

News From The Rock

September 2018

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Getting to know Family Ministry Coordinator, John Pearson II

I was born and raised in Grant County, Indiana. I am very thankful for being raised in a Christian home, where we all were very active in our church, Westview Wesleyan.

My father (John) works in maintenance at American Woodmark, and my mother (Lorena) is a 3rd grade teacher at Lakeview Christian. I have one older sister (Janna) who is married (Simon), and they have two kids (Gavin and Cason).



Stacie was born and raised in Congo, where her parents (Ken and Debbie) served as missionaries. Stacie's parents are currently serving in Zambia. Stacie has one younger brother (Josh) who is married (Kelly), and they have two kids (Emma and Lucas). Stacie and I actually met in elementary school (my mom was her 3rd grade teacher), but we did not become friends until high school.

On December 3, 2007, as a senior in high school, I was diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia called APLM. I was classified as in remission on January 15, 2008, but continued with several follow up treatments for the next year and a half. At some point I would love to share my testimony with you.

Stacie is currently a registered nurse at Marion General working in the family birthing center. She is also taking online classes through Indiana Wesleyan for her

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Family Ministries Update

Kids Club starts on Thursday, September 6, from 5:00-6:30 p.m. and will run for six weeks. We are having a "Back-2-School Bash" on September 8, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. to re-kickoff our youth ministry. The "Back-2-School Bash" is for grades 5 through 12. This is going to be a time for games and getting to know each other.



We will be starting to have a youth group (5th-12th) once a week starting on either September 9 or September 12, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Please bring in a copy of sports/other activities that your kids are involved with for John Pearson. I am also open to attending field trips or other school events with your kids.

Intentional Faith Development Small Groups

Solid Rock Intentional Faith Development Small Groups will begin fall sessions the week of September 16 and continue for 10 weeks. Intentional faith development refers to ministries, outside of weekly worship, that help people grow in faith and in their understanding of and love for God. It is the goal of each group to provide an environment in which participants can experience authentic community and spiritual growth in an open, non-threatening setting.

Watch for a bulletin insert describing group offerings. Signups will begin on Sunday, September 2.



from
Pastor Paul

Does fellowship with people at church make you happy? Does fellowship with God make you happy? The Apostle John says in his first letter to the Church that his goal in writing was to "make our joy complete." (1 John 1:4) He says the means for finding this

"complete joy" is through having fellowship with God, and with the community of followers of Jesus Christ. (1 John 1:6-7)

The word *fellowship* is defined as "companionship; friendly association; a mutual sharing; a group of people with the same interests." (Webster Concise 2ed) Translated from the Greek, the word fellowship is *kononia*: meaning — a deep closeness and connection; a spiritual unity.

The common connection for Christians is our shared faith in Jesus Christ. This shared life in Christ is described as living in the light. Light suggests truth and moral purity. Most of us would never choose to live in darkness if we had the choice. It is easier and more effective to live in light than in darkness. John says, "God is light." (1 John 1:5) God wants us to choose to live in Him.

A joyful life is one that is lived continually in the light of God's presence, God's truth and moral integrity. A life of truth and moral integrity is a life that is positive,

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Our Vision: Sharing and experiencing the life-giving message of Jesus, to restore wholeness and build an intentional community of hope, relationship, and purpose for everyone.

Charge Conference

Charge Conference has been set for 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 10, at D & B Kruse Museum (National Military History Center), 5634 County Road 11A, Auburn, IN (Just west off of I-69.) It will be preceded by NE District Equip Leadership Conference which starts at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome, and encouraged, to attend the conference preceding the charge conference.

In the meantime, we will be asking several of you for input concerning information that will be shared. The Nominations Committee will be working diligently to fill leadership positions in the church during the month of September. Many of you will be contacted and we are asking that you

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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

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday

9:00 a.m. - Noon

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News deadline for the October newsletter: September 23

prayerfully consider remaining in the position you are already serving in, or whether you would like to serve in another capacity. If you would like to be replaced or are interested in serving in another capacity please contact Pastor Paul.

“Feasting on the Word” Bible Study

During the month of September we will be dealing with four different books of the Bible. On Labor Day we will look at “Practical Christian Instructions (labors).”

For our second study we will turn to the prophet Hosea who looks at “God’s Great Compassion.” On September 17, Psalm 104 will be a review of “God’s Supreme Greatness.”

