



November 2011

Center United Methodist Church Monthly Newsletter

5445 Bluff Road, Indianapolis, IN 46217

www.center-umc.org

info@center-umc.org

317-784-1101

Worship Times

Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

9:00 a.m.

Contemporary (Great Hall)

11:15 a.m.

Sunday School 10:15-11:05 a.m.

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

8:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Friday

8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Prayer Request Line:

317-221-3607

Office Phone:

317-784-1101

Fax:

317-784-1127

Website:

www.center-umc.org

Office E-mail:

info@center-umc.org

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I know I sat down just yesterday to write this article for the June newsletter. What happened? The calendar says it is mid October, and this is for November!

When I pulled into the parking lot this morning, it was still dark. There was a slight hint of light in the eastern sky, and that is the focus of my article this month. No matter how dark it is early in the morning, or late at night, none of us go to sleep thinking that tomorrow won't come. As hard as our days might be, and as challenging our moments may become, we always count on the next day coming. Even in the most extreme cases, when our health is waning, we may think that the sun will not rise for us, but we don't think that the sun won't rise at all. Sometimes I suppose, we dread the sun rising because we know that we may be facing some pretty difficult things when it does. Until Christ's return, light will always follow darkness – day will always follow night; it is a given.

As I have sought to know God more, to experience Him in greater ways, I find myself thanking Him more specifically for each day as it begins and as it ends. Yes, even when the day arriving seems like it is going to bring pain and heartache. God is still God, He is still enthroned, still in charge and I can do nothing to change that. For that reason alone, He is worthy of praise. The psalmist writes, "The day is Yours, and Yours also the night; You established the sun and moon. It was You who set all the boundaries of the earth; You made both summer and winter" (NIV 74:16-17). I would like to challenge each of you with this text. Allow me to say more. . .

Might we begin each day with these two simple yet profound verses? In just these few words we acknowledge that time itself belongs to God, the rising and setting of the sun and the moon are His (actually the earth's rotation), the seasons are His, and the limitations of planet earth are His. If we can begin our day acknowledging this before Almighty God, we will be better able to keep a healthy perspective. How easy it is to get up and fail to acknowledge God until hours into our day! This while operating like we govern everything that has to do with our life. Most all of us, by now, know that there is a simply a heartbeat's difference between life and death. One breath separates us from the veil of either life eternal, or a separation from all that is love.

James reminds us in his book that even before we set out for a trip, we should remind ourselves that the trip does not get completed unless God allows it. He goes so far as to jar us and say that our life is a "mist" (James 4:14). Again, most of us know these things, we just aren't real keen about receiving reminders.

Back to darkness and light. There will be a day! Listen to Revelation 22:5, "There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever." May we not forget! The day is His, all of life is His!!

For each day, let's remember to begin it with: "The day is Yours, and Yours also the night; You [O God] established the sun and moon. It was You who set all the boundaries of the earth; You made both summer and winter."

Love,

Church Staff

Senior Pastor

Daniel Rasmussen

Pastor of Prayer and Discipleship

Dr. John Abbott, Jr.

Custodian

Ed Parr

Music Director

Bruce Haddix

Nursery Coordinator

Vanessia Carnes

Office Manager

Barb Sibbing

Organist

Ann Haddix

Interim Praise and Worship leader

Kyle Adamson

Youth Ministries Director

Cheryl Adamson

Sound Tech The Living Well

Doug Harris

Treasurer

Ken Parks

Wedding Director

Clance LaTurner

Wedding Advisor

Alissa Newhouse

Newsletter Deadline

15th of the Month

Bulletin Deadline

Wednesday's

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your recent \$200.00 gift to the pantry.

Your continued support is truly appreciated by all at Hunger, Inc.

May God bless each of you for your love and concern for others.

Sincerely,



To CUMC Friends,

I want to thank everyone who helped to celebrate my 90th birthday. I hope everyone had a delightful and enjoyable time as I did.

Thanks to the Lydia circle for serving.

Thanks with Love,

Mary Jane Cook



To CUMC,

Another school year has started. As a member of PTREA Board, I want to express my appreciation for the support that you have given to the program this year by providing space and time for the religious education program.

When we see the children's excitement and enthusiasm in learning about God and His Son Jesus Christ, we know that God's blessings will enrich all of our lives, especially the lives of the young children.

Your Friend through Christ,
Elizabeth Rich



Dear CUMC Friends,

Your outreach to us during the brief illness and death of Ray's brother has been wonderfully comforting.

