



News From The Rock

May 2009

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

Initial building proposal outlined at Vision Sunday

Solid Rock congregants observed Vision Sunday on April 19. Following a worship service centered on a vision theme, a carry-in lunch was shared. The afternoon session was led by capital funds consultant Bill Walter, representing Church Growth Services, and architect Brian Hollars from Studio Three.

Following the presentations, small group discussions gave participants an opportunity to express their thoughts regarding the proposal. A portion of the congregation will be asked to participate in follow-up telephone interviews, and a congregational survey will be conducted.

Church Growth Services will complete their pre-campaign assessment this summer. If this assessment results in a "green light," the capital funds campaign will likely take place this fall. If the assessment identifies issues of concern, they will be addressed before the campaign proceeds.

Communion offered at Heritage Pointe

Solid Rock is pleased to offer the opportunity for residents of Heritage Pointe and the community to celebrate communion on the second Monday of each month in the library activity room at 4:30 p.m. All are invited to take part in this remembrance of Christ's sacrifice.



The Visitation Team

Kids Caring with Cookies

May will mark the six-month anniversary of Kids Caring with Cookies. We have wonderful caring kids at our church and I am enjoying spending time with them. We have baked several dozens of cookies using a variety of recipes. We have even had a couple of girls come up with their own

recipe and baked them. They were pretty good! (Of course we taste test the cookies before we package them.)

We have given cookies away as care packages, celebration treats, and any reason that the kids think of. One Sunday, we passed them out after church. We want to thank all of you who have supported us through your donations of supplies and money to purchase supplies. At this time, we could use some flour, sugar, semi-sweet chocolate chips, and quick-cooking oatmeal. Please leave your donations marked "Kids Cookies" at the Warren site. Thanks again.

Cindy Boxell

S.O.S. to host "Women's Day Away"

Solid Rock's S.O.S. women's support group will sponsor a "Women's Day Away" from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on May 16 at the Warren site. The theme for the day will be "How can I ask God to bless me when the world is in such a mess?" presented by Paula Gast. Participants will share in praise music, prayer, inspirational messages, fellowship, and communion.

Registration deadline is May 2. Contact Tamara Spahr, Cindy Boxell, LeAnn Shultz, Linda Howell, or Lana Myers for more information.

United Methodist Youth Fellowship

The UMYF group finished up a study of our faith journeys. Thanks to the adults who were willing to come and talk to us about their own faith experiences. The kids have made some posters to show their own personal journeys. Look for these at church.

Youth, be sure to watch the Sunday morning announcements, and listen for the phone tree messages. The UMYF schedule

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Just Leaning on the Rock!

by Pastor Kathy Newton



Proverbs 3:5-8 reads: "With all your heart you must trust the LORD and not your own judgment. Always let him lead you, and he will clear the road for you to follow. Don't ever think that you are wise enough, but respect the LORD and stay away from evil. This will make you healthy, and you will feel strong."

This Scripture always gives me comfort but verse 6 gives me great assurance. If I

"We have to do the prep work for God to clear the path"

chose to allow God to lead me, He will clear the path for me. My thoughts go to this winter when in my driveway I became

stuck. I was out digging myself out when a gentleman in a pickup with a blade happened by. He said if I would get the car out of the way he would clear a path for me to get into the garage. Well it took me several minutes to get the car out of the way, but this kind man in about the same amount of time it took me to get the car out of the way did in fact clear a path to the garage.

So what's my point? We have to do the prep work for God to clear the path. What do you have in your life that is preventing God from clearing a path for you?

Shalom,
Pastor Kathy

Welcome to these new members of Solid Rock!

Art & Rose Broyles

Martina Cocklin

Tom Bolinger

Walker Spahr



☞ **Lauren Keller** has been accepted into the Doctor of Chiropractic Medicine program at National University of Health Sciences in Lombard, Illinois. Lauren will begin at National in fall of 2010 after she completes her degree requirements at Purdue University.

Lauren is one of 12 finalists for Resident Assistant of the Year at Purdue University as chosen by the National Association of Resident Associates.

☞ **Carolyn Winters** enjoyed the Easter morning resurrection celebration at Van Buren United Methodist Church with her daughter's family. The choir presented the cantata "In the Presence of Jehovah." The family gathered at Michelle's home for a lovely Easter dinner.

News From The Rock

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P.O. Box 322
Warren, Indiana 46792

www.solidrockumc.com

May 2009 Worship Schedule
Sunday School at 9:00
Worship at 10:00
at **Jefferson Center**

Office: 375-3873
Jefferson Center: 375-2997
Warren: 375-3871 or 375-3872
Parsonage: 375-3686

Pastor: Rev. Kathy Newton
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gary@solidrockumc.com

News deadline for the June newsletter:
May 24

It was a lovely day celebrating the resurrection of our Lord.



☞ **Thank you, John Mills**, for blessing us with your special, singing "How Great Thou Art."

