



# THE CORNERSTONE

New aven

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### Special Points of Interest in this Issue:

- Penny's Parting Thoughts
- Who received a prayer shawl?
- Neighbors in Need success stories
- What's up next with the Sunny Seniors?
- Welcome Amy Fenwick!

### Where's It At?

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### Souper Bowl of Caring is coming up!



On February 4<sup>th</sup> the Youth will be working at Charis House in Fort Wayne. Please pray for our students as they work to share the love of Christ with others by collecting food, money and doing service work for the community.

On February 5<sup>th</sup> the Youth invite you to bring in can goods to be donated to our local food pantry. We will also be collecting funds to help support our local food bank and Fort Wayne Rescue Ministries.

Last year we collected over 500 pounds of food and over \$270. With your help we can do even MORE!!!

### Also coming up in January

Winter Jam 2012!!!!!!

Sunday January 22<sup>nd</sup>

Meet @ the church at 2pm for an awesome night of worship, praise and fun!  
Cost is only \$10 at the door.

As always, you can find out all the information you need by visiting our webpage.  
[www.newhavenumc.com](http://www.newhavenumc.com)



We will accept 2011 contributions through Sunday, January 1, 2012. If you want your contribution credited towards your 2011 giving, you **must** put it in a 2011 giving envelope. All contributions received using the new 2012 giving envelopes, will be credited to your 2012 giving record.



In humble gratitude, I write this "Thank You" to the NHUMC staff and community for all you have done with me and for me these past twenty six months. Words truly cannot express my thankfulness, and I am leaving with a full and blessed heart. I'll treasure the memories we've made and the growth I have experienced. Most of all, I want to give glory to God and pray my ministry here has done that.

and Deb Kline (and their team) for hosting the lovely reception for me. The watch, flowers, and corsage are greatly appreciated, and so were the cards I received. All of your kind words, dear community, are treasured.

**May God bless you all!**

Yours in Christ,  
*Penny Voors*

A big thank you to Frank

*Prayer Shawls  
Dedicated in  
December*

- Jack O'Connor
- Suzanne Hatcliff
- Judy Bitz
- Christy Wilson
- Mike Smith
- Jessi Proffitt
- Nancy Gunter
- Mike Hieber
- Lori Resor
- Marianne Smith
- Janet Wesley
- Pat Ruble
- Rie Hieber

- Rose Brown
- Aaron Risser

*Continued thanks  
for all of you  
who have  
donated yard.*



What a beautiful holiday season we have had! First of all, I must say a heartfelt thank you to all those who contributed to the Advent services. The instrumentalists, vocalists, dancers, sound techs and power point guys. Also the people who lit candles, ushered, served, typed, planned, baked, decorated, and so much more! It is so

exciting to see the family of God working together in such a glorious fashion!

I hope that the music and messages of our many special services we had throughout the season were meaningful to you and brought you closer to our precious Savior as we journeyed to Bethlehem. Now the presents are unwrapped, returned, exchanged, the decorations are down, everything returns to normal. Sometimes the post-holiday sea-

son is such a let-down. But Christ came in the midst of the mundane. It is my prayer that the Light of Bethlehem will continue to shine in your hearts throughout the year, in all the "everydayness" of your lives.

Now begins a new year and many new opportunities to serve. Psalm 149:1 reads, "Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song, His praise in the assembly of the saints." As you make your New Year's Resolutions, I

pray that you will consider using your talents to sing (or play) to the Lord a "new song" in this gathering of believers. Join the choir, or Praise Team, or band. Try playing bells or another instrument. Read scripture for worship. Be bold and daring to proclaim the Gospel in a new way. He is worthy of all of our praise!

Thanks be to God for His indescribable Gift!

*Sue Sprunger*

Director of Music Ministries



As cold weather and winter approach we see increased requests for assistance from our church family and the community. The social agencies are short on funds and are able to help fewer requests. We have learned that some are suggesting clients come to NHUMC. Due to limited funds, our guidelines direct us to help those in the New Haven community so we struggle when we receive legitimate requests from farther away.

A client came to us requesting assistance with a water bill that was to be dis-

connected. Because it was considerably more than our guideline of \$50, we conferred and decided if we did not do this, the utility would be turned off and even more money would be needed to turn it back on. The conversation was overheard by an individual in the office at the time. God moved a heart and a designated donation was made for the need. The family was SO grateful.

Another lady came needing help to avoid having her water disconnected. "And would you pray for me and my family".....a few questions disclosed that she had lost her job, was having health issues and teenage children were causing a lot of stress. We prayed with

her, gave her an Upper Room and invited her and her family to join us for Sunday worship. She has returned several times to tell us that some things are improving; told us we have been her rock through a difficult time.

We partnered with Emanuel Lutheran Church to help a man get back "home" to West Virginia. The pastor called to say they were sending him to us; "If we could make the arrangements, they would pay for the ticket." We did and they did.

Your generosity IS appreciated by those we help. As you count your blessings this season, we invite you to think of those less fortunate and remember the Neigh-

bors in Need Ministry in your grateful giving.