Thank you so very much for your prayers, cards, kind words, gentle hugs.

It's hard to verbalize how much we appreciate and cherish your support.

May you be blessed as you've been a blessing to us.

In His Love,

Ray & Ruth Ellsworth



To CUMC,

Thank you for your recent gift in support of the children and families we serve. Your gift will enable more children and families to be served.

Bethany envisions a world where every child has a loving family. Thanks to partners like you, each we are one step closer to achieving this vision.

Together, we are manifesting the love and compassion of Jesus Christ around the globe as we serve the most vulnerable, work to keep families together, and find families for the children in need.

Thanks for your partnership.

Linda Wrestler

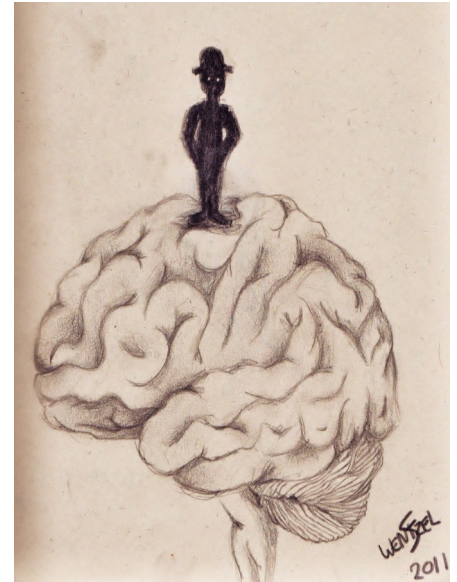
Bethany Christian
Services



I Must Be Out Of My Mind!

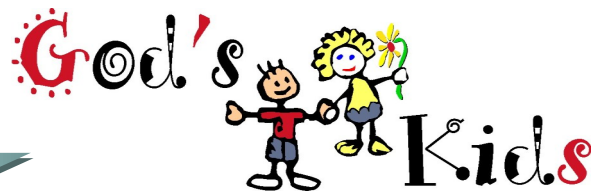
By Dr. J. D. Abbott, Jr.

1. I absolutely love to preach the Word of God! I must be out of my mind since for so many it appears to be wasted breath.
2. I absolutely love to study the Word of God! I must be out of my mind since so many chalk up the Bible as just too hard to understand.
3. I absolutely love going to church on Sunday! I must be out of my mind since so many allow distractions such as sporting events, family gatherings, camping trips, fishing trips, and other things to trump their church attendance.
4. I absolutely love to talk about what it means to be a devoted follower of Christ! I must be out of my mind since it is nearly and instant turn off to most folks I encounter.
5. I absolutely love to write prayers! I must be out of my mind since many people believe that a written prayer is not from the heart!
6. I absolutely love hearing others share their testimonies of God's active grace in their lives! I must be out of my mind since we don't do that anymore in our churches.
7. I absolutely love telling my story of God's active grace in my life! I must be out of my mind because people have told me how *lucky* I am. I must be out of my mind because luck had nothing to do with it. God got a hold of my life and shook the @#\$\$! out of me. He, (God) can do the same thing for you!
8. I absolutely love to listen to our teenagers share their faith in the honest terms of the age. I must be out of my mind since most of them won't talk to old people like me.
9. I absolutely love to listen to Southern Gospel Music! I must be out of my mind since I am the only person at Center UMC who does!
10. I absolutely love Jesus Christ, he is my hero, my savior, the payment for my sin, my healer, redeemer and soon coming King. I must be out of my mind since the most of the people in the world don't want to have anything to do with Him. Picture me crying!



If you would like to share your faith joys with me call me at 317-502-7526 (Cell phone), or email me at jdabbottjr@gmail.com. Please remember that just before church is not the best time for me to give you my undivided attention. I would prefer sitting down in your presence listening and maybe asking questions. I will never share your story with out your permission, or changing the names to protect the innocent.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN:



Virtue: Gratitude— letting others know you see how they've helped you.

*Memory Verse—"Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."
1 Thessalonians 5:18, NIV*

November is a great month to focus on GRATITUDE. God has given us all many blessings and this month we will talk about how we need to be grateful in all circumstances. We will show our gratitude by collecting items for Fletcher place through Nov 20th. The kids will be encouraged to bring in non-perishable food, toiletries and toys.

