



# News From The Rock

March 2009

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

## Congregation provides ideas for architect

Following a carry-in lunch at the Sportsman's Club on February 7, Solid Rock members shared their ideas for the new church building as they participated in a *charrette*. From the French word for "cart," *charrette* refers to a collaborative session in which a group drafts a solution to a design problem.

Studio Three architects Brian Hollars and Kerry LaPrees will take the ideas gathered at this event and prepare initial designs to share with the congregation. Anyone who was unable to attend this event may share their thoughts with Bruce Preston or any member of the Building Committee, who will forward your input to Studio Three.

## Class to study "Beginning Life Together"

The "downstairs" adult Sunday school class will begin a new study, "Beginning Life Together," on March 1. The first study in the "Doing Life Together" series, "Beginning Life Together" gives group members an overview of the five biblical purposes God intends for your life, based on Rick Warren's "Purpose-Driven Life." Each week features a video presentation by a well-known Christian teacher, including Steve Arterburn, Steve Farrar, Doug Fields, Chip Ingram, Anne Ortlund, and Bruce Wilkinson. If you've been thinking about joining a Sunday morning study, why not join us for these six sessions?

## Overflow crowd attends soup supper

Our annual Soup for the Soul supper held on February 18 was a huge success! Meals were served to 193 people from the community of Warren. There was a steady stream of people, and the tables were so full that more tables had to be set up. We

ran out of soup and ice cream—what a great night!

We want to thank everyone who donated items, money, and time to make this such a success. Special thanks go to Gebhart's Floral Barn, P.J.'s Flower and Gift Shop, Breyer's Ice Cream, and the Knight-Bergman Civic Center. (The Civic Center is a great place to hold such an event, but Marg and Susan are really looking forward to the day when this event can be held in the Solid Rock fellowship hall!)

## Men's Fellowship

The Solid Rock Men's Fellowship met on February 14, 2009, in the Calico Room at Heritage Pointe. Dale Smith opened the meeting with prayer. Breakfast was served by Kim's Katered Affair to the 18 men in attendance.

Bruce Preston led devotions, sharing thoughts about Valentine's Day and an inspirational story about the buzzard, the bat, and the bumblebee.

The men will host a pizza supper at East of Chicago Pizza on April 21.

Bruce Preston closed in prayer. The next meeting will be at Heritage Pointe on March 14.

### Lenten Study Series

## "Dateline: Jerusalem"

at Jefferson Center  
6:30 p.m.

March 1—Barbara Hart  
March 8—Jeff Walter  
March 15—Perry Spahr  
March 22—Linda McHowell  
March 29—Randy Hensley  
April 5—Carolyn Winters

Just Leaning  
on the Rock!

by Pastor Kathy Newton



I just learned this weekend that Fort Wayne is very near receiving a casino. This, in my opinion, is terrible news. I spent some time with the Reverend Dr.

*"Wouldn't it be better if we just took the money we're going to lose at the casino and gave it to the local food bank or to the town to help with bills that others are struggling to pay?"*

Ron Verlee who is spearheading an effort to deter this from happening. I am convinced that this industry (if you would call it that) preys on the economically weak. The mindset is if I can just

win this one time then my economic woes will be over. I remember not too long ago when the lottery came to Indiana and the argument was that the schools would get the money. Well, to my knowledge the schools have not benefited. As a matter of fact, I believe these opportunities take away from families. I believe it takes food right off the table. This endeavor is no different. Families of all sorts are struggling to make ends meet.

Wouldn't it be better if we just took the money we're going to lose at the casino and gave it to the local food bank or to the town to help with bills that others are struggling to pay? If we take our money to the casino, more than likely we're just going to lose it anyway. So why not help someone and have it be gone as opposed to not helping anyone and having it be gone?

Shalom,  
Pastor Kathy

Expect people to be better than they are; it helps them to become better. But don't be disappointed when they are not; it helps them to keep trying. - Merry Browne



🔗 **The Salamonie Honor Roll** for the second quarter included Solid Rock attendees Lacey Nightenhelser, Fletcher Sabinske, Carson Bolinger, Robbie Bolinger, and Connor Sabinske. Congratulations, and keep up the good work!



