



# News From The Rock

December 2012

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

## Staff-Parish Relations

The Staff-Parish Relations Team met recently to complete the annual appointment consultation form. By mutual appreciation and wishes of Pastor Kathy and the committee, we requested to retain our pastor.

Officers for the upcoming year, 2013, were elected: Chairman, Steve Holmes; Vice-Chairman, Lynn Bonewitz; and Secretary, Randy Hensley. New members starting their three-year terms include Martina Cocklin, Mike Bolinger, and Mindy Rider. Members may serve two three-year terms. Others on the 2013 team will be Barbara Kleinhans, Michelle Woody, Dave Keller, Marie DeWeese, and Perry Spahr.

## Reminder to Scholarship Students

Send your second semester proof of enrollment, including total credit hours, to the church office (P.O. Box 322), or to Rosalie (at church or 11438 S 300 W), so that your next award check can be sent out in December. You may e-mail Rosalie at [rosalie@solidrockumc.com](mailto:rosalie@solidrockumc.com) or [rosaliewalter@gmail.com](mailto:rosaliewalter@gmail.com).

## Warren Celebration

In anticipation of the upcoming move into our new facility, Solid Rock will celebrate the legacy of ministry of Warren United Methodist Church on December 30. There will be a carry-in lunch. Several former pastors are expected to be in attendance. Watch for further details.

## End-of-year Donations

Donations for the 2012 tax year should be given to the church no later than December 30, 2012, or mailed to the church in an envelope no later than December 24, 2012. Thank you.

## Warming Tree

We are collecting hats, scarves, and gloves for school children until December 30. We will be giving them to Salamonie, Southern Wells, and Andrews schools. Thanks for your help.

## Christmas Poinsettias

Christmas poinsettias in honor or memory of loved ones will be displayed in the sanctuary during the holidays. The cost is \$13. Contact the church office to place your order.



## Holiday Cheese Balls

It is time to order your cheese balls for Christmas and New Year's. We will be offering the same kinds as in previous years: beef and cheddar, \$7.00; Hawaiian, \$7.00; and dried beef, \$6.00.

The deadline for Christmas/New Year's will be December 16, with pickup on Sunday, December 23. Early pickup dates may be available upon request.

Please ask family and friends to place orders. Orders may be turned in to the church office or to Linda McD Howell.

## Concessions Stand Update

Solid Rock Concessions at Tower Park had another successful year. We would like to thank all those who donated their time to make it another enjoyable summer for the local youth.

Because of your efforts, we were able to donate \$2000 to the church building fund, \$1000 to the Bread of Life Food Pantry, \$400 to the Blessings and Needs ministry,

*(Continued on page 3)*

Just Leaning  
on the Rock!

by Pastor Kathy Newton



*"Everything on earth has its own time and its own season. There is a time for birth and death, planting and reaping, for*

*killing and healing, destroying and building, for crying and laughing, weeping and dancing, for throwing stones and gathering stones, embracing and parting. There is a time for finding and losing, for keeping and giving, for tearing and sewing, listening and speaking. There is also a time for love and hate, for war and peace."*

*(Ecc 3:1-8 CEV)*

After reading the above scripture you're probably thinking, "What is Pastor Kathy up to? Here it is Christmas and she's writing about planting and reaping, killing and healing, destroying and building, crying and laughing, weeping and dancing." The scripture does mention "season," "birth and death" in my defense. More importantly, as we celebrate Christ's arrival (birth) we will also be celebrating a new season with our Solid Rock brothers and sisters from Warren United Methodist Church. Sunday December 30 we will come together to honor and celebrate the gifts and talents shared by those from the Warren partner of our union. We will have some former pastors from Warren, a former District Superintendent from Huntington District and of course food (we Methodist don't do much without this). I encourage you to come and join the fun as we worship and feast.

Also should you have any suggestions

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Men's Fellowship

The Solid Rock Men's Fellowship met on November 10, 2012, at Heritage Pointe with 10 men in attendance. David Spahr opened the meeting with prayer. Breakfast was served by Kim's Katered Affair.

Marion Bell shared a devotional from Max Lucado's book *Traveling Light* based on Psalm 23: "He leads me beside still waters."

Steve Holmes reported on the East of Chicago fundraiser. Randy Hensley reported that he has identified a family for the group to support for Thanksgiving, and he is working on a Christmas family.

Closing prayer was offered by Randy Hensley. The next meeting will be December 8, 2012. Reservations need to be made with Steve Holmes not later than December 6.

