



News From The Rock

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

December 2016

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

Youth Fellowship

We met for a lunch and a discussion on Intentional Faith Development. As part of that discussion, we will be reading through the book of Mark as part of our plan of faith building. We would like to challenge the rest of the church to join us in our reading of the book of Mark. We would also like to hear the faith journey stories of people in our church. If you'd be willing to come share your faith journey with us, please let Marie know. We would like to thank Cindy Boxell for sharing a great Thanksgiving dinner with us for our lunch and discussion in November!

We will be helping to decorate the church for Christmas on November 27th, and also be presenting the service at 11:00 p.m. on December 24th.

Solid Rock UMYF is open to any youth 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

- November 27: Decorate church after worship
- December 24: Christmas Eve Service, 11:00 p.m.
- December 28: Lock-In, 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

Bazaar Follow-up

It was another great year for Solid Rock's Fall Bazaar. With great cooperating weather, we were blessed with a fantastic turnout as we ran out of all soup, sandwiches and pies served at the lunch counter. We are already making plans to increase amounts to be prepared for next year. We apologize to anyone who did not get lunch. The bake shop also had a variety

of pies, candies and baked goods, with very little left at the end of the day. Thank you to all who helped with the bazaar and to all those who attended.

Proceeds from the bazaar will go to the following:

1. Christmas All Year Around (for community utility bills): \$800
2. Warren Food Pantry: \$300
3. Knight Bergman Center (new furnace fund): \$300
4. Salamonie School Incentive Program: \$200
5. WAMA (for the WAY, Warren Area Youth): \$300
6. Solid Rock Parsonage (kitchen update): \$600

Veterans Celebration: Thank You!

Thank you to the veterans, veterans' families and active duty military that attended the Celebration Sunday. Thank you to the Solid Rock Church family that joined in to show your love and support of our veterans and military. Solid Rock Church is truly blessed by God with amazing

volunteers and talented members and guests! Thank you to the video and sound department for going above and beyond for the veterans. Thank you to the Hog Roasters, Lynn and Vicki Bonewitz and the desert makers for the delicious food! Thank you to Tara Korporal for donating the wooden God Bless America plaque (raffle item) for the veterans! Thank you to Bre and Lexi Leidig for honoring the veterans with handmade gifts from their hearts!

(Continued on page 3)



Luke 9:18-20: ¹⁸Once when Jesus was praying in private and his disciples were with him, he asked them, "Who do the crowds say I am?" ¹⁹They replied, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah; and still others, that one of the prophets from long ago has come back to life." ²⁰"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "The Christ of God." (NIV)

As we go through the day we talk to the Lord and read his word. We are actually trying to get closer to him and allow him to work through us. We want his power and anointing, but do we really know him? In order for most people to get something from someone, the person doing the giving needs to know the person receiving. You say I know Jesus and have a personal relationship with him. I ask this question: Do you really know him? If someone walked up to you and started talking to you about Jesus, do you know enough about him to convince them that they need him in their lives? Not just as Hell insurance but as Lord and Savior. If you have a personal relationship with someone you know how they think, act, and what they would do in a particular situation.

I do not want an answer right now, but I do want you to think about these questions and answer them. No, we do not have to defend Jesus or the word of God, but we do need to be able to explain who Jesus is and what he is like. Make your answer personal, generic answers do not convince anyone about anything, but personal an-

(Continued on page 3)

*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.*

Veteran Recognition

This picture was inadvertently omitted from the slide show which was presented at the Veterans Celebration on November 13.



Charles Howell
U.S. Air Force 1966-1970
New Mexico and Thailand

News From The Rock

is published each month by

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

Hours: 9 a.m. to Noon

Pastor: Rev. Paul Burris

pburris@hotmail.com

(260) 609-9260

Editor: Gary Walter

gary@solidrockumc.com

Office Manager: Norma Smith

norma@solidrockumc.com

Treasurer: Rosalie Walter

rosalie@solidrockumc.com

Financial Secretary: Wanda Spahr

wanda@solidrockumc.com

News deadline for the January
newsletter: December 25

“Feasting on the Word” Bible Study

“Black Friday” has come, and has come into our culture with the intention of putting the retail business back into the “income” side of the ledger.

