

News From The Rock

May 2012

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

Concession Stand Update

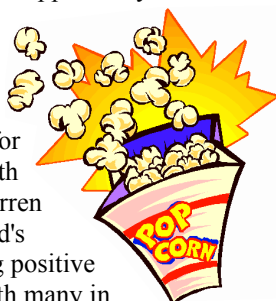
Spring is here! Which means that baseball and softball season is beginning very soon at the Tower Park in Warren. Once again our church will be sponsoring an outreach missions opportunity for our members by helping man the concession stand. This is an opportunity for us to interact with the youth of Warren in spreading God's love and making positive relationships with many in need. We were also able to make several thousand dollars in donations to many worthwhile projects including our church building fund, mission projects, Bread of Life Food Pantry, Blessings and Needs, Christmas December to May, and the Warren Area Ministerial Association this past year. We anticipate doing the same this year. But we need everyone's help.

We are looking for individuals who are interested in assisting starting Monday, April 30. The first two weeks of May, there will only be games from 6 -10 on Mondays. The week of May 14, games will be scheduled Monday through Friday, from 6-10. We will need 2-3 volunteers each night from 6 - 9 p.m. We can also be flexible if you can't arrive by 6 p.m. If you are interested and able to volunteer once a week, or once a month, please contact David or Jo Keller at church or by calling 260-375-3834.

"Stock the Shelves"

It is time to "stock the shelves" for A Friend's House. This spring's list includes

- canned beans (black, northern and chickpeas)
- salad toppings (bacon bits, croutons, sunflower seeds)
- whole wheat pasta
- healthy nuts (almonds, pecans, cash-



ews)
 • Cascade powder (no substitutes)
 • dishwasher rinse aid
 • trash bags (all sizes)
 • toilet paper
 • copy paper
 Please have items at the church by May 27. If you don't want to shop, give money to Rosalie and the Mission Team will shop for you.

Upcoming UMYF Events

- April 29:** UMYF Meeting, 4:00-5:30
- May 6:** UMYF Meeting, 4:00-5:30
- May 20:** UMYF Meeting, 4:00-5:30
- June 6:** Food Pantry, 6:00-7:30
- June 10:** Pizza after church at East of Chicago
- June 18:** Food Pantry, 6:00-7:30

Summer events: Girl's Day Away (June), Page's Crossing (June), Lock-In (July), Tin Caps (August). Please let Jeff or Marie know your summer schedule so we can plan these events soon!



In April, our lessons have been about budgeting time, building a solid foundation on Christ, and handling the gifts God gives us. Come and join us! Remember that UMYF is open to any youth in grades 5-12. We'd love to see you there!

S.O.S.

The February meeting of S.O.S. was at the home of Cheryl DeWeese. President Vicki Sieberns opened the meeting with a devotion about Valentine's Day. Minutes of the January meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was given. Joys and concerns were expressed. Old business: we needed \$250 to finish paying for the retreat. The committee sent out

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Just Leaning on the Rock!

by Pastor Kathy Newton



"Anyone who comes and listens to me and obeys me is like someone who dug down deep and built a house on solid rock. When the flood came and the river rushed against the house, it was built so well that it didn't even shake. But anyone who hears what I say and doesn't obey me is like someone whose house wasn't built on solid rock. As soon as the river rushed against that house,

it was smashed to pieces!"
 (Luke 6:47-49)

I've been pondering foundations lately. Want to guess why? Well anyway, Steve Schell, our General Contractor, tells me we will be pouring footers next week. Rosalie Walter, as you will remember, was taking Bibles and sending them to a Bible Ministry. While she was going through the Bibles upstairs from our library (Yes we have a library!) she discovered some Bibles that were torn and tattered. The proper way to dispose of Bibles is to bury them. Well they sure are moving a lot of dirt at the building site! Rosalie suggested that we bury them under our new building. Wasn't this a GREAT IDEA!? So sometime next week we will be burying God's Word at the four corners of your new church. Therefore, your church will have the firmest foundation built on the One true Solid Rock. Remember John 1:1-4, "In the beginning was the one who is called the Word. The Word was with God and was truly God. From the very beginning the Word was with God. And with this Word, God created all things. Nothing was made without the Word. Everything that was created received its life from him, and his life gave light to everyone."

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☞ **Loran Gifford** will celebrate a birthday on May 2, and Loran and Sherry's tenth anniversary is May 4.

☞ **Congratulations** to Jon and Mandy Bordeaux on the birth of Kai, and to Jacob and Tia Newport on the birth of Katie.

☞ **Mariah Spahr and Kory Pfister** were married April 21, 2012.

☞ **Solid Rock welcomes** new members Robby Bolinger and Mary Ann Holmes.

April Special Music

April 1	Perry Spahr
April 8	Mixed Choir
April 15	God's Call
April 22	Matt Walter
April 29	Praise Team

Decision time again

Another year, another decision. June of 1960, there was no decision to make. I had finished my first half year of teaching, and would begin my second the day after Labor Day, traditionally the day a new school year began "back in the old days." June of 1997, the decision was to retire. That decision was good for two months. The rationalization used to accept a position at WMU was "it's *only part-time*." Six years later, the move to Warren, precipitated finding another half-time job, just "to get acquainted in a new area."

