



News From The Rock

March 2015

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

2015 Mission Giving

The Solid Rock Mission Committee has designated mission funds as follows for 2015.

General Church Advance Specials

World

Homes for Haitians	\$300
Water & Sanitation	500
Feed My Starving Children.....	500

National

Henderson Settlement.....	800
Society of St. Andrew.....	200

UMCOR

International.....	200
National	200

Operation Classroom

.....	500
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Africa University

.....	500
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Conference Advance Specials

District Ministries

Conference Ministries	
Bashor Children's Home	500

Missionary Salary Support

Other Missions (non-UMC)

Local Missions

Bread of Life Food Pantry	1,000
Associated Churches.....	500
A Friend's House.....	500
Love, INC	500

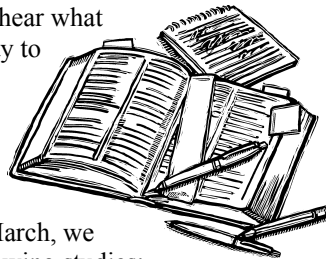
Other

Concession stand for popcorn popper	1,000
Special Offering: Six different Sundays (for each Sunday).....	100

Monday Evening Bible Study

One of the results of our Fruitful Congregation study found that Solid Rock Church needs an Intentional Faith Development Plan. Pastor Kathy has worked hard to give to this Bible study group her texts

for the coming month's sermons. Each of these texts is shared with us so that we together might hear what God has to say to us about our coming journey.



In preparation for the Sundays in March, we have the following studies:

- On February 23, looking to March 1—Exodus 12:1-11
- On March 2, looking to March 8—Exodus 16:1-21 and Luke 11:1-4
- On March 9, looking to March 15—Deuteronomy 8:1-18 and Matthew 4:1-4
- On March 16, looking to March 22—Mark 6:30-44
- On March 23, looking to March 29—Mark 14:1-15:49

If you cannot make it to the evening studies in the church kitchen, please read the scriptures at home and pray that these words of the Lord may be the guiding light for our congregation in the days ahead.

Youth Fellowship

At UMYF we have been talking about dealing with doubts and going through tough times. We have learned to follow and trust God through all things. The three main points we discussed were: stay focused on who God is, stay focused on who we are in Christ, and stay focused on where we truly fit in.



The scripture we studied was 1 Peter 3-12 and Mark 9:14-29. The discussions our youth have are amazing! I am blessed every time we meet, to hear the wisdom and understanding that they have!

We are in the process of planning an outing for March 29 or sometime over Spring Break week. We want to thank Cindy and the Young Adults Class for wel-

(Continued on page 3)

Just Leaning on the Rock!

by Pastor Kathy Newton



Romans 5:6-8 *The Message*:

"Christ arrives right on time to make this happen. He didn't, and doesn't, wait for us to get ready. He presented himself for this sacrificial death when we were far

too weak and rebellious to do anything to get ourselves ready. And even if we hadn't been so weak, we wouldn't have known what to do anyway. We can understand

someone dying for a person worth dying for, and we can understand how someone good and noble could inspire us to selfless sacrifice. But God put his love on the line for us by offering his Son in sacrificial death while we were of no use whatever to him."

Eugene Peterson is responsible for this interpretation in his *The Message*. I find myself humbled once again by these words. I believe Christ is always on time and only He can make my salvation happen. Thanks be to God, He doesn't wait for me to be prepared because I could never ever be good enough! He died for my sins even to this day. This unbelievable sacrifice for me, a sinner supreme, is more than I can fathom. Yes I could understand if it had been for Mother Theresa or Nelson Mandela or... or... And in fact, it was but to include my worthless, sinful self in that list is just more than I can understand. What was God thinking? Sacrificing His sinless Son on a cross for one so weak and rebellious. All I know is that I owe God EVERYTHING! So "I will sing of His love FOREVER!!" Won't you join me? You see, this was all for you too!

Shalom,
Kathy

SOS Meeting Highlights

The Solid Rock SOS met on February 12, 2015.

- A devotion on Psalm 5:11 was given by Cindy Boxell.
- Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.
- Joys and Concerns were shared.
- A lesson on the Proverbs 31 woman was given by Jessica Barry. This woman girds herself with strength: physical, mental, and spiritual. God wants your heart and wants to spend time with us alone instead of us spending time in work, even work for Him. You have to make sure your cup is filled to be able to give to others.
- A love offering was collected to be used for feminine products for the food pantry.

News From The Rock

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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 485 Bennett Drive, Warren

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Church Office

Office Phone: 375-3873

Hours: 9 a.m. to Noon

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News deadline for the April newsletter:
March 22

- Old Business
 - Closed out discussion on possible church retreat as no SOS needs at this point.
- New Business
 - Membership dues are due to be paid.
 - By-laws discussed and were approved.
 - SOS membership list and by-laws distributed.
 - Discussed potential for painting event with UMW.

