



News From The Rock

August 2016

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

Youth attend Epworth Forest camp

Solid Rock sent five youth to Epworth Forest for camp this summer. Here are a few of the comments from the youth about their experience.

"If I could only take one thing away from camp... I wouldn't be able to leave camp because of the multiple things there, that have affected my heart."

"Going to camp this summer was amazing and one of the greatest experiences I've ever had. I went to camp blind to God, but I left with a love so strong for Him. I came with a thought I hated myself, now I know I am enough. At camp I learned how to worship, how to love myself, how to gain connections, and more. I felt like family."



"I want to thank the church for helping me go to camp. Going to church camp was a great experience for me. I got a better understanding of my faith. I got to experience a great connection with God. My favorite part of camp was being able to find that connection with God. I finally know where I stand in my faith. Thank you."

Thank you from all the youth that attended! God was present with all of them!



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Walk to Emmaus

In the last couple of years, our congregation has been on journey, a Fruitful Congregation Journey. This journey has brought us together to develop vision and mission statements, effective ministries and discipleship pathways. That journey is almost complete but I have another opportunity to strengthen our spiritual lives.

The Gospel of Luke relates the story of Christ joining two friends on the road to the town of Emmaus. The risen Christ walks with them explaining scripture. The illuminating climax of the story comes when Jesus joins the friends at a house. He breaks the bread, blesses it and gives it to the friends. At that moment, the eyes of the two are opened, they recognize Jesus and rush out to tell others.

This story provides the image for the Walk to Emmaus, an Upper Room program that calls forth and restores Christian discipleship. The Walk to Emmaus, a three-day experience, takes a New Testament look at Christianity as a lifestyle. It is a highly structured weekend, designed to strengthen and invigorate the faith of Christian people to then invigorate their families, congregations and the world around them. It exists to develop Christian leaders for the local church and the world. The Walk models Christ's servanthood and encourages us to be a servant to all. The Walk to Emmaus combines the efforts of laity and clergy to renew the world.

The Walk to Emmaus is a renewing of the spirit within us. There is music, singing, learning, worship, laughter, tears and plenty of eating! It is not a cult or secret society. But, what one experiences there is truly an individual experience shared with God.



from
Pastor Paul

Back in the late sixties a group called Simon and Garfunkel wrote a song that stated, "I am a rock, I am an island." It indicated that no matter what happened to them they could stand strong and that they had isolated themselves so no one else could hurt them. It may sound like a noble statement, but in reality we are flesh and bone and we have been created as social creatures and cannot function normally without contact with other people.

I have to confess that it has been a battle in my own life to get close to others. As a minister you feel like you need to have all the answers, all the time, and that you can never get down because you've always got to be positive. We've been taught and, frankly, most people expect, their minister to always be up, never depressed and ready with the answers they need in their lives.

The truth of the matter is that no one minister can completely and always fulfill such a role. That's because we are all human. We all need friends and someone we can confide in. That's a lesson I've learned the hard way. I've shared many of my own blunders, mistakes, and sometimes out right sins with you through my sermons and personal conversations. I've done that because frankly people need to know that ministers are human too. They do make mistakes and they do need friendships and understanding from others.

I'm reminded of a time when I let three very good back-yard mechanics think that



GALATIANS 5:13, NIV

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Youth Fellowship

UMYF will be changing times for our meetings in an effort to make our time more convenient for all the youth to attend. We will be meeting after the Young Adult lunch each month for a lesson and discussion time.

We also want to encourage all youth to attend the Warren Area Youth service. This is a combined youth meeting for all the churches in Warren. It is an awesome opportunity to come together as the body of Christ in our community. It's also a great time to invite friends that are not connected to a church. This group will be meeting about every six weeks.

Solid Rock UMYF is open to any youth



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www.solidrockumc.com

Worship Schedule

Sunday School at 9:00
Worship at 10:00
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Church Phone: 375-3871

Church Office

Office Phone: 375-3873
Hours: 9 a.m. to Noon

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News deadline for the September
newsletter: August 21

from grade 6 through college. Come join us and bring a friend! If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Paul or Marie Deweese at 260-228-0070.