Charge Conference approves property sales

A Charge Conference convened by District Superintendent Rev. Chip Gast on April 26 approved the sale of the Jefferson Center Church building and the Jefferson Center parsonage. There are currently prospective buyers for both properties. Pastor Kathy Newton will move to the Warren parsonage. The church offices which are presently located there will be consolidated into the front room, and Pastor Kathy will occupy the remainder of the home.

"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

O for a thousand tongues to sing My great Redeemer's praise, The glories of my God and King, The triumphs of His grace!

Soon after their graduation from Oxford University, John and Charles Wesley decided to sail to America, the New World, to try to minister to the rough colonists under General Oglethorpe in Georgia and to evangelize the Indians. The Wesleys soon became disillusioned with the situation there, however, and after a short time returned to England.

As they crossed the Atlantic, John and Charles were much impressed by a group of devout Moravians, who seemed to have such spiritual depth and vitality as well as genuine missionary zeal. After returning to London, the Wesleys met with a group of Moravians in the Aldersgate Hall. Here in May 1738, both brothers had a spiritual "heart-warming experience," realizing that even though they had been zealous in religious activity, neither had ever personally known God's forgiveness or real joy. From that time on their ministry displayed a new dimension of spiritual power.

"O for a Thousand Tongues" was written by Charles in 1749 on the eleventh anniversary of his Aldersgate conversion experience. It was inspired by a chance remark of an influential Moravian leader named Peter Bohler, who expressed his spiritual joy in this way: "Oh, Brother Wesley, the Lord has done so much for my life. Had I a thousand tongues, I would praise Jesus Christ with every one of them!"

These words of personal testimony by

Charles Wesley have provided a moving vehicle of worship for God's people for more than two centuries.

- Kenneth W. Osbeck

Huntington District United Methodist Women

The Huntington District Spring UMW meeting was held Saturday, April 18, at Heritage Pointe. The theme for the meeting was "Together at the Table."

Steve Riikonen, Director of Development at Bashor Home in Goshen, shared that "seeds need to be planted." The soil is being prepared in young people's lives as they journey to become the youth God created them to be. We honor God when we serve others.

Our purpose: We are called to serve and in so doing improve the lives of children and families, and so we: Do all the good we can, By all the means we can, In all the ways we can, At all times we can, For as many as we can, For as long as we can.

Our mission: Faithful to God and in keeping with the United Methodist tradition, Bashor Children's Home is to provide help for today and hope for tomorrow to troubled children and their families. Every child needs to be cared for and cared about. We must be there for them.

Bashor has become a regional provider for services over the last 80 years and works with over 100 children daily from 22 counties and three different states.

Solid Rock United Methodist Women received rewards for being a 2008 Honor Unit, a Five-Star Unit, and a 2007 Gold Star Unit.

All my time

A mother of 13 children was asked, "How in the world do you have time to care for 13?"

"Well," she replied, "when I had only one child, it took all my time; what more can 13 do?"

The 'M' word

During a science lesson, a second-grade teacher demonstrated how a magnet can pick up metal objects such as nails and screws.

Afterward, she said, "My name begins with the letter 'm.' I pick up things with my power. What am I?"

A boy quickly answered, "You're a mother!"

United Methodist Women

Thirteen members of the Solid Rock United Methodist Women met on April 2 in the Calico Room at Heritage Pointe. Due to the absence of the president, vice-president Ann Brauchla Slaughter was in charge of the meeting. She had a devotion from the Upper Room, then led the group in reciting The Purpose.

Freddie Couch shared a letter she had received about the Kairos (prison ministry) for the Mission Moment. The expense is \$7,000 each week-end the group shares their program.

Roll call and the treasurer's report were given. Various letters were shared by Ann. Rosalie Walter brought books from the library which are on the current reading list. Inquire about them if you want to increase your reading points!

The Solid Rock unit is responsible to host the Spring District Meeting on April 18 at Heritage Pointe. We will be serving snacks in the Fahl Recreation Room at 8:30 a.m.

May 1 is May Friendship Day. May 7 is National Day of Prayer and the date of the next UMW meeting.

Mary Emma Holmes presented the program, "Lent, This is the Fast I Choose." She explained Lent and why it is 40 days, Shrovetide, Ash Wednesday, and different ways to commemorate the season. Those helping were Barbara Hart, Martha Glass, Freddie Couch, Mick McNany, Naomi Oxley, and June Shideler.

He's got it! He's really got it!

As a Building and Site Committee member, at our first meeting, it was necessary for me to admit that since I was operating from such a broad base of ignorance in this type of situation, it was going to be necessary for a lot of learning in a very short time to take place before I could make any meaningful contributions. With that understanding, attending meetings, listening more than talking (not ever an easy task) not only to the presenters at the meetings but also to the members of Solid Rock whenever discussions regarding the building program arose, was my role.

