



News From The Rock

September 2014

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

Bread of Life Food Pantry

Mission Statement: Neighbors helping neighbors focus on helping children who may go without basic food and personal supplies because of circumstances out of their control.

Bread of Life Food Pantry is located at the Knight-Bergman Center. The Pantry is monitored by three ministers from WAMA and three board members from the KBC.

Any person living in the 46792 zip code may come to the Pantry twice a month. The Pantry is open every Wednesday from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m.

Volunteers from six area churches take turns operating the Pantry every six weeks. Volunteers bag groceries and supplies, stock shelves, and take groceries to cars. They also visit with families waiting for their food requests to be filled.

Twelve local churches help provide all the food items needed to prepare Thanksgiving and Easter dinners. The Boy Scouts prepare and fill the boxes with donated items.

In July, 2014, 256 people from 76 homes received food and supplies, including 116 children age 18 and under, 128 adults age 19-60, and 12 adults 61 and older.

The Food Pantry accepts donations of surplus groceries, fresh fruits and vegetables, meat processed at licensed packing centers, personal supplies for hygiene, and home cleaning products. The Pantry also accepts good used books, magazines, children's toys, hats, scarves, and gloves.

If you are interested in volunteering or donating, contact Rochelle DeHaven or the church office.



Help with our mortgage

Thank you to those who have continued to donate to the Building Fund. Since some of that money has now be designated for "Principal Only," we have come up a little short for the mortgage payment the last two months. Our mortgage payment is \$2766 per month, so we are asking all who can contribute to do so and mark it for the "Building Fund." Thank you all for your past and future generosity.

Solid Rock Veterans Day Celebration

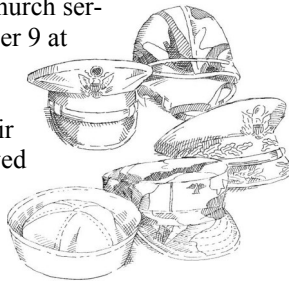
Solid Rock is planning a Veterans Appreciation Day on Sunday, November 9. Solid Rock is inviting veterans and their families to the church service on November 9 at 10:00 a.m., and to dinner for the veterans and their guests to be served at 5:30 with entertainment at 6:30.

This is a call-out to all the creative members of Solid Rock, to name the event. Please send ideas to gina@wssbbs.com or drop off at Bolinger's Propane /Warren Service & Supply's office, 104 N. Wayne St., Warren. A banner will be placed out beside SR 5 to invite veterans and their family to this event. This is where "the name" is needed!

Officially, Veterans Day is Tuesday, November 11. Our goal is to show all veterans our love and support on the Sunday before, in order to help bring awareness to Tuesday the 11th!

Please stay tuned for more information in future church bulletins and October's newsletter. Volunteers will be appreciated for cooking, serving, singing and entertaining!

Please help us join in the appreciation of our veterans on Sunday, November 9th! Thank you. If you have any questions, please call Gina at 375-2556.



Just Leaning on the Rock!

by Pastor Kathy Newton



Matthew 7:16-18 "You can tell what they are by what they do. No one picks grapes or figs from thornbushes. A good tree produces good fruit, and a bad tree produces bad fruit. A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot produce good fruit."

Is there any among you who would like to bear good fruit? I know I would. Are we as a church bearing good fruit? If we bear none or bear bad fruit then we are only fit for the fire.

"My prayer for Solid Rock is that we bear good fruit for the Kingdom of God."

My prayer for Solid Rock is that we bear good fruit for the Kingdom of God. That is, we will grow in faith becoming stronger, closer disciples

of Christ and that we might help others to see Christ and the need of Him in their lives.

Coming in October we, the whole church, will have an opportunity to learn how we might bear good fruit for the Kingdom. I ask that you plan on participating the weekend of October 31- November 2. This will include one-on-one interviews on Friday, an all-day workshop on Saturday, and culminate with worship on Sunday morning. That's right! It's a FULL weekend. I hope you will put this on your calendar and participate so that we as a church might become more fruitful.

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Kathy

July Financial Update

General Offerings	\$12,281
General Fund Expenses	\$16,718

Attention: All Solid Rockers

We put a note in the newsletter. Please let us know if you are available to help with funeral dinners, even if you have helped before. We need fresh ideas and more hands. Some of us are aging and aren't as fast. We also need strong backs to help with tables and chairs.

