



News From The Rock

December 2009

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

Administrative Council

The Solid Rock Administrative Council met at the church on November 17. The council heard a report from Don Spence regarding his audit for 2007-2008.

A report from the Finance Committee outlined plans for the investment of funds received into the Building Fund. Funds will be invested in multiple institutions, primarily in short-term certificates of deposit so that they can be easily accessed as the building project proceeds.

The Finance Committee also reported a clarification of the handling of offerings designated for missions. Offerings given to missions which do not name a specific ministry will be used to fulfill missions commitments in the existing church budget. Offerings which are designated for a specific ministry will be forwarded to that ministry, over and above what has been already been allocated in the church budget.

The Missions Committee reported that the following ministries have been selected to receive funds from Solid Rock for the coming year: Nothing But Nets, Henderson Settlement, UMCOR, Gary and Vicki Stephenson (missionary salary support), Africa University, Epworth Capital Campaign, Love, INC, Bread of Life Food Pantry, A Friend's House, Associated Churches of Huntington County, Work Camps, ALL Tribes, and Crystal Lucas (Wycliffe).

The treasurer's report showed October income of \$16,959. Building Fund contributions for the month totaled \$2,732. October disbursements were \$22,145. The Building Fund balance as of October 31 was \$205,306.

"Christmas: December through April"

Once again this year, Solid Rock will be accepting donations throughout the winter for "Christmas: December through April." Contributions received will be used



December 13
The Solid Rock Choir presents
"Rise Up!
A New Light A-Comin"
2:00 p.m. at Heritage Pointe



December 20
Christmas Worship
10:00 a.m.



December 24
Christmas Eve Services
7:00 and 11:00

to pay heating bills or meet other needs of families in the community during this time.

Fall Kid's Club concludes

We have finished our Fall Kid's Club session. The kids had a great time learning about the parables of Jesus and the "hidden" meaning behind them. We did relays, iced cookies, played marbles, made a spaghetti bridge, had a "party," found Waldo, tried to complete a task with a missing piece, and much more.

Thank you to Pastor Kathy, Jacki Blinn, Jon Bordeaux, Mandy Bordeaux, Rose Broyles, Brenda Conner, Marie DeWeese, MaryAnn Holmes, Linda Howell, Susan Mills, Becky Parker, Randy Richardson, Lisa Sabinske, Phil Sabinske, and Vicki Sieberns for helping to make this session successful.

Just Leaning
on the Rock!

by Pastor Kathy Newton



I find it so very unbelievable that we are starting Advent. This year has passed so quickly by. I look back to the time when I had children at home. The time I had them to care for went quickly and slowly. Time passed slowly because of the responsibility and pressures of parenting young

"As we anticipate the arrival of the Baby Jesus, are we up for the job?"

people, or attempting thereof, unto good Christian adults.

I think of Mary and Joseph and how they must have felt some of the same pressures with a

strange twist. Both parents knew that Jesus was "special." So in some ways their task was easier and yet more difficult. Realizing their Son was the Savior for ALL of humankind would be a huge weight to bear, and yet as we look at Mary's Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55) we see that she is up for the job. She was a humble servant to God who would see her through EVERY trial, and she knew it.

As we anticipate the arrival of the Baby Jesus, are we up for the job? Are we willing to rely on the same God that Mary relied on to help raise a Savior? I pray the answer is "The Lord made this promise to our ancestors, to Abraham and his family forever!" and I know God will see me through EVERY trial, or simply "Yes"!

Shalom on Earth,
Pastor Kathy

A Christmas blessing

May you have the Spirit of Christmas,
which is Peace,
The Gladness of Christmas, which is Hope,
The Heart of Christmas, which is Love,
The Gift of Christmas, which is Christ.

—Ada Hendricks

Kids Caring with Cookies

Food Fight

Eggs, spaghetti and rice took a flight
On a mild November, Friday night.
Oatmeal, pudding and cream pie,
Oh my how they did fly.
Water-soaked bread
Landing on the head
Makes a soggy mess.
It's not a pretty headdress,
But a good time was had by all,
And we plan to do it again next fall.

December 7 will be cookie baking night (a Christmas special event), after school until 8:00 p.m. Kids can come and go as their schedules allow. We will have pizzas delivered for supper. Call Cindy Boxell (375-2902) for more information.

Donations of flour, brown sugar, eggs, and stick margarine would be appreciated.

Thank you!

Thank you to Barbara Kleinhans for the donation of a computer desk to the church office.

Why does the waitress deserve 15% and God only 10%?

