



The Echo... October, 2018

The church newsletter of Rossville United Methodist Church - Rossville, IN

BOB NOTES...

I submitted the following article for the *Lessons from the Heart* column which was scheduled to appear in the September 26th issue of *The Carroll County Comet*. -*Pastor Bob Raschka*

Building Your House On...?

The news surrounding the devastation caused by Hurricane Florence is difficult to imagine for many of us folks who have lived our whole lives in an area of the country not known for hurricanes. When I heard rainfall totals in excess of 20 inches in some places, it was almost beyond comprehension. I can think of two incidents in my life where the place I was living had 5 inches of rain and 8 inches of rain at one time. The five inches caused flooded yards and streets in my hometown one summer. The eight inches hit Hammond, and the surrounding suburban areas in September 2008 and caused extensive damage to hundreds of homes, a major shopping area, a church, and closed dozens of streets, and part of I-80/94. And that was from 8 inches of rain in less than 24 hours. I cannot imagine almost three times that amount. Certainly our prayers are with the people of the Carolinas who've lost loved ones, suffered injuries, and lost property as a result of Hurricane Florence.

The onslaught of water has caused me to think about not only the damage wrought to many communities in the Carolinas but if we think about it there is a spiritual lesson. Many people who have homes in these areas have built them strong enough and on high enough ground to withstand the ravages of a hurricane. Many others heeded the warnings and evacuated the area in order to avoid the effects of the storm.

Our lives not only are affected by whatever kind of physical storm nature may throw at us, but also spiritually by the "storms of daily life". Jesus was very familiar with these storms and used the analogy to apply it to our relationship with God. In Matthew 7:24-27, at the end of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said, "Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, but it did not fall because it had been built on the rock. Everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."(NIV)

Throughout our lives we are warned that there will be difficult trials and struggles. They warned people about the hurricane for over a week before it arrived. Some people heed the warnings. Some people prepare. Some people had prepared for years by building a secure home. Some people prepare in our spiritual lives as well. They listen to the warnings. They serve the Lord. They follow the words of Jesus and put them into practice. And then when the storms of life rage, even though they are still unexpected and difficult to endure, they get through them. In time, they overcome.

Then there are other people. They ignore the warnings saying things such as "it will never happen". "It's all a bunch of alarmists trying to get us all worked up." Then one day the storm comes. They were not prepared. The house crashes with a loud noise. They are caught trying to get through whatever it was, the sudden loss of a loved one, a cancer diagnosis, or whatever tragedy all on their own. They didn't build their lives on the solid rock of the teachings of Jesus Christ. Christ's mercy is abundant however and when they call on the Lord even in the midst of the trial, God will come to them just as many have worked to rescue those who did not or were not able to heed the warnings of the hurricane and follow the evacuation orders.

My question for all of us is this. On what do we build our lives; the solid rock of putting the teachings of Christ into practice? Or, the sand of the latest fads, gimmicks, or products which are here maybe for years but one day wash away in the storms of life. Which is it for you? Let us be about building our lives on the solid rock of Jesus Christ.

Pastor Bob Raschka

Bible Study Series begins October 4th @ 7:30 pm



Our Fall Bible Study series this year is based on the Song of Solomon. Throughout the years, the Church has generally ignored this book of the Bible and the topic contained within it. However, it's high time we stop ignoring it and help to bring a healthy view of love into our lives. God designed each person with a passion and a yearning for intimacy. Whether you are young or old, single or married, how you view relationships will change you for better or worse. An entire book of the Bible deals with aspects of love, marriage, sex, and romance. It's called the Song of Solomon. *This Bible Study is intended for adults aged 18 and up and we encourage you to invite couples or individuals who do not necessarily attend our church to participate.*

This series consists of thoughtful and sometimes comical audio based sessions led by Pastor Tommy Nelson of Denton, Texas. After each 25 minute session, there will be a time for discussion. The dates for this year's Fall Bible Study are listed below:

Thursday October 4 th	7:30 pm: The Art of Attraction
Wednesday October 10 th	7:00 pm: The Art of Dating
Wednesday October 24 th	7:00 pm: The Art of Courtship Part 1
Monday October 29 th	7:00 pm: The Art of Courtship Part 2
Monday November 5 th	7:00 pm: The Art of Intimacy Part 1
Wednesday November 14 th	7:00 pm: The Art of Intimacy Part 2

The above dates are the first half of this study. The second half is scheduled for Tuesdays January 15 through February 12, 2019.



