

News From The Rock

October 2021

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Pastor Paul's upcoming surgery

On Wednesday, October 13th, I will be having a hip resurfacing procedure done on my right hip in Columbia, South Carolina. The procedure will be done by Dr. Gross at The Surgery Center at Midlands Orthopaedics & Neurosurgery. It's the same procedure I had done on my left hip 11 years ago. Dr. Gross performed that surgery too. The procedure will be outpatient. Lisa and I will be staying in Columbia for a few days to recover and will be heading back to Indiana on Saturday the 16th.

I will be out of the office for at least two weeks following the surgery and will play it by ear from there. Lisa and I are asking that you keep us in your prayers during this time as we travel to and from Columbia and during my recovery period. We know that God will be with us throughout this journey and are looking forward to life on the other side of recovery.

Shalom,
Pastor Paul

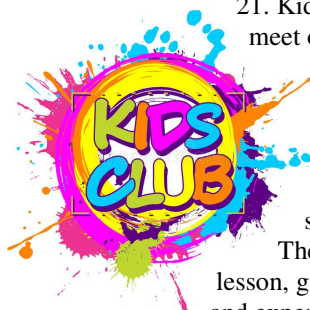
Kid's Club resuming

Solid Rock's Kid's Club is resuming. The kick-off will be on Thursday, October 21. Kid's Club will meet on the third

Thursday of every month from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. A meal will be served at 6:00.

There will be a lesson, games, crafts, and experiments. Call

the church office at 375-3873 for more information.



Men's Group Fundraiser

The Solid Rock Men's Fellowship will sponsor their semiannual fundraiser at East of Chicago Pizza on Tuesday, October 19, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. The group receives one dollar from each buffet meal and all tips. Money raised is used to support a variety of local ministries. Please come and support our efforts!

Children's Sunday School Recharge!

Solid Rock's children's Sunday school has a new look! Sunday, October 24, will be the first week of Sunday School Recharge. Look

for stories, lessons, crafts, music, experiments, and games! The first topic will be "What a Mighty God We Serve!"

This class is for children ages four through fourth grade. Invite a friend, and join us Sunday mornings at 9:00!



Administrative Council

The Solid Rock Administrative Council met on September 21. Prayer concerns were shared, and Pastor Paul opened with devotions and prayer.

The proposed slate of church officers for 2022 was approved, as was the 2022 budget. The new budget totals \$199,054. This is a 4.7% increase from 2021, but a 9% decrease from 2020. An average weekly offering of \$3,828 will be needed

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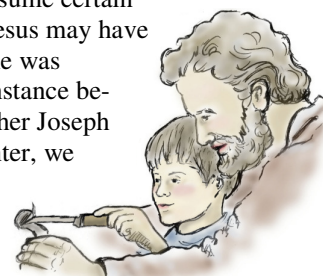


Very little of the early life of Jesus is recorded in the gospel accounts. Only in Luke do we get a small glimpse into the childhood of the Savior. Men have tried to guess and assume certain things that Jesus may have done when he was young, for instance because his father Joseph was a carpenter, we assume that

Jesus was taught and practiced

the trade of carpentry. Even though we aren't told stories of his youth, we can, by using other passages of scripture, come to realize that because Jesus was human, he shared some of the same emotions, feelings and temptations that you and I are experiencing right now.

Because He was human, Jesus felt happiness when things went well. He probably spent time with His friends laughing and playing games that most children played. As He grew older He experienced the emotions of an adolescent, thus learning and understanding the vast range of growing pains that young people experience as they grow into adulthood. Also as He grew older, He was tempted with all of the bad things that life had to offer. We read that He was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Jesus cried when he was sad, got angry, frustrated and perplexed when people disappointed Him, and enjoyed the company of children. In order to know us and sympathize with us Jesus experienced



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Our Vision: Sharing and experiencing the life-giving message of Jesus, to restore wholeness and build an intentional community of hope, relationship, and purpose for everyone.

Sunday school class starting new study

The Firm Foundation adult Sunday school class will begin a new study on October 3. Author Lysa TerKeurst will present six video sessions on the topic “Forgiving What You Can’t Forget.”

“Discover how to move on, make peace with painful memories and create a life that is beautiful again. Lysa shares her own deeply personal journey with forgiveness and what the Bible has to say about letting go of resentment, freeing



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
Church Phone: 375-3871

Church Office

Office Phone: 375-3873

Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Closed Friday

Pastor: Rev. Paul Burris
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News deadline for the November newsletter: October 24

yourself from hurt, disempowering triggers that hijack your emotions, dealing with difficult relationships and finding peace.”

This class meets in the church kitchen each Sunday morning at 9:00. Please join us!

Sound operator needed

Solid Rock is seeking a volunteer to operate the church sound system effective the beginning of 2022. Training will be provided. Anyone with interest or questions should contact Pastor Paul.

