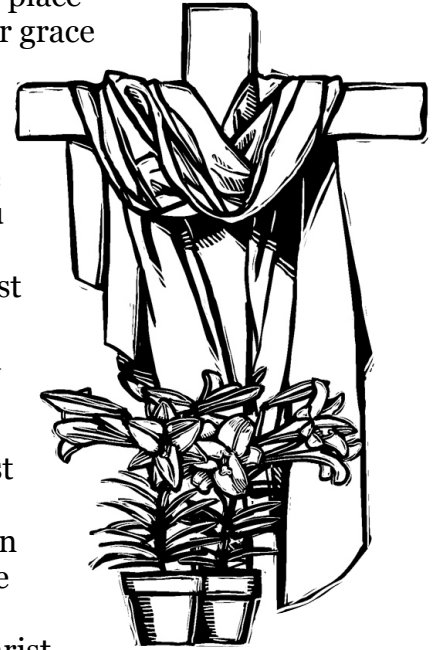
The Risen Christ

O Breath of God come fill this place
Revive our hearts to know Your grace
And from our slumber make us rise
That we may know the risen Christ

O Word of God so clear and true
Renew our minds to trust in You
And give to us the Bread of Life
That we may know the risen Christ

O love of God so unrestrained
Refresh our souls in Jesus' name
Let us reflect Your sacrifice
That we may know the risen Christ

May God the Father God the Son
And God the Spirit make us one
In holiness let us unite
That we may know the risen Christ



- Keith Getty and Phil Madeira

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