🔗 **The Education Department** will be needing three more teachers. We need to separate the nursery class into two units. If you are willing to help, please contact the church office.



🔗 **Myrna Neff** enjoyed a vacation to Florida. The first week was very chilly. Low temps were in the teens and highs of 34 degrees. The second week was more enjoyable with temperatures in the high 70's. One of the highlights of the trip

### News From The Rock

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**Solid Rock United Methodist Church**  
P.O. Box 322  
Warren, Indiana 46792

**March 2009 Worship Schedule**  
Sunday School at 9:00  
Worship at 10:00  
at **Jefferson Center**

Office: 375-3873  
Jefferson Center: 375-2997  
Warren: 375-3871 or 375-3872  
Parsonage: 375-3686

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News deadline for the April newsletter:  
March 22

was getting to attend the "Roaring 20's Pizza and Pipes" performance in Ellenton. The organist was Dwight Thomas, a native of Marysville, Ohio.

The Wurlitzer organ was originally installed in 1931 in the Paramount Theatre in Oakland, California. After passing through several owners, it was purchased for use at the Roaring 20's Pizza and Pipes in Ellenton, Florida.

The organ is powered by a 20-horsepower Spencer Blower which supplies air for the 2,456 organ pipes and percussions. Most of the percussions (chimes, xylophone, glockenspiel, chrysoglott, marimba, tuned sleigh bells, piano, drums, traps and effects) are located outside of the organ chambers. The volume of the organ is controlled by the "shutters" above the glass pipe window, which allow the sound to project into the restaurant.

There were pipes and drums and horns, etc. all around the room, and as each played they lit up. What an extraordinary program! The pizza wasn't bad either!

Myrna ate at quite a few of the seafood restaurants and enjoyed all of them. She also had fun "shopping."



🔗 **Friday evening, February 13**, was the Council on Aging Fish Fry at the Knight Bergman Center. The weather was cooperative and the fish fry was well-attended. The final count of those being served was 385. Members of Solid Rock UMC helped with the bread-ing of the fish, and also helped in the evening with the serving and clean up.



🔗 **Mabel Fields** thanks the committee who gave her the lovely vase of flowers.

### Unknown:

- Why God would want me?
- a cure for cancer
- the mysteries of the mind
- why some are afflicted and others are not
- why some suffer and others do not
- the number of people who never feel loved
- how many times we do not stand up against evil
- how many pass by someone in need
- how many never hear God talking or know Him as Father
- the number of people who have no

place to call home

- if we could give your lives for others

### Known:

- God wants a relationship with us and wants to be our Father
- the promises of God
- there will be no more sorrow, no more worry, no more pain in heaven
- God is with us in everything we do
- by God, our every need
- without love there is nothing
- the unlimited bounds of God's love and compassion
- God's love is perfect
- nothing can separate us from God's love
- God's victory over evil
- we will truly be home when we get to heaven
- Jesus gave His life for us

- Anonymous Solid Rock member

### Snacks Schedule

- March 1: Bonnie Zeller, Tara Korporal, Carolyn Winters, Mary Emma Holmes  
 March 8: Matt & Julie Schwartz, Randy & Shelly Neff  
 March 15: Dave & Wanda Spahr, Lamoine & Rochelle DeHaven  
 March 22: Perry & Tamara Spahr, Dave & Jo Keller  
 March 29: Bruce & Barb Preston, Steve & Mary Ann Holmes  
 April 5: Mike & Rita Bolinger, Randy & Pamela Hensley  
 April 12: Phil & Lisa Sabinske, Gary & Rosalie Walter  
 April 19: Max & Lois Spahr, Jerry & Lois Walter  
 April 26: Linda Howell, Jessica Barry, Ron & Myrna Neff  
 May 3: Phil & Taya Decker, Wayne & Mary Ann Jackson  
 May 10: Oma Zent, Joyce Rutherford, Dean & Barbara Hart  
 May 17: Robert & Marie DeWeese, Dave & Susan Wechsler  
 May 24: Brenda Conner, Joenita Keller, Robie & Patty Hensley  
 May 31: Lana Myers, Linda Cloud, Dale & Norma Smith

The remarkable thing about fearing God is that when you fear God, you fear nothing else, whereas if you do not fear God, you fear everything else. —Oswald Chambers

## January income

Total Solid Rock income for the month of January was \$16,730. This includes \$13,883 in weekly offerings, \$232 designated for missions, and \$1,481 to the Building Fund.

