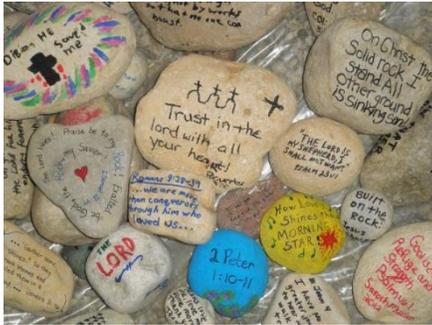


EMBRACE Celebration Weekend on April 6-8, 2019

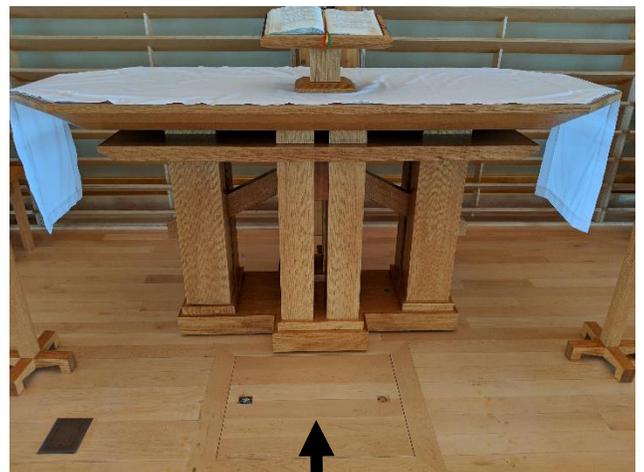
Bible and Prayer Rocks

On Palm Sunday in April of 2012, two months before the conclusion of the church building project, Morning Star followers of Jesus praised God in a unique way.



They came to worship with rocks containing Bible and prayer messages, and placed them into an opening in the floor of the chancel right below the future location of the altar. The opening below the altar was later covered with a wood door matching the chancel floor, to be used for other special occasions in the future. On EMBRACE Celebration Weekend, the future is now!

Morning Star followers of Jesus are invited to give glory to the Rock of Our Salvation in another “Bible and Prayer Rocks” event taking place during the four worship services the weekend of April 6-8. Please pick up a rock in the church entranceway to take home. Using a marker, write a Bible verse or a short prayer on your rock. This event is intended for all ages – young children can draw a simple Bible picture or Christian symbol. Rocks will be placed into the opening below the altar during these worship services.



ROCKS WILL BE PLACED HERE.

This unique event is an opportunity to celebrate the greatness of our Lord and connect to his amazing Word. You are encouraged to discuss and choose Bible messages and prayers as a family activity. To help individuals and families consider messages to write on the rocks, a short Bible study is included on the next page. Please use this opportunity to praise God from whom all blessings flow, and grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

EMBRACE

OUR LORD OUR FAMILY OUR COMMUNITY



THE ROCK OF OUR SALVATION

Read and discuss the Bible passages.

Psalm 62:1-2

Truly my soul finds rest in God;
my salvation comes from him.
Truly he is my rock and my salvation;
he is my fortress, I will never be shaken.

2 Samuel 22:47

The LORD lives! Praise be to my Rock!
Exalted be my God, the Rock, my Savior!

Psalm 19:14

May these words of my mouth and this meditation of
my heart be pleasing in your sight,
LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.

- **What descriptions about God do each of these passages provide? What words refer to God's plan of salvation through Jesus?**

Matthew 7:24-25 *The Wise and Foolish Builders*

Therefore 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; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

- **What does the word "rock" mean in this short parable? Give specific examples of what it means to build our house on the rock?**

* * * * *

Consider and Discuss What to Write on Your Rock

Using a marker, you can write . . .

Young children can draw a simple Bible picture or Christian symbol.

- ✍ **a passage or phrase from the Bible or a Christian hymn.** (examples)
 - *Exalted be my God, the Rock, my Savior!*
 - *Go and make disciples of all nations . . .*
 - *I know that my Redeemer lives.*
- ✍ **a Bible reference with book, chapter, verse.** (examples from the Bible phrases above)
 - *2 Samuel 22:47, Matthew 28:19, Job 19:25* which is also the title of hymn #152
- ✍ **a short prayer . . .**
 - that gives thanks and praise (example) *Thank you Lord for saving me.*
 - that asks for God's blessings (example) *Bless our work to reach the lost.*
 - that asks for God's help and guidance (example) *Help me stay connected to Jesus.*
 - about whatever the Holy Spirit leads you to express.