

News From The Rock

February 2023

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

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

Daytime Bible Study

An interest for a daytime Bible study has been raised. If you are interested in a daytime Bible study, please contact Pastor John. This can easily be accommodated if there is enough interest. The first meeting will discuss what study to begin and getting to know one another.



Henderson Mission Trip

If you are interested in going on the Henderson Mission Trip this year in March, forms are located on the back table of the sanctuary. The dates for this are March 19-24. Forms and finances (\$275) need to be submitted by February 28. If finances are preventing you from attending the trip, please contact Pastor John. Assistance is available for those in need.



In Pursuit of Paul

The Firm Foundation Sunday school class, meeting each Sunday morning at 9:00 in the church kitchen, is starting a new study, "In Pursuit of Paul."

"Apart from Jesus, no one had a greater influence in founding Christianity than the apostle Paul. Journey with host Con Campbell as he uncovers Paul's remarkable life and his voyages from Jerusalem across the Mediterranean world to Rome, where he

was martyred.

"Con Campbell, PhD, is a New Testament scholar, musician, seminary professor, and author of *Paul and Union with Christ*. His curiosity to know Paul better led him to explore Paul's life, from his radical transformation to his missionary journeys to his martyrdom in Rome."

Plan to join us!

Opportunity to be a blessing

As you are aware, disasters continue to occur throughout the United States and the world. In the past, Solid Rock has had special askings for the UMCOR disaster basket, and you have been very faithful and generous in donating to these needs. As you can imagine, the need is on-going and one stricken area is not "back to normal" before another disaster strikes. It was decided to leave the UMCOR basket out as a reminder that the need continues. Please place any donation into the basket as you feel led. **One hundred percent** of this money goes for disaster relief. Administration costs are paid through the UMCOR special Sunday offering in March.

And other opportunities

If you would like to make donations to any of the supported ministries of Solid Rock, including Bread of Life Food Pantry, you can designate them as such and include them with your church offering. You will be credited on your year-end giving statement. Thank you for helping support these ministries



Shepherding Moments

by Pastor John Boyanowski

What Do You Believe?

"I believe in God the Father Almighty; Maker of Heaven and Earth; and in Jesus Christ His only (begotten) Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell;

All Scripture is BREATHED OUT by God.



2 TIMOTHY 3:16, ESV

the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven; and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I

*believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen." – The Apostle's Creed, *The Moody Handbook of Theology**

"But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man

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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.

Bread of Life Food Pantry

During the year of 2022 our community residents, churches, organizations, and businesses, were so faithful supporting the Bread of Life Food Pantry. Thank you! The pantry shelves, freezers, and refrigerators, always had the right amount of items needed for the patrons being served. The Pantry served 245 individual families, including 300 children under 18 and 600 adults.

The donation of fresh produce was bountiful. For patrons who freeze produce, the Pantry was able to give these families extra produce to process. Please consider planting an "extra plant or an extra row" in your garden for the pantry this spring. Leave donations at Door 1 of the KBC any Wednesday



morning.

The Pantry continues to be a "drive-thru pantry." The Pantry is open 52 weeks a year. The volunteers serve patrons rain, snow, or one-hundred-degree weather.

Over the past two years, volunteers have developed new ways to serve the patrons coming to the Pantry. Carts are filled with a

wide variety of products and printed procedures on how to prepare items. Volunteers often tell patrons of their secret recipes to tasty dishes. The Pantry continues to provide information of services available to help patrons adjust to this time of inflation. In addition to regular weekly food distribution, the Pantry also provided "special dinners" at Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. The Pantry was also able to provide extra food to families for spring break, summer vacation, fall break, and Christmas vacation.

For the third year, in October the Pantry assisted the United Church of Christ in offering new and gently used winter coats to patrons coming to the Pantry. If you have coats your family does not need, please donate to the Pantry for this program.

The United Church of Christ, The Church at McNatt, and Solid Rock United Methodist Church provided their annual "Christmas Shop." The Christmas Shop reconditions gently used toys and receives private financial support to purchase items for children. The three churches adopted 11 children from the Remnant House program. The cluster of churches also provided Christmas for 38 Pantry families. Each child received a new tie knot blanket and gifts appropriate for the child's age.

