



News From The Rock

February 2010

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

Soup for the Soul

Mark your calendars for February 9 and plan to join us for our annual free "Soup for the Soul" to be held at the Knight-Bergman Center from 5:00-6:30 or until the kettle runs empty (whichever comes first). Sign up sheets will be posted for you to help out by providing items needed for the supper or to volunteer your time and help with serving our friends and neighbors who join us.

Don't forget to get your tickets to give to your family, neighbors and friends as a reminder to come and warm your body with a bowl of vegetable, chili or chicken and noodle soup and warm your soul with fellowship. Hope to see you there.

Administrative Council

The Solid Rock Administrative Council met on January 19. The Staff-Parish Relations Committee reported that a new computer was recently purchased for the use of the treasurer and financial secretary to maintain records. Five committee members recently attended a training session.

The treasurer's report noted December income totaling \$133,490, with disbursements of \$18,875. The Building Fund now stands at \$314,856.

Solid Rock will be this year's host for the community vacation Bible school. More information will be forthcoming as plans are developed.

The Building/Site Team reported that they will resume meeting in the near future now that the capital campaign is complete and more accurate funding numbers are available. In related news, the Capital Fund Team has received estimates from Church Growth Specialists projecting the cost of building in 2010, 2011, or 2012. This information will soon be shared with the congregation.

The youth group had nine in attendance

(Continued on page 3)

Lenten study to feature Max Lucado series

This year's Lenten study series will feature Max Lucado's "Peace in a Troubled World." The study will take place Sunday evenings at 6:30 p.m. through Lent. Topics and leaders include:

February 21

"Don't Just Do Something—Stand There"
"Hucksters and Hypocrites"

Leader: Dave Spahr

February 28

"Uncluttered Christianity"
"The End Will Come"

Leader: Perry Spahr

March 7

"The Sign of the Saved"
"When Your World Turns Against You"

Leader: Jeff Walter

March 14

"Christ's Most Painful Words"

Leader: Randy Hensley

March 21

"Never Give Up"

Leader: Patty Hensley

Kids' Club theme: "Sweet Tooth"

Spring Kids' Club will begin February 17 and meet every Wednesday through April 14, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

What do David and atomic fireballs or Dum Dum suckers have in common? Kids through fifth grade, come join us as we learn about the life of David. There will be games, crafts, and fun as you discover how your sweet tooth can help teach you about Jesus.

Any adults who would like to help should call Julie Schwartz, 375-3465.



Just Leaning
on the Rock!

by Pastor Kathy Newton



As I sit at my desk and reflect on the events of the last week, I thank God for safety. We, as in United Methodists, have lost two fellow believers to the earthquake

"My prayer this week has been that the Spirit will intercede and advocate for those in Haiti"

in Haiti. I know in the scheme of this horrible tragedy two American Methodists seems pretty insignificant, but I think of how those two men were serving the Lord and wonder if

I would be as dedicated. Would I be willing to leave family and friends to answer a call so far away only to be buried in the rubble of a building? Granted, they did not know that their lives were going to be required of them, but in fact they were. One moment I think, yes, I will go wherever God leads me, and then I look into the eyes of my grandchildren and I cry like a baby. Here I am safe and sound enjoying my family while these two men and hundreds if not millions others are dead or dying. How can I think of myself in a time like this? How can I not think of myself in a time like this? God forgive me for being so self centered.

During this inner struggle I think of Romans 8:26, "In certain ways we are weak, but the Spirit is here to help us. For example, when we don't know what to pray for, the Spirit prays for us in ways that cannot be put into words." My prayer this week has been that the Spirit will intercede and advocate for those in Haiti.

Shalom,
Pastor Kathy

"America stands on two great pillars—faith and morality. Without these, our foundation crumbles."

- George Washington



On October 23, 1958, John Souers started working at Schenkel's All-Star Dairy. On December 29, 2009 he finally retired after 51 years and 2 months with the same company. For the first five years he delivered milk to homes and small retail-wholesale stores. There was no refrigeration, so they used ice blocks to keep the milk cool. For the next 23 years he drove semi-trailers, hauling milk to stores, anywhere from Indianapolis to up north part of the state to the Hammond-Hobart area and as far as Coloma, Michigan, usually putting in 15 hour days. After losing his eyesight for driving due to histoplasmosis in the eyes, he worked the last 23 years in the

cooler and maintenance area of Schenkel's Dairy, which was purchased by Suiza/Dean's Foods about 10 years ago. Welcome home, John!

