

News From The Rock

August 2019

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Bible Study

“Feasting on the Word” Bible study on the Monday evenings of August will be a potluck. With Pastor Paul out of the pulpit two Sundays this month, we will have a



variety of scripture passages for our nurturing. As school students will be returning to the classroom

this month we will come back to the church kitchen at 7:00 p.m. each Monday evening to listen to God speak to us once more. Following is a schedule of scriptures and leaders for the month.

- August 5: Luke 12: 32-40 (Jorita Banter, leader)
- August 12: Luke 12: 49-56 (Joe Haney, leader)
- August 19: Hebrews 11: 29-31 (Perry Spahr, leader)
- August 26: Nehemiah 3: 1-32 (Jorita Banter, leader)

You are invited and urged to join with others on this journey of faith, becoming better disciples. We hope to see YOU there! God bless!

Family Ministry Update

by John Pearson,
Family Ministry Coordinator

The summer VBS with WAMA held on July 7-11 at Warren First Baptist averaged 52 students each night. The Kid’s Night: Drive-In movie on July 18th went very well with 17 kids in attendance.

Our next Kid’s Night will be a Back-2-School bash on August 15th from 6-8 p.m. We will be having different water activities

for the kids, along with supper at the start of the night. Thank you to all those that helped with VBS or the Kid’s Night.

Rock Solid Youth will be starting a 4 week series titled “Stress” on August 4th. The WAY is attending a TinCaps game on August 5th. We have 12 students and 4 sponsors attending from Solid Rock.

The youth group will be having a car-wash fundraiser on August 10th from 10

a.m.-2 p.m.
Rock Solid Youth will



have a Back-2-School

Bash on September 1st from 6:30-8:00 p.m. instead of having our normal youth group that night.

We had 46 people sign up for our family outing at the TinCaps game on July 28th.

Solid Rock apparel is now available. See the table in the back of the sanctuary for the order forms. The deadline to sign up for apparel is Sunday August 11th, and money for the shirts will be due by August 25th. We have a minimum order number of 12 shirts per design or the price will be higher than quoted. If we do not meet the minimum number of 12 shirts, I will contact you to let you know what the price of the shirt will be and if you would still like to order it. If you have any questions please contact me.



solidrockumc.com



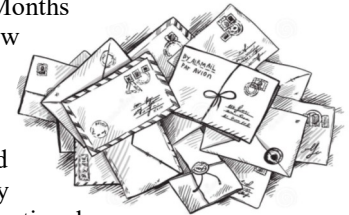
@solidrockumc



from
Pastor Paul

I would like to share with you one of my favorite illustrations shared by Charles Swindoll:

Let’s play “Let’s Pretend.” Let’s pretend that you work for me. In fact, you are my executive assistant in a company that is growing rapidly. I’m the owner and I’m interested in expanding overseas. To pull this off, I make plans to travel abroad and stay there until a new branch office gets established. I make all the arrangements to take my family and move to Europe for six to eight months. And I leave you in charge of the busy stateside organization. I tell you that I will write you regularly and give you directions and instructions. I leave and you stay. Months pass. A flow of letters are mailed from Europe and received by you at the national headquarters. I spell out all my expectations.



Finally, I return. Soon after my arrival, I drive down to the office and I am stunned. Grass and weeds have grown up high. A few windows along the street are broken. I walk into the Receptionist’s room. She is doing her nails, chewing gum and listening to her favorite disco station. I look around and notice the wastebaskets are overflowing. The carpet hasn’t been vacuumed for weeks, and nobody seems concerned that the owner has returned. I asked about your whereabouts and some-

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Our Vision: Sharing and experiencing the life-giving message of Jesus, to restore wholeness and build an intentional community of hope, relationship, and purpose for everyone.

Solid Rock Small Group Opportunities

SUNDAY SMALL GROUPS (Sunday School)

Children's Classes

- PEBBLES (Nursery)
 - Ages 0-4
- LITTLE ROCKS/ROCK FOUNDATIONS
 - Preschool-Grade 4
- ROCK SOLID YOUTH
 - Grades 5-12

Adult Classes

- FIRM FOUNDATION
 - Currently studying "Not a Fan," by

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P.O. Box 322

Warren, Indiana 46792

www.solidrockumc.com

Worship Schedule

Sunday School at 9:00

Worship at 10:00

at 485 Bennett Drive, Warren

Church Phone: 375-3871

Church Office

Office Phone: 375-3873

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday

9:00 a.m. - Noon

Pastor: Rev. Paul Burris

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News deadline for the September newsletter: August 25

Kyle Idleman

- FRIENDS IN FAITH
- REAL LIFE
 - Currently studying The Bible Project series.

