

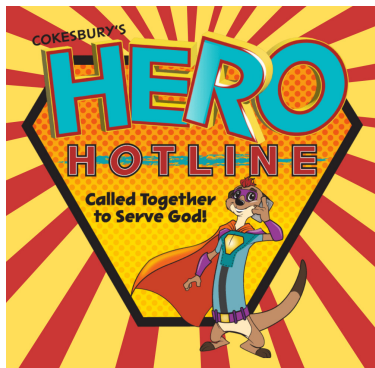
Volunteer sound techs needed

Solid Rock's new sound board has been installed and is in use. Jen Plummer and Jon Voght have been trained in its operation. They would like to train additional individuals to share in the responsibilities. If you have an interest in volunteering, or would just like more information about what it would entail, please contact Jen or the church office. No previous experience is required. Training will be provided.



Vacation Bible School

The Warren Area Ministerial Association is excited to present this year's VBS, being hosted at Solid Rock Church of Warren, July 9 through 13, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. each evening. This year's theme is Hero Hotline and is open to all children from age four to those in fifth grade. There will be crafts, lessons, and fun for all! If you want more information about this, please contact the church at 375-3873.



New Website

Solid Rock's new website is now online! Check it out at solidrockwarren.org. If you have information or photos to submit, or other ideas for improving the content of the site, please contact Gary Walter at gary@solidrockwarren.org.



Rediscovering Our Wesleyan Heritage

Solid Rock's affiliation with the Global Methodist Church begins this month. The GMC seeks to honor and be faithful to the heritage of the Methodist movement, initiated primarily by John and Charles Wesley. The Firm Foundation Sunday school class, which meets each Sunday morning at 9:00 in the church kitchen, invites you to join them in discovering or rediscovering our Wesleyan heritage.



We will be exploring answers to such questions as:

- Who were John and Charles Wesley and how did the Methodist movement get started?
- What was their original intent, and what were some outcomes of their ministries?
- How did their influence extend from England to America?
- Why was the Methodist movement so successful on the American frontier?
- Who were the circuit riders? Were they in Indiana? Warren? (Spoiler: yes!)
- How was a Methodist presence in Warren established?
- How did the Warren Methodist Episcopal Church and the Jefferson Center Methodist Episcopal Church (predecessors of Solid Rock) get started?
- What doctrines and practices were emphasized by the Wesleys, and how do we experience their legacy today?

This study will begin on July 16 and continue for approximately four weeks. Plan to join us!

Disaffiliation Complete

Solid Rock was one of 174 churches officially approved for disaffiliation at the Indiana UMC Annual Conference on June 8. Upon receipt of the final statement, Solid Rock will submit the required disaffiliation fee, completing the process. Disaffiliation will be effective

(Continued on page 2)

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July 1, and affiliation with the Global Methodist Church will take effect on July 1.

A total of 318 Indiana churches have disaffiliated from the UMC, about 30% of Indiana United Methodist churches. No further Indiana disaffiliations are anticipated as this was the final opportunity for Indiana Conference churches. Disaffiliations are still expected in other parts of the U.S. as other annual conferences are convened before the disaffiliation provision expires at the end of 2023.

The Great Lakes Conference of the GMC (Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin) will welcome 219 new clergypersons and 156 new churches into membership on July 1. The first meeting of the Great Lakes Annual Conference is expected to take place this fall.

An abundance of gifts


In 2022, people set some amazing Guinness World Records. A Nebraska man paddled more than 37 miles in a hollowed-out pumpkin boat. A Vermont teen wearing 4-inch heels walked more than 600 feet across a tightrope. And an Oregon man found and alphabetized all 26 letters in a can of alphabet soup in 2 minutes and 8.6 seconds. (The toughest part, he says, is distinguishing subtle differences between letters such as M and W.)



Your talents might not earn you any world records, but they certainly can grow faith and change lives. Whether you're good at teaching, singing, writing, cooking or ac-

Prayer For Our Country

Almighty God,
 Ruler of all the peoples
 of the earth, forgive our
 shortcomings as a
 nation, purify our hearts
 to see and love the truth,
 give wisdom to our
 leaders, and
 steadfastness to our
 people, and bring us at last to that fair city of
 peace whose foundations are mercy, justice,
 and goodwill, of which you are the designer
 and builder; through your Son, Jesus Christ
 our Lord. Amen.



