



News From The Rock

November 2014

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

Youth Fellowship

Thanks to everyone who helped with the birthday bags for the Food Pantry! We appreciate the support and look forward to continuing this ministry in the future.

We have started the first unit in our new series for UMYF. In the first lesson we talked about identifying the world's lies and how this affects our faith. The scripture used for this lesson was 2 Corinthians 11:1-15. The next lesson will be "Lie #1- Other People Define Your Value." We will be talking about this at our meeting on November 16.

The fall party will be on November 14 at Quintin's house. More information will be posted on our Facebook page.

Don't forget the Lasagna Supper hosted by the youth on December 13! Come join us at UMYF and bring a friend!

Upcoming Events

- **November 1:** Fruitful Congregations Meeting at church
- **November 9:** Pizza after church at East of Chicago
- **November 14:** Fall Party at Quintin's house
- **November 16:** Meeting, 6:45-8:15 at church
- **November 23:** Decorate church
- **November 30:** Meeting, 6:45-8:15
- **December 13:** Lasagna Supper

Holiday Cheese Balls

We will again be offering cheese balls for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday season. Please watch the bulletin for order forms. Please remember to ask family, friends, and coworkers if they would like to order a cheese ball.

September Financial Update

General Offerings \$12,963
 General Fund Expenses \$25,636

Veterans to be honored

Solid Rock invites all veterans and their families to a veteran's church service on Sunday morning, November 9, at 10:00 a.m. to honor and show our appreciation to our veterans and their families.

Solid Rock and the Hog Roasters are preparing a pulled pork supper at 5:30 p.m. with entertainment to follow.

Please wear any or all of your military apparel.

In order to prepare for this event, please RSVP to Solid Rock Church at 375-3873. Walk-ins are welcome.

SOS

"The better part of one's life consists of his friendships." -Abraham Lincoln

SOS would like to thank our church family for your support and prayers for our "In God We Trust" retreat in Washington DC. It was a time of renewal, spiritual growth, and great fellowship. As the quote by Abraham Lincoln implies, we were able to develop and deepen our SOS friendships during our retreat as well as grow closer to God.

The retreat was full of times where we saw God's grace, providence, and instruction. When the first van arrived in DC we were concerned about finding parking spots for the third van as we had two spots by the rental, but needed three spots in a busy area of the city. At the moment that the second van pulled up, an on-street parking spot opened up right in front of the rental. It was definitely a God thing. We also saw God in the people of DC who were very friendly and helpful in helping us navigate the city. When looking at the memorials we noted several scriptures and other symbols of Christianity. Several of us were re-

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Just Leaning
on the Rock!

by Pastor Kathy Newton



Psalm 65:11 *"You crown the year with your bounty, and your carts overflow with abundance."*

We find ourselves harvesting the bounty that God has given us. I listen as farmers speak of their yield and watch as the prices drop. I hear concerns about fair-

"I pray that as your families gather that you will pause long enough to praise the giver of your abundance."

ness for renters and so on, but what I don't hear are the praises to God for His abundance! Rather than being thankful for what we have, we busy ourselves with comparing our lot to someone else's. There's just one problem, we never compare ourselves to one who has less.

As I write this I am headed home from Washington DC with a wonderful group of women. While there I paused for a few hours to people watch. Little did I know I wasn't far from a shelter. I watched as a variety of faces passed by. I had asked many questions of one who lived in the area. An apartment of the studio variety runs \$1700 a month. I then turned my eyes to the families I saw and pondered what kind of jobs they must have to survive. We met many who were working two and three jobs. In all this I wondered where God fit into their worlds?

So my question for you this month is, Where does God fit into your life? Are you lifting your hands in praise for God's abundance? Do you recognize that your carts are overflowing with abundance? Or are you too busy comparing to see God's abundance in your life? I pray that as your families gather that you will pause long enough to praise the giver of your abundance.

Shalom,
Kathy

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mindful of the history of our faith and our forefathers when we saw the Gutenberg Bible.

We were blessed with daily devotions as well as a prayer song (evensong) worship at the National Cathedral. At the National Cathedral service, Solid Rock UMC was lifted up in prayer. We saw God's grace here as, due to a transportation issue, we arrived 30 minutes late for our 30 minute long tour. We were still given our tour and were shown areas typically not on the tour for a total of 70 minutes. We thanked our tour guide by singing "Go Now In Peace" in the National Cathedral.

Another very moving part of the retreat was seeing our own MSgt Martina G. Cocklin, USAFR, Retired, lay the Solid Rock UMC wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The time at Arlington was impactful to all.

We saw many other DC sites over the

retreat time, and had another group photo taken at the WWII memorial.

