



News From The Rock

January 2010

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

Pledges exceed capital campaign goal

Solid Rock's capital campaign, "One Rock, One Church, One Challenge," exceeded its \$400,000 goal by over \$100,000. Campaign chair Steve Holmes announced on Celebration Sunday, December 6, that \$502,573 had been pledged by 73 families. Since that time, four more pledges have been received, and the total now stands at \$529,073. Now that a funding figure has been established, the Building Committee will move forward with the planning process.

Choir presents cantata

The Solid Rock Choir performed the cantata "Rise Up, A New Day A'comin'" at Heritage Pointe on Sunday, December 13. Choir members included Marie DeWeese, Mary Ann Holmes, John Mills, Lana Myers, Randy Neff, Ron Neff, Shelly Neff, Pastor Kathy Newton, Mindy Rider, Dale Smith, David Spahr, Perry Spahr, Tamara Spahr, Gary Walter, and Rosalie Walter. Soloists were Randy Neff and Mindy Rider. Lois Walter was pianist, Steve Holmes and Wanda Spahr were narrators, and the choir was directed by Myrna Neff.

Children who participated in the pageant as shepherds were Isaac Rans, Kaylin Rans, Amelia Sabinske, Israel Stout, and Merisa Walter. The angel was Olivia Bolinger, Lily Sabinske was Mary, and Robby Bolinger was Joseph. The wise men were Carson Bolinger, Fletcher Sabinske, and Walker Spahr. Those in charge of wardrobe and prompting the children were Brenda Conner, Susan Mills, and Lisa Sabinske.

You see how many people it takes to present a cantata and pageant? I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for making this an enjoyable event. A lot of time was spent preparing for the program and I truly appreciate all of the times

when you came to practice and probably would have rather stayed home.

Clarence Myers videoed the program for the residents who weren't able to attend and also gave us a video of the performance. If you would like to see the video, just let me know.

Myrna Neff

Helping Hands Ministry

We are going to start a Helping Hands Ministry. We would like for you to share your talents. We are looking for people who can help with the following:

- Transportation
- Lawn work
- Snow removal
- Handyman work
- Home repair
- Shopping, etc.
- Running errands

If you would like to volunteer and help us provide this ministry for our community, please contact the church office at 375-3873. Thank you!



Bazaar Work Day

Don't forget to call the office so we know how many will be participating in the January 9 work day, "Making Cards."

February 13 at 9:30 we will be making ornaments and small Christmas items, so get your ideas together.

Come join the fun! Things needed: spools with no thread (plastic is great), metal tabs off cans, white yarn, red and white felt, little plastic eyes, and country fabric. Call Tamara at 375-2859 if you have any of these materials or if you have project ideas.

Please watch for bargains on ribbon (Christmas or fall), wreathes (pine or grapevine), pods, pine cones, etc.

We have so much talent in this church. Let's let it shine!

Just Leaning on the Rock!

by Pastor Kathy Newton



Mathew 24:36: *No one knows the day or hour. The angels in heaven don't know, and the Son himself doesn't know. Only the Father knows.*

As I pondered what the New Year might hold for all of us at Solid Rock both

"Allow me to encourage you to trust God to care for the future as God has over the past"

individually and corporately, I am reminded of this Scripture. Who would have thought that a year and a half ago two churches would come together? Who would have

thought that those two churches would work at and become one family so quickly? Who would have thought that this new church would have a capital campaign and raise over 125% of its goal? We do not know what lies ahead and no amount of worrying or fretting can change that. Allow me to encourage you to trust God to care for the future as God has over the past. This then will free us up to have a HAPPY New Year.

Shalom,
Pastor Kathy

A prayer for the new year

Eternal God, thank you for bringing us once again to the threshold of a new year. Help us dedicate each day of 2010 to



following your will for our lives. Guide us, Lord, in all our decisions and actions, day by day and hour by hour. Help us accomplish all that you desire for us to do, until our mission on earth is finished.

Stomach ache: an uncommon cure

First, let me state that, unlike my second child's assertion, I have not been banned from entry into all Wal-Mart establishments due to my customary bad behavior. There is nothing official in writing. However, honesty does compel me to admit to a modicum of "testiness" in situations where consumer-like behaviors usually occur. I do not like to SHOP, anywhere, anytime, under any circumstances.