—Woodrow Wilson

counting, the church can put those skills to productive use. Romans 12 lists many more qualities you may not realize are spiritual gifts: graciousness, serving, generosity, acts of mercy, loving and honoring others, extending hospitality, rejoicing and weeping with people, making peace.

You might not be able to outperform the alphabet soup record. But God abundantly blesses each of us to “outdo one another in showing honor” (Romans 12:10, ESV) and in sharing his love.

—Stephanie Martin



May Financial Update

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| General Fund Receipts | \$9,625 |
| General Fund Expenses..... | \$13,442 |

News for the August newsletter is due July 23

The Cornerstone Connection

is published each month by
Solid Rock Church

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>P.O. Box 322 485 Bennett Drive Warren, IN 46792 (260) 375-3873 solidrockwarren.org Sunday School at 9:00 Worship at 10:00</p> <p>Office Hours Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Closed Friday</p> <p><i>Solid Rock Church is a Global Methodist Congregation</i></p> | <p>Pastor: Rev. John Boyanowski pastorjohn@solidrockwarren.org Cell: (260) 580-8305</p> <p>Office Manager/Treasurer: Jane Hitzfield jane@solidrockwarren.org</p> <p>Newsletter Editor: Gary Walter gary@solidrockwarren.org</p> <p>Church Email: office@solidrockwarren.org</p> |
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(Continued from page 4)

solitude. What I didn't realize at the time was that I was holding on to the very thing that would destroy me. I wouldn't let go of past hurts and trauma and it almost destroyed my self-worth, abilities, and relationships with God and others. I developed physical problems, became fearful of getting close to others emotionally, and didn't trust the current relationships I had, and I held on to the bitterness that made me feel like the victim I allowed it to become. This wasn't what God wanted for me and my life.

God then stepped in and brought people into my life that would change my life. God first had to make me release the death grip I had on the things that imprisoned my mind and soul. I had to become vulnerable once again. Why? I had to learn to feel again. I had emotionally and relationally severed my heart's sensitivity to feeling love, compassion, acceptance, and the ability to feel hurt, which isn't always a bad thing. I had gotten to the point where I refused to feel emotionally. I was dead inside. God Himself, along with those He brought into my life, gave me the spiritual and emotional CPR to get my heart to begin to live again. My perception was I thought of never rising from my dead state. Yet, God breathed into my soul life and purpose. He took from my hands the things I refused to release and held me and breathed life into me. I gasped and opened my eyes to the new reality that I was worthy of love, and He gave me His love. I was alive again and it felt beautiful to breathe and live.

What are you holding on to? Is it helping you or causing you to slowly die within? Are you holding on to grudges, pride, judgment, and unforgiveness? Are you tired of holding on and wanting to let go? God can and will help you! After all, how can God hold your hand when your hands are full?

There are times when I would love to simply be held, and it's not just during bad times. I want to just feel the warmth of the embrace of someone who loves me. Hearing their heartbeat and feeling secure in the arms of someone who really cares for and about me. I get this with God. I have found places like this in others that He has brought into my life at the times I needed it most. I had to simply answer Jesus' question: "*Do you want to be healed?*" Then let go and be held by a loving God.

Welcomed back to the fold

When her beloved dogs "returned home from an adventure smelling of eau de skunk parfum," Pastor Joanna Loucky-Ramsey refused to let them in the house. Instead, she cleaned and cared for them outside, slowly reintroducing them to "full participation in family life" once the stink eased.

"The odor left by the skunk could serve as a metaphor for our sin or for the sin others perpetrate against us," she

writes. "As much as God loves us, he hates the sin that hides the lovely fragrance of the image of God within each of us. God wants to welcome each of us into his family and into the heavenly home he has prepared for us, but we need to be 'deodorized' from the eau de sin parfum that would mar the entire experience of being in God's fragrant presence."