## Youth Group News

All youth in grades 5-12 are invited to join the youth group as they learn about God's awesome invitation to His party! All meetings are held from 4:00 to 5:30 at the Warren site.

March 1: Let's Party  
March 15: Let's Party  
April 5: Faith Journeys  
April 19: Faith Journeys

## District UM Women

On Saturday, February 14, Barbara Hart, Carolyn Winters, and Myrna Neff met with the other Huntington District United Methodist Women District Officers. Plans were made for the Spring Meeting which will be Saturday, April 18. The place for the event is planned to be at Heritage Pointe.

Huntington District United Methodist Women almost made their Pledge of \$30,000.00. The receipts were \$28,356.62. Maybe this year we can reach our goal? Solid Rock UMW will be recognized at the Spring Meeting for being a Five Star Unit and also a Gold Star Unit.

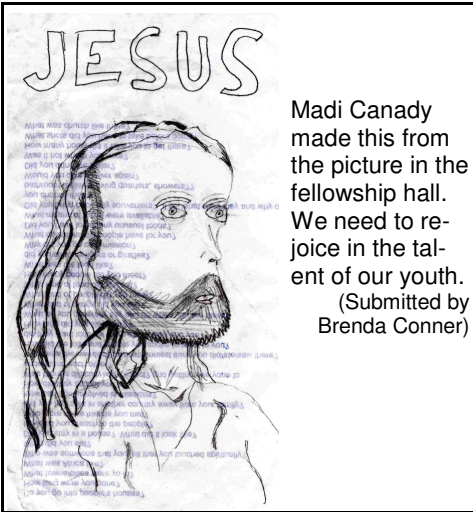
School of Christian Mission will be held again at Manchester College, July 8-11. Anyone who hasn't attended before can fill out an application for a scholarship to attend. This means there would be no charge.

This will be the last year for the Huntington District United Methodist Women. Wabash County, which is part of the Huntington District will not be with us in 2010. They will be meeting with the western part of the state.

## Transition Team

The Transition Team met on February 3. The team discussed what to keep and what to sell with the buildings. After much discussion, Perry Spahr made the motion to keep an option to be negotiable on furnishings pertaining to what the building would be used for. Jeff Walter seconded the motion, which passed.

Those present were Jeff Walter, Barbara Hart, Becky Arnett, Perry Spahr, and Joenita Keller. The next meeting will be March 17 prior to the Administrative Council meeting at the Jefferson Center site.



Madi Canady made this from the picture in the fellowship hall. We need to rejoice in the talent of our youth. (Submitted by Brenda Conner)

## So far

Having followed all of the letters to the editor in local newspapers re: the challenge to the released time religious education trailer in Huntington, one thing I have never seen in any of the letters is the complete definition of the First Amendment, which includes the second half of the religious clause.

It says, in full: "Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

Each citizen has the right to "petition the Government for a redress of grievances" as is being done in Huntington. The judicial system has now been activated by the grievance of a single nameless, faceless individual. The community's religious, legal, and educational resources have been marshaled. The whole community awaits adjudication. The only glimmer of an answer is the judge's suggestion that the religious education program be halted, even when the Government is not to prohibit the free exercise of a citizenry's religious exercises.

I will be glad to hear a verdict for or against in order that we can make better use of the First Amendment in its entirety rather than just ten words out of forty-five. So far, the citizenry as a unit has been able

to meet in a peaceable assembly, to speak freely, to petition the government for a redress of a grievance made against a legislated, lawful religious exercise.

So far.

