



News From The Rock

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

January 2019

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

Scholarship Committee accepting applications

The Kriegbaum/Solid Rock Scholarship Fund Committee announces its support of college coursework, trade schools, and other comparable advanced education opportunities, subject to review by the committee. All ministers of the church are invited to gift financially or host fund raisers to help improve the sustainability of the fund in coming years. You are also invited to become a committee member. Experience in higher ed is helpful.



Applications are now available printed from the church office, or downloaded from the website at www.solidrockumc.com/scholarships. The due date for completed applications is March 15, 2019. Applicants may return these earlier if they so chose. Mail to church office or attach to an email to Committee Chair. Reach out with any questions you may have. Chairperson: Kelly McCormick Bangs, (260) 375-2223, kellymcbangs@gmail.com.



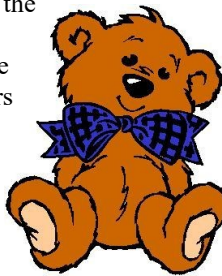
**Help Wanted:
Bass Player**

The Solid Rock Praise Team is in need of a bass guitar player. Anyone interested should contact Marie DeWeese or the church office.

Bear Ministry

We need bears! As is our custom, we have given our remaining stuffed bears to Rose Broyles to distribute for Christmas at the Food Pantry. We need your help to replenish our supply for the new year.

Anyone is welcome to take one of our bears to give to someone who is sick, lonely, in need of encouragement, celebrating a new baby, or just to let someone know you care and are thinking of them.



Your contributions to this ministry will be greatly appreciated. Questions about this ministry should be directed to Pat Boxell.

January "Feasting on the Word" Gatherings

After the Christmas feasting on good foods and many new candies it is time to also feast on the Word of God. You are invited and welcome to join with other brothers and sisters any Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. in the church kitchen to let God speak to us/you. These studies listed below are in preparation for the following Sunday morning worship. Come and grow in faith for the new year!

- January 7: Matthew 6:5-15 (Joe Haney, leader)
- January 14: Matthew 8:18-22 & Luke 14: 25-27 (Perry Spahr, leader)
- January 21: Matthew 5:42 & Matthew 7:1-5 (Jorita Banter, leader)
- January 28: Revelation 20:11-15 (Joe Haney, leader)

We look forward to your presence.



from
Pastor Paul

"Then the Lord said, 'My Spirit will not contend with man forever, for he is mortal; his days will be a hundred and twenty years.'" Genesis 6:3

"It can wait until tomorrow!" Despite that old adage, "Never put off to tomorrow the things that you can do today!", the fact is that there are many if not most things when examined with the critical eye that could always wait for another day, another better time, another opportunity to offer completion or execute disposal. Take doing your taxes, for example. Many has been the time that I, prompted by a striving to be efficient and on top of my game, have tried to complete my taxes before the middle of January had arrived. And, how often have I found that, once completed early, I only had to go back and change something anyway since W-2s had not yet arrived or a certain interest statement had not yet arrived from the bank. Doing taxes in an efficient and timely manner usually requires waiting for just the right tomorrow and then setting out to get the work done then.

If you think about it, there are probably a lot of things in this life like that. Jumping the gun and trying to complete projects and tasks before they are ready can cause a whole lot of trouble. In fact, trying to save time in this manner can often result in the opposite, losing the time you had striven to save. When you come right down to it, perhaps there is nothing wrong with procrastination as long as you end up "winning" at the end. I've often heard it

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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

- FAITHFUL FAMILIES
 - Learning about living out God's hope

News From The Rock

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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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Family Ministry Coordinator:

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News deadline for the February newsletter: January 20

and love for marriage, for raising children, and for giving to God's work in our community.

• FIRM FOUNDATION

- New study beginning January 13: "The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus," by Adam Hamilton, tracing the footsteps of Jesus from his baptism to the heart of his ministry.

• FRIENDS IN FAITH

• REAL LIFE

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.

Family Ministry Update

by John Pearson,
Family Ministry Coordinator

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, we will be doing an extension of Kid's Club. The first Kid's Night will be January 24 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. This will be a night for the kids (ages pre-school through fourth grade) to come have a meal together and hang out, either playing games or watching a movie.