Loucky-Ramsey continues: "Just as our dogs needed our help to get rid of the smell of skunk, we need God's help to purge us from the offense of sin that permeates our nature and masks who God created us to be. That's what Jesus accomplished by his death and resurrection: to make us new and whole."

—adapted from *The Wired Word*

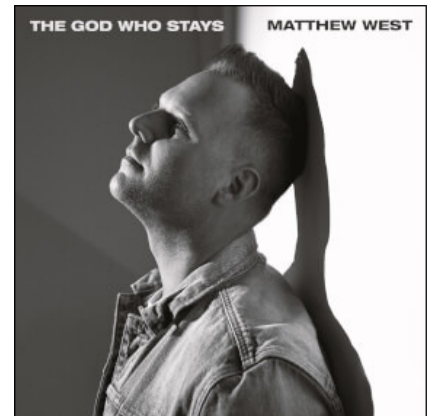


Keep trying

In *The God Who Stays*, contemporary Christian musician Matthew West writes about the pandemic's fear-filled early days. After his concert tour was abruptly canceled in March 2020, he rode to an airport "feeling utterly hopeless about a world that was spinning out of control."

Then Arthur, his ride-share driver, began singing along to the radio — and the song happened to be West's "The God Who Stays." West joined in, jokingly asking how he sounded. "Not so good," Arthur replied, not knowing West's identity. "You keep trying."

The driver shared how those lyrics uplifted him during life's difficulties, and West later recalled that conversation during lockdown, while wondering where God was. The musician realized he had "settled for a socially distant relationship with the One who is nearer than I dare to believe, closer than the air I breathe." But West pictured "God running toward me with open arms like the prodigal's father," and he resolved to keep trying — and to grow closer to the God who always stays.



- "God has not called you to your life mission in spite of who you are; he has called you precisely because of who you are." —Reggie McNeal, *Practicing Greatness*

- "Rest is not idle, is not wasteful. Sometimes rest is the most productive thing you can do for body and soul."

—Erica Layne



Shepherding Moments

by Pastor John Boyanowski

Holding On or Being Held

I was having devotions with my daughter and the discussion of our past came up and how people view their past. In the discussion, we discovered how people tend to desire one of two things: holding on or being held. You might ask what the difference between each of them is truly worlds apart from one another.

Holding on is an action that many of us do consciously or subconsciously. We choose to hold on deliberately in a positive manner through cherished memories, traditions, family traits, and patterns of doing things. Negatively, we choose to hold on to grudges, poor attitudes, wrongful judgments, brokenness and traumas, stubbornness, biases, unforgiveness, and bitterness. Depending on the person and their resilience (or lack of resilience), this can hold a person's ability to heal and be restored hostage for a long time.

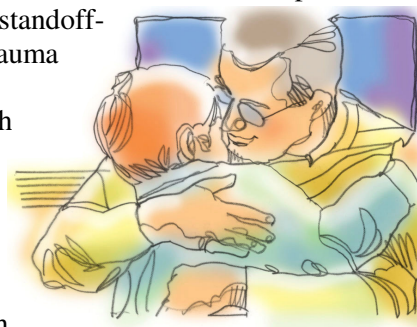
Being held has a very different effect on the individual

because it is something we all desire. Holding on requires us to exert the power and energy to grasp. What we grab hold of with us holding on to often takes a great deal from us because there's always a possibility of resistance from those that we attempt to hold. In most cases, all involved want to be held; however, there are those whose past taught them to become standoffish to prevent further trauma and rejection.

Having been on both sides of the coin, I can testify to the impact of both and say the fears and feelings are justified for both self-preservation and growth.