Upcoming Events

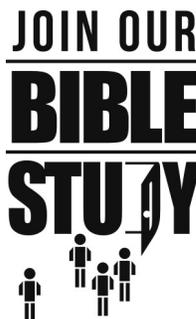
- **August 14:** Lunch and Discussion after church
- **August 21:** The WAY (Warren Area Youth), 5:00-6:30 at the Knight-Bergman Center
- **September 11:** Meeting after lunch at church
- **October 9:** Meeting after lunch (Possibly disc golf)

“Feasting on the Word” Bible Study

Even though the summer months are coming to an end, our discipleship continues. As appetizers are a prelude for the coming meal, so our Bible study in the church kitchen on Monday evenings at 7:00 is a prelude for the following Sunday message. The following texts are provided for our discipleship with Jesus for the month of August.

- August 1: 2 Corinthians 5:17 and Isaiah 1:18 (Joe Haney, leader)
- August 8: John 20:19-23 and Acts 2:1-4 (Mike Heath, leader)
- August 15: James 5:13-20 (Charles Ternet, leader)
- August 22: Luke 8:22-25, 40-56 (Joe Haney, leader)
- August 29: Romans 12:1-8 (Mike Heath, leader)

Bring your Bible, an open spirit for God's leadership, and an appetite to learn from Jesus.



Our Mission:

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

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.

Trimble assigned as new Indiana Conference Bishop

The Committee on Episcopacy of the North Central Jurisdiction announced the assignment of Bishop Julius C. Trimble to the Indiana Episcopal Area Saturday, July 16. Bishop Trimble will begin his service Thursday, September 1, 2016.

Trimble will succeed Bishop Michael J. Coyner who has served the Indiana Conference for the past 12 years and will retire Wednesday, August 31, 2016.

Trimble previously served as the resident bishop of the Iowa Area for the past eight years. A native of Chicago, he was ordained deacon and elder in the Northern Illinois Conference where he served two churches before transferring to the East Ohio Conference. He served churches in the Cleveland, Ohio area and as District Superintendent of the Cleveland District from 1996-2003.

A graduate of Illinois State University and Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, he received his Doctor of Ministry degree from Ashland Theological Seminary. A strong advocate for social justice and increased attention to ministries addressing mental health issues, he has promoted ministries related to domestic violence and the role of the faith community. Bishop Trimble has worked with ecumenical leadership in Iowa in response to gun violence and immigration reform. He serves as Chairperson of the United Methodist Interagency Immigration Task Force.

Before his election as a bishop, he served as Adjunct Instructor at United Methodist-related Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, OH where he taught courses on the African American religious experience and the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Married to Racelder Grandberry-Trimble, a professional counselor and graduate of Methodist Theological School of Ohio. They are the parents of three adult children: Cameron, Candiace, and Julius Thomas.

Bishop Trimble has preached throughout the United States and in Africa. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Bishop James S. Thomas Leadership Award.



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a major department store put the wrong spark plugs in a package. The fact was that the store didn't have the size of plugs I needed and I picked the size that was the closest. That didn't work! But rather than let these men see my imperfections and ignorance, I allowed them to believe something that wasn't true. With egg all over my face, God hit me hard in the heart and I had to call each of those men and explain what had really happened. It let them know that I wasn't perfect. But you know what? In the long run I think they respected me more for owning up to my lie than they would have if I had let my ego remain intact.

We need each other, and the Bible has many statements giving us instructions on how to treat each other. Here are some examples:

Romans 15:7 tells us that we are to accept each other just as Christ has accepted us.

Galatians 5:13 tells us that we are to serve each other in love.

Galatians 6:2 tells us that we are to carry each other's burdens.

Colossians 3:13 tells us that we are to accept each other and forgive those things that come between us.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 tells us that we are to encourage and build each other up.

And 1 Peter 4:9 tells us to be hospitable to each other without grumbling or complaining.

I'd say that this is a lot of proof that we need each other. Always remember that the sign and evidence of our Christian experience is that we love one another. All of these passages that talk about how we should treat our fellow believers are examples of this love. This is how the world knows that we are Christians. It isn't by how holy we are or how much we know, but how much we love our brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus.