Finishing out the last Monday of the month, our study will look at the Gospel of Luke, sharing in one of the healing miracles, “What Do You Have to Do with Me?”

You are urged to come and participate in looking at ways God is leading Solid Rock to be a part of His kingdom. Our meeting time is 7:00 p.m., and the place is the kitchen of the church. Do join with us!

- September 3: Philippians 4:1-9 (Joe Haney, leader)
 - September 10: Hosea 11:1-11 (Perry Spahr, leader)
 - September 17: Psalm 104:1-19, 24 (Jorita Banter, leader)
 - September 24: Luke 8: 26-39 (Joe Haney, leader)
- Join us in our feasting.

United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women met August 2, 2018, at Heritage Pointe. Barbara Hart welcomed everyone and gave an opening devotion. All attending joined in reciting the Purpose of United Methodist Women.

Prayer Calendar was for our mission focus on Scott’s Run Settlement Home in Osage, West Virginia. The birthday of the month was Tara Miller, US2, August 4. The US2 program led Tara to Mary’s Place in Seattle,



Washington. Her term ended in 2013. She is now working there as a shelter coordinator.

Bernie Garrett asked for joys and concerns and offered prayer.

The Mission Moment was given by Sue Beeks, ending with the singing of “In the Garden.”

Roll call, secretary, and treasurer reports were given.

A program, “God’s Word: The Sacred Space for Encountering God,” was led by Doris Souers, with members assisting in readings of God’s Word from the book of Luke 24:13-35, Acts 8:26-40, and 2 Timothy 3:14-17. The program concluded by all singing “Jesus Loves Me,” and reciting the benediction.

The next meeting will be September 6 at the Calico Room at 9:30 a.m. Martha Plummer will give the Mission Moment and Mick McNany will lead the program.

The challenge of Scripture

GQ magazine recently included the Bible on a list of 21 books not worth reading, calling the text “repetitive” and “foolish” (among other things). Pushback came from both secular and religious folks. Writing in *USA Today*, Tim Swarens argued that even if you don’t believe in God, the Bible helps you understand Western culture, history, current events and your neighbors.

For Christians, the Bible — God’s inspired Word — reveals God’s love and will. It isn’t always easy to read or process, but no other book contains such good news.

As Danielle Shroyer writes in *Original Blessing*, “Scripture is a sacred book meant to provoke us in ways that will move us toward God. And often, that is the very last thing we are looking for. We would rather have an answer, a simple plan, even a nicely tidy moral story. But Scripture gives us none of these things, because the holy is anything but domestic. We go looking to find a plan and instead are sent on a treasure hunt.”

- “Intelligence is knowing the right answer. Wisdom is knowing when to say it.”
—Tim Fargo
- “If you want your children to turn out well, spend twice as much time with them, and half as much money.”
—Abigail Van Buren
- “The happiest people don’t have the best of everything, they just make the best of everything.”
—Unknown

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effective, and meaningful. Those who live in darkness are confused and cause harm to themselves and others as they stumble about trying to grasp at some unidentified happiness. We all are attracted to the darkness at times, but it is crucial to recognize that darkness really stands for everything that is the opposite of what is most cherished in life. God is light!

The Church is called to be a community of light. We share the light of the presence of the Holy Spirit living inside of us. We share the joy of salvation through Jesus Christ. We share the freedom of a God-directed morality. We share the truth of a worldview that is revealed by God in His eternal Word.

There is nothing in this world that gives greater joy than being in God's flock and following Jesus the Good Shepherd. No matter what denomination or church a person belongs to, we still share a common central goal: to follow Jesus Christ in the way of light.

I am thankful to the Lord for having fellowship with all of us through Jesus Christ, and I am thankful for all of you having fellowship with me. I pray that the interior Light of God's Spirit will give each of us an unshakeable joy.

See you Sunday,
Pastor Paul

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master's degree in nursing with the goal of becoming a nurse practitioner. I love spending time with my girls, Stacie, Abbie (3), and Hannah (1.5). We are excited about our third bundle of joy due on September 24. We are waiting until delivery to find out the gender.

I have a list of many hobbies that include blacksmithing/bladesmithing, hunting deer and coyotes, fishing, and riding motorcycles. I also love to watch and play sports, with my favorites being football and soccer.