Here are two more memories we'd like to share with you:

When we were in our matching shirts several folks asked us what we were doing while we walked around the city. We were able to witness with our shirts. In one case a gentleman asked what they were for, and then when we explained he said, "Oh, I thought you were a slow moving marathon."

Be sure to ask one of the gals about our near death experience by an asphalt paving machine on our way to be dropped off at our rental by the monuments by moonlight bus tour guide. The tour guide's quote of the day was, "If we don't get a green light soon we're all going to die!"

Sincere thanks from the SOS gals again for your support and prayers.

Visit Solid Rock's Facebook page to view photos and a video clip from this trip.

- UMCOR responded globally to disasters that weren't in the news spotlight.
- a health care center in Haiti now offers increased access to care.
- a community in Sierra Leone finished digging a well to provide clean safe drinking water.

When Methodists are united . . . and support any one of the 850 United Methodist related Advance projects, together we meet a range of needs, from helping survivors cope with natural or civil disasters to helping communities build churches, feed and educate children, and equip hospitals and clinics.

Since its founding in 1948, The Advance has helped channel more than 3 million gifts totaling more than \$1 billion dollars to thousands of projects and ministries.

While people can give through The Advance any time of year, having one day when Methodists are united in supporting The Advance together, shifts energy away from secular consumerism and back into a spirit of cheerful Christian giving. It shows the world the transformational power that can happen in one day . . . when Methodists are united.

This is a great opportunity to build awareness and maximize support for a project or missionary that is meaningful to you.

When Methodists are United...

When Methodists are united . . . we provide an alternative to the recent US consumer driven shopping traditions of Black Friday, Local Business Saturday, and Cyber Monday. UMC #GivingTuesday offers an opportunity to start off the holiday season by giving instead of getting through supporting organizations and missionaries that have been researched and approved by the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries. And 100% of all gifts made through The Advance are given directly to the designated project.



Thanks to United Methodists' participation in last year's UMC #GivingTuesday:

- ministries purchased new land in places like Cambodia and Tanzania.
- an entire community in the Philippines is rebuilding after being devastated by a typhoon.
- families in Guatemala are generating income and improving their diets through gardening.
- youth in the US repaired homes for families in need while being trained to be servant leaders.

The Church Responds to Ebola

The United Methodist Church and its partners are responding to the 2014 Ebola outbreak in West Africa. The deadly virus has claimed lives in Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Nigeria.

The church effort involves treatment, prevention, communication and public education. The response is a joint effort by West African United Methodist church leaders and regional health boards, denominational health facilities, missionaries and the denomination's general agencies.

E-Reader Project set to expand in Africa, Philippines

At Gbarnga School of Theology, there's no running water, electricity comes and goes, and classrooms remain scarred from when troops occupied them during Liberia's long civil war.

On top of all this, Gbarnga — pronounced without the "G" — has closed tem-

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News From The Rock

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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

Pastor: Rev. Kathy Newton
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Phone: (765) 210-4368

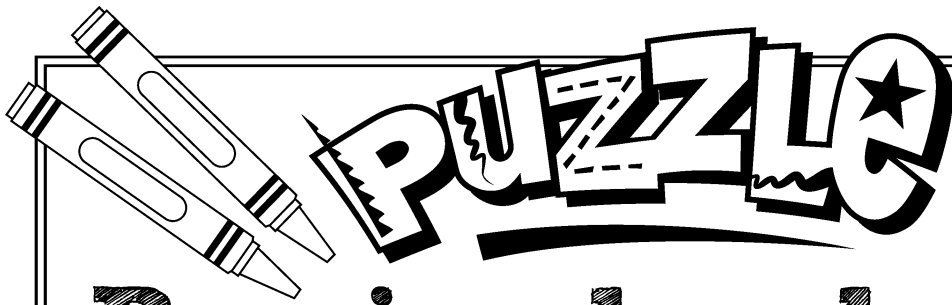
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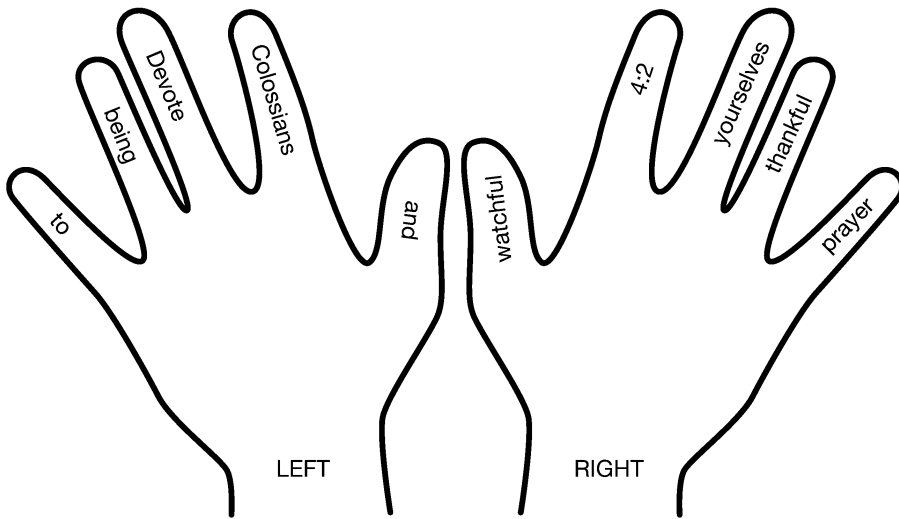
Praying hands



One way to show our thankfulness is to bow our heads, fold our hands and pray to God.