Thanks for helping
Joenita Keller

Thank you

To my church family,

I wanted to say thank you for awarding me a \$200 Solid Rock scholarship. It is truly a blessing to receive, as without it I would not be able to afford my books for the coming semester. I will be a senior at

News From The Rock is published each month by

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 485 Bennett Drive, Warren
Church Phone: 375-3871

Church Office

Office Phone: 375-3873
Hours: 9 a.m. to Noon

Pastor: Rev. Kathy Newton
pastorkathy@solidrockumc.com
Phone: (765) 210-4368

Editor: Gary Walter
gary@solidrockumc.com

Office Manager: Norma Smith
norma@solidrockumc.com

Treasurer: Rosalie Walter
rosalie@solidrockumc.com

Financial Secretary: Wanda Spahr
wanda@solidrockumc.com

News deadline for the October
newsletter: September 21

the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne, majoring in Art History with a minor in English Literature.

Thank you so much again for the scholarship!

God Bless,
Rachel Decker

Tree of Warmth

We will be doing Tree of Warmth for the Christmas season. The last time we furnished three schools, Salamonie, Andrews, and Southern Wells, with hats, gloves, and scarves, approximately 40 to 45 of each to each school.

Please be thinking about this when shopping. This will happen in December.

Thanks,
Joenita Keller

SOS

Highlights of the August 14, 2014 meeting:

- A devotion about burdens and how God created us to help each other was given by Jessica Barry.
- Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.
- Joys and Concerns were shared.
- A lesson on prayer boxes was led by Sherry Gifford.
- A love offering was collected and given to Solid Rock card ministry to aid with expenses from Kare for a Kid.
- Old Business
 - Retreat discussed. Retreat planning committee to meet and work towards finalizing retreat plans.
 - Fundraisers discussed. Noted that leftover rummage will need to be delivered to the Bargain Basement as they will not pick it up.
 - Quotes received for new SOS shirts. Mock-ups to be obtained so design can be finalized.
- New Business
 - Discussed new playground equipment need for Tower Park. SOS to help with future fundraisers held by the town.
 - KitchenAid® Cook for the Cure plate discussed (<https://cookfortheure.kitchenaid.com/pass-the-plate/>). SOS has one plate and will start passing it around to raise money for Komen.
 - Volunteers for funeral dinner obtained at meeting.

- Agreed to help with Scarecrow Festival if SOS is asked to participate.
- Committee report
 - Baby shower held for Allison Voght
- Prayer partners were assigned and the meeting was adjourned with prayer and a sung benediction.
- Attendance: 17
- Next meeting: 9/11/14 at Lana Myers' house with Jessica Barry presenting the lesson.

Dear Solid Rock Church Family,

My grandmother loved nature! She loved to explore the world around her, photograph it, water color it, collect things she found along the way, press it between two pieces of waxed paper, and admire it in vases in her home.

Howard clipped and brought her flowers he grew in their yard. When the boys and I visited we always came bearing a vase of flowers and she was always excited to get a

delivery. My parents, Andrew, and I came to visit two weeks before she died and Andrew picked out a beautiful bouquet to give her for her room. Her eyes lit up when she saw it.

Later that afternoon we took her outside to look at the beautiful gardens around Heritage Pointe. She wasn't communicating very much with us this day. On occasion she would nod her head yes or no. This was startling to Andrew (age 7) who had always had his great-grandmother's undivided attention. He walked by the side of her wheel chair and was astounded by a humongous red hibiscus. He reached out to touch it and said, "Grandma Jean, LOOK at this flower! It's so big and soft." For the first time that day I could tell she heard what someone said to her and understood what was said to her. She lifted her hands up, touched the flower, and said "beautiful." That was one of the last words I would ever hear her speak.

Thank you for sending flowers to her funeral service. They were lovely. Later that day my cousins Chris and Diane (my grandma's only nieces) and I collected all

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

the empty vases from my grandma's room and we used ALL the flowers that were sent that day to create beautiful arrangements that we then delivered during the dinner hour to the residents on the floor where my grandma had lived. It filled my heart to make them smile and to hear them thank us for such a beautiful unexpected delivery.

On behalf of the Smethurst family we extend our gratitude to you.

Sincerely,
Brooke Smethurst-Stahle

Youth Fellowship

Solid Rock UMYF is having a birthday party drive for the Food Pantry. During the month of September they will be collecting cake mixes, canned icing, balloons, birthday napkins, birthday plates, birthday candles, gift bags, and other small birthday party items. They will be using these to create birthday gifts bags to give to the food pantry to distribute to families of children and teens when it is their birthday. This is a goal the youth created from their retreat this summer to focus on the practice of risk-taking mission and service. Thank you!



Upcoming Events

- August 30: Pancake Breakfast, 11:00, Knight-Bergman Center
- September 7: Meeting, 6:45-8:15
- September 14: Pizza after church at East of Chicago
- September 21: Meeting, 6:45-8:15
- October 5: CROP Walk, 2:00
- October 12: Pizza after church at East of Chicago
- October 18: Fall Party
- November 1: Fruitful Congregations Meeting at church

Typhoon survivors enter new homes

In the nine months following the devastating Typhoon Haiyan which struck the Philippines and left hundreds of thousands of people homeless, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) has been supporting the construction of new homes for typhoon-affected families.

