



News From The Rock

September 2009

Solid Rock United Methodist Church • Warren, Indiana

Administrative Council

The Solid Rock Administrative Council met on August 18. At this meeting, the Council learned from the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee that Norma Smith has been given the responsibilities of office manager to relieve some of Pastor Kathy Newton's workload.

Architect Brian Hollars will present a building plan update to the congregation on August 23. The congregation will vote on August 30 to determine if a capital funds campaign will take place this fall.

The worship service on September 6 will take place at 10:00 at the Knight-Bergman Center. A community breakfast will be served from 8:00 to 9:30.

The youth group is meeting on the first and third Sundays of each month. They will split into junior high and high school groups for discussions.

The Lay Leadership (Nominations) Committee presented a slate of proposed officers for 2010.

Pastor Kathy presented an "off-site" ministry opportunity for the Council's consideration. The Lightning Five building, including all appliances, is available for rent. Pastor Kathy would like to see Solid Rock develop a ministry at a second, less "church-like" location, providing an environment which would be attractive to youth and young adults. Council unanimously agreed that Pastor Kathy and others from the church should continue to investigate the possibility of using this site for expanded ministry.

Joenita Keller reported that Perry Spahr will teach a new seventh-eighth grade class. Junior high and high school students have been meeting together, but there are now enough junior high students to establish a separate class. Sunday school promotion will be August 30.

Several have expressed interest in participating in a missions trip to Henderson Settlement. The cost would be \$30 per day for food and lodging. Oma Zent will pursue planning for this trip.

(Continued on page 3)

Kids Club

September 2–November 18
6:30–7:30

Kids, come join us for Kids Club as



we examine Jesus' parables and learn how to apply them in our lives.

Lessons include "Using Your Talents for God,"

"Bearing Fruit," "Counting the Cost," "Jesus is Priceless" and more. As always, there will be games, snacks, crafts, and lots of fun!

United Methodist Youth Fellowship

UMYF is planning a fall party, so be on the lookout for more information. All youth ages 5th grade through grade 12 are invited to come.

They should contact the leaders, Marie DeWeese, Barb Preston, Randy Neff, or Jeff Walter if they have any questions.

Meeting schedule:

- September 6, "Self-Confidence"
- September 20, "Good Relationships"
- October 4, "Anger"
- October 18, "Bad Language/Choices"

All meetings are from 4:00 to 5:30.



Thank you

The S.O.S. gals would like to thank everyone who helped with our food booth this year. We are so blessed to have such a wonderful church family that is willing to

Just Leaning on the Rock!

by Pastor Kathy Newton



Joh 8:32 "You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

I was recently surfing the Internet for information on a particular subject. One of my searches sent me to a site some of you

"What I have arrived at is that truly the truth will set us free"

may or may not be familiar with. The site's name is snopes.com. This website offers ratings of true or not true concerning just about

anything you might hear or read. I found it interesting, and of course lost track of time while researching the capabilities of this particular site. What I have arrived at is that truly the truth will set us free. No I'm not referring to the truth of snopes.com, although that has interesting tidbits. I refer instead to the truth that we know and love, the truth of Jesus as Lord and Savior. It is in His grace that we find true freedom. It cannot be experienced on a website or in knowledge but in wisdom offered as we believe what we know to be true.

help.

Thanks so much for all those who helped with the float. It's great to see so many come, use your talent, and fellowship with one another.

Thanks, too, for all who helped hand out the much-appreciated water. All these together help make a successful parade.

The bridge

"To confess your sins to God is not to tell him anything he doesn't already know. Until you confess them, however, they are the abyss between you. When you confess them, they become the Golden Gate Bridge."

—Frederick Buechner



☞ **July offerings** totaled \$14,307. Building Fund contributions for the month were \$1,481.

☞ **Children's church** for kindergarten to fourth graders will begin meeting Sunday, September 13.

☞ **Bible Study** at John and Doris Souers will resume on Wednesday, September 9, at 6:30 p.m. We are going to be studying the book of Colossians. Come join us. All are welcome. For more information, call 260-356-8482.

☞ **Matt and Lianna Walter** are parents of a new son, Logan Alexander, born August 14. Solid Rock grandparents are Gary and Rosalie Walter, and Jerry and Lois Walter are great-grandparents. He

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P.O. Box 322
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www.solidrockumc.com

Worship Schedule

Sunday School at 9:00
Worship at 10:00
at 227 N. Main Street, Warren

Office: 375-3873
Church: 375-3871 or 375-3872
Parsonage: 375-3873

Pastor: Rev. Kathy Newton
pastorkathy@solidrockumc.com

Editor: Gary Walter
gary@solidrockumc.com

News deadline for the October newsletter: September 20

joins sister Merisa.