Starting in January, we will no longer be having children's church on the first Sunday of the month. This is due to the number of children that would like to take part in communion on communion Sundays. This will not only give the children the option to take part in communion without distraction, but give them a chance to sit in service and be a part of that.

Rock Solid Youth had its biggest attendance night at youth group in December at 13 youth. We have been averaging 10-12 during youth group.

We have a total of 31 youth signed up for The WAY lock-in on January 2-3. Fifteen of the youth signed up are from Solid Rock. Solid Rock

will be hosting The WAY on February 3 at the church, and this will be a "Big Game Party" (Super Bowl), with other games and activities planned during the night with a time for worship and a lesson during half-time of the game.



We had a total of 12 students come for the college game night. At the start of the night we split into two teams and did a selfie scavenger hunt around the town, then played different games at the church and were able to fellowship together. (I had a blast and loved getting to know these students more). Unfortunately, due to the warmer weather and lack of snow we were not able to go skiing the next day as planned, but will be looking to reschedule or do something else in a couple months.

We have multiple areas in which we need help for the coming year. These areas include nursery during worship service, children's sermon, and children's church, or if you would like to help in a different area, please call or come by the church office for more information.

November Financial Update

General Offerings	\$15,347
General Fund Expenses	\$15,817
Mortgage Balance	\$19,476

United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women met in the Calico Room at Heritage Pointe on Thursday, December 6, 2018. President Barbara Hart gave a welcome and opened with a devotion of "A Christmas Lesson," teaching the true meaning of Christmas. The Purpose of the United Methodist Women was recited by all.

The December Prayer Calendar included the mission focus of United Methodist Church Ministries Mission in Cambodia. The birthday of the month is December 25 for Clara Mridula Biswas, who is serving at Street Children Ministry in Cambodia. She is with the Global Board of Missions.

Bernie Garrett asked for joys and concerns and offered prayer for those mentioned.

Mission Moment was given by Bernie Garrett, entitled "Look at Christmas." Give with a Christmas spirit and plan to worship Christ.

Roll call and the secretary's report were given by Doris Souers. Barbara Hart gave the treasurer's report.

During the business meeting, the 2019 budget was revisited and some revisions made. There will be no meeting in January or February. The next meeting is March 7, 2019. The Program Planning Committee will meet to set a date.

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put this way: "A successful procrastinator puts off his work so long that by the time it's finished, there's no time left to appreciate what he had done."

What about the old adage "Everything comes to him who waits?" Doesn't that mean that the longer I wait to plan something, initiate something or complete something, the better the odds that the waiting will result in a better product, a higher achievement and a more rewarding outcome when I finally do decide to address the issues? It would, of course, be great if this were the way all things were accomplished in this life. In a way it would be like just sitting back and letting things sort themselves out and then getting down to business. In a perfect world things would probably work that way. I have often felt that this was the method for accomplishment that Adam and Eve must have used. Things just happened when they were supposed to happen. Time, in essence, had as little meaning for them as it does for God.

But, in this imperfect world we live in, it is highly more likely that the longer we wait to do things, the harder and more unpleasant they will seem to be to start. Perhaps it's the way we look at time that causes all the problems. We divide things into yesterday, today and tomorrow. Since we live in today and want to enjoy the moment and yesterday is beyond our reach, poor tomorrow so often gets the nod for the "to-do's" in our lives. Yet, when you think of it, tomorrow and today are so inextricably linked that waiting for tomorrow is like waiting for the next minute to pass on your watch. There is always another minute; there will always be another tomorrow.

Clarence Macartney writes, "At the threshold of a new year, we stand today at one of those divisions of time which man has established for his own convenience. The division is altogether imaginary and arbitrary. This day is no more the beginning of a new year than yesterday or the day before."

See You Sunday,
Pastor Paul

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A very interesting program was presented by Martha Plummer, "A Sacred Encounter as God's Servant," using Bible scripture from Luke and 2 Corinthians.

Before adjourning, Barbara Hart read "If You Look for Me at Christmas" and all joined in singing "Silent Night."