It's usually pretty hard to get the Neff family together, but most of them were fortunate enough to travel to Apex, North Carolina, where we surprised Rhonda Pettit for her birthday. We attended her daughter's basketball game on Friday evening by driving another hour and a half. We walked in and started to sit down on the bleachers when Rhonda finally saw us and started telling her friend excitedly, "That's my family, that's my family." Abby's team won but the boy's team lost. Abby's father, John, is the assistant coach of the boys team. On Saturday, we enjoyed bowling. Aaron, Rhonda's son beat us on the first game, so Uncle Randy had to show him he was still able to beat him even though his shoulder and knee had recently had surgery! Of course we had cake and ice cream on Saturday evening, because Rhonda's fiftieth birthday was on January 20. Randy, Shelly, and Kailey Neff, Rick, Kris, Natalie, and Ashlyn Neff, and Scott Neff headed home Sunday morning. Shirley and Taryn Oyer and Ron and Myrna Neff attended church with the Pettits and enjoyed the afternoon at their home and then started back to Indiana on Monday morning very early! We really appreciated Ron's brother Don who came and spent the time with Mom Neff while we were away.

Ron and Myrna Neff both want to thank the church for the monetary gift given at Christmas time for janitor and treasurer of Solid Rock UMC. Thank you.

Thanks from UMYF!

The UMYF sends a big thank you to Pastor Kathy and Michelle and Blake Woody for hosting the Christmas party. We met at the parsonage and had pizza and snacks and played Wii games. One of the highlights was the Wii sword dueling contest, with Jeff being the fencing champion. We really appreciated the party and enjoyed spending time together!

Financial Update

December offerings totaled \$15,494. As of January 3, commitments to the capital campaign totaled \$556,000, with \$9,124 received in December.

Pizza sale!

The Solid Rock United Methodist Youth Fellowship is taking orders for Super Bowl pizza on February 7. We make them to your order and you bake them to eat! Cheese is \$9.00. Each additional topping is \$1.00. The supreme pizza is \$14.00. Topping choices include pepperoni, ground beef, sausage, ham, mushrooms, onions, green peppers, black olives, and extra cheese.



See one of your youth or call the church office. Orders need to be in by February 3. You can pick up your pizza in the fellowship hall between 1:30 and 3:00 on February 7.

Thanks for supporting your youth!

Craft Day

February 13 is our next Craft Day. We will be making small ornaments, pins, etc. We are still looking for red and white felt and white yarn.

If you have any other ideas, call Lana (375-3210), Joenita (375-2672), or Sherry B. (260-917-0014).

For the March workday, we will be painting door/wall greeters. Linda K. Howell will be teaching and helping us on March 13 at 9:30. We will need to know how many are attending. If you don't want to paint, we might be making baskets. Please call 375-2859 to let Tamara know what you want to do.

Thanks to everyone who helped with the card work day. They are having another one on January 30 and are providing lunch for everyone.

For Sale

Received in our capital campaign: ladies engagement and wedding band set, 18 KT gold, diamonds of approximately 1.5 carat total. Appraisal of \$4,800 replacement cost. Make offer. Contact Steve Holmes to see rings or make offer.

News From The Rock

is published each month by

Solid Rock United Methodist Church

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Warren, Indiana 46792

www.solidrockumc.com

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Worship Schedule

Sunday School at 9:00

Worship at 10:00

at 227 N. Main Street, Warren

Office: 375-3873

Church: 375-3871 or 375-3872

Parsonage: 375-3873

Pastor: Rev. Kathy Newton
pastorkathy@solidrockumc.com

Editor: Gary Walter
gary@solidrockumc.com

News deadline for the March newsletter: February 21

(Continued from page 1)

at their most recent meeting. They will once again be selling Super Bowl pizzas, with proceeds going to the Building Fund and a missions project.

Thanks were expressed to Ron Neff for his diligent work in clearing snow from sidewalks in a timely manner.

The Finance Team reported that \$173,000 in Building Fund monies have been invested in a money market account at Markle Bank.

The Missions Committee reported that they are looking at a potential spring missions work project at an Indiana United Methodist camp. Council transferred \$1,568 from the Birthday/Anniversary Fund to the Missions Fund. The Missions Committee will designate the use of these funds.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for March 16.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is now meeting Friday afternoons at 1:00 in Mary Brown's room. We knit and crochet. If you want to learn or already know how, come join us!



We are in need of more yarn. If you have any yarn you no longer want, give it to a good cause. Bring it to the church. We will use full or partial skeins of any color.