Thank you for caring about the Bread of Life Food Pantry. Thank you for your prayers, sharing of your time, donations of items, and monetary gifts. Thank you for helping the Pantry fulfill its mission, "Feed the children. Neighbors feeding neighbors."

— Rose Broyles

Funds available

If you would like to go on the Mission Trip to Henderson Settlement and would like to have help with the cost of going, please let Pastor John know. The mission committee has reserved money for this purpose and also for other projects that may come to our attention throughout the year.

Missions appropriations

The mission committee recently met to decide where funds are to be sent in 2023 on behalf of Solid Rock. Local missions supported are Warren Area Ministerial Association, Backpack Palooza, "By the Book" weekday religious education, and Remnant House. National Ministries are Henderson Settlement projects, Society of St. Andrew and UMCOR national disaster relief. World ministries include Africa University, Feed My Children, Homes for Haitians, Operation Classroom, and UMCOR international relief. Money has also been set aside for the seven special Sunday offerings (Human Relations, UMCOR, Native American Ministries, Peace with Justice, World Communion, Student Day, and Bishop's Christmas Offering).

Thank you for your continued support for mission projects both near and far. If you would like your personal donation sent to a particular ministry, please include your giving in the offering and designate where you would like for the funds to be sent. Thank you.

Joyful Noise

Since we will not be meeting until more interest is indicated, I want to take the time to thank the Joyful Noise for allowing me to work with you this last 6-7 months.

From the bottom of my heart, I'm grateful for the unexpected Christmas gift. Please keep in mind that none of you go unnoticed. In so many ways, your gift has been an eye-opener on understanding what the "Joyful Noise" is all about.

Blessings to all of you in 2023, and keep on singing because music brings LOVE to the heart.

Thanks,
Billie Horrell

Christian symbol

ECCE AGNUS DEI — Latin for "Behold, the Lamb of God," this is the phrase John the Baptist uses twice to point out Jesus to others (John 1:29, 36). It marks Jesus' Epiphany (manifestation, revelation) as the Anointed One (Christ, Messiah).



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www.solidrockumc.com

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Sunday School at 9:00
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Church Office
Office Phone: 375-3873

Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Closed Friday

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*News deadline for the March
newsletter: February 19*

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of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.” – 2 Timothy 3:14-17; ESV

When it comes to spirituality, what do you believe? What does the Holy Spirit say about your belief system? Do they commune together because of the Scriptures or are they distant because of other beliefs? Spirituality is a very personal experience between God and man. God created us with a soul, making us spiritual beings. Yet, how many of us pay attention to our need for a Savior? I ask this of even Christian believers because if we are spiritual, are we spiritual according to God’s definition or our own?

I first draw our attention to the Bible, also called the Scriptures. Look at the verses from 2 Timothy: can we honestly say this is true? Before you answer, remember that if we say they are true, we are held accountable for following the Scriptures as the Holy Spirit leads us. If we deny the validity of these verses and believe the Scriptures are flawed with contradictions and errors, that man wrote it and added/subtracted from it to manipulate the populous, then what do you believe in?

I believe the Timothy verses and the rest of the Bible. The verses provided explain my reasons for this belief. Scriptures assist me to believe the Apostle’s Creed (provided). The Creed is not found in the Bible as such, but this does sum up the Bible’s message to mankind. My belief in the Scriptures helps me to know God is who He is, He created Heaven and Earth. I can believe in Jesus Christ and that He is God’s only Son. It helps me to understand that if God can create all things, He can surely have a virgin named Mary conceive through the Holy Spirit. The Scriptures share the accounts of Jesus’ life and death. I can believe the Savior rose again from the dead after descending to the dead three days later. I can take Scripture’s Word that Jesus ascended to God’s right hand and will judge the living and the dead when Jesus returns. The Bible explains the Holy Spirit and the universal church. And here’s the best parts: I can believe in forgiveness of my sins not based on my own merits but those of Christ, and because of Christ’s resurrection, we too will have this same resurrection. We will live for eternity because of God’s provision through Christ.

There are those who would debate these and try to disprove them. That’s fine for them. I, however, can confirm their truths

because of how God has used them in my life and the transformation which has taken place since my connection with God. The Scriptures have brought peace and comfort to me, convictions for sins and wrong choices, understanding what sins are according to God and not man’s perceptions of sin. I am not perfect by any means, but I am being perfected by God each day.