Nine years since that decision was made. The year has been decidedly difficult. The position of my daughters has been expressed. Their opinion is based solely on my age. They have assured me it is time to retire because "rocks don't live" as long as I have been teaching. My head tells me they have my best interest in mind. Yet, my heart says, "Please, God, maybe one more." It is impossible for me to imagine how to spend my time without having interactions with students. The joy of teaching is in knowing that as a teacher, I touch the future ... a future I may never have the opportunity to experience. The joy also comes from knowing every single day is an opportunity for delight, while waiting for the unexpected.

I cannot possibly list 50+ years of stories, but will share some of my favorites. Some students were learning how to describe people; one student's observation of me (wearing a new mohair sweater) was, "You're sorta fat and fuzzy." Another kindergarten student, in comparing a group of classmates, said, "They are all wearing short-sleeve pants." And a final descriptive gem came from another kin-

dergarten child who described me to his mother as, "a wise old bird with big eyes" when she asked him why he wanted to buy me an owl figurine. He said it looked like me.

With morning announcements, the principal names every child who has a birthday that day. When he announces teachers' birthdays, he always says they are 27 years old. Several weeks ago, he mistakenly announced my birthday and my age as 27, (I wish). Children are still stopping me in the hall to say "Happy Birthday" but one of them added she did not think I was 27, because I was as tall as her mom, and her mom was 42.

In another class, bullying had been an issue. The teacher was trying to show how words can hurt and shared a childhood comment that she still remembered as being mean. Then she asked if I had a similar experience. My memory was of a friend of my father's commenting that I had "hands like a man." I was a teenager, and had been milking cows by hand, two times a day, for almost 10 years. Holding my hands up, I said the reason they never saw rings or even nail polish is I still do not want to call attention to them. Several little girls have come up to me in the halls to tell me they think my hands are pretty.

How can you "DECIDE" to walk away?

Barbara Kleinhans

Thanks!

Thank you to those who served as leaders for the Sunday evening Lenten study series: Gary Walter, Dave Spahr, Patty Hensley, Linda McHowell, Linda K. Howell, and Perry Spahr.

Rochelle DeHaven

Men's Fellowship

The Solid Rock Men's Fellowship met on April 14, 2012, at Heritage Pointe with 16 men in attendance. Randy Hensley opened the meeting with prayer. Breakfast was served by Kim's Katered Affair.

Marion Bell shared devotions from a book by Max Lucado.

The East of Chicago Pizza fundraiser on April 17 was discussed. All proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit the summer Henderson Settlement mission project.

Closing prayer was offered by David Spahr. The next meeting will be May 12, 2012.

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P.O. Box 322

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Worship Schedule

Sunday School at 9:00

Worship at 10:00

at 227 N. Main Street, Warren

Church Phone: 375-3871

Church Office

427 N. Matilda

Office Phone: 375-3873

Hours: 9 a.m. to Noon

Pastor: Rev. Kathy Newton
pastorkathy@solidrockumc.com
 Phone: 375-2329

Editor: Gary Walter
gary@solidrockumc.com

Secretary: Norma Smith
norma@solidrockumc.com

Treasurer: Rosalie Walter
rosalie@solidrockumc.com

Financial Secretary: Wanda Spahr
wanda@solidrockumc.com

News deadline for the June newsletter:
 May 20

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My prayer is that each of you will place your lives on this same foundation!

Shalom,
Pastor Kathy

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cards for a retreat get-together on March 30. New business: Daniel Collins is going on a mission trip to Hatti, March 3-10. We voted to give him \$100. Mariah Spahr asked us to serve at her wedding reception on April 21. We said we would.

The corresponding secretary reported on cards she had sent, and asked who she needed to send to. She read cards she had received. The Seasonal Committee reported that they took food to the Teresa Kriegbaum family. Cindy gave the lesson on foods in the Bible that we still use today.

A love offering was taken and will be given to two families. Prayer partners were selected and members formed the friendships and sang the benediction. Refreshments were served by Susan, Cheryl, and Tamara. Members present were Cheryl, Vicki, Brenda, Penny, Cindy, Teresa, Tamara, Jo, Mariah, Lana, and Linda McHowell. A guest present was Chris Mossburg and son Mark.

The March meeting of SOS was at the home of Teresa Kriegbaum. Vicki opened the meeting with devotions. The treasurer's report was read. Minutes were read and approved. Joys and concerns were expressed. A love offering was taken.

Old business: let Tamara or Susan know if you can help at Mariah's wedding. We voted to give \$300 to the fireworks committee. Prayer Partner is the third person to your right. Seasonal Committee had a surprise shower for Mariah. They took food to the Susan Mills family. Linda McHowell did a game for the shower and Mariah had a mouth full of gum.