United Methodist Committee on Relief

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) brings God’s hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by war, conflict or natural disaster. UMCOR provides humanitarian relief and disaster response to people in more than 80 countries, including the United States.

After the recovery has begun, wounds have been tended, basic needs met, and the world’s attention has faded, The United Methodist Church continues to be present by providing ongoing assistance.

UMCOR provides survivors not only temporary relief, but also long-term education, training, and support. While UMCOR cooperates with other aid organizations, the most important partners in the work of recovery are those being served.

For more information on how to donate, contact the church office at 375-3873. One hundred percent of your donation goes to relief efforts!

Pastor Appreciation

Each year, the second Sunday in October marks a special day of recognition for church pastors known as Pastor Appreciation Day. This Hall-mark holiday dates back to 1992 when it was originally

known as Clergy Appreciation Day. The idea behind the holiday is that church congregants take at least one day per year to show gratitude for everything pastors do for their church. Many churches celebrate their pastors throughout the year, but this holiday provides a specific day for recognition.

Taking the time to genuinely recognize all the work that pastors do for a congrega-



tion is so important. A pastor’s role is uniquely stressful in that it doesn’t have typical 8-5 business hours. Weeks are long, and the role carries a lot of emotional, mental, and spiritual weight. There are few, if any, “off-the-clock moments” for a pastor. They constantly work to meet the needs of the congregation. Pastor Appreciation Day is a great opportunity to reciprocate that.

—Ashley DeKock

Loved for who we are

When I was a child, my parents loved me not because I was good but because I was ... their child. I loved them, and I wanted to please them, but their love of me did not have to be earned.

Neither does the love of God. We are loved because we are his children, because we are. If we feel that we ought to be loved because it is our due, or because we deserve it, the less we will truly feel the need of God’s love; the less implicit will be our trust; the less we will cry out, *Abba!*

—Madeleine L’Engle, *Walking on Water*



What God is like

Before her death in 2019, Rachel Held Evans started writing a book with her young children in mind. The goal was to help them explore images for God, who is love. *What Is God Like?* (co-authored by Matthew Turner) acknowledges, “That’s a very big question, one that people from places all around the world have wondered about since the beginning of time.” The book highlights such biblical images for God as an eagle, a shepherd, a fort, wind, an artist, a “strong and safe” mother, and a “gentle and safe” father.

Just as Evans remained open to questions as a means to grow in faith, her book concludes: “Keep searching. Keep wondering. ... But whenever you aren’t sure what God is like, think about what makes you feel safe ... brave ... loved. That’s what God is like.” What images for God come to your mind? Indeed, what is God like — for you?

- “I have so much to do that I shall spend the first three hours in prayer.”
—Martin Luther
- “It’s better to be an optimist who is sometimes wrong than a pessimist who is always right.”
—Mark Twain

(Continued from Pastor Paul, page 1)

life fully.

So you might ask, "What does this have to do with me today?" Well, everything. As we go through our everyday lives, we experience happiness, frustration, temptation, anger, and enjoyment. Knowing that Jesus experienced life just as we do can be very comforting and encouraging. There's not a problem that the Savior doesn't understand and will mediate to God for us.

So as we begin another week, let's remember as the old song says, "there's not a friend like the lowly Jesus, no not one," and He'll help us through all of life's troubles and triumphs because, after all, He was and is like us.

See You Sunday,
Pastor Paul

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to fund this budget.

The council accepted the donation of a permanent flagpole and flag for installation on the church grounds.

The Worship Committee reported that Christmas Eve services will be combined into one service this year, to be held at 9:00 p.m.

Kids Club will resume in October. A newly reformatted children's Sunday school for ages four through fourth grade will also begin in October.

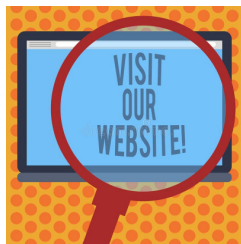
The SOS group made appreciation gift bags for Heritage Pointe employees and gift baskets for teachers.

Charge Conference will be November 7. It will be an online event.

Resources available on church website

A variety of resources are available on the church website, solidrockumc.com. If you haven't checked it out lately, take a look! You will find:

- A directory to church staff, including phone numbers and email addresses
- A current calendar of church events
- Solid Rock newsletters dating back to 2009
- Histories of Jefferson Center UMC, Warren UMC, and Solid Rock UMC
- Links to previously broadcast worship



services

- A listing of ministries, small groups, and core values
- Information for visitors
- Links to information regarding the UMC Separation Proposal
- And more!

And don't forget to check out our Facebook page for updates and Sunday morning livestreams of our worship service!

