



Leap of Faith

January 2021

F. R. O. G.
Forever Relying On God



We always put so much hope in a new year. This is especially true this year. When that ball drops in New York City, we feel that we are fearless and can accomplish anything! This can best be illustrated by our grand new year's resolutions!

God has indeed given us a great gift to have hope. A new year provides us with a blank slate on which to write our words and deeds. As Paul said in Philippians 3:13, "Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal..."

As Christians, this goal is to be more like Christ. When He was fearful of what was ahead, He prayed. When He was exhausted, He prayed. When the crowds became too much, He went off by Himself to pray. When the people needed food, He delegated to His disciples, prayed, and there was more than enough for everyone.

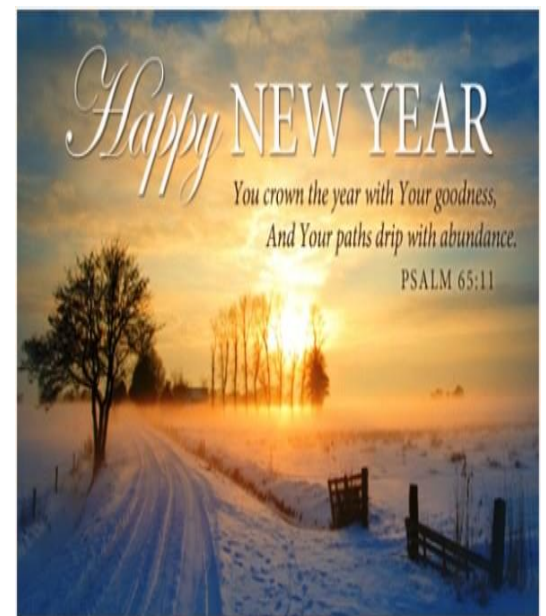
Jesus had humility and compassion toward all kinds of people. He met them on their journey, and brought them to new life. They were tax collectors, Samaritans, and many others. We would do well to emulate the life of Christ!

This new year will be full of joy and challenges.

We can gain peace by reflecting on Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." We can have hope and peace all throughout 2021 as we trust in Him. Pastor Laura

IMPORTANT DATES FOR JANUARY

- 1 – New Year's Day
- 3 – Epiphany
- 18 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day



CONSISTORY MEETING –

**Wednesday, January 6,
6:00 pm on Zoom. If you
would like to join please
contact Mary Ellen Harris.**



CHANGE FOR OTHERS



Change for Others” is our program where we collect spare change and donate it to different charities. We change charities every quarter. St. John’s then matches the amount collected. We have suspended Change for others till we have in person worship service.

PRAYER WARRIORS

The Prayer Warriors are praying for any concerns or joys you may have. You can make a request on our website stjohnsuccelkhart.com or email stjohnsuccofelkhart@gmail.com. You can also call Mary Ellen Harris, 293-7481.

JANUARY WORSHIP LEADERS

- January 03 Laura Doty, Pastor
Liturgist –
- 10 Laura Doty, Pastor
Liturgist –
- 17 Jamelle Godlewski
Liturgist –
- 24 Laura Doty, Pastor
Liturgist –
- 31 Laura Doty, Pastor
Liturgist –

Thank you to everyone for helping out!

CONSISTORY MEMBERS

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Courtney Papa (Pres) | Jean Quillin |
| Mary Ellen Harris (VP) | Wayne Knudson |
| Kelly Harris (Sec) | Edward Quillin |
| George Adamson (Treas) | |
| Dennis Harris | |

OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY

Our sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Waneta Straw. May God give you the comfort and peace that you seek and may the soul of your loved one rest in peace.



ALWAYS REMEMBER

- At Bethlehem He became God with us.
- At Calvary He became God for us.
- At Pentecost He became God in us.

Comments from the President from December 2020 Congregational Meeting

2 Corinthians “Therefore, since through God’s mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart.”

This verse is telling me that we shouldn’t give up. I still believe that God sent us to Eastlake Terrace to minister to those who could no longer get to their own church. It has been hard for me this year to not give up. At times I have felt like we were stuck and that we were no longer meeting our goal.

We have tried to stay connected to our members and residents at Eastlake. The typed sermons are mailed out very week to some members and it gets sent to Eastlake Terrace. Five newsletters get mailed out every month and it can also be found on church website.

On April 5 we started with putting recorded devotionals on our Website and on Facebook. For Easter we went around the outside of the building at Eastlake with signs, pictures and songs. Cindy and/or Laura did music on the outside of Eastlake on Sundays. We started practicing doing live tests of our service. Then we did live services on Zoom with recorded service on Website and Facebook. What a joy it was on Oct. 25 to have four residents at Eastlake Terrace join us live for our worship service on Zoom! Carol received a DVD with a couple of our services. When weather got colder, Cindy was able to play music and sing hymns inside for the residents. She was also able to connect two residents to our live service. Step by step we have started to get back to our purpose. We continued with our charitable giving. Fishers of Men was our only change for others recipient this year. As we have done in the past we gave money to four school teachers and our usually donations to UCC in One Great Hour of Sharing. Several times we donated to Church Community Services. A donation was given to Habitat for Humanity. School kits and money were donated to Church World Services. Four folding lawn chairs were given to Eastlake Terrace.