Once fearing love because of the constant heartbreak and pain of losing a loved one in a variety of ways (death, moving away from, abandonment of relationships, etc.), I fought to not be vulnerable anymore because of having hopes and trust broken, promises that were made never kept. With each relationship failing, I sank deeper into depression and anger. My soul was beyond empty and even angered at people trying to invade my fortress of

(Continued on page 3)





JULY 2023



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|---|---|---------------------|---|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 WAMA Community Service At Riverside Park 11 a.m. (if rain Knight Bergman Ctr) "No church Service or Sunday School at Solid Rock today" | 3 Pastor John on vacation | 4  INDEPENDENCE DAY <u>Office Closed</u> | 5 Pastor John on vacation | 6 | 7 Office Closed | 8 Men's Fellowship at Son-Rise Bakery 8 a.m. Church reserved 12-6 p.m. |
| 9 Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship Service 10 a.m. Communion Sunday Rock Solid Youth help w/VBS VBS 6-8 p.m. at Solid Rock | 10 Bible Study 10 a.m. Taekwondo 6-7 p.m. VBS 6-8 p.m. at Solid Rock | 11 VBS 6-8 p.m. at Solid Rock | 12 Solid Rock Food Pantry work day VBS 6-8 p.m. at Solid Rock | 13 S.O.S. - 7:30 p.m. Hostess: Lana VBS 6-8 p.m. at Solid Rock | 14 Office Closed | 15 |
| 16 Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship Service 10 a.m. Rock Solid Youth Star Fest 6 - 7:30 p.m. | 17 Bible Study 10 a.m. Hallelujah Hands 6-7 p.m. Taekwondo 6-7 p.m. | 18 Widows Care and Share 2 p.m. "Crochet with Love" Staff Pastor Parish Mtg 6 p.m. Ad Council Mtg 7 p.m. | 19 | 20 | 21 Office Closed | 22 Church reserved all day |
| 23 Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship Service 10 a.m. Rock Solid Youth canoeing & kayaking trip Newsletter info due to Gary W. | 24 Hallelujah Hands 6-7 p.m. Taekwondo 6-7 p.m. | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 Office Closed | 29 |
| 30 Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship Service 10 a.m. Rock Solid Youth 6-7:30 p.m. or rain date for canoeing & kayaking trip | 31 Bible Study 10 a.m. Hallelujah Hands 6-7 p.m. Taekwondo 6-7 p.m. | | | | | |

July Events



Morning Bible Study.....



Bible study on Monday mornings at 10 a.m. and led by Marsha Boyanowski.
Bring your Bible, everyone is welcome!

NOTE: No Bible Study on 3rd Mondays



Card Ministry July Special

Purchase a Friendship or Thank You card and get
a free card of your choice.

Office Hours

Monday through Thursday
9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Call the church during office hours if you
need prayer requests or help with
anything at 260-375-3873

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After hour needs or prayer request; call
text or leave a message for
Pastor John Boyanowski at 260-580-8305.



WAMA Churches
JULY 9 - 13
this year held at
SOLID ROCK CHURCH
6 to 8 p.m.
Ages 4 through 5th grade

Want to volunteer? Talk to
Rita Bolinger or call the church.



Concession Stand Sign Up....

If you want to have fun and meet the
kids and adults in the community, sign
up to work in the concession stand.
You will not regret it. It's only a couple
hours a week and great fellowship.

If you haven't done it, try it, you'll
love it! The smiles are contagious!!

July Helpers

Children's S. S. Teachers

9 Brenda Conner
 16 LeAnn Buzzard
 23 Marie DeWeese
 30 Marie DeWeese

Liturgists

9 Billie Horrell
 16 Jane Hitzfield
 23 Marg Bentley
 30 Susan Mills

Greeter

9 Dave-Debb Smitley
 16 Jim-Liz Rider
 23 Cindy Boxell
 30 Teresa Kriegbaum

Nursery 10 a.m.

9 LeAnn Buzzard
 16 Brenda Conner
 23 Linda Howell
 30 Jane Hitzfield

Snacks

9 Todd-Shelley Preston
 16 Mike-Rita Bolinger & Linda Howell
 23 Lana Myers & Dave-Jorita Banter
 30 Robert-Marie DeWeese & Mindy Rider



PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE IF A DATE IS NOT GOOD FOR YOU TO HELP, THANK YOU.



