

# News From The Rock

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

June 2015

## Congratulations, graduates!

Congratulations to these high school and college graduates!

- Walker Spahr, Huntington North High School
- Quintin Surfus, Huntington North High School
- Brooke Kratzer, Southern Wells High School
- Colin McIntire, Ball State University
- Liz Bolinger- Huntington University
- Rachel Decker- University of St. Francis



## Youth Fellowship

Solid Rock UMYF is sponsoring "Rock on the Block" on Sunday, August 2nd, starting at 12:30. A picnic, games, fellowship, and worship for all ages. Come join us!



### Upcoming Events

- June 7: Meeting, 6:45
- June 14: Meal after church at church
- June 21: Church Camp Week
- June 28: Picnic and Disc Golf after church at Tower Park
- July 21: Swimming and Cookout, 6:00 p.m. at Robby's
- July 30: TinCaps Game
- August 2: Rock on the Block

## Administrative Council

The Solid Rock Administrative Council met on May 19. Fifteen members were in attendance.

The treasurer reported that the monthly mortgage payment has been lowered to \$1,933.66.

Pastor Paul Burris and his wife Lisa

will be moving into the parsonage on June 15. They will be on vacation for several weeks. Pastor Paul's first week in the pulpit will be July 19. A welcome carry-in lunch will be held.

A committee is putting together a welcome package. Each person or family is invited to write a "welcome card." Donations or gift cards to local establishments are also welcomed. For more information, contact Brenda Conner.

The trustees reported that the parsonage kitchen needs updating. Mandy Bordeaux is drawing up plans. Currently there are no funds budgeted for this project.

Landscaping work on the church property will begin soon. A stone driveway will be installed to the storage shed, and landscaping will be performed by Ben Herr. New lights will be installed in the fellowship area. Paula Wright has been hired as the new janitor, beginning immediately.

Three youth will be attending church camp this summer.

## Safe Sanctuary Workshop

A Safe Sanctuary Workshop will take place on Sunday, June 14, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. A light lunch will be served. This workshop is for all teachers, anyone working with children, youth or adults, and anyone working in the nursery. Background checks are updated every five years.

Also on June 14, Coach Heather will be meeting with a few people in the church office at 9:15.



## Kroger Community Rewards

Kroger will donate 3% of every purchase you make to Solid Rock! Contact the church office to find out how to enroll.

## Name Tags

It is requested that we begin wearing name tags on Sunday mornings. This will help Pastor Dave and Pastor Paul get acquainted with us (and help us get to know each other better!). Name tags are on a table at the back of the sanctuary. If you don't find one, let the office know and they will make one for you.



## Welcoming Pastor Paul and Lisa

We would like to do a welcome card shower for Paul and Lisa. You might put something about your family in it. We will have a box at church.

We are making a welcome basket to have at the house when they move in on June 16. Please give items to Brenda Conner or Sherry Gifford.

If you would like to help take a meal in when they are unpacking, please let Brenda or the office know.



## What is a dad?

A dad is someone who wants to catch you before you fall but instead picks you up, brushes you off, and lets you try again.

A dad is someone who wants to keep you from making mistakes but instead lets you find your own way, even though his heart breaks in silence when you get hurt.

A dad is someone who holds you when you cry, scolds you when you break the rules, shines with pride when you succeed, and has faith in you even when you fail.

—Unknown

## United Methodist Women

The women of Solid Rock United Methodist Church met May 7, 2015, at 9:30 in the Calico Room of Heritage Pointe. Barbara Hart welcomed the members and two guests, Vera Scott and Betty Kaiser, both of whom we were all very happy to have with us.

Barbara Hart then led a litany on The Purpose of the United Methodist Women, to which we as a group responded. She also shared the prayer calendar and the birthday for the month.

Joys and concerns were then given. Carolyn Winters gave a prayer for those mentioned, and this being World Day of Prayer, she gave an additional prayer.

Helen Campbell gave the mission report,



United  
Methodist  
Women

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### 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  
Hours: 9 a.m. to Noon

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News deadline for the July newsletter:  
June 21

which was on home missions. She shared all that could be done at home. She spoke about her grandson and his wife and how they served in another part of the world as missionaries.

Roll call was taken with eight members and two guests present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Barbara Hart gave the treasurer's report with a balance of \$663.44.

Bernie Garrett gave a very interesting and informative lesson on Haiti. She and her husband had served there. She gave the history and cultural differences of Haiti. Many live there without water or electricity, and four out of ten children do not live to be ten years old. She had many pictures to share with us.

