



News From The Rock

November 2009

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

Capital Campaign Update

Solid Rock's capital campaign, "One Rock, One Church, One Challenge," is underway. Small group presentations in host homes are now wrapping up. Thanks to the following families for hosting these meetings: Mary Brown, Wayne and Mary Ann Jackson, Marion and Margaret Bell, John and Doris Souers, Darrell and Marjorie Blair, Jon and Mandy Bordeaux, Mary Emma Holmes, Jim and Ann Slaughter, Bonnie Zeller, Lana Myers, Joe and Denise McIntire, and Ron and Myrna Neff.

The Spiritual Emphasis Team distributed prayer packets on October 18. The Solid Rock congregation is strongly encouraged to be in prayer specifically regarding the capital campaign during these weeks.

The advance commitments phase begins October 27. At the Advance Challenge Meeting, church leaders will preview the presentation to be shared with the congregation on Challenge Sunday. Those attending this meeting will be challenged to "set the pace" for the rest of the congregation.

A Creative Giving Seminar will be held on November 2. Presented by campaign consultant Bill Walter, who is a certified financial planner, the seminar will show participants ways to give that they may not be aware of.

November 15 is "Challenge Sunday." The "challenge" of Challenge Sunday will be this: Be still. Listen expectantly. Ask boldly. Obey humbly.

Commitment Sunday is November 22. During the worship service on that Sunday, commitments will be received.

At none of these events will attendees be asked to make an immediate commit-

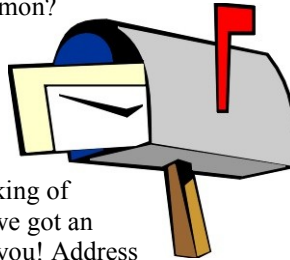


ment. After asking God for guidance in the decision, each person will decide his or her particular commitment. The goal is not equal gifts but equal sacrifice. All commitments will be held in confidence.

Mailbox Ministry

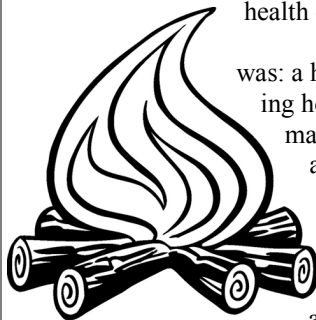
What do greeting cards, church camp and the mailbox in the back of the sanctuary have in common?

If you would like to encourage your fellow worshippers, send a get well, birthday or thinking of you card, have we got an opportunity for you! Address the envelope, place it and 25¢ in the mailbox, raise the flag and your card will be delivered and the money placed in the camp scholarship fund. Very much a win/win proposition. Keep those cards, letters, and camp scholarship donations coming!



UM Youth Fellowship

UMYF had a wonderful Fall Bash at the Walter's pond! We started with a service project picking up walnuts for the Trinity UMC in Huntington. They use the money made from the project to support their free health clinic



Fall Bash was: a hayride, roasting hotdogs and making s'mores around the campfire, football, capture the flag, hearing about the prophet Elijah and fire, a walk through the woods after dark, and a "scare" on the ride back—along with some great fellowship and sharing! UMYF sends a very special thank you to Gary and Rosalie for planning

Just Leaning on the Rock!

by Pastor Kathy Newton



As we approach the season of Thanksgiving, I realize in the busyness of our lives we forget to thank God for the fruitfulness in our lives. Would you do me a

"May we be Your servants with all humbleness and appreciation for the bounty you have given us..."

personal favor and take a moment each day in November to lift a praise to God for the possibilities God has put in our paths? Now, God,

would you please help each of us to respond to those possibilities? May we be Your servants with all humbleness and appreciation for the bounty you have given us in a day that many are struggling with less. Help us to be responsive to those who are struggling. May we respond to Your bounty with hearts of generosity and sacrificial giving and may Your message of salvation be the only goal we have set our hearts on. Praise be to our God who has saved us this day!

Shalom,
Pastor Kathy

such a great party, and to Jerry and Lois for sharing their wonderful pond with us!

Upcoming Events:

- November 1, Meeting, "Stewardship"
 - November 15, Meeting, "Language"/Service Project
 - December 6, Meeting, "Christmas—Keeping the Meaning"
 - December 20, Meeting, "Spiritual Gifts"
 - December, date and time to be announced, Christmas Party
 - December 24, Christmas Eve Service
- All meetings are from 4:00-5:30 at the church.



☞ **Mary and I** want to thank all of the people who have taken time to express their concern for Ed while he was at the hospital for surgery. The offers for help, the food brought to our home, and the many queries about my progress has been a humbling representation of what the mission of Christ's Church is all about. Grace and peace and thank you to all of you.