**Neighbors In Need Ministry**

**SUNNY SENIORS**

The Sunny Seniors program for January 13 is Keith Vautherot, formerly Keith Edwards of local television. He will talk about his preparation and experiences in the "lime light." Lunch will be catered by Famous Recipe Chicken and the cost is \$6 per person. Reservations may be made at the signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall. Pay Marilyn Eley or Bonnie Neal by January 9th.



## THE BACK PAGE

Alexis de Tocqueville came to America in the early 1800's to see what was making us a great nation. He interviewed countless people in all walks of life on farms, in schools, at businesses, and in industry. He discovered what he believed made America great when he visited our churches.

Why was religion such a necessity for the success of our democracy? De Tocqueville observed that our democracy and its priority of personal equality created an environment where individual interests and desires were of more importance than "societal bonds or duties."

In our churches de Tocqueville experienced what he believed held democracy together. People who have an active faith in God look beyond their individual material needs to the greater needs of God's creation. People with faith in God subordinate their individual desires to the will and plan of God thus creating an environment where their priority becomes living and working in collaboration with each other to accomplish God's desires for us. Christianity teaches us that to live successfully and faithfully it is a collaborative effort.

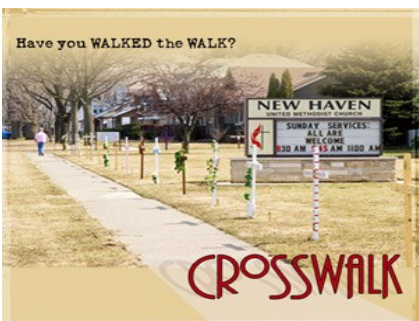
In American democracy individual freedom was constrained from becoming a destructive narcissism because community needs were made a priority through a living faith in God. How are you doing in the collaborative faith effort?

*Pastor Phil*

***New Haven United Methodist Church exists to invite you to develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as we grow together on a journey of faith!***

### ***Have you Walked the Walk?***

Crosses are still available for Cross Walk and may be picked up at any time in the Narthex from January 1 through January 15. Make sure to record your name and phone number on the registration list. The crosses are provided free of charge and everyone is invited to participate—individuals, families, children, youth groups, Sunday School classes, Small Groups, etc. The crosses will align our sidewalks during the Lenten season in celebration of Easter and Jesus' loving sacrifice for us. Get your cross early so you have more time to decorate it. They need to be returned no later than Sunday, February 5. Any questions, contact Bob or Mary Richhart at 749-1443.



Many thanks to all who brought food items to be included in the Christmas bags. Also, the Crosleys, Mark Edwards, Miranda Knight and the many people who delivered the food bags and visited with our homebound contributed to the successful project! There were 52 bags filled and other items were donated to the Food Bank.

Thanks again,  
*Bonnie and Dana*

I would like to say THANK YOU SO MUCH to everyone who sent cards and well wishes while I was going through medical testing. I have adjusted well to my medication and I am feeling MUCH better these days!

I would also like to say THANK YOU for all the love and sup-

port that I have been given these past 16 months with NHUMC. When I took this position, I had no idea how many wonderful friendships that I would be blessed with! While my days are coming to an end here, my gratitude to all of you is unending.

May God truly bless each and everyone of you!

*Melissa Warren*  
*Office Administrator*

P.S. I just found out this past weekend that I'm going to be a Grandma! I have so much to look forward to in the coming days.



## NHUMC Staff

Reverend Richard L. Taylor, Senior Pastor  
Reverend Chuck Fenwick, Associate Pastor  
Penny Voors, Director of Congregational Care  
Donna Michel, Director of Preschool  
Sue Sprunger, Director of Music Ministries  
Kathy Spencer-Ehmcke, Organist  
Mark Edwards, Maintenance Engineer  
Roy Hosfield, Bookkeeper  
Melissa Warren, Office Administrator  
Marilyn Eley, Administrative Assistant  
Tom Huth, Custodian

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Hi my name is Amy Fenwick and I am the new Director of Children's Ministry. I have to say that many of you already know me through Chuck. But here is a little info on me that maybe you didn't know. I have been a hair stylist for 17 years now. I work part-time at Alley Cuts in Decatur doing hair. That is a passion I have always had, helping people feel better about themselves.

In the past I have helped with different children programs at various churches that we have attended. Some being Kid's Club, Club Jam, Kid Mo and more. Like Pastor Rick mentioned I also worked for three summers in Soldotna Alaska at Solid Rock Bible Camp. I was a counselor and music helper the first year. The second and third year I was a program director and music leader for one side of the camp.

Some of my past time hobby's that I love doing is taking care of my flower gardens. I also love to scrapbook and stamp cards. Laundry and dishes are also some of my favorite daily chores! LOL

I have a great passion for sharing Christ to kids. I am greatly appreciative that you have allowed me this great opportunity to serve our church. I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

*Amy Fenwick*  
*Director of Children's Ministry*