

News From The Rock

January 2013

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

Class begins new study

The downstairs Sunday school class is beginning a study of the book of Matthew with help from The Visual Bible. The year is about 62 A.D. and the aging Apostle Matthew recalls the remarkable events he witnessed as a young man. We share the mystery and wonder of His birth; we witness His baptism and temptation, then experience the compassion and hope of the Sermon on the Mount. Walk with Jesus through Galilee as He calls His disciples, performs the first miracles and begins teaching His world-changing message of love and redemption. Told in the words of the NIV, this presentation brings to the screen a divine yet warmly human Jesus. Please join us.

Getting Acquainted

by Gina Canady

Nick, Jessica, Sam, Jacob and Matthew Barry

Asking Nick and Jessica what brought them to Solid Rock Church....Jessica grew up in the Warren Methodist Church and Nick was brought to Solid Rock by a Dodge Caravan! They were united in marriage at the Warren Methodist Church.

The Barrys like to garden, travel and spend time with the family ... and Sam, Jacob and Matthew enjoy playing "cars" especially "Lightning McQueen"

Jessica and Nick both have lived in this area their entire life, Jess in the Warren area and Nick in the Hartford City area, went away to school, and came back to make their careers here!

The Barrys' favorite sport teams are Chicago Cubs (be sure to check out the boys' hats in the summer) and IU. Ask



Jacob to sing the IU fight song!

They enjoy traveling. Nick likes cruises and Jessica will go anywhere she has never been before. The farthest place Nick has traveled was London and Jessica has ventured all the way to China. Their favorite place has been Alaska.

The Barry family consists of three children, Sam, Jacob and Matthew, one dog and two cats.

Jessica's favorite songs are the praise songs and "The Old Rugged Cross" and "In the Garden" that the men's choir used to sing because she knew the words before she could read, from going to choir practice with Dad! Nick's favorite song is the benediction! Starting to get the picture that Nick is a FUNNY Guy!

Nick's highlights of the church are being married there and the boys' baptisms. Jessica remembers being little and her dad, Charlie Howell, was in the men's choir. When the men would sing, Charlie would wink at her, first with one eye and then the other, and she would always wink back the same number of times. She wonders now, what the congregation must have thought?

United Methodist Women

United Methodist Women of Solid Rock Church met December 6, 2012, for the last meeting of the year, with nine members present. Two members have passed away within recent months: Audry Garrett and Treva Holt.

President Myrna Neff led devotional thoughts as we all considered the approaching Christmas season—how we can find our way to Bethlehem; who were (and are) our wise men; how did they do what they did; where can we go when we want to go to Bethlehem, finding our kneeling places during Advent.

Members repeated the U.M.W. Purpose together and Myrna reported about several missionaries whose birthdays occur in this season.

Myrna developed our "Mission Mo-

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Just Leaning on the Rock!

by Pastor Kathy Newton



When Jesus was born in the village of Bethlehem in Judea, Herod was king. During this time some wise men from the east came to Jerusalem and said, "Where is the child born to be king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."

"Are we willing to sacrifice time and energy to have Christ revealed to us?"

(Matthew 2:1-2 CEV)

Christmas is over and all the busyness that goes with it, but it almost feels like a

letdown. For the church this time after Christmas is called Epiphany and very definitely not a letdown! The traditions that most regularly observe "Three Kings Day" are Orthodox, Catholic and Anglican. This "Twelfth Day of Christmas" is one of the first feasts of the Christian church and celebrates the manifestation of God in the form of human flesh through Jesus Christ. We, in Western Christianity, associate this feast with the arrival of the Magi. Since epiphany means manifestation or revelation it seems to follow that epiphany is the revelation of Jesus Christ to the gentile population. The Magi were definitely from the gentile population of the day, and even though they knew not the Jewish laws and observances still they followed that star for better than 900 miles on foot or camel in order to see Christ the Savior.

Are we willing to sacrifice time and energy to have Christ revealed to us? May January mark the year that each of us has accepted the challenge the Magi accepted those many years ago. My hope is that we all will seek to find and follow the Savior for all of 2013 if not ALL of our lives!

Shalom,
Pastor Kathy

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(Continued from page 1)
 ment” from an article in the U.M.W. magazine, Response. We were fortunate to enjoy Myrna's unusual presentation of the meeting's program, which followed this unusual “Mission Moment.” She pulled out a game for six people which in a dramatic but close fashion clarified how the unusual status of “immigrant” person develops. On a colorful playing board, using colorful little figurine people who moved around in immigrant situations found themselves helpless to escape from frustration and defeating situations. People can find occasional success in their efforts to move into the mainstream desirable areas of life in our country, but they keep encountering many “difficult-to-succeed-in” problem situations in their efforts to become citizens. It felt surprisingly “real” to enjoy but still feel the frustrations of the characters playing their parts. We were asked to consider this question noting that many times immigrants were replaced by others who were seeking to succeed. We were asked to consider “Who will you put ahead of you in your walk to the manger? How has today’s program affected your “this Christmas” feeling about Jesus, Mary and Joseph?”

Margaret Bell, Secretary

A Prayer for the New Year

Come, Holy Spirit, Spirit of the Risen Christ, be with us today and always. Be our Light, our Guide, and our Comforter. Be our Strength, our Courage, and our Sanctifier. May this new year be a time of deep spiritual growth for us, A time of welcoming your graces and gifts, A time for forgiving freely and unconditionally, A time for growing in virtue and goodness. Come, Holy Spirit, Be with us today and always. **Amen.**

Youth Fellowship

Upcoming Events

- **January 6:** Meeting, 2:00-3:30
- **January 13:** Pizza at East of Chicago after worship
- **January 20:** Meeting, 2:00-3:30
- **January 27:** Bible Study after worship

All youth in grades 6-12 are welcome! We are also planning a sledding party in January whenever the weather and snowfall cooperate! Thanks to everyone who has been providing us with snacks!

2013



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