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 227 N. Main Street, Warren

Office: 375-3873
Church: 375-3871 or 375-3872
Parsonage: 375-3873

Pastor: Rev. Kathy Newton
pastorkathy@solidrockumc.com

Editor: Gary Walter
gary@solidrockumc.com

News deadline for the January newsletter: December 20

Choir to present Christmas cantata

The Solid Rock choir members will be presenting the cantata, "Rise Up! A New Light A-Comin'" at the Heritage Pointe Chapel on Sunday, December 13 at 3:00 p.m. Lois Walter will be accompanying the choir on the piano. There will be youth participating in the program.

"Children, go where I send thee." That powerful call—that sending out of a people to share the Christmas story—is the inspiration and the ultimate message of this stirring telling of the gospel story. The narrative is filled with inspired scenes highlighting all those who were sent: prophets sent to prepare the way for the coming Messiah; angels sent to carry the news to Mary; Mary and Joseph sent to Bethlehem to humbly bear God's Son; shepherds sent to worship the Child in the manger; wise men sent from distant Orient lands with precious gifts for the Child; and, finally, Christians sent into the world to proclaim the gospel message that a new light is comin'.

Please come, enjoy the music, and support the choir members who have practiced faithfully so that God can be glorified by their singing.

Craft work days

We are starting a craft work day, one Saturday a month through May. The first session will be January 9, starting at 9:30 a.m. (Note that this is a change from what was previously announced.)

We need suggestions for what you want to do or what you would like to learn how to do. Call Tamara (375-2859) with your ideas.

In January we will be making cards and learning how to recycle cards. If you have supplies (card stock, rubber stamps, ink pads, used cards, etc.), please bring them. We would like to know by January 4 how many are planning to attend this first session.

We will be decorating wreaths or door pieces during a later session. We would welcome your purchase of ribbon, wreaths,



pinecones, or any decorative fall or Christmas item as you see them on sale.

We want this to be a fun fellowship (but productive!) time for all who attend. If you have questions, call Tamara.

Capital Campaign Update

The Solid Rock congregation learned on Challenge Sunday, November 15, that \$347,000 has already been pledged in response to the Advance Challenge, putting Solid Rock well on its way to realizing the campaign goal of \$400,000. Commitment cards were received on Commitment Sunday, November 22. The congregation will celebrate the successful conclusion of the campaign on December 6.

"An Ode to Christmas Lights"

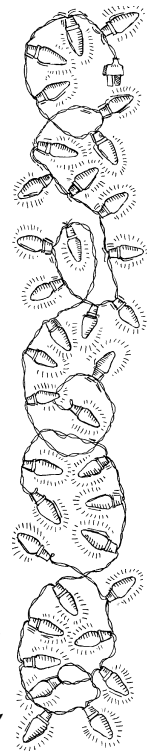
Bursting through December nights
That could be long and cold,
Our Christmas lights bring warmth
and joy
With colors soft or bold.

Cascading from the roof-tops,
And from trees both small
and tall,
The lights cry out, "We
have good news!"
We want to shout to all.

"You've seen the darkness
earth can hold,
The sorrow, war and fear;
But God has sent his Son
for all,
To show his Love is here.

"The darkness can't put out
God's Light.
Christ's with us day by day,
Illuminating paths so we
Can follow in his way."

Light homes and streets and candles.
Make your world shine clear and
bright.
God's love surrounds and blesses us.
Come, celebrate God's Light!



—Peggy Ferrell

United Methodist Women

The November 5, 2009 meeting began with a devotion written by Juanita Rapp, our new district president. President Myrna Neff led the Purpose and read the prayer calendar.

Carolyn Winters led joys and concerns, followed with prayer. Roll call was read, with 17 members responding. Helen Campbell joined us at lunch. Lucille Pinkerton attended as a guest.

Freddie Couch explained missions for her Mission Moment presentation. A thank you note from Whites Residential and Family Services was read, thanking the group for cookies sent in October.

Ann Slaughter reported on the great Halloween program and the town scarecrow party. Over 300 children participated.

Reading lists and books will be available in the Calico Room giving members easy access.

Thanks to Barbara Hart, Myrna Neff, and Carolyn Winters for representing Solid Rock at the annual conference meeting in Kokomo and at the UMW organizational meeting in Zionsville.

Officers decided to plan the program for 2010 in January. Ellen Landry will share the Mission Moment and Martha Plummer the program, "Advent: Together at the Table" at the December 3 meeting.

The November program, "Food and Faith: Where Would Jesus Sit?" was presented by Myrna Neff. The center focus table had a large basket for the World Thank Offering to be collected, an open Bible, and a loaf of Myrna's homemade bread. Where did Jesus sit? At the lake, in a small boat telling a great crowd about the sower, on the mountainside, on a colt, at the temple teaching, at the well, with the tax collectors, with Mary, Martha and Lazarus, with 12 disciples at the Last Supper, and at the right hand of God. Those present walked to the table, left their offering, and broke the bread.