- 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: 20

Next meeting: March 12, 2015, at Martina Cocklin's house with Susan Mills as co-hostess and Lana Myers giving the lesson.

United Methodist Women

The Solid Rock United Methodist Women will hold their monthly meeting on Thursday, March 5, in the Calico Room at Heritage Pointe at 9:30 a.m. Carolyn Winters will lead the "Call To Prayer and Self Denial" program. The theme of the programs for this year is "WELCOMED BY GOD - Welcoming All."

The vision for United Methodist Women is to turn faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world. We invite the ladies of the Church to come and share in this vision.



United
Methodist
Women

Kroger Community Rewards Program

Kroger shoppers who use Kroger Plus cards may have 3% of every purchase donated by Kroger to Solid Rock. This is an easy way to help our church. The registration process has changed. Here's how to sign up.

- Register online at krogercommunityrewards.com.
- Have your Kroger Plus card handy and

register your card with your organization after you sign up.

- If you don't have a Kroger Plus card, they are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger.
- Click on Sign In/Register.
- If you are a new online customer, click on SIGN UP TODAY in the "New Customer?" box.
- Sign up for a Kroger Rewards Account by entering zip code, clicking on favorite store, entering your email address, and creating a password, agreeing to the terms and conditions.
- You will then get a message to check your email inbox and click on the link within the body of the email.
- Click on My Account and use your email address and password to proceed to the next step.
- Click on Edit Kroger Community Rewards information and input your Kroger Plus card number.
- Update or confirm your information.
- Enter NPO number or name of organization, select organization from list and click on confirm.
- To verify you are enrolled correctly, you will see your organization's name on the right side of your information page.
- Remember, purchases will not count for Solid Rock until after you have registered your card.
- Do you use your phone number at the register? Call 800-576-4377 and select option 4 to get your Kroger Plus card number.
- Swipe your registered Kroger Plus card or use the phone number that is related to your registered Kroger Plus card when shopping for each purchase to count.



Providing proof

If we are to accept the teaching of Jesus at all, then the only test of the reality of a man's religion is his attitude to his fellow men. The only possible proof that a man loves God is the demonstrated fact that he loves his fellow men.

—William Barclay

(Continued from page 1)

coming us to their Sunday dinners! Seniors, please get two pictures to Marie. One needs to be from your “younger” days, and one senior picture. Digital is preferred!

Remember, UMYF is for all youth in grades 5-13. Please join us and bring a friend! Any questions, please contact Marie or Michelle, 375-2060.

Upcoming Events:

- **March 1:** Meeting, 6:45 p.m.
- **March 8:** Pizza after church at East of Chicago
- **March 15:** Meeting, 6:45 p.m.
- **March 29:** Possible outing
- **April 12:** Meal after church at church
- **April 19:** Meeting, 6:45 p.m.
- **May 3:** Meeting, 6:45 p.m.

Why do we light and extinguish candles during worship?

From *Worship Matters: A United Methodist Guide to Worship Work, Vol. II* by E. Byron Anderson:

“Jesus said: ‘I am the light of the world’ (John 8:12). The presence of the light reminds us of Jesus’ coming into our world and into our lives. The light is carried into the worship service as a symbol of Jesus’ coming into the presence of the worshipping community. Many congregations use two candles on the altar to point out that Jesus was both a human being and God. At the end of the service, the light is carried out into the world to show that Jesus Christ is for all people everywhere; The acolyte leaves the worship service at the pastor’s direction, carrying out the lighted candlelighter. This symbolizes the light of Jesus Christ going out into the world where believers are to serve.”



From *The Acolyte’s Book* by Hoyt Hickman:

“Since ancient times, light and fire have reminded people that God is here with us. When you bring the light (fire) into the place where people are gathering to worship, and when you light the candles, you are reminding the people that God is with us at home, at school, and at work, as well as in the worship service; Lighted candles also remind us that Jesus Christ is the Light of the world. Many persons like to think of the two candles on or beside the Lord’s table as reminders that Christ is both human and divine.”

The waiting game

Life involves lots of waiting. We wait in groups, in lines, in cars. We wait for packages, for the bus, for the sun to rise. We wait in doctors’ offices, at the post office, at the DMV. Waiting implies we’re at someone else’s mercy, but it’s also usually linked to hope. Perhaps that’s why Paul Tillich called waiting a metaphor for faith. Why would one wait if there weren’t the firm belief that the object of one’s wait will eventually materialize?

Waiting can be enervating, which is why Isaiah 40:31 is so promising: “They who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength.” Yet waiting is tough if you have nothing to do while waiting. That’s why Jesus, when talking about waiting, also talked about working — work for the night is coming. Sometimes it’s less tiring to work than it is to wait.

There’s a lot of waiting during Lent. You’re waiting for a payoff. You’re waiting for the Resurrection. You’re waiting for spiritual growth. And then you realize this isn’t waiting at all. It’s life. It’s joy. It’s opportunity. It’s blessing.