We of the church have always had our means of staying “in the black” through reading God’s word – our Bible. With the beginning of Advent on November 27, there is no better way to prepare for the presence of the Lord’s Anointed than to gather with others on Monday evenings in the Kitchen of Solid Rock at 7:00 p.m. If you are not able to be physically present, you are encouraged to follow in the readings listed below and hold the entire congregation in your prayers

- December 5: Ephesians 2: 1-10 (Charles Ternet, leader)
- December 12: Galatians 2: 20 (Paul Burris, leader)
- December 19: Luke 2: 8-15 (Perry Spahr, leader)
- December 26: No Meeting – celebrate Jesus’ presence

Come, bring your Bible, grow in the power of the Holy Spirit!

Solid Rock Mission Giving

Solid Rock supports a number of local, national, and international missions projects. Over the next few issues, we will highlight these projects. The following are National General Church Advance Specials.

Henderson Settlement

In February 1925, Reverend Hiram Frakes observed a murder hearing in the county courtroom presided over by one of the members of his church. The judge was faced with yet another case from a notorious section of the county, the Laurel Fork Valley, aided by its own kind of law of fear and violence. When witnesses refused once more to place blame for certain killings, the judge could take no more. In frustration, he told the residents to go back and kill yourselves off.

Moved by this incident, the Pineville Methodist pastor decided to shift his ministry toward these valley people. There were elementary schools of variable quality around, but the nearest high school was 30 miles away. With no land or money, Rev. Frakes made the trek and shared his dream to provide a school for all children with

whoever would listen. Incredibly, the people with a proud tradition of land ownership affirmed that dream. Uncle Scott Partin gave 16 acres, Bill Henderson donated all 68 acres of his land, and several others contributed portions of their holdings.

Goals & Objectives:

(1) To share the gospel of Jesus Christ with the community we serve. (2) To build one home a year in the community. (3) To repair 175 community homes each year. (4) To provide spiritual, educational, and social opportunities for families in the community. (5) Provide budgeting and Life Skills classes to help community folks become more knowledgeable and self-sufficient.

Red Bird Mission

Red Bird Mission and Clinic have been providing ministries in this region of the Appalachian Mountains since 1921. Today the need remains critical in this isolated, rural distressed area. Chronic poverty, lack of jobs, poor housing, and rugged mountainous terrain provide obstacles to a fuller life for the residents of this area. Red Bird Mission and Clinic strives to meet these needs through ministry in five areas: Education, Health and Wellness, Community Outreach, Economic Opportunity, and Community Housing Improvement.

Support for these ministries come from churches and individuals across the nation. Over the years the Mission has enjoyed wide support in The United Methodist Church as well as from other denominations. In recent years we have seen a decline in the support we are receiving. We are currently facing a financial crisis that is making it difficult to continue all the areas of ministries we provide. Without more funding today, we will have to reduce the level of ministry provided to this community.

October Financial Update

General Offerings.....	\$17,627
General Fund Expenses.....	\$14,907
Mortgage Balance.....	\$100,090

The Almighty appeared on earth as a helpless human baby, needing to be fed and changed and taught to talk like any other child. The more you think about it, the more staggering it gets. Nothing in fiction is so fantastic as this truth of the Incarnation.

—J.I. Packer

(Continued from page 1)

swers can.

Jesus asked his disciples in Luke 9:18b "Who do the crowds say that I am?" and they answered him John the Baptist, Elijah, and one of the old prophets. Then Jesus made it personal and asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" in verse 20. Then Peter answered from what he had seen, heard, and experienced from Christ himself, that he was the "Christ of God." Peter could not have answered that question in that manner if he had not known Jesus on a personal basis.

So the first question is this: Who do you say that Jesus Christ is? And why do you answer in that way? In other words explain your answer. The next question is a bit deeper. Other than Hell Insurance, why do I need to make Jesus my Lord and Savior? No, I am not going to answer these questions for you, you must answer them for yourself in a personal way. I must answer them for myself also. The next question is a bit tougher. The Bible says that Jesus lived, showed us what he expected from us through his life, then was crucified and on the third day rose again. How do you know beyond a shadow of a doubt that he lives today?

You may think that I am trying to place doubt in your mind and turn you away from God. I am not. I am trying to get you to dig in and really get to know Jesus Christ.

Most Christians alive today cannot answer these questions or even the very basic questions. How are we to win people to Christ when we don't even know who he really is? If you cannot answer these questions, it is past time to get down and serious with the Lord and his word. When you get serious he will show you and prove to you who he is. I believe that once we can answer this important question then our observance of the birth of the Christ child this Christmas season will take on a whole new meaning.

See you Sunday!
Pastor Paul

(Continued from page 1)

Thanks so much to Dave Smitley, Jeremy Mounsey, Larry Ryan, Andy Elliot, Lynn Bonewitz, Linda Howell and the musical group of Linda Walters and "A Few Good Men" for sharing their talents!