I am very excited for this opportunity and to be part of the Solid Rock family. I look forward to getting to know everyone over the next few months.

July Financial Update

General Offerings \$17,115
General Fund Expenses \$12,524
Mortgage Balance..... \$33,025

All-levels Fitness, Tuesdays @ 6pm Sept. 4th - Dec. 4th and Jan. 1st - Apr. 30th

Focused on stewarding our bodies for God's work.

One hour cardio/core/strength, customized to the attendees.

Low joint impact, safe for pre/post-partum or working w/most injuries, progressions can be detailed and challenging enough for advanced athletes.

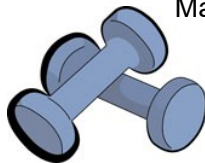
Kelly holds a B.S. Kinesiology, former ballet & contemporary dancer, and has been a personal trainer for ages 12-85 for 15 years.

Mats and weights provided, wear stretchy clothes & clean minimal shoes or non-slip socks.

Not sure? Ask for more details!

kellymcbangs@gmail.com

(260) 375-2223



SOS

SOS met at the home of Teresa Kriegbaum on August 9. There were 13 members and two guests in attendance.

The meeting was called to order by President Kodi Elliot giving the devotions entitled "The Lifeguard."

The minutes for the July meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer's Report was given.

The lesson was given by Shannon Rogers on Your Medications and How to Use Them.

Joys and concerns were spoken by the members and prayer was led by Kodi.

Old business was discussed and a few new items were introduced under New Business.

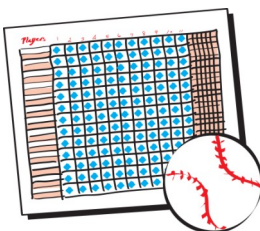
The love offering was collected. The monies collected each month are given to a local resident or organization who is in need of funds.

Prayer partners for the next month will be the third person to your right. Next meeting will be September 13 at the church with Martina Cocklin as hostess. Pamela Hensley will act as co-hostess; Cindy Boxell will present the lesson.

The meeting was adjourned with the singing of our benediction.

Keeping score

Baseball purists often delight in keeping detailed score-cards. So do many Christians — often unknowingly. Do you give yourself "credit" for your years in the faith? for the number of services or studies you attend? for the good deeds you per-



form? for the Bible verses and creeds you know by heart?

In Philippians 3:4-6, Paul recites his impressive scorecard, yet despite those credentials, he couldn't earn God's favor. Neither can we. Our tallies are all "loss" (v. 7) when compared to the righteousness that comes through faith in Christ (v. 9).

Attending church, serving and memorizing Scripture are good things. But we do them not to get right with God but because we are right with God — through Jesus.

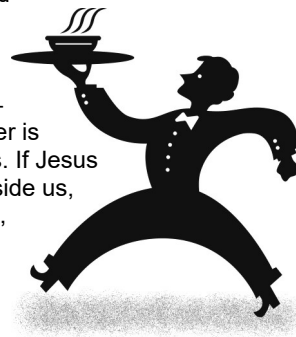
What spills out?

Rev. Henry Wingblade once compared the Christian personality to the unseen soup in a bowl carried high over a waiter's head.

No one knows what's inside — unless the waiter is bumped or trips. If Jesus is truly living inside us, Wingblade said, what spills out should be the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, pa-

tience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

When you falter, what do people see? How can your "spillage" better reflect the Holy Spirit, who lives in you?



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Homecoming Celebration to be held November 4

Solid Rock's Homecoming Celebration is Sunday, November 4. All veterans, active duty and their families, and passed veterans' families are invited to be honored at the celebration at 10:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.



Please contact Gina Canady at (260) 375-2556 if you are eager to share your talents or culinary delights for this special event. Watch for more information in future bulletins and newsletters. Volunteers will be appreciated for cooking, serving, and entertaining. Please help Solid Rock show appreciation to our most honorable guests on Sunday, November 4!

A morning prayer

At the start of a day, who can tell what a day may bring forth? Cause me therefore, gracious God, to live every day as if it were to be my last, for I know not but that it may be such. Cause me to live now as I shall wish I had done when I come



to die. O grant that I may not die with any guilt on my conscience, or any known sin unrepented of, but that I may be found in Christ, who is my only Savior and Redeemer.

—Thomas à Kempis

