



News From The Rock

December 2014

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

Fall Bazaar

We would like to give everyone who helped in any way a big "Thank You" for another successful bazaar. We always have good fellowship! The event raised \$2,368 (\$1,165 from crafts and baked goods, \$953 from lunch, and \$250 from booth rent).

Marg Bentley and Jackie Wolfe

Scholarships

Scholarship recipients: Remember to turn in to the church office your spring schedule (including number of credit hours) so that your scholarship check for the term can be written.

October Financial Update

General Offerings \$21,440
General Fund Expenses \$21,268

SOS Meeting Highlights

The Solid Rock SOS met November 12. Meeting highlights:

- A devotion about the topic of thankfulness was given by Jessica Barry.
- Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.
- Joys and Concerns were shared.
- A lesson on self-doubt was given by Marie on behalf of Jo Keller. God helped Gideon to overcome paralyzing doubts and fears and He can do the same for us. Jeremiah 17:7
- A love offering was collected and given to aid a community member dealing with illness in the family.
- Old Business
 - SOS cleaning at the former church building is complete.
 - Leftovers from the retreat and auction were shared with Kids Club, young adults, Fruitful Congregation weekend, and the Veterans dinner.
 - Scarecrow festival: We gave out approximately 350 packets of hot cocoa. Money that is typically

made at the scarecrow festival was donated to help with a community playground.

- Auction has been completed. Sam burgers left over were sold to members
- New Business
 - Membership addresses, by-laws, and sign-ups were passed around.
 - Decorating at the church will be November 23.
 - Exercise group to be started at the church. Contact Tamara if interested.
 - New officers:
 - ◆ President: Cindy Boxell
 - ◆ Vice President: Cheryl DeWeese
 - ◆ Secretary: Shannon Rogers
 - ◆ Corresponding Secretary: Lana Myers
 - ◆ Treasurer: Sherry Gifford starts second year of 2-year term
- Many cards were received and sent by the Corresponding Secretary.
- Prayer partners were assigned and the meeting was adjourned with prayer and a sung benediction.
- Attendance: 18
- Next meeting: December 11 at Tamara Spahr's home with Martina Cocklin as co-hostess with Fall Committee providing the lesson.

Upcoming Youth Events

- **December 13:** Lasagna Supper, 6:30 p.m.
- **December 14:** Pizza after church at East of Chicago
- **December 21:** UMYF Meeting, 6:45
- **December 24:** Christmas Eve Service, 11:00 p.m.
- **January 2:** Lock-in
- **January 11:** Pizza after church at East of Chicago
- **January 18:** UMYF Meeting, 6:45
- **February 1:** Super Bowl pizzas

Just Leaning
on the Rock!

by Pastor Kathy Newton



Luke 2:11: Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.

I guess my age is showing! I cannot believe this is December already. Wasn't it just yesterday we were starting a new year?

Perhaps it's not my age at all but the busyness I find myself in the midst of. We at Solid Rock have had an incredibly busy fall. However, I think it has been a fall of learning and discerning. A special thanks to our Fruitful Congregation Team and those who participated in that opportunity. Thanks to SOS for their impactful retreat. Thanks to the Bazaar team that gave us a wonderful bazaar.

Now we find ourselves entering the time of Advent. Are you ready to celebrate Christ's birth? I find myself trying to center in on Christ amid the hubbub of the holiday season. So this year we are going to do a different kind of thing for Advent. I do this in an attempt to get myself thinking about the "real reason for the season." (Sorry to my millennialist friends!)

The first Sunday we will ask ourselves, "Do I Dare Open Myself to God?" The second Sunday we will ask, "Is There Room in My Life for God?" The third will be, "Does God Really Want Me?" And the fourth will ask the question, "If Yes, Then Where is God Leading Me?" I hope to see you in worship so we can discern the answers to these questions together.

Don't forget we will have two Christmas Eve Services. The 7:00 p.m. will be more traditional, and the 11:00 p.m. is always a great celebration as our youth lead the worship. Again, please plan to attend to celebrate our Savior's arrival.

Shalom,
Pastor Kathy

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*News deadline for the January newsletter:
December 21*

Lasagna Supper

Come join the youth for a wonderful evening of good food and entertainment! The UMYF lasagna supper will be on Saturday, December 13, at 6:30 pm. Join us in celebrating the Christmas spirit and fun with our youth! Please make reservations with youth on Sunday mornings, or call the church office. (There will be a freewill donation.)

Warmth Tree

Remember the Warmth Tree for children in our schools. We are collecting hats, gloves, and scarves. Two years ago we were able to donate 50 to 60 of each item to three local schools. For more information, contact Joenita Keller.



Christmas Prayer

Lord, in this holy season of prayer and song and laughter, we praise you for the great wonders you have sent us: for shining star and angel's song, for infant's cry in lowly manger. We praise you for the Word made flesh in a little Child. We behold his glory, and are bathed in its radiance.



Be with us as we sing the ironies of Christmas, the incomprehensible comprehended, the poetry made hard fact, the helpless Babe who cracks the world asunder. We kneel before you shepherds, innkeepers, wise men. Help us to rise bigger than we are. Amen.

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