The older daughter's move to St. Louis saddened me not only because the drive there is longer than I can do "just to stop by for a cup of coffee," but also because she had taken on the role of my personal shopper. All I had to do was hand over a credit card and ask her to find a blouse for my new gray suit, or a gift for a secretary, or anything else that might otherwise send me out SHOPPING! Typically, if forced to go into any kind of store, whether clothing, grocery, furniture, etc., my route through is predetermined, my objective having been identified earlier, and the extent of my interactions are limited to picking up what I want, carrying it to a check-out lane and then leaving, while engaging in the least number of possible interactions with any-

one else. Recognizing that waiting in line is commonly accepted, I can do so without comment... unless someone ahead of me, whether shopper or hired personnel, is inefficient, ineffectual or just plain being a pain. My typical response is to leave, not only the line, but usually the store. Don't tell me how ridiculous that is. I know it is, but it is easier than precipitating a verbal confrontation.

Needless to say, this season of year is frequently especially trying for me. With that knowledge in mind, I was determined to do an about-face. Vowing not to lose patience and to make every effort to be not only pleasant but downright cheerful, I went SHOPPING in Fort Wayne. (Going to Wal-Mart for a first trial run seemed to be a greater challenge than I wanted to attempt.)

Everywhere I went, everyone I encountered returned my greetings or smiles, wished me a happy holiday, and on two separate occasions, helped when I was having difficulty with some unwieldy packages. It extended to the parking lot when a gentleman who had just parked his car came over to help me transfer a very large, heavy box from the cart to my car.

Now, have I learned a lesson? Of course, none of that was a surprise. I know that people treat you the way you treat them, or the way you show them how you want to be treated. However, the pleasant feelings generated by being more relaxed, openly showing concern for the stress salespeople were experiencing and smiling rather than grouching the whole time, made me realize it didn't take any more effort or time than my previous behavior or attitude did. And I left without my stomach hurting! Please, God, help me to remember that for the next time.

- Barbara A. Kleinhans

United Methodist Women

The Solid Rock United Methodist Women met on December 3. Myrna Neff opened with devotions, The Purpose, and the prayer calendar. Joys and concerns were shared, and prayer was led by Carolyn Winters.

Roll call was answered by 16 members. The Mission Moment was presented by Ellen Landry.

Secretary and treasurer reports were given. The group agreed to give \$25 each to Indiana Children's Home and Bashor

Home.

Ann Slaughter reported that the group will not be giving Christmas cheer baskets this year.

Participating in this year's Reading Program were Margaret Bell, Mabel Fields, Barbara Hart, Mick McNany, and Myrna Neff.



United Methodist Women

-related stories.

The first meeting of the new year will March 4.

Men's Fellowship

The Solid Rock Men's Fellowship met on December 12, 2009, in the Calico Room at Heritage Pointe, with 16 men in attendance. Dale Smith opened the meeting with prayer.

Breakfast was served by Kim's Katered Affair.

Devotions were provided by Marion Bell, using Matthew 6:1 and Exodus 19:6-7. The men were challenged to answer the question, "What do you do with your Daily Bread?"

Randy Hensley and Ron Neff chaired the Thanksgiving Family project, serving a family in town. They will also chair the Christmas Family project.

Closing prayer was offered by Bruce Preston. The next meeting will be January 9.



"Stationary Time"

We are frequently thinking
That time's running fast.
The present seems fleeting
And soon becomes past

But time is a measurement
Standing quite still.
It's we who are moving —
Or stopped, by our will.

—Peggy Ferrell



News From The Rock

is published each month by

Solid Rock United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 322

Warren, Indiana 46792

www.solidrockumc.com

Worship Schedule

Sunday School at 9:00

Worship at 10:00

at 227 N. Main Street, Warren

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Church: 375-3871 or 375-3872

Parsonage: 375-3873

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pastorkathy@solidrockumc.com

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News deadline for the February newsletter: January 24

Thank You

“One Rock, One Church, One Challenge” was a huge success. I want to thank all 56 of you who helped with the campaign. We have 77 commitments totaling \$529,073. Thank you one and all.

God continues to bless us as we proceed with our plans for Solid Rock. Please continue to pray for His guidance as we take the next steps in the process, which will be coming in January.

If you have not made a commitment, it is not too late. Contact me or pick up a commitment form at the office. Make sure when you start fulfilling your commitment that you mark your check or envelope with “Building Fund.” Again, thank you.

Steve Holmes,
Campaign Chair

United Methodist Youth Fellowship

Thank you, Pastor Kathy, for hosting our Christmas party on December 30.

