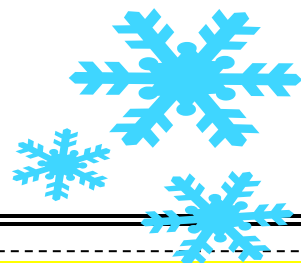




# Leap of Faith

JANUARY 2012



## 2011, A YEAR TO REMEMBER

What will you remember about 2011? Was it a year of losses or gains or more than likely some of each?

It was a year of floods, blizzards, earthquakes, tornados, hurricanes, tsunamis and wildfires. What didn't make the news were the sunny days, the days when the snow melted and we could see the grass or the spring day when we saw the first butterfly. Then, there were the days we saw the beautiful fall colors.

Some of the other headlines this year were Gabrielle Gifford got shot and her recovery, St. Louis won the world series, Green Bay Packers won the Super Bowl, Prince William & Kate Middleton wed, Elizabeth Taylor died, Osama bin Laden was killed, there was the collapse of the stage at the Indiana State Fair, dinosaur feathers were discovered in Alberta Canada, astronomers discovered new planets, Steve Jobs died, Moammar Gadhafi was killed, soldiers went home from Iraq, Joe Frazier died, and Michael Jackson's personal physician was found guilty in connection with his death.

We had our first Worship Service at the Atria Eastlake Terrace on September 25<sup>th</sup>. We made new friends with the staff and residents. It was also the first time we had a dog come to church.

I am sure you have many things both good and bad to remember from 2011. Did God

*Continued on Page 2, Column 1.....*

**COME TO WORSHIP WITH US AT THE ATRIA EASTLAKE TERRACE! EVERY SUNDAY AT 10:15 AM**



## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

We are meeting at Greenleaf Health Campus 1201 E. Beardsley Street Wednesdays, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> weeks of the month - 2:30 pm

**Fun and Fellowship!**

If you do not knit or crochet, maybe embroidery is for you. We have around 7 who attend.

We gave an assortment of hats, gloves & mittens to Beardsley School recently. Thank you to everyone who donated items! It was greatly appreciated!

## FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

St. John's collects non-perishable food items for the Church Community Services Food Pantry. We have a box designated at the front entrance of the Atria if you would like to bring your items. Volunteers pick up donations 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays. **Thank you!**

From Page 1.....start you on a new mission, a new beginning perhaps? Did He open your eyes and maybe your heart, so you see or feel things differently now? God did that for me.

I am sure I will remember 2011 as the year I broke my leg. God changed my life through that whole experience. My faith was tested a couple of times, but I knew God was with me and I could feel my faith getting stronger and more mature.

Not all our memories of 2011 are good ones, but hopefully we won't remember just the bad ones. *Remember all the times God was there with us and be thankful for all that God has given us.*

May the love of God bless your heart and soul in the year 2012.

*Mary Ellen Harris*



*In Memory of Fran Doty  
November 5, 1932 – December 9, 2011*

## *Thank You*

Lisa and I want to thank our St. John's family for all of your prayers, cards, and support. Every time I opened a card from one of you, it was like getting a comforting hug. We know we are supported by God's love. *Laura Doty*

**Consistory Meeting – Monday, Jan. 9 – 6:30 pm**

### **CONSISTORY OFFICERS FOR 2012**

President - Mary Ellen Harris  
Vice President - Jean Quillin  
Treasurer - George Adamson  
Secretary - Jan Adamson

### **CONSISTORY MEMBERS**

#### Deacons

George Adamson	Kevin Harris
Sid Dew	Dennis Harris

#### Elders

Mary Ellen Harris	Jean Quillin
Courtney Papa	Jan Adamson

***"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."***

**1 Thessalonians 5:18**

### **COMMUNION IN THE HOME**

Recently, Communion was provided to some of our shut-ins and nursing home residents who haven't been able to attend services. There were 8 people who received Communion. Pastor John von Lackum graciously gave of his time before Christmas to provide the elements with Mary Ellen Harris and Jan Adamson assisting.

If anyone else would like to receive Communion at home, please let us know.



### THE GOSPEL FOUR

Come to Worship at the Atria Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup> for a special service with The Gospel Four, a quartet from Plymouth UCC, Goshen leading our service.



### OFFERING ENVELOPES

Several people have requested offering envelopes for 2012 and they are now available. Please let Jan know, 266-9064, if you would like a box. Although we no longer have building upkeep, we would like to hire a part-time pastor soon and funding is needed for that. Please give your prayerful consideration.

### THE FUTURE OF ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

As we begin 2012, we have much to be thankful for. Even though it was sad and difficult to leave our building, we have moved to another location and it's an exciting time again to be a part of St. John's!

Many of you have said that you have not found the right church or you have not become members of another church because you still feel attached to St. John's. *We have not left you!*

Come and see for yourselves that we are still a church fulfilling a purpose in the community and are led by God.

The following are some of the things we hope to establish at our new location as God *clearly* leads our congregation forward in ministry at this time:

- Part-time Pastor, Monthly Support of Charities, Prayer Committee, Ladies Day Out, Bible Studies, Youth Program, Sunday School

If you have any suggestions, please let us know.

*Peace and A Very Happy New Year!*  
*Jan Adamson*

### JANUARY



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

- |                   |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| Wayne Knudson     | 01/02 |
| Dennis Harris     | 01/07 |
| Mary Ellen Harris | 01/07 |
| Marilyn Niblock   | 01/12 |
| George Adamson    | 01/12 |
| Janice Adamson    | 01/13 |
| Andrew Adamson    | 01/14 |
| Doris Pruitt      | 01/19 |
| Carl Knudson      | 01/22 |
| Matthew Moseng    | 01/23 |
| Terry Shelly      | 01/24 |

*There are no Anniversaries this month.*

### Did you know?.....

40 people attended our Christmas morning Worship. Thank you to Courtney Papa for leading a very inspiring service.

***“By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us.”***  
**Luke 1:78**

## JANUARY WORSHIP LEADERS

- January 1 Pastor John von Lackum  
Scripture: Mary Ellen Harris
- 8 Chaplain David Hudson, Elkhart General Hospital  
Scripture: Wayne Knudson
- 15 The Gospel Four, Plymouth UCC  
Welcome: George Adamson
- 22 Rev. John Moran  
Scripture: George Adamson
- 29 Rev. David Boothby  
Scripture: Kelly Harris

## CONTACT INFORMATION

St. John's UCC (Business Address) or 2328 Kenilworth Dr.  
P.O. Box 509 Elkhart, In 46514  
Middlebury, IN 46590  
Phone: 574-266-9064

Website: [www.stjohnsucfelkhart.com](http://www.stjohnsucfelkhart.com)  
Email: [stjohnsucfelkhart@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsucfelkhart@gmail.com)  
Face Book – Just enter St. John's United Church of Christ  
Northwest Association IKC - [www.nwaikcucc.org](http://www.nwaikcucc.org)  
Indiana-Kentucky Conference – [www.ikc.org](http://www.ikc.org)  
United Church of Christ – [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)