Bible Study

Harvest time is upon us! More than ever the Lord of the harvest is needing workers to bring forth the results of those who have



planted the Word of God. "Feasting on the Word" Bible study is designed to assist us in our mutual discipleship.

This group meets in the Solid Rock kitchen on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. for approximately an hour. The weekly scriptures are listed below along with the named leader. Each week is a "stand-alone" experience; continuity is in the faithfulness of God. You are encouraged to bring your own Bible and an open spirit to the working of Jesus in our midst.

- October 4: Luke 12:13-21 (Not Enough); Joe Haney, leader
- October 11: Mark 10:35-45 (The Limits of Human Power); Jorita Banter, leader
- October 18: Hebrews 7:23-28 (Jesus, Perfect Forever); Ann Spahr, leader
- October 25: Mark 12:28-34 (It's Not Always Easy); Joe Haney, leader

If this group study sounds rather bold, walk in faith to join with us. Receive a blessing from the Lord!

Joe Haney, Coordinator

East of Chicago Pizza FUNDRAISER

October 19, 2021
5:00-8:00 p.m.

Sponsored by
Men's Fellowship

Proceeds, including all tips, will be used for local ministries



Mixed signals

A newcomer approached the pastor after worship and said, "I'd like you to pray for my hearing."

Placing hands on the man's ears, the pastor said a very passionate, earnest prayer and then asked the visitor, "How's your hearing now?"

With a confused look, the man said, "Well, it's scheduled for tomorrow."

Time to hit delete?

If we really have too much to do, there are some items on the agenda that God did not put there. Let us submit the list to him and ask him to indicate which items we must delete. There is always time to do the will of God. If we are too busy to do that, we are too busy.



—Elisabeth Eliot

Covered

Recently, hundreds of people who'd previously gotten tattoos symbolizing racism, gang activities or hate have come to regret it. But tattoo removal is painful and expensive, and some ink can't be easily covered by clothing. Recently, tattoo parlors such as Kentucky's Gallery X Art Collective and Maryland's Southside Tattoo have come up with a solution: They offer to cover up any racist or hateful tattoos with new, creative art — at no cost. According to the Good News Network, such tattoo artists want to "support those who have had the courage to leave their hateful past behind."

Jesus offers all people the chance to leave our hateful, sinful, self-serving past behind — for free! When we follow the leading of the Holy Spirit and accept Jesus' gift of transformation, his cross and empty tomb completely cover over our sinful lives, remaking us in his image. As 1 Peter 4:8 says, "Love covers a multitude of sins." God's creative, redeeming love frees us to start anew.

August Financial Update

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| General Fund Receipts..... | \$12,913 |
| General Fund Expenses | \$14,646 |



solidrockumc.com





Fall Bazaar

Solid Rock UMC

October 23, 2021

9:00 a.m.

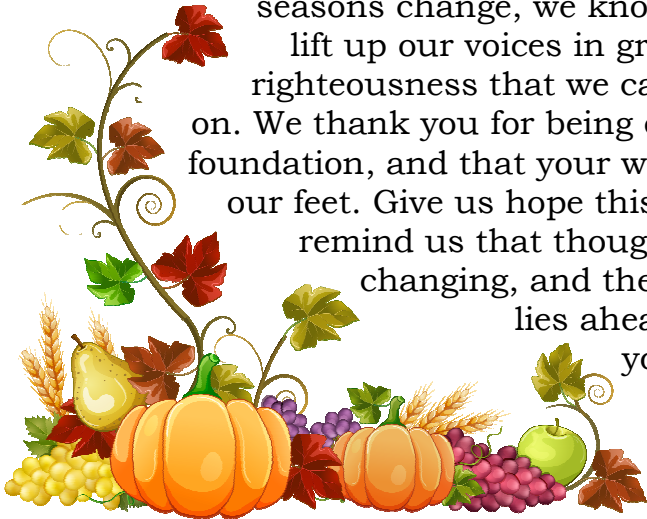
to 2:00 p.m.

- Crafts
- Bake Sale
- Drive-by Lunch (11-1)

- "I play the notes as they are written, but it is God who makes the music."
—J.S. Bach
- "If at first you don't succeed, try doing it the way mom told you in the beginning."
—Unknown

Faithful God,

We come to you with a thirst for your presence and real connection with you. This time of year the flowers do fade, the leaves do wither and die, and even the bright sun will shine less. But oh, we praise you, for your faithfulness. That your truth, that your good and honest words and promises will stand forever. Though the



seasons change, we know you do not. We lift up our voices in gratitude for your righteousness that we can always depend on. We thank you for being our rock and firm foundation, and that your word is a lamp unto our feet. Give us hope this time of year and remind us that though the season is changing, and the unknown journey lies ahead, we can trust in your unfailing truth and presence.

Amen.

—biblestudytools.com