Men's Fellowship

The Solid Rock Men's Fellowship met on January 9, 2010, in the Calico Room at Heritage Pointe, with 13 men in attendance. Randy Hensley opened the meeting with prayer. Breakfast was served by Kim's Katered Affair.

Marion Bell's devotions were based on Psalm 139:7-10, reminding the men of God's omnipresence and that God can help us make life better wherever we are.

Randy Hensley and Ron Neff chaired the Christmas Family project, providing for a family of five with groceries and other needs.

Closing prayer was offered by Gary Walter. The next meeting will be February 13.

Solid Rock now on Facebook

Solid Rock now has a Facebook page. Several photos have been posted, as well as reminders of upcoming events. You can offer your comments as well!

You do not need to join Facebook to view the content. Go to the bottom of Solid Rock's home page (www.solidrockumc.com) and click on the Facebook link.



New on the website:

Histories of Jefferson Center UMC, Warren UMC, and Solid Rock UMC have been posted to the website. Just click on "History" on the left side of the home page.

Quick, write it down!

The holidays pass, but not before we experience the joy of family coming from all directions to share the time with love, laughter and hugs. It is also a time to count the ways we have been blessed through the years, and some of the time is spent reminding each other of memories, big and small.

The opportunity to have the whole family together, sharing anecdotes, is golden. Each of us as a parent at one time or another, when a child or other loved one has come up with some remarkably funny bit, has commented, "I have to write this down because I will never remember it." And then, if you are anything like me, you just don't do it. Or, if you do, you do it inconsistently.

Some examples of the precious moments recounted by my family were:

A four-year-old nephew had asked his mom for some "truck candy." Because she was unsure of what he meant, she questioned him. It took several moments to relate the fact that his dad, an OTR truck driver, frequently used the term "semi." Mix that with an ingredient of chocolate chip cookies, semi-sweet chocolate bits, and you have "truck candy".

On a very long and exhausting motor vacation across America, a five-year-old had finally pushed her dad's last nerve. He pulled to the side of the highway, turned in his seat and delivered a very stern lecture,

ending with, "Now do you understand me?" When she answered that she did, except for one word, he failed to quit while he was ahead and asked her to tell him the word. She replied, "Well, I can't remember, but if you start over, I will stop you when you get to it."

Equally as delightful are the substitutions for words, in what to adults are familiar contexts, as they are heard by young and uninitiated ears:

The Pledge of Allegiance: "...one nation under God, with liver and tea and Justin for all," or the lyrics to Felice Navidad: "...I want to wish you a Merry Christmas, from the bathroom of my heart."

On a final note, a sincere invitation from three-year-old Nicole, the great-grandchild whom I am sure hangs the sun every day: "Gramma Cheri, you can come and play on my slide...BUT...you cannot fight with my friends." My challenge for the next several weeks certainly will be learning to control all feisty impulses so the next trip to Florida will not be marred by being banished from the swing set in the backyard.

Barbara Kleinhans

Solid Rock choirs need you ... share your talent!

The God-given talent we have in this church is amazing. In the past month I have had the privilege of working with gals in the card workshop and standing in front of those voices of the choirs. We are blessed to have those who love to sing and glorify God with song.

Anyone and everyone is welcome to share their talent, their gift. Here are the new choir practice times:

- Men's Choir: Second Thursday of each month
- Women's Choir: Third Thursday of each month
- Mixed Choir: First and fourth Thursdays of each month

All practices begin at 6:30. Everyone is welcome!

Tamara Spahr

"Fear imprisons, faith liberates; fear paralyzes, faith empowers; fear disheartens, faith encourages; fear sickens, faith heals; fear makes useless, faith makes serviceable — and, most of all, fear puts hopelessness at the heart of life, while faith rejoices in its God."

—Harry Emerson Fosdick

Getting acquainted

Editor's Note: Gina Canady has undertaken a project to interview Solid Rock members to be featured in the newsletter each month. Try to match the biographies and the pictures. Thanks, Gina!



A



B



C



D

E: Not pictured

1

This couple chose their church around 1970 because there was a strong family feeling there. Golfing is his hobby and her hobbies are cards, reading, and birthdays and anniversaries. He was born and raised in this area and she moved here from Ohio. They met at a high school basketball game. Golfing and watching and cheering for grandchildren's sports are their favorite things to do. Traveling to Watervliet, Michigan to see family is a great place to visit.

They have three children, nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. "In the Garden" is their favorite hymn. Watching Pastor Kathy's ordination on video at the church was one of her favorite church memories. His childhood memory was getting a kick out of a lady who always wore a very large floppy hat!