The meeting adjourned with the group singing "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations."

Respectfully submitted,  
Martha Plummer

## Monday Evening Bible Studies

"I treasure your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against you." Psalm



119:11 (NRSV)  
With these words of Scripture giving you encouragement, bring your Bible on Monday evenings in the church kitchen for a 7:00 p.m. study of God's word. These studies will be in preparation for the next Sunday's sermon by Pastor Dave Smitley.

- June 1: Acts 2:42-47 (Joe Haney, leader)
- June 8: Acts 2:1-13 (Mike Heath, leader)
- June 15: Acts 18:18-19, 24-26 (Aletta Heath, leader)
- June 22: Acts 8:9-13, 18-24 (Joe Haney, leader)

## Donations sought for Love INC's Back-to-School program

We know school hasn't even let out yet, but at Love INC we are already thinking BACK-TO-SCHOOL! We are starting the process of gathering donations for our an-

nual back-to-school shopping program. Registration dates will be released soon, but for now we will gladly accept any donations of jeans, shirts, new underwear, and backpacks! Donations—whether financial or in-kind—can be dropped off at 715

Byron St. If you have questions, contact Rochelle DeHaven. Thank you so much for your continued generosity!



Love INC

## April Financial Update

General Offerings ..... \$14,104  
General Fund Expenses ..... \$17,444

## The origin of Father's Day

One Sunday in 1909, Sonora Smart Dodd listened to a sermon honoring mothers. Her mother had died some years before, so her father had raised her by himself. Dodd wondered why there wasn't a day to honor fathers, so she arranged a tribute to her father at a church in Spokane, Washington. The date was June 19, 1910. Many people believe this was the beginning of Father's Day.

Another account holds that a West Virginia church held a tribute service for fathers in 1908, following a mine explosion that killed 360 men. Regardless of which story is correct, President Calvin Coolidge was the first president to designate a special day to honor fathers. In 1924, he proclaimed the third Sunday in June as Father's Day.

## The greater gift

A rich man waited at the river front for an ocean liner to depart. An acquaintance who joined him said, "You seem pleased about something."

"Yes," said the rich man, "I'm quite proud today. You see that vessel at anchor? I donated \$10,000 worth of hospital equipment that's heading for a hospital in China. I came to see the vessel off."

"That's very generous," replied the friend. "You know, I also have a gift on that ship. Aboard is my only daughter, who's dedicating her life as a missionary to China."

Stunned, the wealthy man turned to his friend and exclaimed, "My dear brother, when I think of what this sacrifice means to you, I feel as though I've given nothing!"

—John Roach Straton, adapted

## SOS

The Solid Rock SOS met on May 14, 2015. Highlights from this meeting:

- A devotion on spring cleaning your life was given by Cindy Boxell. There is a difference between spot and spring cleaning. In spring cleaning you clean everywhere. It is important to keep our lives holy. It is important to check for grime in the corners: What shows do we watch? What things do we say?
- Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.
- Joys and Concerns were shared.
- A lesson on being a Godly woman (Proverbs 31) was given by Linda Mc.
- A love offering was collected to be given to the food pantry to help buy food for kids for the summer.
- Old Business
  - UMW social was fun.
  - Thanks to everyone for helping on the quilt for Pastor Kathy.
  - Bank not changed as of the meeting date, but will be changing to PNC bank.
  - SSF: Watch for sales on 16 oz. bottles of pop.
  - Feminine products for food pantry quarterly collection of money will be in June.
- New Business
  - Discussed Women of Faith Farewell tour in Fort Wayne 7/31/15 and 8/1/15. If you want to go let Tamara know.
  - Youth want to do a “battle of the churches”: basketball, corn hole, golf disc, etc., on 8/2/15. May need help with this event.
  - Kathy Troccoli concert discussed.
  - Committee report: Shower for Mariah being planned for June meeting (will be at 7:00 p.m. before the 6/11/15 meeting).
- 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: 11
- Next meeting: 6/11/15 at Tamara Spahr’s house with Martina Cocklin as co-hostess and Pamela Hensley giving the lesson.

## Reflecting on Our Faith

### Our Faith Journey

Faith is the basic orientation and commitment of our whole being—a matter of heart and soul. Christian faith is grounding our lives in the living God as revealed especially in Jesus Christ. It’s both a gift we receive within the Christian community and a choice we make. It’s trusting in God and relying on God as the source and destiny of our lives. Faith is believing in God, giving God our devoted loyalty and allegiance. Faith is following Jesus, answering the call to be his disciples in the world. Faith is hoping for God’s future, leaning into the coming kingdom that God has promised. Faith-as-belief is active; it involves trusting, believing, following, hoping.