Ed Clark

## Cell phone vs. Bible

Ever wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phone?

What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets?

What if we flipped through it several times a day?

What if we turned back to go get it if we forgot it?

What if we used it to receive messages from the text?

What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?

What if we gave it to kids as gifts?

What if we used it when we traveled?

What if we used it in case of emergency?

This is something to make you go... hmm... where is my Bible?

Oh, and one more thing. Unlike our cell phone, we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected, because Jesus already paid the bill.

Makes you stop and think "where are my priorities?" And no dropped calls!

- Circulating e-mail

## Nursery Schedule

March 1: Mandy Bordeaux, Lyvonne Nightenhelser

March 8: Deb Shaw, Marg Bentley

March 15: Rita & Olivia Bolinger, Susan Mills

March 22: Jessica Boxell, Shelly Neff

March 29: Lisa Sabinske, Jo Keller

April 5: Joenita Keller, Barbara Hart

April 12: Julie Schwartz, Jorita Banter

April 19: Brenda Conner, Perry Spahr

April 26: Michelle Woody, Patty Hensley

May 3: Gina Canady & Madi, Crystal DeHaven

May 10: Mallory Rhodes, Brandi Richardson

May 17: Tamara Spahr, Pamela Hensley

## Acolyte/Banner Schedule

First Sunday: Wyatt, Walker, Fletcher

Second Sunday: Carson, Tyler, Amelia

Third Sunday: Olivia, Madi, Lacey

Fourth Sunday: Robby, Lily, Addison

Fifth Sunday: Conner, Elijah, Kaleb

## The significance of Lent

Lent is the fourth season of the Christian year. Its length is the 40 days preceding Easter Day, not counting Sundays. This means Lent always begins on a Wednesday, known as Ash Wednesday.

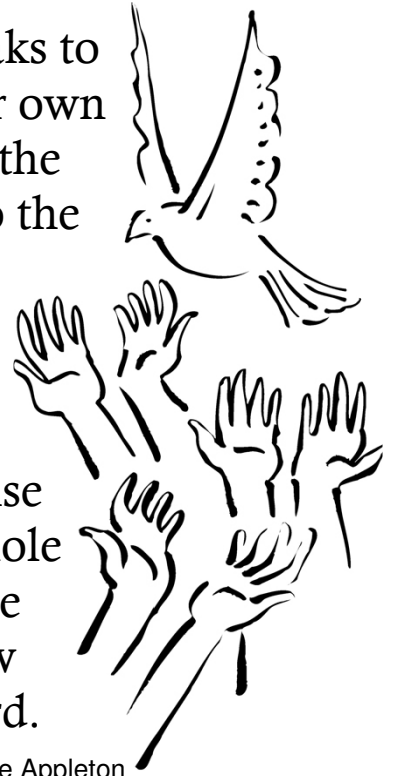
Lent commemorates Jesus' fast and temptation in the wilderness of Judea Province, which, according to the Gospel, lasted 40 days. Just as Jesus confronted his temptations during these 40 days, Lent helps Christians focus on our most basic need as sinners: forgiveness.

The only way our Lord's forgiving power can become effective in our lives is by our taking the initiative to confront our sins, confess them and repent of them. In short, Lent is a season of penitence.

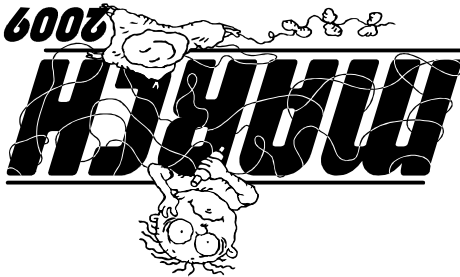
Some Christians fast during Lent. This denial of bodily comforts can help encourage self-reflection about the need for Jesus' forgiveness.



O Spirit of God who speaks to our spirits; created in your own likeness; penetrate into the depths of our spirits, into the storehouse of memories, remembered and forgotten, into the depths of being, the very springs of personality. And cleanse and forgive, making us whole and holy, that we may be yours and live in the new being of Christ our Lord.



George Appleton



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