In a meeting prior to the scheduled



United
Methodist
Women

carry-in after the worship service on Sunday, April 19, the Building and Site Committee and the Capital Funds Committee members met with the representative, Brian Hollars and other members of his staff of the Studio Three architectural firm to review preliminary proposals.

The presentation by Brian was prefaced by his interpretation of the discussions from previous meetings with the committee members and the expression of hopes and dreams from the members of the congregation who attended the previous carry-in luncheon. Unquestionably, there are compromises that have to be made for matters of practicality. But the present proposal allows for planned implementation of additional features in future times as it becomes financially more doable. The positive aspect of the current proposal is that Brian has demonstrated how they may be incorporated and still maintain the integrity of the vision as a whole, without worrying something will appear to have been "just tacked on."

As he spoke, Brian explained his thought processes before even beginning to put anything on paper, and his words were not only compelling, but exciting beyond my wildest expectations. All I could think was, "Hey, he's got it! He's really got it!" It truly was inspiring to listen to him, as he discussed his vision of this entire plan or program as a journey that we are all walking as our paths come together. He expressed the belief that it was his responsibility to present to us a vision of a structure and a setting that will inspire the same feelings in anyone who enters the same space with us now and for the future. As he spoke, I was overwhelmed by the feeling that this is the same walk, or path, we have all taken when deciding to accept Jesus as our Savior. For now, I am grateful to be even a small part of this process.

- Barbara Kleinhans

Men's Fellowship

The Solid Rock Men's Fellowship met on April 11, 2009, in the Calico Room at Heritage Pointe.



Men's Fellowship

President Dale Smith welcomed the group. Gary Walter opened with prayer, after which breakfast was served by Kim's Katered Affair to the 19 men in attendance.

Devotions were provided by Marion Bell, who presented two readings, "What's Up?" and "Whatever Happened to the

Front Porch?"

Ron Neff reported that he and David Spahr picked up and delivered 1,500 pounds of potatoes to food pantries in Huntington and Warren.

Plans for the East of Chicago pizza fundraiser on April 21 were discussed.

David Spahr closed in prayer. The next meeting will be May 9 at Heritage Pointe.

March Offerings

March offerings totaled \$15,026.40. Building fund contributions were \$1,655.

The buzzard, the bat, and the bumblebee

THE BUZZARD:

If you put a buzzard in a pen that is 6 feet by 8 feet and is entirely open at the top, the bird, in spite of its ability to fly, will be an absolute prisoner. The reason is that a buzzard always begins a flight from the ground with a run of 10 to 12 feet. Without space to run, as is its habit, it will not even attempt to fly, but will remain a prisoner for life in a small jail with no top.

THE BAT:

The ordinary bat that flies around at night, a remarkable nimble creature in the air, cannot take off from a level place. If it is placed on the floor or flat ground, all it can do is shuffle about helplessly and, no doubt, painfully, until it reaches some slight elevation from which it can throw itself into the air. Then, at once, it takes off like a flash.

THE BUMBLEBEE:

A bumblebee, if dropped into an open tumbler, will be there until it dies, unless it is taken out. It never sees the means of escape at the top, but persists in trying to find some way out through the sides near the bottom. It will seek a way where none exists, until it completely destroys itself.

PEOPLE:

In many ways, we are like the buzzard, the bat, and the bumblebee. We struggle about with all our problems and frustrations, never realizing that all we have to do is look up! That's the answer, the escape route and the solution to any problem! Just look up.

Sorrow looks back, Worry looks around, But faith looks up! Live simply, love generously, care deeply, speak kindly and trust in our Creator who loves us.

(Bruce Preston shared this with Men's Fellowship in February.)

Visit us online!

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will be a little different for summer. We will call and let you know of changes. We will also be planning a swim party, and some other service projects.

These are the dates we will be meeting during May and June:

- May 31: Picnic/hiking/swimming at the Reservoir after church
- June 12: Trip to the Fort Wayne Zoo
- June 25: Service project at the Warren Veterinary clinic

A David Psalm

God—you're my God! I can't get enough of you!
I've worked up such hunger and thirst for God,
traveling across dry and weary deserts.

So here I am in the place of worship, eyes open,
drinking in your strength and glory.

In your generous love I am really living at last!
My lips brim praises like fountains.

I bless you every time I take a breath;
My arms wave like banners of praise to you

I eat my fill of prime rib and gravy;

I smack my lips. It's time to shout praises!

If I'm sleepless at midnight,

I spend the hours in grateful reflection.

Because you've always stood up for me,

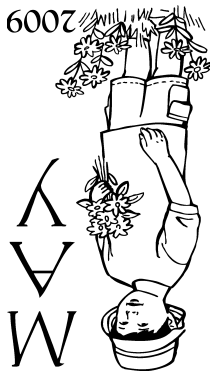
I'm free to run and play.

I hold on to you for dear life,

and you hold me steady as a post.



Psalm 163:1-8, *The Message*



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