☞ **Clark and Dana Spahr** welcome a new son, Kellan Clark, joining brother Kael. Solid Rock grandparents include Perry and Tamara Spahr, great-grandparents are David and Wanda Spahr, and great-great grandparents are George and Vera Spahr.

What's in a name?

Another school year has begun, and the guessing about students' names is one of the first challenges each teacher faces. Not only is the pronunciation of unfamiliar surnames an issue, but also the thought, "Did this child's parent have any idea the cross the student with a non-traditional given name would bear throughout his or her academic years?"

My own daughters, through no fault of their own, have no middle names. Don't ask Who knows what was in my head fifty years ago. They have bemoaned their fate since the first day of kindergarten, and with each subsequent, new teacher. Every time they encountered a new form or a situation where they had to give their middle names or even a middle initial it was a situation needing an assurance of the lack thereof. One finally gave herself a middle name and used it on all records the rest of her school career. With the other, on her 16th birthday I offered to do the paperwork and take her to court to legally change her name.

Some incidents encountered through the years come to mind: a boy, whose real name was Chip, battled the taunts of playground bullies every year because he was expected to endure being hounded by "potato Chip" or "Chip and dip"; a mother explained to me she named her kindergarten daughter "Modess" because she saw the name on a box when she was shopping and thought it so pretty; in another class, a child was named "Phillip Morris," and one boy, named Lincoln, was always teased because he "was not a Lincoln, but only a Ford or a VW beetle."

This year's classes offer up the following: I have six girls in the third grade who are named Kaley, Kailey, Kayley, Kaileigh, Kayleigh, Kaylee. Just trying to remember which ones have the first syllable rhyming with "may" or "my" is about the only thing I focus on during the therapy periods; Samuel's name is pronounced "Samwell"; if I were a gambler, my bet would be that Cael's name would be mispronounced by a

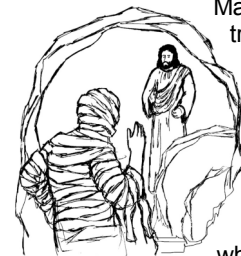
majority of guessers, the first time around, but no one would have difficulty knowing how to say "Writey," as a second grade boy is named.

A related challenge for teachers who become parents is to try to find a suitable name when welcoming a new baby to the family. The choices are always tainted by former students who managed to take the teachers to the limits of patience throughout their time together. How fortunate my girls were named, even though incompletely, before I began teaching. Can you imagine how many names I would have to avoid after 50 years as a teacher?

Barbara Kleinhans

What were they thinking?

I was teaching the story of Lazarus to my Sunday school class. "After his death, many people gathered to console Mary and



Martha," I said. "They treated Lazarus's body, wrapped him, and laid him in the tomb. After four days of mourning, Lazarus stood up and walked out of the tomb. Now, what do you think

those people were thinking then?"

One of my students spoke up: "All that work for nothing."

- Rebecca Nuesken

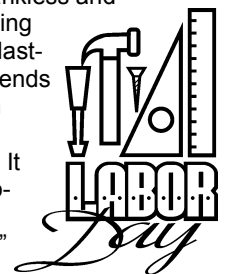
Be transformed

It's Labor Day weekend — a time to rest from our labors. But this is also an opportunity to reflect on our daily work and discern whether our effort is thankless and uninteresting or something that gives us deep and lasting satisfaction. God intends for our work to be much more than a job, much more than a daily grind. It should be, instead, a vocation — which means, quite literally, a "calling."

In Romans 12:2, Paul challenges us with the words: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God — what is good and acceptable and perfect."

The apostle's advice, then, is to be transformed by the renewing of your minds. Paul says be transformed by discovering what the Lord God is calling you to do.

- Homiletics



(Continued from *Administrative Council*, page 1)

Concern was expressed that it is difficult for nursery supervisors to communicate with anyone in the sanctuary in the event of an emergency. A number of options were discussed and will continue to be considered.

The next Administrative Council meeting is scheduled for September 15.

United Methodist Women—July Meeting

The Solid Rock United Methodist Women met on July 2 in the Calico Room at Heritage Pointe with 12 members present. Myrna Neff opened the meeting with devotions. The group repeated The Purpose. The prayer calendar was read. Joys and concerns were shared.

Mabel Fields shared an article from the June 2009 *Response*, "Our Call to Mission." Secretary and treasurer reports were given and approved. A large stack of reading point books were available for those in the reading program.

Barbara Hart presented the program, showing a film, "Searching for Peace in the Middle East," followed by discussion.

Lunch was served in the Fahl Dining Room.

United Methodist Women—August Meeting

The Solid Rock United Methodist Women met on August 6 at Heritage Pointe. For devotions, Myrna Neff read the writings of 90-year-old Regina Brett. The Purpose was read, followed by the reading of the Prayer Calendar. (James Dwyer, son of Rev. Hershel Dwyer, was on the list this month.)

Carolyn Winters led the sharing of joys and concerns. Roll call was answered by 14 women.