2

They picked the church because it was His family church, they married and made it their church. Their hobbies include taking care of grandkids, fishing, golf, and bow hunting.

He has lived here in this area his whole life. She moved from Wayne Township/Banquo when they married 47 years ago

The Indianapolis Colts are their favorite team!

They love staying around home.

They have four children, 13 grandchildren, and one great grandchild.

Their favorite scripture is John 3:16.

A Church memory they chuckle about: When their children were young, if they didn't stay "still" during church they were punished with sitting on the "big green chair" when they got home!

Their favorite part of worship: Leaving!

3

This person went to WMC as a child and when married switched to Jefferson Center.

Doing things for others is her mission and hobby.

She has lived in this area her whole life. She was born across from Warren High School (Knight-Bergman Center) and never lived more than 7½ miles from Warren!

Her favorite sport/team: Warren Lighting 5. She went all 12 years there!

She loves to visit the Salomonie Valley Museum.

Her favorite scripture is Psalm 121.

Her favorite church memory was being in programs as a child.

Her favorite fun memory: She went on a trip to Yellowstone with friends and they were told not to fry any bacon because of the bears, so her friend stated she was not even going to put cold cream on her face!

Her favorite part of worship is the sermon.

4

She was brought up as a Methodist. Her family started at WMC when they moved to Warren around 1955.

Her favorite hobbies are all kinds of crafts.

When the family moved here, they lived in a home where another member of this church now lives.

She has five children, ten grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren.

She loves watching professional baseball, preferably live at the baseball stadium.

She prefers to stay home rather than travel.

"The Battle Hymn of the Republic" is her favorite hymn.

A special church memory: As a ten-year-old, she went into a church. (It was where the Trinity Church is now in Huntington.) It was "membership joining" day

and three people passed out because the church was so packed.

Her favorite part of worship: music, any kind of music!

5

This church was chosen because it had been the family church of one spouse since birth. The other spouse joined when they married.

Bowling and fishing are their hobbies.

The husband has lived in the Warren area all his life. She came from Mt. Etna, moving here in 1966.

Their favorite sport/team: all of them, especially basketball, IU and Purdue..

They enjoyed when they traveled to Wisconsin and Minnesota fishing.

Favorite hymns: "Because He Lives" and "How Great Thou Art." Favorite scripture: Psalm 23.

One of their favorite church memories: Pastor Chip was baptizing one of their grandchildren (Jessica), and during the ceremony the grandchild kept pinching and touching Chip's nose.

Favorite part of worship: Singing "good old hymns" and the feeling of family within the church!

They have three children, nine grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren.

Answers on page 5

Appreciation and thanks!

We would like to thank Myrna Neff for all the time and hard work she has put in the last one and one-half years at Solid Rock as choir director. We appreciate all of her prayers and the direction she took the choir. Thanks, Myrna!

Tamara Spahr

Family, fun, fellowship!

Join us at the Knight-Bergman Center on February 28, beginning at 3:00 p.m., for fun and fellowship! This is a time for all of the Solid Rock family (young and old) to come fellowship, play games, and eat together. There will be Wii games, euchre, board games, corn hole, and whatever game you want to bring. It's a time for great fun and good competition. Invite a friend, come and relax (maybe), and have fun. See you there!

Congregation to vote on construction start date

A congregational vote will be taken on February 7 to establish a target starting date for construction of a new facility. The information below is provided for your consideration. Contact Steve Holmes if you have questions.

Solid Rock Construction Loan Interest Calculation

Total Project Cost \$1,256,000
 Total Amount Pledged 556,000
 Beginning Building Fund Bal. ... 200,000
 Number of Months to Construct..... 12
 Construction Loan Interest Rate..... 7%

Construction Start—2010

Long-term Debt..... \$663,000
 Interest Paid Over 3 Years 124,000

Construction Start—2011

Long-term Debt..... \$567,000
 Interest Paid Over 3 Years 58,000

Construction Start—2012

Long-term Debt..... \$519,000
 Interest Paid Over 3 Years 9,900

Interest paid over 3 years is for money borrowed until all commitments/pledges have been received in 2012.



Fun & Games

**Solid Rock
Family • Fun •
Fellowship**

**February 28
Starting at 3:00
Knight-Bergman Center**

Food! Games!

Pizza served at 5:00

Thank you

Thank you to Pastor Kathy Newton for honoring me at the January 24 worship service. Thank you again to the choir members who made it an enjoyable experience for me to direct the choir. Almost four years ago, I volunteered to be the choir director and have really enjoyed picking out the music. I was so proud of the choir's Christmas presentations. Tamara Spahr has consented to be our new choir director and I know she will do a good job.