Mary and Ed Clark



☞ **September offerings** totaled \$11,154. Contributions to the Building Fund were \$1,928.

If the only prayer you said in your whole life was, "thank you," that would suffice.

—Meister Eckhart

News From The Rock

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Solid Rock United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 322

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Worship Schedule

Sunday School at 9:00

Worship at 10:00

at 227 N. Main Street, Warren

Office: 375-3873

Church: 375-3871 or 375-3872

Parsonage: 375-3873

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News deadline for the December newsletter: November 22

Are they really different now?

As many others have stated, I, too have been guilty of complaining "kids are different now from the way we used to be." We affirm our criticism by citing the "attitude of entitlement" so evident, or the complete lack of respect for adults. We can enumerate suspected causal factors without hesitation. Do any of the following sound familiar?

"It's the breakdown of the American family."

"Church attendance as a family is not as important as it once was."

"It's the failure to sit down to meals together, or to have family time anymore."

"There's too much leisure time; kids don't have to work the way we did when we were young."

"The necessity for two incomes is taking mothers out of the home."

"If I got in trouble at school, it wouldn't match the trouble I would have had when I got home."

If that were not enough, everyone agrees the economy is impacting every phase of all our lives. People are experiencing severe hardships caused by job losses and home foreclosures. There are forced moves resulting in changing schools and families being separated as parents sometimes find it necessary to leave children with extended family members or even friends, as they search for jobs. It would be foolish to believe children are not aware of what is happening. They are unsure, insecure and frightened. They are reacting in the only way they know. That is not to excuse bad behavior; it is just an attempt to understand the myriad reasons behind it.

However, all I have to do is go to school on any given day to see the purity and simple goodness of students who may well be the leaders in the coming generations. One of the tools I use during the transitional stages of therapy is a contract stipulating what has to be achieved in a designated period of time. As soon as a student completes the contract, he or she may choose a small reward. A choice may be found in a basket of items collected over time, such as Matchbox cars, hair ornaments, small games, books, etc. Or a child may choose to have lunch with me, be my aide with a group of younger students, or get a coupon for a free item from McDonald's or Subway.

A.J. is a delightful, cherubic, second grader. As A.J. and I wrote his contract, I

asked him what he would like to have as his reward. He explained his dad was out of work and was now job hunting in another state. Their home was gone and he and his mom were staying with grandparents. His mom, who was a classroom aide in our building, had to leave her job earlier than anticipated due to a difficult pregnancy. A.J. thought it might be too expensive to buy enough diapers for the new baby, so his choice was to have diapers to give to his mom for the baby. I agreed that would be a wonderful surprise. His ear-to-ear grin as we wrapped the diapers and decorated the package with a huge bow three weeks later was a moment for which I will always be grateful and thank God for giving me the opportunity to experience it.

Are they really different now?

Barbara Kleinhans

Bazaar proceeds designated

The Bazaar Committee would like to thank everyone who worked, made crafts, baked items, or gave food for the lunch, as well as all who came and made the bazaar a success again this year. Our final total was \$1,401.75, plus \$90.00 for the Building Fund. All expenses are paid.

The committee met on October 15 to allot the proceeds to these ministries: Building Fund, College Scholarship Fund, Youth Camp Scholarship Fund, and Small World Nursery. Next year's bazaar will be October 16, 2010.

Tamara Spahr will be leading craft workshops monthly through the winter. Be sure to sign up early. The first workshop will be January 5, and the group will be limited to 50 participants. Call the church office to register.

Three kinds of giving

"There are three kinds of giving: grudge giving, duty giving and thanksgiving. Grudge giving says, 'I have to'; duty giving says, 'I ought to'; and thanksgiving says, 'I want to.' The latter comes from a full heart. Thanksgiving is an open gate into the love of God."

—Robert N. Rodenmayer

"Thanksgiving was never meant to be shut up in a single day."

—Robert Caspar Lintner

United Methodist Women

The Solid Rock United Methodist Women met October 1 at Heritage Pointe. It was mentioned that October is Pastor Appreciation Month. Myrna used the Solid Rock newsletter prayer for the opening. The Purpose and prayer calendar followed, with Carolyn Winters leading the joys and concerns and closing in prayer. Roll call was responded to by 17 members, the largest attendance in over a year.

Naomi Oxley's Mission Moment included a positive thinkers quote and the story of Lisa VanRyn's life after her sister was killed in the Taylor University accident in April 2006.