The group had lunch in the Fahl Dining Room, thinking about where we have sat with Jesus. Were we in the seat of Peter, Judas, Martha, or Mary? In whose seat would they find you sitting?



United
Methodist
Women

Salamonie Honor Roll

Congratulations to those who were on the Salamonie School honor roll.

All A's

5th grade: Lily Sabinske,
6th grade: Olivia Bolinger
7th grade: Walker Spahr
8th grade: Tom Bolinger,
Connor Sabinske



All A's and B's

4th grade: Carson Bolinger, Kaleb Nighten-
helter
5th grade: Robby Bolinger
6th grade: Madison Canady
8th grade: Grant Canady

United Methodist Youth Fellowship

During November we have talked about our part in the capital funds campaign and what stewardship means. We also had a lesson on making choices and discerning what God wants for us.

On December 6th, the youth will be staying after the church celebration to work on their December service project. On December 30th, UMYF will have a Christmas party to be held at the parsonage.

We'll start at 6:00 p.m. with a pizza supper, and end the party around 10:00 p.m. Please let Barb, Marie, or Jeff know if you plan on attending so we can make plans for our Wii competition and other games. We look forward to seeing you there!

Remember that UMYF is open for all youth in grades 5-12. We welcome you to join us as we fellowship together and build our faith! Bring a friend!

UMYF sends a big thank you to Lana Myers for organizing snacks, and to all the people who have prepared snacks for our UMYF meetings!

Thanks for praying!

Thank you for your support and prayers throughout our capital campaign. There were 91 units who took prayer packets, and 87 individuals participated in the 24-7 prayer vigil. Praise God! Thanks for all the time everyone took to make this campaign a success. God has truly blessed us with a



wonderful, prayerful family. Continue to pray for God's will, unity, and our Godly Pastor Kathy. May He continue to bless us as we do His will to further His Kingdom. Thank you again for your time.

Capital Campaign
Spiritual Emphasis Team

UMYF Schedule

December 6 - Service Project (stay after church)
December 20 - Meeting: "Christmas— Keeping the Meaning," 4:00-5:30
December 24 - Christmas Eve Service, 11:00 p.m.
December 30 - Christmas Party, Parsonage
January 3 - Meeting: "Making a Mission Statement," 4:00-5:30
January 17 - Meeting: "Spiritual Gifts," 4:00-5:30

Holiday Cheese Balls

Solid Rock is selling holiday cheese balls with the proceeds going to the Building Fund.

Dried Beef - \$5.00
Hawaiian - \$6.00
Cheddar Cheese - \$7.00

Orders need to be to Linda (Mc)Howell by December 13. Christmas orders can be picked up on December 20, and New Years orders can be picked up on December 27. There will be order blanks at the church and at the office, or you may call the church at 375-3873 or Linda at 375-2909.

Acolyte Training

There will be acolyte training for all youth interested in serving in this position on Sunday, January 10 during the time children are normally dismissed for Children's Church. A schedule for acolytes will then be established.



The beauty of Christmas rests in the hard, gritty truth of it: the story of God coming down to earth to meet you where you live and where obviously you need him most — in the ordinary humdrum dust and dirt of life.

—Edmund Steimle

Christmas decorations

With Americans spending about \$8 billion annually on Christmas decorations, it's clear that tinsel, green trimmings and electric lights are an important part of most peoples' holiday. Evergreen trees and garlands were used as decorative symbols of eternal life by ancient Egyptians, Chinese and Hebrews; European pagans sometimes worshiped evergreen trees. By medieval times, western Germans used fir trees to represent the Tree of Paradise in mystery plays about Adam and Eve. They decorated the trees with apples and later with wafers to symbolize the host. The trees grew increasingly popular in Germany and settlers introduced them to North America in the 17th century. Many people also decorate with holly, mistletoe and ivy. Decorators started lighting up their trees with electric bulbs in the 1890s. Since then, lights have become an integral part of Christmas decorating.

- howstuffworks.com



Hallelujah

Angels sing and shout the
message

Of our newborn King

Lifting up all

thanks to

heaven

For the gift He

brings

We sing praises

to the Son

of God

Shepherds and the wise men

worship

This little baby boy

God is with us and the reason

For our endless joy

We sing praises to the

Lord of all

Hallelujah halle-

lujah

Glory to

God in the

highest

Hallelujah

to the Savior

Born to us this day

He has come to give us hope

And God's amazing grace

Hallelujah glory to His name



- Pete Carlson



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