Today, families, including that of Roger

Modesto are enjoying their new homes in Calogcog, a community located in the municipality of Tanauan, Leyte Province, which was destroyed by the category five super storm.

"This house is for my children and grandchildren.

I ask God for continued blessings,"

Modesto said. Since this disaster, the United Methodist Committee

on Relief (UMCOR) has been focusing its recovery efforts on the reconstruction of 200 permanent homes for the most vulnerable families in Calogcog. The reconstruction was made possible through a \$2.7 million grant approved by UMCOR's board of directors last April.

Calogcog is a community of 300 families. It experienced approximately 200 fatalities during the Typhoon. About 220 homes of a total 243 were completely destroyed. The need to provide high-quality permanent shelter became the first step to re-establishing a thriving local community.



Response to spread of Ebola

As the Ebola virus spreads in Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia, The United Methodist Church continues to be present and respond through West African United Methodist church leaders and regional health boards, denominational health facilities, missionaries, and the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). The church has three hospitals and five clinics in Sierra Leone and one hospital and three clinics in Liberia.

The outbreak, which began in Guinea in February, has spread to Sierra Leone and Liberia, infecting more than 1,600 people and killing at least 887. This infectious disease causes hemorrhagic fevers, with a mortality rate between 50 and 90 percent. It has no known cure.

An initial \$25,000 grant from UMCOR to the Sierra Leone Annual Conference provided United Methodist health centers with material to protect health workers and prevent contagion and to construct an isolation unit at Mercy Hospital. A \$50,000 UMCOR grant to the ACT Alliance was used to help build isolation centers, conduct workshops and educate communities about the virus, and to raise awareness about prevention. UMCOR is partnering with Medical Assistance Programs (MAP) to send urgently needed supplies and personal protective equipment to Sierra Leone and Liberia. The

kits include gloves, aprons, masks, goggles, rubber boots, and plastic sheets.

The bottom shelf

I used to think that God's gifts were on shelves one above the other and that the taller we grew in Christian character, the more easily we should reach them. I find now that God's gifts are on shelves one beneath the other and that it is not a question of growing taller but of stooping lower, and that we have to go down, always down, to get his best gifts.



The easy way

In *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction*, Eugene H. Peterson maintains that the path to a blessed life is pretty obvious:

"Everyone wants to be happy, to be blessed. Too many people are willfully refusing to pay attention to the One who wills our happiness and ignorantly supposing that the Christian way is a harder way to get what they want than doing it on their own. They are wrong. God's ways and God's presence are where we experience the happiness that lasts. Do it the easy way."

Peterson concludes those thoughts by quoting Psalm 128:1 from *The Message*, the translation he authored: "All you who fear GOD, how blessed you are! how happily you walk on his smooth straight road!"



Showing some spine

Because of a back injury, a teacher had to wear a plaster cast around his upper body. It fit under his shirt and wasn't noticeable at all. On the first day of school, still wearing the cast, he walked confidently into a classroom full of rowdy students.

After giving a lecture and assignment, the teacher opened the window and busied himself at his desk. When a strong breeze made his tie flap, he grabbed his stapler and stapled the tie to his chest. Needless to say, the teacher had no trouble with discipline that year.

Heavenly thoughts

What is heaven going to be like? Just as there is a mystery to hell, so there is a mystery to heaven. Yet I believe the Bible teaches that heaven is a literal place. Is it one of the stars? I don't know. I can't even speculate. The Bible doesn't inform us.

I believe that out there in space where there are one thousand million galaxies, each a hundred thousand light years or more in diameter, God can find some place to put us in heaven. I'm not worried about where it is. I know it is going to be where Jesus is.

—Billy Graham

T.H.I.N.K.

British evangelist Alan Redpath suggested these five helpful questions to ask yourself before you speak:

- T — Is it True?
- H — Is it Helpful?
- I — Is it Inspiring?
- N — Is it Necessary?
- K — Is it Kind?

A prayer for grace

Jesus, my Brother and Lord, I pray for the grace
to be truly poor before you,



to recognize and accept my weakness and humanness,
to forgo the indecent luxury of self-hatred,
to celebrate your mercy and trust in your power when I'm at my weakest,
to rely on your love no matter what I may do,
to seek no escapes from my innate poverty,
to accept loneliness when it comes instead of seeking substitutes,
to live peacefully without clarity or assurance,
to stop grandstanding and trying to get attention,
to do the truth quietly without display,
to let the dishonesties in my life fade away,
to belong no more to myself,
not to desert my post when I give the appearance of staying at it,
to cling to my humanity,
to accept the limitations and full responsibility of being a human being —
really human and really poor in Christ our Lord.

—Brennan Manning, *Reflections for Ragamuffins*