Helen Campbell gave the Mission Moment, telling about her grandson Dusty, a student at Pepperdine College, who spends time in Africa during the summer teaching the children to cook and the importance of cleanliness while cooking. His crew has built ovens for them to bake in. She had a



United
Methodist
Women

board of pictures showing his work in Nairobi. Bible stories are told before feeding the students. Street kids only live to approximately 22 years of age.

Next month will be election of officers for 2010. Ann Slaughter and Mick McNany are the Nominating Committee. August 22 is the Mini School of Missions at Mount Etna. September 19 will be the last meeting of the Huntington District.

Ann Slaughter presented the program, "Food Security." Helping with the program were Carolyn Winters and Margaret Bell. Ann used a 25-foot rope to represent the government spending. She said 1½ inch represented the amount spent on world hunger. Lists of our government officials were passed out encouraging us to write them.

The next meeting will be September 3. June Shideler will have the Mission Moment, and Myrna Neff will present the lesson, "The Potluck: Listen and Learn Around the Table."

Men's Fellowship

The Solid Rock Men's Fellowship met on August 8, 2009, in the Calico Room at Heritage Pointe, with 18 men in attendance.

Dave Spahr opened the meeting with prayer. Breakfast was served by Kim's Katered Affair.

Devotions were provided by Dale Smith. He read an article from Guideposts concerning learning to pray and the power of prayer

It was reported that Dean Hart and Ron Neff recently transported food donations from the Marsh warehouse in Fishers to Love, INC. Over one ton of food has been transported in the last two trips. Love, INC is currently serving 240 families.

Wendell Jackson reminded the men of the September 19 football game at Purdue University.

Closing prayer was offered by Bruce Preston. The next meeting will be September 12.

Wine for communion was an issue for many evangelical churches in the 1880s. Dr. Thomas Welch had an alternative: Dr. Welch's Unfermented Wine. In 1893 it received a new label, "Welch's Grape Juice" at its debut at the Chicago World's Fair.

Sam Bradford's strategy for success

Since the game's inception, hundreds of thousands of young men have played collegiate football, but only 74 hold the distinction of winning the Heisman Trophy. As a sophomore, Sam Bradford joins Tim Tebow as the youngest ever to be inducted into this exclusive group of gridiron stars.

"I played a million different sports when I was growing up. I started when I was probably five or six and we'd just go from activity to activity to activity," Sam said. "I think, finally my parents just realized that we were missing something in our lives. They realized that it was time for us as a family to start going to church."

Sam enjoyed going to church, and before long he made a decision that would affect the rest of his life. "I remember going every Sunday morning, just listening and learning more about the Lord. Probably after a couple of months, I really decided that I wanted to give my life to the Lord."

As a quarterback for one of the top college football programs in the country, Sam faces enormous pressure. To deal with it, he turns to the Bible for direction. "That can be a humbling experience, knowing that the weight of the team is on your shoulders. How do you deal with that?" Sam said. "That's something that I really had to deal with - not just leading the team and that pressure; but also the pressure that comes with being in college and having to go to class and keeping your grades up. I value academics. I take class really serious. So, trying to deal with football, academics, being a leader on this team, not just a part of this team [is a lot]. I think God, when you spend time with Him, and the more you read, the more He shows you by example what it is to be a leader."

One of those times came the night before his first game as a starter. Sitting in his hotel room he opened the Bible and read the story of David and Goliath.

"I read it and I really felt confident when I took the field knowing that He was right there behind me. It was something that just kind of happened to become a tradition and it's something I do before every game now. The thing that I just love about that story is that David went out there and he didn't go out there as David. He went out there as David with God and through God. I think it just proves that you're so much stronger when you do things through God, and when you live through Him than when you try to do things on your own."

One season later Sam won the most prestigious award in college football, the 2008 Heisman Trophy, as quarterback for the University of Oklahoma.

- Jonathan Cyprowski and Shawn Brown

Benefit Dinner for Love, INC

September 13

11:00 a.m. to
1:00 p.m.

Knight-Bergman
Center



Home-made beef and
noodles • Baked chicken •
Green beans • Salads •
Drinks • Desserts

Adults: \$7.00 • Children \$3.50

"I do not feel obliged to believe that the
same God who has endowed us with
sense, reason, and intellect has intended
us to forgo their use."

- Galileo Galilei

A prayer for our church

Lord Jesus, we pray that you will somehow
give us ears to hear, hearts to
love and wills devoted to serve;
that in the days to come this
congregation may be known not
for our glory but for thine alone –
a congregation of people who
know you; that this place may
be an oasis, a place where
people come to find out about
you, where lives are straightened
out and made whole, where
people find the peace that passes understanding.

Give us, we pray, a heart to desire these
things above all else. We pray through Jesus
Christ. Amen.



2009

September



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