Several publications were passed, along with a PowerPoint program. A special invitation has been made to the cluster group Christmas meeting to be held December 5 at 9:00 a.m. From 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., four to five homes will be open for a house walk. Plan to go!

Secretary and treasurer reports were read and approved. Barbara Hart mentioned that for the unit to receive a 5-star recognition, we would need to give a gift to missions and a gift in memory. Earl Sharp, husband of Vearl Sharp, recently passed away. Gifts were given honoring Barbara Hart's great grandson and Mary Neff, who celebrated her 101st birthday.

Mary Emma Holmes thanked Naomi Oxley for helping sew Operation Classroom school bags, which will be sent to Africa. Ann Slaughter told of the town Scarecrow Festival. Treva brought a reading program book. Members requested to have easier access to the reading material. Ann said she would see if we could have a place in the library at Heritage Pointe where these books could be available. It was suggested getting Dr. Miller's book, *A Hundred Camels*, on the reading list.

Pastor Kathy Newton was in charge of the program. She conducted a most impressive communion service. Helen Campbell and Freddie Couch had reading parts during the service.

The next meeting will be November 5. There will be a thank offering. Freddie Couch will present the Mission Moment. The lesson, "Food and Faith: Where Would Jesus Sit?" will be given by Myrna Neff.



United
Methodist
Women

North Indiana Conference UMW hold last meeting

On Saturday, October 3, 37 years of history was celebrated and honored as United Methodist Women met for the last time as the North Indiana Conference. All past presidents shared their experiences in the meeting at Grace UMC in Kokomo. Officers retiring from the North Indiana Conference were honored. The new conference will be called "United Methodist Women—Indiana." Barbara Hart, Myrna Neff, and Carolyn Winters attended from Solid Rock.

Men's Fellowship

The Solid Rock Men's Fellowship met on October 10, 2009, in the Calico Room at Heritage Pointe, with 15 men in attendance. Steve Holmes opened the meeting with prayer. Breakfast was served by Kim's Katered Affair.



Devotions were provided by Marion Bell, using passages from Exodus 31 and 32, concerning the worshiping of false gods.

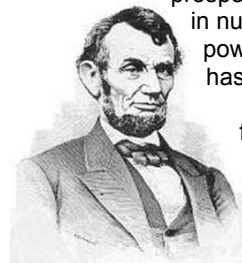
The pizza fundraiser on October 20 was discussed.

Randy Hensley and Ron Neff will chair the Thanksgiving family project.

Closing prayer was offered by Bruce Preston. The next meeting will be November 14.

Have we forgotten God?

We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has grown.



But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own.

Intoxicated with unbroken success we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole of the American people. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens.

—Abraham Lincoln,
1863 Thanksgiving Proclamation

Timeless gifts

TO YOUR NEIGHBORS—give thoughtful consideration. Be slow to gossip, quick to sympathize, ready to help—praying all the while that God will give them the necessary patience to live next to you.

TO EVERYONE YOU MEET—remember that each person carries burdens known only to himself or herself, and some have burdens too big to cope with—say the kind things you want (but hesitate) to say.

TO YOUR PARENTS—give loving appreciation for the years of time and effort—and money—that they invested in you. Do for them the little things that give them pleasure.

TO YOUR SPOUSE—remember how much he or she has had to put up with and for how long—give a frank, honest reappraisal of yourself. Ask yourself, "If I were my spouse, am I the sort of person I would want to come home to?"

TO YOUR CHILDREN—be more articulate about your appreciation of them as persons. You are not a perfect parent, but at least give them more of the one they do have—and make that one more loving. Be available, knowing that a parent needs to be, as God is, "a very present help in trouble." Take time to listen, time to play, time to counsel, time to encourage.

—Ruth Bell Graham

- Blessed are those who can give without remembering and take without forgetting.
- First, give yourself to God. You may be sure he'll look after what is his.



throughout the winter,
beginning January 5,
7:30 p.m. at the church
*Register now by calling
the church office!*

The Pilgrims made seven times more graves than huts. No Americans have been more impoverished than these who, nevertheless, set aside a day of thanksgiving.

—H.U. Westermayer

We Thank Thee Lord

For all the blessings of the year
For all the friends we hold so dear
For peace on earth both far and near
We thank Thee O Lord

For life and health those common things

Which every day and hour brings
For home where our affection clings
We thank Thee O Lord

For love of Thine which never tires
Which all our better thought inspires
And warms our lives with heavenly fires
We thank Thee O Lord



- Albert H. Hutchinson
- Robert Newton Quails

November
2009

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