After several years of talking about a Peace Pole we finally got one. A place at Eastlake has been picked out and we will install it next year when the weather permits. At that time, we will have a dedication service.

I think we did the best we could this year and I am hoping and praying that by summer we are back at Eastlake having our worship service inside.

Thanks to everyone who helped. Our church is still alive thanks to God and all of you.

Respectfully, Mary Ellen Harris, President

FOOD FOR FOLKS

Ongoing Food Pantry Needs For Church Community Services

- Canned meat and vegetables
- Hearty soups and ready-to-heat canned pasta meals
- Cereals (hot and cold)
- Crackers
- Rice
- Pasta
- Spaghetti sauce
- Hamburger Helper-like meal helpers
- Peanut butter
- Jelly
- Condiments
- Boxed potatoes
- Toilet paper
- Soap
- Shampoo
- Deodorant
- Feminine hygiene products
- Diapers, wipes, baby shampoo and body wash
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Can openers



SUBSCRIBE TO PRAYER

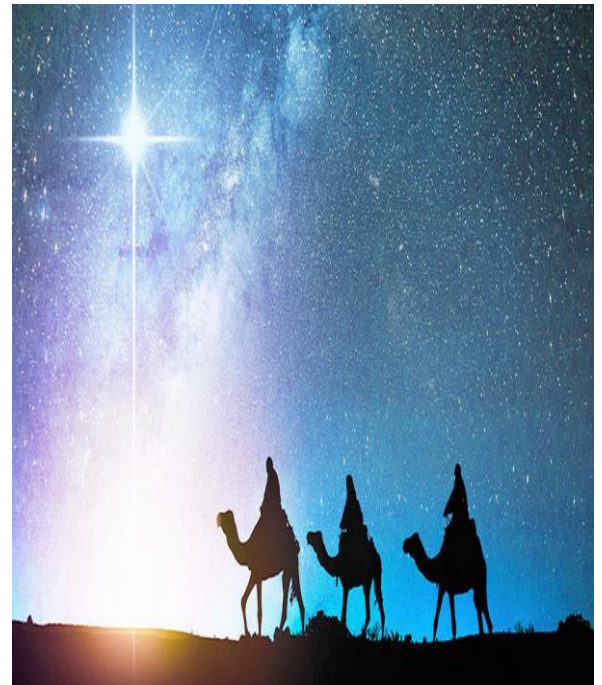
To get a list of prayer request you have to subscribe to it on our web page. You will not see all the requests unless you have a subscription. You do not have to be a member of our Prayer Warriors group or even a member of our church to subscribe. For instructions on how to subscribe please, email

webmaster@sjtohnsucelkhart.com

WHAT IS EPIPHANY?

Epiphany is the day Christians remember the coming of the Magi to visit Jesus, bringing their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. It occurs on January 6 every year.

The word "epiphany," from the Greek word epiphania, means appearance or manifestation. The arrival of these visitors was a sign that the incarnation of God in Christ had been made known and was recognized by the heavens to the whole world, so that even Gentile wise men from the East came to pay him homage. This is an observance of great majesty, solemnity and awe.



Wise Men Still Seek Him

Christmas Year B	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
Holy Name of Jesus January 1, 2021 (Mary, Mother of God) ART -- PRAYER	Numbers 6:22-27	Psalm 8	Galatians 4:4-7 or Philippians 2:5-11	Luke 2:15-21
New Year's Day January 1, 2021 ART -- PRAYER	Ecclesiastes 3:1-13	Psalm 8	Revelation 21:1-6a	Matthew 25:31-46
Second Sunday after Christmas Day January 3, 2021 ART -- PRAYER	Jeremiah 31:7-14 or Sirach 24:1-12	Psalm 147:12-20 or Wisdom of Solomon 10:15-21	Ephesians 1:3-14	John 1:(1-9), 10-18

Epiphany Year B	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
Epiphany of the Lord January 6, 2021 ART -- PRAYER	Isaiah 60:1-6	Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14	Ephesians 3:1-12	Matthew 2:1-12
Baptism of the Lord January 10, 2021 First Sunday after the Epiphany ART -- PRAYER	Genesis 1:1-5	Psalm 29	Acts 19:1-7	Mark 1:4-11
Second Sunday after the Epiphany January 17, 2021 ART -- PRAYER	1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20)	Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18	1 Corinthians 6:12-20	John 1:43-51
Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 24, 2021 ART -- PRAYER	Jonah 3:1-5, 10	Psalm 62:5-12	1 Corinthians 7:29-31	Mark 1:14-20
Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany January 31, 2021 ART -- PRAYER	Deuteronomy 18:15-20	Psalm 111	1 Corinthians 8:1-13	Mark 1:21-28



St. John's United Church of Christ
% Laura Doty
55839 Rivershores Lane,
Elkhart, IN 46516

CONTACT INFORMATION

St. John's United Church of Christ
c/o Laura Doty
55839 Rivershores Lane
Elkhart, IN 46516

Phone: 574-651-7612

Email: stjohnsuccofelkhart@gmail.com

Website: www.stjohnsuccelkhart.com

Webmaster: Kevin Harris – webmaster@stjohnsuccelkhart.com

Face Book - *St. John's United Church of Christ*

Northwest Association IKC - www.nwaikcucc.org

Indiana-Kentucky Conference - www.ikc.org

United Church of Christ – www.ucc.org