### 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](mailto:pastorkathy@solidrockumc.com)  
Phone: (765) 210-4368

Editor: Gary Walter  
[gary@solidrockumc.com](mailto:gary@solidrockumc.com)

Secretary: Norma Smith  
[norma@solidrockumc.com](mailto:norma@solidrockumc.com)

Treasurer: Rosalie Walter  
[rosalie@solidrockumc.com](mailto:rosalie@solidrockumc.com)

Financial Secretary: Wanda Spahr  
[wanda@solidrockumc.com](mailto:wanda@solidrockumc.com)

News deadline for the January  
newsletter: December 23

## October Financial Update

General Offerings.....\$12,369  
General Fund Expenses.....\$14,516  
Building Fund Contributions.....\$9,783

## Getting Acquainted

by Gina Canady

**Loran, Sherry, Levi, Justun, Evan, and Mallory Gifford**

We were married at Solid Rock in 2002 and began attending again after a pastoral shift. The congregation of Solid Rock was a much needed embrace and helped ease the grief and understanding of death when a



close friend has passed. We knew this church was the right fit for our family.

Loran's interests are making knives, carving wood, making walking sticks, playing guitar, and inventing items. Levi loves basketball and hunting (talented bow hunter!). Justun is into football, basketball, baseball and WWII history. Evan loves Legos, Pokemon, making ideas come to life! Mallory loves cats, dogs, horses and shoes! Sherry likes to read, make blankets and baking!

We have lived in this area all our lives and at our current home for 13 years! Loran likes the Colts and IU, while Levi cheers on the Green Bay Packers and Purdue...Game day at this home is very colorful!

We ventured to Disney World with Loran's parents last summer...eight people in one van, oh my! Colorado and Niagara Falls have been great destination sites too! We have four children: Levi, 17; Justun, 13; Evan, 9; and Mallory, 3; and one special dog named Princess!

Amazing Grace is a favorite hymn of the entire family and several of the praise songs.

Loran and Sherry want Solid Rock to be very memorable and meaningful to their children. They appreciate that their children are accepted, nurtured, loved and cherished without feeling judged for being different in any way. They believe they have found that compassion for their children at Solid Rock Church and that their children have an extended family within

the church and want THAT to stick with their children as they grow in their Christianity.

## Georgina Laymon

I was raised in Van Buren Methodist Church and came to Warren's.

I love to watch birds!

I have lived in the Warren and Van Buren area forever!

IU Hoosiers are my favorite team.

California has been a destination of choice!

I have one daughter, three sons, and two grandsons.

My favorite hymn and scriptures are "How Great Thou Art" and "Jesus wept."

Snow on Easter was a fond memory of church!



## Thank you

Ron and Myrna Neff and family would like to thank all of you who either prayed, sent cards, or called at the funeral home for Ron's brother, Don Neff. It meant a lot to know you were sharing with us in our time of grieving. We did get to visit with him in the last few days of his life here on earth. We left him on Monday a.m. and he died on Wednesday a.m. Thank you again,

Sincerely,  
Ron and Myrna

## Bringing Christmas outdoors

The first colored electric Christmas lights on outdoor evergreen trees appeared in Denver in 1914. The tradition began thanks to a sick boy bedridden in the top floor of his home. Ten-year-old David Sturgeon couldn't see his family's Christmas tree downstairs, so his grandfather, a pioneering electrician, painted some light bulbs red and green and strung them on a tree outside David's window.

Not only did the lights brighten what would be David's last holiday, but residents throughout the city came by to admire the display. Just as David's innovative grandfather brought light into the boy's dark times and joy to the whole community, God revealed the true light by sending Jesus into our dark world. For "the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it" (John 1:5, NRSV).

(Continued from page 1)

concerning the service or the carry-in please give me a call or drop me an email no later than December 9.

Merry, merry Christmas! May Christ, whose birth we celebrate, bless and hold you now and forever more!

Shalom,  
Pastor Kathy

(Continued from page 1)

\$1000 to the Christmas from December to May ministry, \$500 for Sunday school literature for the preschool children, and \$1458 for water for various church and community projects and uses.

Again, a great big thanks to all those who made these donations possible. We look forward to seeing you again next spring!

## United Methodist Women

Women of Solid Rock's United Methodist Women met on November 1, 2012 in the Calico Room for their annual World Thank Offering and study concerning their Purpose.

President Myrna Neff opened the gathering with devotional thoughts from I Corinthians, Chapter 1 where Paul exhorts his listeners to "Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord." Faith rests in the power of God's grace. From our U.M.W. Calendar for the month, in which prayer is offered for persons who serve in mission and celebrate birthdays in the month, Myrna called our attention to three serving in widely spread locations, world-wide, plus this month's Mission Focus on Madre, Women's Care Services in Haiti.