Myrna Neff

Heavenly Inspiration

The temporary Sunday School teacher was struggling to open a combination lock on the supply cabinet.

She had been told the combination, but couldn't quite remember it. Finally she went to the pastor's study and asked for help.

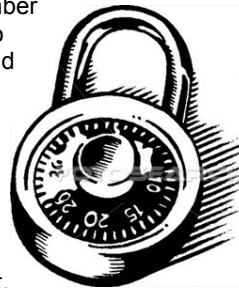
The pastor came into the room and began to turn the dial. After the first two numbers he paused and stared blankly for a moment. Finally he looked serenely heavenward and his lips moved silently.

Then he looked back at the lock, and quickly turned to the final number, and opened the lock.

The teacher was amazed. "I'm in awe at your faith, pastor," she said.

"It's really nothing," he answered.

"The number is on a piece of tape on the ceiling."



The first Sunday school

Sunday school was the brainchild of Robert Raikes, a newspaper editor who in 1780 worried that working children were not being given the opportunity to learn to read and therefore better themselves. He hired Mrs. Meredith and paid her a shilling a week to teach a class of street children how to read, bringing them into her kitchen every Sunday afternoon. After the first three weeks, the abominable behavior of the kids caused Mrs. Meredith to quit, so the class moved into Mrs. Critchley's kitchen. Only now, there were three new rules: Children must wash their hands, comb their hair, and not peek into any kitchen drawers. Within three months, there were ninety children attending.

- Jerry MacGregor and Marie Prys,
1001 Surprising Things
You Should Know About Christianity

Sock caps and scarves

Some of the ladies of the church, as an offshoot of the prayer shawl ministry, have been making sock caps and scarves for elementary-age children. We have sent these to Salamonie, Andrews, and Southern Wells schools. We also send house slippers to White's Institute group homes. We welcome anyone who would like to join us for knitting or crocheting. Call the office if you are interested.

A friend ...

A friend is one who makes me do my best.
Robert Louis Stevenson

*If you want an accounting of your worth,
count your friends.*
Merry Browne

*In prosperity our friends know us;
in adversity we know our friends*
John Churton Collins

*To have a good friend is one of the highest
delights of life; to be a good friend is one of
the noblest and most difficult undertakings.*
Author Unknown

*One who knows how to show
and to accept kindness will be a friend
better than any possession.*
Sophocles

"Sweet Tooth"

Solid Rock Kids' Club



Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30
February 17 through April 14

"Getting acquainted" answers:

1. D. Lamoine & Rochelle DeHaven
2. E. Max & Lois Spahr
3. B. Mary Emma Holmes
4. C. Joenita Keller
5. A. Dave & Wanda Spahr

ORDER YOUR
SUPER BOWL PIZZA

FROM THE SOLID
ROCK YOUTH



Order by
February 3

Pick up
February 7
between 1:30
and 3:30

"WE MAKE IT ... YOU BAKE IT"

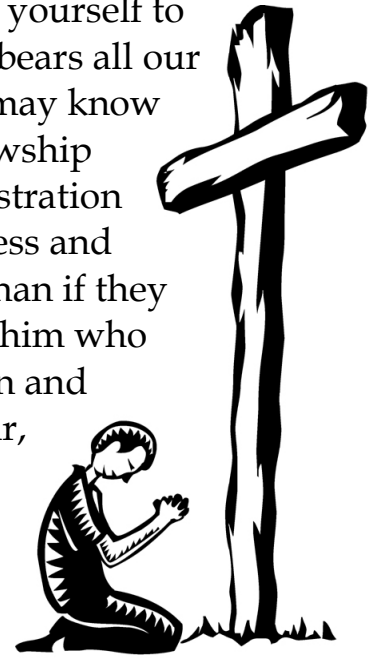
UMYF News

February 7—Meet after church to make
Super Bowl pizzas

February 21— Meeting, 4:00-5:30,
"Writing a Purpose Statement"

March 7—Meeting, 4:00-5:30,
"Spiritual Gifts"

Lord, we pray for all who are weighed down with the mystery of suffering. Reveal yourself to them as the God of love who bears all our sufferings. Grant that they may know that suffering borne in fellowship with you is not a waste or frustration but can be turned to goodness and blessing, something greater than if they had never suffered, through him who on the cross suffered rejection and hatred, loneliness and despair, agonizing pain and physical death and rose victorious from the dead, conquering and to conquer, even Jesus Christ our Lord.



- George Appleton



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