7-1 Marty Sieberns
 7-3 Lindsey Blinn
 7-4 David Keller
 7-7 Aletta Heath
 Jo Keller
 Randy Hensley
 Evan Gifford
 7-8 Kathy Collins
 7-10 Ann Miles-McCammon
 7-12 Sherry Gifford
 Alexa Lichtenberger
 7-13 Peyton Morris
 7-14 Mindy Rider
 Taya Decker
 7-15 Reagan Pfister
 7-16 Donnie Plummer
 7-17 Cathleen Miller
 7-18 Rob Hensley
 7-20 Lyvonne Nighthenheler
 7-22 Robert Powers
 7-27 David Plummer
 7-31 Tom Bolinger
 Evan Pennington

7-2 Ted-Sharon Williams
 7-4 John-Doris Souers
 7-6 Gordon-Martina Cocklin
 7-10 John-Susan Mills
 7-13 Dale-Norma Smith
 Mike-Rita Bolinger
 7-17 Tim-Brenda Conner
 Jon-Mandy Bordeaux
 7-19 Dennis-Cathleen Miller

Rock Solid Youth Group
 4th to 12th grades
INVITE A FRIEND
Sunday Evenings
6 - 7:30 p.m.
Check church calendar, July is
filled with a lot of different fun!



Coffee Donation

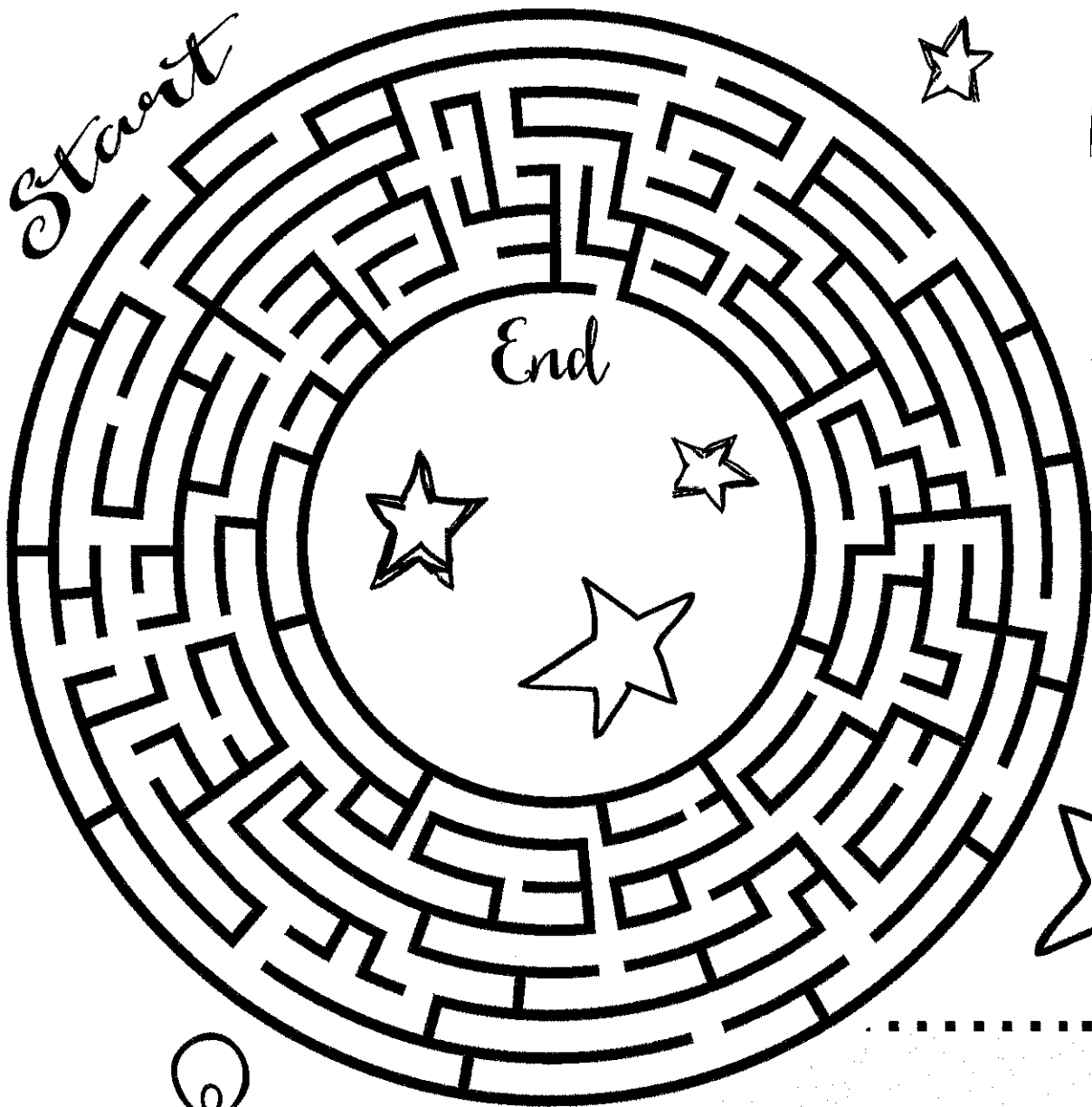
If you would like to donate (regular) coffee for Sunday snack time, just leave it on the counter in the coffee room area.
 Much appreciated.
 Thank you!