I used to allow my sins to tear me down and keep me from any hope of forgiveness. I beat myself up because like Paul, the things I want to do I don’t and the things I don’t want to do, I do all the more. Because of Scriptures, knowing who God/Christ/Holy Spirit are, and their passion for all, I know they will never give up on me like I and others have. To them, I’m worth all the efforts they share so I might have intimacy with God and their extending grace to me.

What do you believe? Do you believe you are not worth redemption and restoration? Do you lack hope? God would love to have the opportunity to meet you where you are! Regardless of your past and present circumstances and choices, God can and will assist you in all His power and splendor. He will reveal the true meaning of Scriptures, give you the Holy Spirit to guide and teach you all you need and desire to know, and Jesus will bring the forgiveness He desires to grant us; even when we believe we don’t deserve it. Can you believe that? If so, you can now begin to understand what you believe.

Widows Care & Share

Are you a widow looking to meet other widows, like to go out to eat, want to talk about your concerns, need a Bible study, tired of staying home talking to yourself, just don’t know how this widow thing is supposed to work? (And who really does?) A new small group will be developing soon. It is designed to meet the needs and wants of widows in the surrounding area. It is called the Widows Care & Share group.

The first meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 7, at 2:00 p.m. at the Solid Rock UM Church. If you are interested in coming but can’t make it on February 7, please call and indicate your interest. If you know of someone who might be interested, please share this information with them.

For concerns or questions, contact Billie Horrell at (260) 366-7533 (call or text) or email at rwhorrell@citiznet.com.

Please pray for guidance for this new group.

Bible Study

Greetings to sisters and brothers who are journeying with Jesus by faith. Pastor John will complete our trip through Ephesians and help us into the season of Lent. I



know that this article’s format looks rather routine, but the scriptures for each Sunday are sure to make

firmer our foundation in the Lord Jesus. This Bible study is conducted in the church kitchen each Monday evening between 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. Our study schedule is as follows.

- February 6: Hebrews 12:3-17 (Spiritual Fitness)
- February 13: Titus 2:1-15 (Sound Doctrine)
- February 20: Luke 19:28-44 (The Last Week of Jesus -Entering Jerusalem), First Sunday of Lent
- February 27: Luke 19:45-48; 21:10-19 (The Last Week of Jesus – The Warnings)

Since the season of Lent usually points to “giving up something,” why not give up an hour to walk more closely in the steps of the Master? Looking forward to your presence.

—Joe Haney, Coordinator

- “Though our feelings come and go, God’s love for us does not.”
—C.S. Lewis
- “God is completely sovereign. God is infinite in wisdom. God is perfect in love. God in His love always wills what is best for us. In His wisdom He always knows what is best, and in His sovereignty He has the power to bring it about.”
—Jerry Bridges
- “God’s love is like an ocean. You can see its beginning, but not its end.”
—Rick Warren



solidrockumc.com



Prayer Requests

Requests for prayer should be directed to
Solid Rock Office at 375-3873
during office hours or
Pastor John Boyanowski
at (260) 580-8305
when office is closed

YOUTH GROUP SUPER BOWL PIZZAS ARE BACK!

Order one
today!
Orders are
due Monday,
February 6.



*Order on Sunday at church
or call the church office
at 375-3873.*

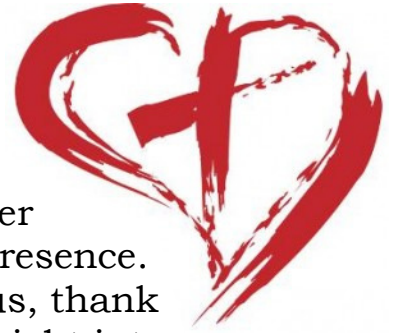
Dear God,

We praise you today with our hearts and songs, we praise you for your faithfulness, we praise you for your great power and love. We confess our need for you; our lives don't go so well when we just spin around on our own.

We struggle and worry, get weary and worn. Yet you never leave us. Thank you for your presence. Thank you for your care over us, thank you that you breathe renewal right into our souls. We ask for your spirit to fill us, to draw us close to yourself, and to work your purposes through us, as we set our eyes on you.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen.



—ibelieve.com