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

- FEASTING ON THE WORD
 - Meets on Monday evenings at 7:00 in the church kitchen

For more information on small groups, call the church office, 375-3873.

Thank you

Dear Solid Rock,

Thank you for paying for half of my church camp. I am glad I got to go.

Lexi Cox

(Granddaughter of Dave & Debb Smitley)

June Financial Update

General Offerings.....	\$15,227
General Fund Expenses.....	\$15,067
Mortgage Balance	\$3,719

Back-to-school: Here are 9 Bible verses to share with your kids as they embark on a new school year

As the end of the summer holidays draw near, parents will be starting their preparations for the new school year. From buying backs and books to sorting out uniforms and stationery supplies, there's a lot to do in the lead up to starting back school. One thing that you might also be thinking about if you're responsible for some young Christians is how to motivate them for the upcoming academic year after they've spent weeks enjoying the outdoors and making the most of the summer weather. Sharing some brief but powerful Bible verses with them as they head back to school is a wonderful way to equip them for the coming term.

For when they need encouragement

Whether it's their first day back or their first day of school ever, there's no child that won't benefit from a little extra encourage-

ment. You can show them that not only are you in their corner but God is too with these Bible verses.

Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

For when they don't get things right

School should be a safe space for making mistakes, after all, getting things wrong is often how we learn to get things right. If you know that your child is particularly anxious about messing up or tends to give themselves a hard time when they do, these Bible verses can help them to see that regardless of their mistakes, they must and can persevere.

2 Chronicles 15:7 - But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded.

Psalms 37:24 - Though he may stumble, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with his hand.

For when they need inspiration to work hard

Knowing that it's important to try your best is a lesson of great value to kids. While school can be a place where they get their heads down and do well, there are also tons of distractions which can tempt them to stop putting their all in. These Bible verses work well if you're trying to get them to continue working hard.

2 Timothy 1:7 - For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.

Galatians 6:9 - Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

For when they need to ask for help

Asking for help isn't something that a lot of children find easy to do at school so it's no wonder some teachers display the sign, "there is no such thing as a stupid question" in their classrooms to reassure students who are afraid to speak up when they fail to grasp something. These Bible verses will help you to remind your kids that it's OK to ask for help and they can always call on God in their time of need.



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one in the crowded lounge area points down the hall and yells, "I think he's down there." Disturbed, I move in that direction and bump into you as you are finishing a chess game with our sales manager. I ask you to step into my office, which has been temporarily turned into a television room for watching afternoon soap operas. "What in the world is going on, man?"

"What do you mean?"

"Well, look at this place! Didn't you get any of my letters?"

"Letters? Oh yes! Sure! I got every one of them. As a matter of fact, we have had a letter study every Friday since you left. We have even divided the personnel into small groups to discuss many of the things you wrote. Some of the things were really interesting. You will be pleased to know that a few of us have actually committed to memory some of your sentences and paragraphs. One or two memorized an entire letter or two—Great stuff in those letters."

"OK. You got my letters. You studied them and meditated on them; discussed and even memorized them. But what did you do about them?"

"Do? We didn't do anything about them." (*Improving Your Serve*, Chuck Swindoll)

What are we doing with what God has placed us in charge of?

See you Sunday,
Pastor Paul

What does The United Methodist Church teach about tithing?

Tithing is commonly understood as the giving of one-tenth of one's income for God. This standard of giving comes from several passages in Scripture (e.g. Genesis 28:10-22).

The founder of the Methodist movement, John Wesley, offered an even higher standard for giving, and for our entire approach to living. It's found in Wesley's sermon, "The Use of Money," which is among the Standard Sermons included in our doctrinal standards.