July

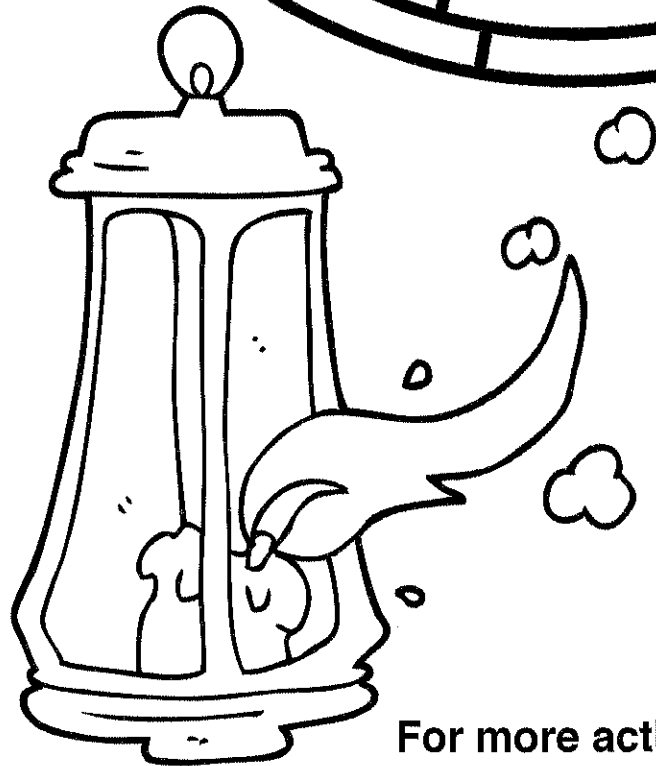
Cereal - Canned Ravioli
 Small Candy Bars - Pop Corn
 Pudding Snacks - Mac & Cheese
 Chicken Noodle Soup - Snack Crackers

Monetary gifts through Solid Rock are always welcome.

Start



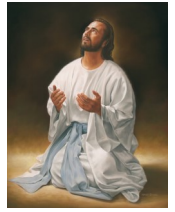
End



Thy word is a
lamp unto my
feet, and a light
unto my path.
Psalm 119:105

For more activity pages make
sure to visit busybooksandmore.net

Solid Rock Daily Prayer Card for July 2023



Prayer is the greatest, simplest privilege of our lives as believers.

Thank you for continuing to pray for Solid Rock. Following are some special requests:

- Father God, We thank You for Your love and freedom it brings. The more sin tries to enslave us, Your grace fights all the more to keep us independent of it. Only You can give us the strength to stand for Your will to be done in our lives. Lead us, teach us, and fill us with Your grace. You alone are our freedom. Thank You for all You do. In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.
- Sweet Jesus, we seek Your will for our lives. Teach us Your ways and let the reflection of Your love be seen in how we desire to serve You and others. Please help us to become sensitive to the needs of others and grant us a passion to bring others into Your loving arms. Empower us to live by the example of what Your grace can do for those who seek it. All praise and honors are Yours. In the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Amen.
- Holy Spirit, Help our hearts to yearn for Your voice to be heard. Speak to us Your words that draw us closer to God and the Son. Move us in the direction we need to become more intimate with the Godhead and rest in Your sweet embraces. Remove the obstacles that try to separate us from Your love. Praise forevermore, Amen!
- Blessed Trinity, I have discovered that I need You more and more every day. I thank You for loving me so much that You are willing to love me with such pure and full love. All I can do to return such love is to give You all that I am, as broken as I am, and with all that I can present. I surrender myself to Your will and pray that You can transform me as You have done countless others before me. Thank You for who You are. In Thy Name I pray, Amen.