A benediction was sung. Refreshments were served by seasonal committee to Jessica, Brenda, Teresa, Cindy, Linda Brineman, Lana, Martina, Taya, Linda McHowell, Penny, Jo, Marie, Cheryl, Pamela, LeAnn, Tamara, Mariah, Vicki, Kathy Collins, Susan, Pastor Kathy, and one guest, Sherry.

March Financial Update

General Offerings.....	\$10,861
General Fund Expenses.....	\$13,387
Building Fund Contributions.....	\$7,767

United Methodist Women

Women of Solid Rock United Methodist Women met April 5, 2012, for their regular early spring gathering. Eleven members were present. President Myrna Neff opened with a timely review of the evening "in the garden" with Jesus and his disciples—a stark and frightening leading toward the joy of Easter morning. A feeling of the coming joy continued with Myrna's continued recognition of a current missionary's birthday this day, and the ongoing work of a youth in mission program in Lapaz, Bolivia. In our gathering it was a joy, also, to have Carolyn Winters again present with us, after a long period of illness and loss.

We thanked God for many blessings, and these included a successful jewelry and bake sale event in February. This entitled us to seriously increase current giving to Christian mission projects, including the Lucille Raines Residence in Indianapolis, which our U.M.W. has helped support for many years. Sale profits were \$493.05.

Helen Campbell filled our "Mission Moment" with several accounts from the U.M.W. magazine, *Response*, of women's inspiring and life-changing experiences as both those who were helped or those who gave help in Jesus' name through Christian mission programs. Helen is especially happy to tell us of the life and work of her grandson in Nairobi, Kenya, Africa, working with "street kids" there.

Our group may be rekindling a former successful work of making filled school bags for children in various areas of need in our mission-served areas.

Carolyn Winters' educational program concerned the need for our organization to deal with change, so vital to mission in the world at this time—computer technology, social media, English as a second language, etc. We have been blessed, and must continue to utilize changes to sing praises and honor God in our work.

Gleanings from a letter from Vicki Stephenson, our covenant missionary at Henderson Settlement:

There are some exciting things going on here at Henderson Settlement. We just completed the closing on the purchase of a property to use for a medical/dental clinic. We are currently looking for grants (and

donations) to assist us in the cleanup and repair of the building. We are excited about the possibilities for the community we serve. The "youth center" is ready to open. It will be used for devotions, after-school games and recreation, retreats, etc. What a wonderful opportunity to be able to provide a place for our children and youth to learn about and experience Christ in addition to being part of several other educational and wholesome activities. Thank you so much for your support.

Excerpts from a letter from Henderson Settlement

"In this season of reflection and rejoicing as we prepare to celebrate Easter, it is good to think of the hope and promise of new life. Within the mission of Henderson Settlement, we desire to bring that same hope and promise of new life to individuals and families in need throughout the area served by our ministries. We are very grateful for the help you have given us over the years to enable us to reach out in the love of Christ to children, youth, seniors and families who need to be reminded that they are precious in the sight of God.

"Every time I see firsthand what is being done by our staff and many volunteers, I see how important every part of our work is to people here. When I see those in need of shelter, food, clothing, medical care, friendship and compassion receiving what they need, it warms my heart and reminds me why Henderson Settlement is here.

Please know that any help you can give us will be put to work in the most effective manner for the good of our community. I am praying that you will continue with us to serve 'the least of these' in Jesus' name."

Blessings,
Rev. Nancy Morgan,
Board President

Thanks, Mom

Dad came home to find toys all over the living room, dirty dishes stacked in the sink, clothes piled in the laundry room, beds unmade and kids still in their pajamas. The house was a wreck, like nothing he'd seen before.

Worried, Dad rushed upstairs to find Mom reading a book in bed.

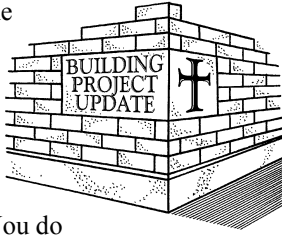
"Are you okay?" he asked. "What happened?"

"You know how you always ask what I do all day?" Mom replied. "Well, today I decided not to do it."

Building Update

Exciting things are happening at the building site. Footers are scheduled to have been poured by the time you receive this newsletter.

Photo updates are being posted regularly on Solid Rock's Facebook page. You do not need to have a Facebook account to view these pictures. A link to our Facebook page is found at the bottom of our home page, www.solidrockumc.com.



Capital Funds Update

As of April 22, Building Fund contributions total \$834,000. Of the pledged amount (\$556,000), 88%, or \$490,000 has been given. Solid Rock also received \$235,000 into the Building Fund from the Maro Wall estate.

Father, we come here to worship you. May our worship be sincere and genuine. May we worship not only because we feel we ought but because we feel we want to. Take from



everyone here anything which would come between us and you. And when we leave, may we take our worship home with

us, that the whole of our lives may become acts of worship as we praise you in all we say and do and are; through Jesus Christ, the life of the world.

Amen.

- From *Prayers Before Worship*



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