Mick McNany supplied Mission Moment thoughts as we considered some good advice: "appreciate what we have while we have it!" We may find it useful to have a "gratitude ritual for our thoughts." Well considered in this, our Thanksgiving month!

President Neff led in prayer for numerous personal and national difficulties—the huge problems resulting from the hurricane in New York and eastern U.S., plus major difficulties in church families and mem-



United  
Methodist  
Women

bers' lives. She concluded with recognition that we also thank God for our joys.

Barbara Hart's lesson for this World Thank Offering Day was entitled "Sowing Faith, Hope and Love." Numerous scripture readings reminded us that our purpose is to be in mission, as new persons. Readings prepared from the scriptures were shared by Barbara—readings which help us enlarge our understanding of our roles, giving faith and love in action. We do have a purpose!

The business portion of the meeting this month dealt with several matters of current interest and concern. Support and recognition financially were given to the work of Rose Broyles in her services to women and children in our neighborhood. Education of our members continues to be emphasized in the purchase and availability of new books in the Reading Program of our women's organization. Final payments were authorized for the year to various national and international projects of United Methodist Women.

Meetings for 2012 will conclude with the December 6 meeting, with the program on that date presented by Myrna Neff and entitled "Upside-Down Christmas." The new year of meetings will start in March.

## Thank You, Veterans!

Thank you to all the veterans of our nation and congregation!  
God bless you!

Many veterans were honored by Pastor Kathy for serving the United States of America and for the sacrifices made on behalf of all of us.



### Jim Blinn

Army, Served in Germany 82nd Btt Medics

### Dave Wechsler

Spe 4th Class, 4th Cavalry, 25th INF Hawaii, 1963-1965

### Wayne Jackson

Tank Ft. Hood, Texas, 1953-1955

### Steve Holmes

Army, 225th Station Hospital, Germany, 1960-1963

### Steve Buzzard

Army, 25th Infantry Ft. Knox, 1969-1970

### Lamoine DeHaven

Army, Personnel Specialist

### Lynn Bonewitz

Air Force, Texas, Okinawa, Virginia, 1964-1968; Air National Guard, many states and Turkey, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Newfoundland, Azores and Ireland, 1982-2003

### Martina Cocklin

Air Force Guard & Reserve, Grissom Air Base, Operation Freedom, 2001-2003

### Bob Glass

### Jim Slaughter

### Dan Broyles

U.S. Army, Ft. Riley, Kansas, 1988-1991

### Art Broyles

National Guard, 1950-1956

### Jim Miller

### Charles Howell

Air Force, Thailand, New Mexico and DC, 1967 to 1970

### Jim Howell

Army, 1960-1963, Korea

### Andrew Elliott

Navy, Currently serving

Thank you for honoring the United States by serving! God bless you! If anyone was missed on this list, please contact the church office. Thank you!

## The art of Christmas

How can we best keep Christmas?

- By following the star on an inward journey to Bethlehem to stand again in awe and wonder before the Babe in a manger.
- By rediscovering the faith and simplicity of a little child, for of such is the kingdom of heaven.
- By being still and listening to the angels sing within our hearts.
- By quietly evaluating our lives according to the Master's standards as set forth in the Sermon on the Mount.
- By resolving to give ourselves away to others in love, joy and devotion.

—Wilferd Peterson  
*The New Book of the Art of Living*

## What's missing?

When shopping for gifts became too difficult, an elderly man decided to just send checks to relatives. In his Christmas cards, mailed early, he wrote, "Buy your own present!"

After the holiday, the man noticed he'd received few cards in return. Puzzled, he went into his study, intending to write to a few relatives and ask what had happened. As he cleared his cluttered desk, the horrified man found the answer. Under a stack of papers were the checks he'd forgotten to enclose with his cards!

The lesson? Don't be in such a hurry to give gifts that you inadvertently leave out what's most important. Without the message of Jesus and his birth, the earthly trappings of Christmas are empty indeed.



## God So Loved

God our God so loved us  
That He with us did dwell  
He came to us as one of us  
Our Lord Emmanuel

God so loved so freely loved  
This world His hands had made  
He came to us to dwell with us  
Upon a Christmas day

God so loved so deeply loved  
Each child of His design  
He chose to clothe Himself in flesh  
And walk among mankind

God so loved supremely loved  
He gave His perfect life  
He lived with us and died for us  
A sinless sacrifice



CCLI Song # 4592516  
Claire Cloninger | Robert Sterling