Directions: Complete Colossians 4:2 (NIV) by selecting one word on the left hand, then one on the right and so on. Go back and forth, using the word blanks as a guide.



_____ , _____

 _____ : _____, NIV

Answer: Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. Colossians 4:2, NIV

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 porarily because of the Ebola epidemic gripping Liberia and much of West Africa. Still, learning goes on. That's because each student has an e-reader provided by The United Methodist Church and loaded with books well-suited for a pastor's education. "These 85 students have their e-readers with them, wherever they are, and continue to use them to read and study and to preach

and teach in churches," said Robin Pippin of The United Methodist Church's Discipleship Ministries (formerly known as the Board of Discipleship.)

The denomination's E-Reader Project, which Pippin helps run, debuted in 2013 at Gbarnga and is set to expand to 15 more United Methodist schools in Africa, as well as four in the Philippines.

Some 1,500 Kindles will be distributed

by 2016, catapulting students and faculty members over the digital divide.

Of the E-Reader Project, the Rev. Yatta Young, former Gbarnga dean, said: "Its potential for improving theological education in Africa is enormous."

Returning thanks

After a family sat down for breakfast, the father offered his standard prayer of thanks. Afterward, though, he began his usual grumbling about financial hardships, the food's poor quality, how it was cooked and so on.

One of his children interrupted: "Dad, did God hear what you said a while ago when you were giving thanks?"

"Certainly," the father replied confidently.

"And did he hear what you said just now about the bacon and the coffee?"

"Of course," the father said, more hesitantly.

"Which did God believe?"

Persevering faith

In the movie *Monumental*, Kirk Cameron describes what led the Pilgrims to leave England and Holland for America — as well as the conditions they faced along the way. While on the cramped, storm-tossed Mayflower, they signed the Mayflower Compact, attesting that they came "for the glory of God and advancements of the Christian faith."

Within months in the new land, 47 of the original 121 Pilgrims had died. Only six or seven could walk and care for the others, and only four adult women were still alive for the first Thanksgiving. But the Pilgrims persevered, thanks to their faith in God and help from Native Americans.



William Bradford, governor of Plymouth Colony for 30 years, experienced hardship firsthand; his wife was one of the first to die during the journey. Yet Bradford's tomb bears the bold message that "Jehovah is our help."

If ever I reach heaven I expect to find three wonders there: first, to meet some I had not thought to see there; second, to miss some I had expected to see there; and third — the greatest wonder of all — to find myself there.

—John Newton

Election year advice

In 1774, John Wesley, co-founder of the Methodist Church, offered this advice to people who'd be voting:

- Vote, without fee or reward, for the person you judge most worthy.
- Speak no evil of the person you vote against.
- Take care your spirits aren't sharpened against those who voted on the other side.

A colorful lesson

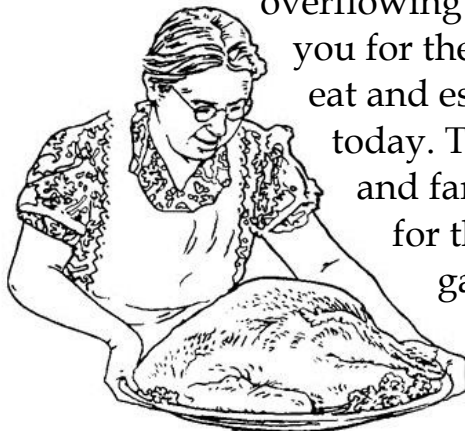
We could learn a lot from crayons: Some are sharp, some are pretty, some are dull, some have weird names, and all are different colors ... but they all exist very nicely together in the same box.

—Robert Fulghum



Thanksgiving Table Prayer

O Gracious God, we give you thanks for your overflowing generosity to us. Thank you for the blessings of the food we eat and especially for this feast today. Thank you for our home and family and friends, especially for the presence of those gathered here. Thank you for our health, our work and our play. Please send help to those who are hungry, alone, sick and suffering war and violence. Open our hearts to your love. We ask your blessing through Christ your son. Amen.



- Mary Cronk Farrell

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2014



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