—Timothy Merrill

A new spring

Botanists say that trees need the powerful March winds to flex their trunks and main branches, so that the sap is drawn up to nourish the budding leaves. Perhaps we need the gales of life in the same way, though we dislike enduring them. A blustery period in our fortunes is often the prelude to a new spring of life and health, success and happiness, when we keep steadfast in faith and look to the good in spite of appearances.

—Jane Truax



Day in, day out

In *Walking With God Through Pain and Suffering* (Dutton), Timothy Keller says many people think spiritual growth is something akin to high diving, when really it’s more like walking — nondramatic and rhythmic:

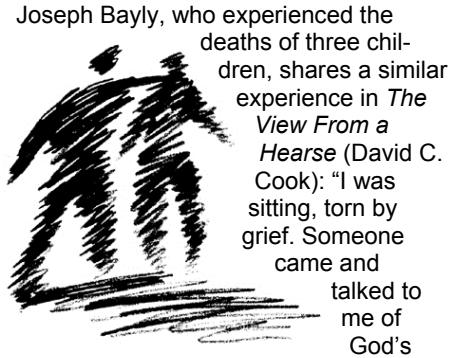
“A walk is day in and day out praying; day in and day out Bible and Psalms reading; day in and day out obeying; talking to Christian friends, and going to corporate worship, committing yourself to and fully participating in the life of a church. It is rhythmic, on and on and on. To walk with God is a metaphor that symbolizes slow and steady progress.”

Comforting those who mourn

Words aren’t always necessary—or even beneficial—when people are hurting. In *Killing Giants, Pulling Thorns*, Charles Swindoll tells of a girl who went to comfort the mother of a deceased playmate.

“What did you say?” the girl’s parents later asked.

“Nothing,” she replied. “I just climbed up on her lap and cried with her.”



Joseph Bayly, who experienced the deaths of three children, shares a similar experience in *The View From a Hearse* (David C. Cook): “I was sitting, torn by grief. Someone came and talked to me of God’s

dealings, of why it happened, of hope beyond the grave. He talked constantly. He said things I knew were true. I was unmoved, except to wish he’d go away. He finally did.

“Another came and sat beside me. He didn’t talk. He didn’t ask me leading questions. He just sat beside me for an hour or more, listened when I said something, answered briefly, prayed simply, left. I was moved. I was comforted. I hated to see him go.”

St. Patrick’s Day trivia

You may know that St. Patrick used shamrocks to teach about the Trinity, but did you know these other facts about him?



- St. Patrick wasn’t Irish. (His parents were Roman citizens living in either Scotland or Wales.)
- He was kidnapped and sold as a slave at age 16. After escaping six years later, he joined a monastery in England.
- March 17 is the date of St. Patrick’s death, not his birth. He died in 461 A.D.
- The color originally associated with St. Patrick is blue, not green.
- The harp, not the shamrock, is the national symbol of Ireland.

Indulge for Lent?

Rather than sacrificing something for Lent — especially something easy and spiritually insignificant, such as chocolate — Patty Kirk, in *Guideposts* magazine, suggests finding new ways to indulge in God's presence. Surely one can do this by having extra devotions or attending Lenten worship services. But Kirk offers these ideas:

- Spend time outdoors, sensing God's magnificence.
- Spend time with others, extending generosity and compassion. Remember Jesus' promise that when you care for others, you care for him (Matthew 25:31-46).
- Pray for the "little things," coming before God in childlike trust and feeling peace.
- Watch attentively for God's answers to prayer, and receive them as reminders of his presence.
- Turn anxiety into prayer. As you frame concerns as prayers and entrust them to God, you "sacrifice" the tendency to wallow in worry.

Father, we have come to church to worship—
to listen and talk,
learn and pray.

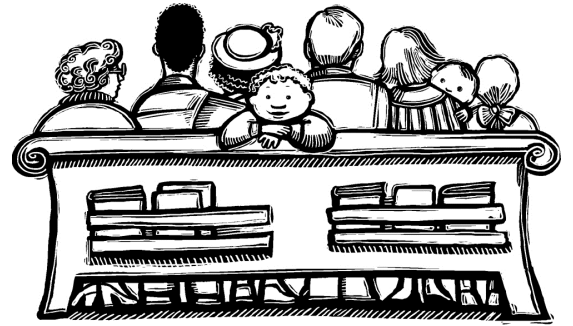
We've come to
meet our
friends—young
and old.

We've come to
hear more

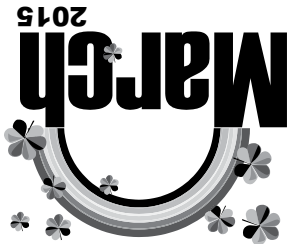
about Jesus—and to share with others what
we already know.

Father, that's why we've come to church—and
come gladly.

When we go home, help us to be the church—
your people, living in your world.



- From *Prayers Before Worship*



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