Here is Wesley's own brief summary which is the foundation of our teaching: "Gain all you can.... save all you can... give all you can." As he develops each of these points in his sermon, his message is plain. We are to seek to earn all we can in ways that are helpful to ourselves and others,

never harmful. We are to "save all we can" by being frugal in our expenses. And then having earned all we can and spent only what we must to care for our own basic needs and those of our family (which we are never to neglect!), we are to give everything else away.

Indeed, Wesley says, "Render unto God, not a tenth, not a third, not half, but all that is God's." For some of us, after earning and saving all we can, while caring for our family's basic needs, there may not be much left over. For others, there may be much, indeed. Whatever that is, we say, give it all!

The United Methodist Church, in its Book of Discipline, emphasizes tithing as a "minimum goal of giving" and encourages local churches to find creative ways to become "tithing congregations with an attitude of generosity." The church asks all those being ordained to "teach and model generous Christian giving with a focus on tithing as God's standard of giving."

United Methodists value the tithe as a benchmark for giving, one we encourage our members to move toward and, once achieved, move beyond. We believe our giving should be both more challenging and more gracious to the whole world than simply trying to give a tithe of our income. We also believe that there is joy in giving, and the greater the generosity the deeper the joy.

—Rev. Ken Sloane
www.umc.org

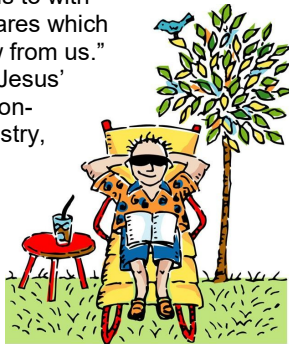


A day away in a quiet place

Maya Angelou said, "Each person deserves a day away in which no problems are confronted, no solutions searched for. Each of us needs to withdraw from the cares which will not withdraw from us."

Similarly, when Jesus' disciples were consumed with ministry, he urged them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest" (Mark 6:31, NIV).

The late days of summer might be just the time to seek "a day away" not only from problems



but even from ministry. While serving God and others can be energizing, we must balance work with rest. God set that example, resting after creating the world; Jesus set that example, calling his disciples away — not just alone, but with him — to be refreshed.

Spend a relaxing day at a lake. Go on a scrapbooking retreat or a leisurely hike with a friend. Find a monastery that welcomes guests, and experience 48 hours of prayer and silence there. Invite Jesus into that time and space. And remember another message he shared: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28, NIV).

Many ways to give

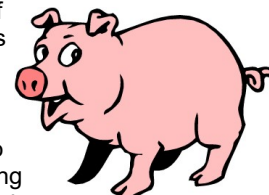
As a hen and a pig walked down the road, they noticed a church sign advertising a breakfast of "Ham and Eggs!"

"That's nice," said the hen. "A chance for us to serve the congregation."



"Easy for you to say," replied the pig. "For you, it's a contribution; for me, it's a sacrifice!"

Versions of this story appear on inspirational websites, with comments about the chicken being involved in breakfast, while the pig is committed. Opinions differ, however, about which animal has the right idea. Some people warn against being the pig, sacrificing yourself for success; others say the chicken isn't all-in.



"People who give themselves to Jesus with a trusting abandon" are like pigs, says Rick Lawrence in *The Jesus-Centered Life* (Group). That total, "without reservation" commitment, he says, shows a willingness to give your life to Jesus — as he gave his for you.

On the other hand, giving consistently, day in and day out, even in what might seem to be small ways, also is valuable. Maybe the moral is not to judge others' stewardship because we all give differently.

- If prayer was your job, would you still be employed?
- "You can do what I cannot do. I can do what you cannot do. Together, we can do great things." —Mother Teresa
- "Sometimes when you're in a dark place you think you've been buried, but you've actually been planted. Bloom!"

—Christine Caine

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1 Peter 5:7 - Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

Psalms 120:1 - I call on the Lord in my distress, and he answers me.

Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

—Alannah Francis
christianitytoday.com

What a wonder!

It is not the task of Christianity to provide easy answers to every question but to make us progressively aware of a mystery. God is not so much the object of our knowledge as the cause of our wonder.



—Kallistos Ware

Father, make us more like Jesus. Help us to bear difficulty, pain, disappointment and sorrow, knowing that in your perfect working and design you can use such bitter experiences to shape our characters and make us more like our Lord. We look with hope for that day when we shall be wholly like Christ, because we shall see him as he is. Amen.