Upcoming events:

January 3—Meeting:

Making a Special Friend, 4:00-5:30

January 17—Meeting:

Spiritual Gifts, 4:00-5:30

February 7—Super Bowl Pizzas, after church

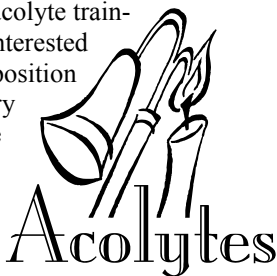


I would like to thank the church for my monetary Christmas gift.

Norma Smith

Acolyte Training

There will be acolyte training for all youth interested in serving in this position on Sunday, January 10 during the time children are normally dismissed for Children's Church. A schedule for acolytes will then be established.



November offerings totaled \$18,637. Building Fund contributions were \$5,516.

Exercise Group

Exercise Group will be meeting an additional day starting in January. It will be Wednesday nights at 7:30 p.m. The starting date has not been decided. Watch the bulletin for more details. Hope to see you there!

Bread of Life food pantry needs

The food pantry is in need of the following items. Please leave them in baskets located at each entrance.

Crackers, sugar, flour, soups (all varieties), pancake mix, syrup, pork and beans, canned spinach and other vegetables, potatoes (canned and instant), beef broth, cooking oil, all kinds of juices, noodles, spaghetti and sauce, Ramen noodles, toilet tissue, paper towels, dish soap, laundry soap, cereals (hot and cold), Pop Tarts, salmon, tuna, Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, Kool-Aid, Spaghetti-O's, ravioli, canned meats, canned peaches, jelly, cake mixes, icing.



Who's that knocking?

A nurse on the pediatric ward, before listening to the little ones' chests, would plug the stethoscope into their ears and let them listen to their own hearts. Their eyes would always light up with awe. But she never got a response to equal four-year-old David's. Gently she tucked the stethoscope into his ears and placed the disk over his heart. "Listen," she said. What do you suppose that is?"

He drew his eyebrows together in a puzzled line and looked up as if lost in the mystery of the strange tap-tapping deep in his chest. Then his face broke out in a wondrous grin. "Is that Jesus knocking?" he asked.

- Author Unknown



A sleeping pill will never take the place of a clear conscience.

- Edie Cantor

The Bible Lives

Generation follows generation

– yet it lives.

Nations rise and fall

– yet it lives.

Kings, dictators, rulers come and go

– yet it lives.

Torn, condemned, burned

– yet it lives.

Hated, despised, cursed

– yet it lives.

Doubted, suspected, criticized

– yet it lives.

Damned by atheists

– yet it lives.

Scoffed at by scorners

– yet it lives.

Exaggerated by fanatics

– yet it lives.

Misconstrued and misstated

– yet it lives.

Ranted and raved about

– yet it lives.

Its inspiration denied

– yet it lives.

Yet it lives

– as a lamp to our feet.

Yet it lives

– as a light to our paths.

Yet it lives

– as the gate to Heaven.

Yet it lives

– as a standard for childhood.

Yet it lives

– as a guide for youth.

Yet it lives

– as an inspiration for the matured.

Yet it lives

– as a comfort for the aged.

Yet it lives

– as food for the hungry.

Yet it lives

– as water for the thirsty.

Yet it lives

– as rest for the weary.

Yet it lives

– as light for the heathen.

Yet it lives

– as salvation for the sinner.

Yet it lives

– as grace for the believer.

To know it is to love it.

To love it is to accept it.

To accept it means life eternal.

- O. Woods

A winning pattern for the New Year

Some anonymous wise person penned the following directions for living without bringing pain to others or oneself:

“You will never be sorry — for thinking before acting, for hearing before judging, for forgiving your enemies, for being candid and frank, for helping a fallen brother, for being honest in business, for thinking before speaking, for being loyal to God and the church, for standing by your principles, for refusing to participate in gossip, for holding your words when tempted to demean another, for not entertaining impure or hateful thoughts, for sympathizing with the afflicted, for being courteous and kind to all.”



Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for taking care of me and loving me all through this day. I know that I have not been as good as I should all the time.



Sometimes I have been lazy or disobedient and wanted my own way. Sometimes I have been quarrelsome and lost my temper. I have been greedy and selfish, wanting all the best things for myself. Please forgive me and help me to be better tomorrow. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for everything good and lovely today, but most of all, thank you for yourself and your great love for me.

- Nina Hinchy

2010

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