An informational class for those interested in joining the membership of Rossville United Methodist Church will be offered on Sundays October 28, November 4, and November 11 @ 4:00 pm. This class will discuss the spiritual benefits of becoming a member of the church as well as the background, organization, and history of Rossville UMC and our denomination. Those who complete the class will be eligible to officially join the membership of Rossville United Methodist Church at our worship service on THANKSGIVING SUNDAY November 18th.

Rossville United Methodist Church

110 W. Main St. P.O. Box 568
Rossville, IN. 46065
(765) 379-2981

Adult Sunday School: 9:00 am
Worship and Jr. Church: 10:15 am

Email: rossvilleumc@gmail.com

Website: rossinumc.com

Pastor: Rev. Bob Raschka

Office Manager: Brandy Marlow

Pastor contact info:

Email: bob.raschka@inumc.org

Phone: (219) 851-3167 or
765) 379-2982

Mailing address: P.O. Box 573
Rossville, IN 46065

Comfort Kitchen Outreach

Rossville United Methodist Church

110 W Main St, Rossville

Thursday, October 4

5:30—7:30 pm

Baked Potato Bar, Celery,
Carrots, Dessert, and Drink



Come ALL!
Come One!

Open to ALL ages



**Rossville United Methodist Church
110 W. Main St. Rossville, Indiana**

**TUESDAYS though OCTOBER 30th.
(will not meet Oct. 16th for Fall Break)**

6:00-7:30 pm

PRE-K through 5th grade

MUSIC

LESSONS

FUN

GAMES

SNACKS



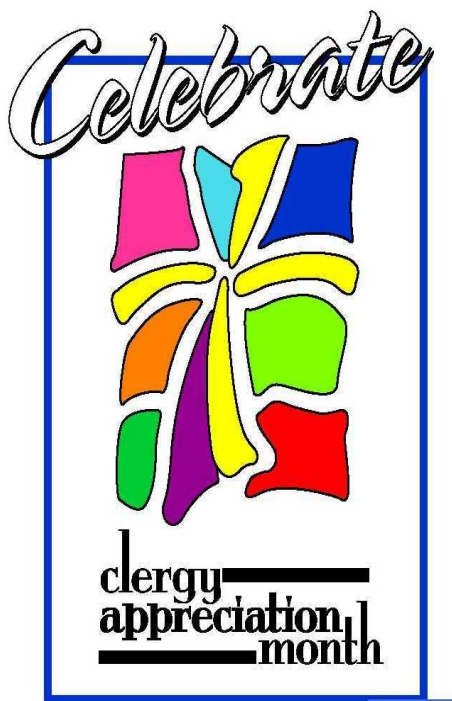
- Emily Green Oct 1
- Addison Cooper Oct 3
- Barry McCabe Oct 10
- Adrienne Shireman Oct 16



- Mike Rothenberger Oct 21
- Dawn Zobel Oct 24
- Ronin Green Oct 26
- Virginia McCabe Oct 28

Happy Anniversary

- Buzz & Nancy Disinger Oct 6th
- Michael & Vicki Rabanus Oct 6th
- Christian & Adrienne Shireman Oct 20th



Thank You to everyone who helped make this year's Chicken Noodle Dinner possible. 415 people were served and \$3,246.98 was raised to help people in need



TITHES AND OFFERINGS

September 2, 2018 \$2,244.10
 September 9, 2018 \$1,052.00



September 16, 2018 \$1,424.00

Needed Weekly for Budget \$2,272.31