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SOLID ROCK UMC PRAYER REQUESTS

Pastor John Boyanowski

Other

Abortion - Addiction - All Missions - Bargain Basement - Our Nation & Leaders - Missionaries - Local Churches - Solid Rock Ministries
Bread of Life Food Pantry - WAMA - Healthcare Providers & First Responders - Schools and Educational Leaders - Our Service Men & Women

Grapevine Cluster Churches and Pastors

Boehmer/Pastor Steve Nevius - Liberty Center/Pastor Diane Samuels - Bluffton First/Pastor Sherrie Drake
Uniondale/Pastor Karen Ottjes - Ossian/Pastor David Herr - Lancaster Chapel/Pastor Dewey Miller - Petroleum/Pastor Stephen Bard
Bluffton Epworth/Pastor Marlene Ellis - Poneto/Pastor Roy Nevil - Solid Rock/Pastor John Boyanowski

Health and Healing

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Jay Ballard | Kate Lambert |
| Rose Marie Beck | Scott Landrum |
| Tiffany Booher | Julius Longardner |
| Levi Bordeaux | David Martin |
| Sandra Boxell | Jenny McComb |
| Marsha Boyanowski | Becky Metzger |
| Betty Bradford | Agatha Miller |
| Rosalie Buyck | Kory Miller |
| Aimee Buzzard | Andrew Morris |
| Matt Buzzard | Kammen Odom |
| Tonya Buzzard | Nikka Palmer |
| Sue Carpenter | Alan Penrod |
| Jan Cormican | Madie Pitaels |
| Dillon Coss | Derryle Pharr |
| Brian Driscoll | Rev. Benny Powell |
| Amanda Elliot | Richard Preston |
| Loran Gifford Sr | Samuel Rakozy |
| Cale Grey | April Rogers |
| Betty Green | Tom Rupert |
| Tammy Hanna | Sue Shake |
| William Harvey | Jay Shaw |
| Herman Hassig | Dave Smitley |
| Norm Heiser | Nancy Springer |
| Patty Hensley | Jamie Straley |
| Rob Hensley | Tom Tallman |
| John Highland | Charles Ternet |
| LaTishia Horrell | Eric Threlkel |
| Mary Ann James | Alyce Tinkle |
| Dave Keller | Vonda Watson |
| Jo Keller | Kara Wheat |
| Brenda Kinney | Diane Winkler |
| | Tyler Woodman |

Heritage Pointe

Karen Blinn
Darrell Blair
Bill Boxell
Curly & Pat Boxell
Ann Brauchla
Mary Emma Holmes
Ann Miles-McCammon
Eva Mae Minnich
Dee Pattison
Martha Plummer
John & Doris Souers
Roberta St. John
Carolyn Winters

Cancer

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Carol Alyward | Jon Jennings |
| Jay Ballard | Steve Krachinski |
| Steve Barnes | Amanda O'Brian |
| Ricky Bell | Kathy Paul |
| Griffin Brundige | Martha Paxson |
| Aimee Buzzard | Dave Pearson |
| Brian Cathman | Mark Prout |
| Valerie Ditzler | Sharon Purvis |
| Connie Evans | Teresa Rhodes |
| Tracy Geotz | Herb Rinearson |
| Rick Flag | Eric Snively |
| Ken Groves | Ann St. John |
| Denise Hanzz | Cynthia Smyth-Wartzok |
| Diane Hull | Mark Wilson |

Those Undergoing Treatment

Mike Cloud
Dale Irwin
Casey Jarvis
Tracy Lemier
Eric Snively
Courtney Woods

Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the One who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference.

- Max Lucado

Please let the office know if someone listed above is doing better and can be removed or someone needs added for prayers of healing.