Approximately 186 attended the celebration with 34 veterans and active duty honored! Praying that Solid Rock and guests provided our veterans and military with an honorable service, meal and enter-

tainment that they are SO DESERVING of! Most of all, thank you veterans for serving and sacrificing. God bless you and God bless America!

Food Pantry Needs

- Canned Spaghetti
- Chicken Noodle Soup
- Pudding Snack Packs
- Ramen Noodles
- Snack Size Candles
- Cereal
- Snack Crackers



Also needed: plastic bags, books and magazines (6 months through adult)
Please leave your items in the wooden boxes in the narthex.

United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women met on November 3, 2016, in the Calico Room at Heritage Pointe. President Barbara Hart shared a devotional entitled "The United Methodist Women's Story." Carolyn Winters led the Mission Moment.

The women participated in World Thank Offering and the 2017 Pledge Service. It was voted to present monetary gifts to Huntington County's Religious Education program "By the Book," Bread of Life Food Pantry in Warren, the United Methodist Children's Home in Lebanon, Indiana, Lincoln Elementary in Huntington for children's needs, and their pledge to missions supported by the United Methodist Women. The meeting closed with a group litany.

SOS

Solid Rock SOS met November 10th at Michelle Woody's home.

- A devotion was shared by Susan on praying for our country and leaders.
- Marie presented the lesson on how thanks and action go together. When we put thanks and action together, our life overflows.

OLD BUSINESS

- Thanks to committees for preparing candy for bazaar.

- Thanks to all who worked at the Scarecrow Festival. We served 200 and handed out roughly 350 packets.

NEW BUSINESS

- Election of officers:
 - President- Shannon Rogers
 - Vice President- Kodi Elliot
 - Secretary- Tamara Spahr and Mariah Pfister
 - Corresponding Secretary- Teresa Kriegbaum
- A love offering was collected for a community member.
- Many cards were sent.
- Joys and concerns were shared.
- Prayer partners were assigned and the meeting ended with a sung benediction.

Our next meeting is December 8th at Tamara Spahr's home with Mariah as co-hostess and the seasonal committee presenting the lesson.

Born in our "life-barns"

I set the Precious Moments Mary there beside the sleeping Jesus, knowing that we have it all wrong. It isn't in the sweet pastels of life that we find

Jesus, that we encounter him in a new way. He isn't born in our sterile birthing rooms. He isn't wrapped in soft, sweet-smelling fleece. He isn't in the carefully structured, pleasantly perfect places we like to create for him.



Instead, we find him in the stink, in the noise, in the out-of-the-way, hard, sticky, smelly places of life. No, Jesus is not born in our palaces, or even in our guest rooms. He's born in our life-barns. He's born in the place where nothing seems right, where nothing is as we think it should be.

That's the real Jesus.

—Marlo Schalesky,
Wrestling With Wonder

A 7-year-old boy was chosen to be the innkeeper in the Christmas program. When Joseph and Mary approached him, looking for shelter in Bethlehem, he simply had to say there was no room.

The kindhearted boy tried to take the sting out of the situation, however. "I don't have room for you in the hotel," he said. "But I'd love to have you come in for milk and cookies."

Senior Saints



December 8
1:00 p.m.
Calico Room at
Heritage Pointe

He was created of a mother whom he created. He was carried by hands that he formed. He cried in the manger in wordless infancy, he, the Word, without whom all human eloquence is mute.

—Augustine of Hippo



solidrockumc.com



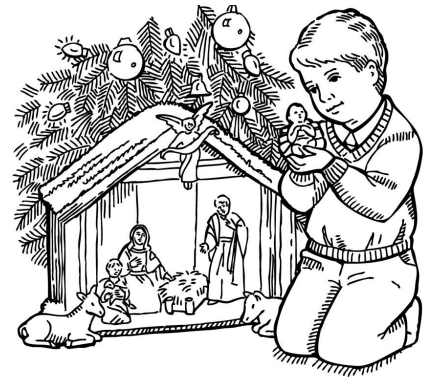
@solidrockumc



Find us on:
facebook

A Prayer to Keep God in the Center at Christmas

Lord, we worship You during this Christmas season. You are our wonderful Counselor, mighty God, everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. We choose to put You at the center of our family life as we celebrate Your birth. Keep us from distractions and help us to invite You into all our family activities. Teach us to pray and help us to glorify and worship You in our family during this busy time of year. Give us a spirit of wisdom and revelation that we might know You better.



—crosswalk.com

December
2016