### Our Theological Journey

Theology is thinking together about our faith and discipleship. It’s reflecting with others in the Christian community about the good news of God’s love in Christ. Both laypeople and clergy are needed in “our theological task.” The laypeople bring understandings from their ongoing effort to live as Christians in the complexities of a secular world; clergy bring special tools and experience acquired through intensive biblical and theological study. We need one another.

But how shall we go about our theological task so that our beliefs are true to the gospel and helpful in our lives? In John Wesley’s balanced and rigorous ways for thinking through Christian doctrine, we find four major sources or criteria, each interrelated. These we often call our “theological guidelines”: Scripture, tradition, experience, and reason. Let’s look at each of these.

### Scripture

In thinking about our faith, we put primary reliance on the Bible. It’s the unique testimony to God’s self-disclosure in the life of Israel; in the ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus the Christ; and in the Spirit’s work in the early church. It’s our sacred canon and, thus, the decisive source of our Christian witness and the authoritative measure of the truth in our beliefs. In our theological journey we study the Bible within the believing community. Even when we study it alone, we’re guided and corrected through dialogue with other Christians. We interpret individual texts in light of their place in the Bible as a whole. We use concordances, commentaries, and other aids prepared by the scholars. With the

guidance of the Holy Spirit, we try to discern both the original intention of the text and its meaning for our own faith and life.

### Tradition

Between the New Testament age and our own era stand countless witnesses on whom we rely in our theological journey. Through their words in creed, hymn, discourse, and prayer, through their music and art, through their courageous deeds, we discover Christian insight by which our study of the Bible is illuminated. This living tradition comes from many ages and many cultures. Even today Christians living in far different circumstances from our own—in Africa, in Latin America, in Asia—are helping us discover fresh understanding of the Gospel’s power.

### Experience

A third source and criterion of our theology is our experience. By experience we mean especially the “new life in Christ,” which is ours as a gift of God’s grace; such rebirth and personal assurance gives us new eyes to see the living truth in Scripture. But we mean also the broader experience of all the life we live, its joys, its hurts, its yearnings. So we interpret the Bible in light of our cumulative experiences. We interpret our life’s experience in light of the biblical message. We do so not only for our experience individually but also for the experience of the whole human family.

### Reason

Finally, our own careful use of reason, though not exactly a direct source of Christian belief, is a necessary tool. We use our reason in reading and interpreting the Scripture. We use it in relating the Scripture and tradition to our experience and in organizing our theological witness in a way that’s internally coherent. We use our reason in relating our beliefs to the full range of human knowledge and in expressing our faith to others in clear and appealing ways.

- Excerpted from “United Methodist Member’s Handbook, Revised,” George Koehler

## Priorities

My father used to play with my brother and me in the yard. Mother would come out and say, “You’re tearing up the grass.”

“We’re not raising grass,” Dad would reply. “We’re raising boys.”



—Harmon Killebrew



## For fun

Feeling footloose and frisky, a feather-brained fellow forced his fond father to fork over the farthings and flew far to foreign fields and frittered his fortune, feasting fabulously with faithless friends.

Fleeced by his fellows in folly and facing famine, the fellow floundered as a feed-flinger in a filthy farm. Fairly famished, he fain would have filled his frame with foraged food from fodder fragments. "Foey, my father's flunkies fare far finer!"

The frazzled fugitive forlornly fumbled, frankly facing facts. He fled forthwith to his family. Falling at his father's feet, he forlornly fumbled, "Father, I've fruitlessly forfeited family favor."

The farsighted father, forestalling further finching, frantically flagged his flunkies to fetch a fatling from the flock and fix a feast. The fugitive's fault-finding brother frowned on fickle forgiveness of the former folderol. But the faithful father figured, "Filial fidelity is fine, but the fugitive is found! What forbids fervent festivity? Let flags be unfurled! Let fanfares flair!"

—*The Treasury of Good Clean Church Jokes*

Forth in your name, O Lord, I go,  
My daily labor to pursue,  
You, only you, resolved to know  
In all I think, or speak or do.

The task your wisdom  
has assigned  
O let me cheerfully  
fulfill,

In all my works your presence find,  
And prove your good and perfect will.



Charles Wesley



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