See You Sunday,
Pastor Paul

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To register for this marvelous weekend, someone who has already experienced the weekend will sponsor you. There are Women's and Men's Walks in October and February. Walks called Chrysalis, for middle school and high school aged youth, are in November. If you are interested in going on Walk or have already been on a Walk and would like to be a sponsor, contact Maria DeWeese or Mindy Rider.

Your Sister in Christ,
Mindy Rider

Food Pantry Needs

- Peanut Butter
- Cake & Cookie Snacks
- Kleenex
- Cereal
- Canned Ravioli
- Popcorn
- Single-Serve Fruit



Also needed: plastic bags, books and magazines (6 months through adult)

Please leave your items in the wooden boxes in the narthex.

SOS

Solid Rock SOS met on July 14, 2016, at the church. Meeting highlights:

- Devotion was read by Susan on getting through hard times and how God teaches us through these times. Psalm 119:71
- The lesson was given by Martina from the book *Power of Prayer for Women*. Hebrews 6:19
- Joys and Concerns were shared.
- A love offering was collected for a community member to help with medical travel expenses.
- Old Business
 - Thank you for helping on the festival parade float.
 - Thank you for working the food trailer at the festival.
- New Business
 - Discussed getting trailer window areas fixed.
 - Discussed getting trailer wrapped with Solid Rock logo for next year.
- 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: 13 members
- Next meeting: August 11 at Lana's. Lana is co-hostess and Pamela is presenting the lesson.

June Financial Update

General Offerings.....	\$13,095
General Fund Expenses.....	\$16,038
Mortgage Balance	\$197,739

United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women met on July 7, 2016, in the Calico Room at Heritage Pointe. Barbara Hart welcomed everyone present and shared an Independence Day devotional.

The prayer calendar included a mission focus on the Neighborhood House of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and the birthday was Deborah Doran, serving at the Tansen Hospital in western Nepal in Asia.

The United Methodist Women's pledge was recited by all present.

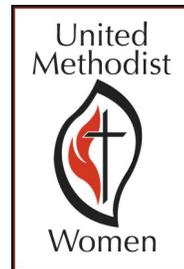
Joys and concerns were taken by Carolyn Winters, and this was followed by prayer given by Carolyn.

Doris Souers gave an interesting mission report. This was followed by roll call and the reading of the minutes by the secretary.

Barbara Hart gave the treasurer's report. She then gave a very interesting and informative lesson on the Indiana State Bicentennial.

The next meeting will be held August 4, 2016. The meeting adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Plummer



My purpose

God has created me to do him some definite service ...
 I have my mission ... he has not created me for naught.
 I shall do good; I shall do his work ...
 I will trust him, whatever I am,
 I can never be thrown away.
 If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve him,
 in perplexity, my perplexity may serve him.
 If I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve him.
 He does nothing in vain ...
 He knows what he is about.

—John Henry Newman

"God warned a man named Lot to take his wife and flee out of the city," said the Sunday school teacher, "but Lot's wife looked back and was turned to salt."

A curious boy then asked, "What happened to the flea?"



The Master Puzzler

In *Laughing in the Dark* (Howard Books), Christian comedian Chonda Pierce calls God the Master Puzzler, because “in him all things hold together” (Colossians 1:17). In his infinite wisdom, God “can organize the colors better than anyone (Have you seen a sunset lately?) He knows where to fit every shape and size (Have you seen a mountain range?).”

Until God places the last piece, the final picture is a mystery to us. But in the meantime, God offers order and purpose, providing his law as the puzzle’s edges.

Pierce encourages people to let the “Master Puzzler” take over when life gets messy. Like the prophet Jeremiah, we can cry, “God, pick up the pieces. Put me back together again. You are my praise!” (17:14, *The Message*).



A Prayer for Our Students

Dear God,

Thank you for the gift of education in every form. As our children prepare to start a new year, may confidence be their foundation, may grace be their guide, and may hope be their compass toward a bright future. I pray they would have eyes to see the needs of those around them and a heart to love well. May they face each day with positivity, knowing that no matter what comes their way, they do not have to face it alone.



Amen

—graceformoms.com

August 2016