Doris Souers,
Secretary

Remnant House Ministries

Please join the Warren Community in supporting the Remnant House Ministry, a Christian-based drug addiction program for women. A benefit supper and auction will be hosted Monday, January 14, at the Warren United Church of Christ Fellowship Hall.

The free-will donation supper starts at 6:00 p.m., with a live auction starting at 7:00 p.m., as well as a silent auction. Pastor Dawn Adkins, Founder and Executive Director of Radical Restoration Ministries will be sharing her testimony, along with other presentations by women enrolled in the program.

Some of the promotional items to be auctioned are a TV, hot air balloon ride, full set of tires, spray tans, propane gas, bakery items, and much more!

For more information, please contact theremnantministries.org, or call 260-388-6020. #nooneistoofargone Hope to see you January 14 at 6:00 p.m.

Dessert donations are needed for this event. Please contact the Solid Rock office if you are able to assist.



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What does it mean to be saved, to accept Jesus as your personal savior?

The phrase *being saved* in the Christian tradition carries with it the obvious assumption that someone is in need of rescuing. It implies that one needs to be freed from imminent danger; that a life is imperiled; that dreams, hopes, and aspirations are all very near to being lost. Being saved in the Christian faith is really a two-part experience: being saved *from* something and being saved *to* something.

To be saved means turning away *from* a life that is without God, that is focused solely upon ourselves. It means giving up the obsession with our needs, our wants, our pleasures, our comforts, our impor-

tance, our egos, and our power. If my world is nothing but me, then no one else, including God, is likely to get in. Being saved *from* also means being saved from destructive patterns of life -- things that destroy us instead of build us up. Some of those common destructive elements (which Christians call sin) are alcohol, drugs, sexual misuse and abuse, intolerance, lust for power, pursuit of money at the expense of others, and so forth. Involvement in such patterns usually comes from a need to fill a void in life, to cover a feeling of inadequacy.

When God becomes a part of our life, we realize that a focus on self is not a full life. We understand that self-focus alone has no future and offers nothing to build up anyone else or to advance the great causes of humanity.

But being saved from ourselves also means that we are saved *to* a life that is the exact opposite. Such a life says that the will of God and living this faith daily is a greater priority than our own will, that being the people of God is more important than anything, that giving and sharing are better than taking and accumulating. Our lives are changed by God to lives that affirm others, lives of healing and wholeness.

Being saved means that we have awakened to the wondrous opportunities to share each day with our brothers and sisters and see what God is doing in our lives together. Most people who are rescued begin to evaluate their lives, take stock, and find ways to improve their lives; it is a wake-up call. We believe that being saved is, in essence, God's wake-up call to us.

From *10 FAQs of New Christians*
by Peter Harrington.

Not healed, but whole

While researching America's Prosperity Gospel movement, Kate Bowler was saddened by its implications — namely that God is present in people's triumphs but not their suffering, and that every aspect of life is either "your fault or your reward." When Bowler was diagnosed with stage IV cancer at age 35, the prosperity-minded messages of well-wishers made cancer seem like a punishment.

In *Everything Happens for a Reason (and Other Lies I've Loved)*, Bowler asks: "What would it mean for Christians to give up that little piece of the American Dream that says, 'You are limitless'?" Everything is not possible. The mighty Kingdom of God is not yet here. What if *rich* did not have to mean *wealthy*, and *whole* did not have to mean *healed*? What if being people of 'the gospel' meant that we are simply people with good news? God is here. We are loved. It is enough."

A Greeting

I've been debating for a month or more to send Christmas greetings. Consider this your card.



- "Kindness is like snow -- it beautifies everything it covers." -Kahlil Gibran
- "Though our feelings come and go, God's love for us does not." - C.S. Lewis
- "The point is not to pay back kindness but to pass it on." - Julia Alvarez
- "Looking back over a lifetime, you see that love was the answer to everything."
-Ray Bradbury

A Prayer for the New Year



Lord, whether I leave behind a year of joy or of trials and difficulties, I pause to give thanks. Thank you for being with me every day of every year. Thank you for making all things new and for giving me the grace of fresh starts and new beginnings.

Remind me of your presence in the days to come, even when I feel pushed and rushed by busyness. Be glorified in my life this year. Amen

—Heather C. King