THIS MONTH IN GOD'S KIDS

Week 1: We will look for the silver lining in every situation

Bottom Line: You always have something to be grateful for

Week 2: We will look at the vineyard workers in Matthew 20:1-15

Bottom Line: Take time to adjust your attitude

Week 3: We will look at the 10 lepers Jesus healed in Luke 17:11-19

Bottom Line: Take time to say thank you

Week 4: We will look at the Lord's Supper in Luke 22:14-20

Bottom Line: Take time to celebrated what God has done

**Kids can bring in
items for Fletcher Place
until Nov 20th**

Youth Stuff



November 2011

Sunday Schedule:

Middle School Youth

5pm-6pm

High School Youth

6pm-8pm

Up Coming Events

Nov 5th- HS trip to Rock and
Worship Road Show

Nov 18th-19th- 30 hour Famine

Nov 25th- Paint-balling meet
at church 2pm

Dec 4th- Caroling to shut-ins

November 18th and 19th

30 Hour Famine & Lock-IN

The CUMC Youth will once again be participating in the 30 Hour Famine. Last year we raised enough money to feed 11 children for an entire year.

I will once again be challenging each of the youth to get 12 sponsors with a \$30 one time gift.

I hope we will be able to feed even more this year.

**22,000 children die EVERYday from poverty related deaths.
God is bigger than hunger**

You see, **there is enough food in the world.** But there's also injustice, because that food is not equally available — even when people work hard for it. The poor need an advocate — someone who is willing to rise up, speak out, and serve the hungry. That's where we come in.

Together, our voices and actions can make a difference. And that's why we go hungry ... so others don't have to. (WorldVision)



Open Prayer Group: We meet every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 10:00 a.m. in the church library. We welcome and encourage anyone who would like to join us in prayer as we pray for our church, community, country, world concerns and our youth's, families', and friends' needs. Please consider being a part of this intercessory ministry. If you have any questions please call Rita Crose at 888-0859 or Carolyn Winters at 784-3590.



Open Prayer Group: 2011 Fall Calendar Schedule
November 14
November 28
December 12
The 2012 schedule will be listed in the December Centerview



If your on Facebook, visit Center United Methodist Church and click the "Like" button. It's a great way to share ideas with other church members and to be reminded of upcoming events through the occasional postings to the page.

<https://www.facebook.com/CenterUnitedMethodistChurch>



Updating Our Database: We are working on updating our database, so if you have moved, have a change of address, new phone number or your email address has changed or you just got an email address please email Barb at info@center-umc.org with your changes. You can also make a note of those changes on the "Attendance Registration" form on Sunday mornings. Thanks for you help in updating our records!



United Methodist Women 2011 Meeting Schedule

November 5			Chicken Noodle Dinner, Auction & Bake Sale
November 9	9:30 am	Linda Rosebrock	Thank Program
December 14	11:00 am	Shirley Kennedy	Christmas Luncheon

Fletcher Place Ingathering:



On Sunday, November 20 we will have our Annual Ingathering for Fletcher Place Community Center. The items we are donating will be collected during both services. Fletcher Place offers a wide range of social services to the needy in the community. One of the services is the Christmas Shopping Service. Clothing, toys, food, and blankets are needed for distribution to needy families.

After Church on November 20, we will sort all the donations and deliver them to Fletcher Place. If anyone would like to help with the sorting and delivery on November 20, please call Mary Ann Musall at 881-8286.

Here is the list of needed items: **ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW!**

- Clothing for children ages 0-18 (underwear on up)
- Blankets for the families
- Stockings and stocking stuffers
- Toys, Games (especially board games, books, art kits)
- Teen gifts (journals, calculators, alarm clocks, wallets, purses, sketch pads)
- Parent Gifts such as small kitchen items, bath towels, etc.
- Non-perishable groceries** (breakfast foods, peanut butter, jelly, canned goods, boxed mixes, snacks, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, beans, rice, personal care items)



September 30 Financial Statement

Center United Methodist Church & The Living Well

General Fund:

Beginning Balance.....	\$ 48,895.23
Income.....	\$ 35,125.50
Expenses.....	(-37,840.00)
General Fund Balance.....	\$ 46,180.73
Total Designated Funds.....	\$ 78,340.04
Payroll Taxes Payable.....	\$ 2,255.90
Total Funds.....	\$126,776.67
Checking Account Balance.....	\$ 50,761.42
Money Market Account.....	\$ 76,015.25
Total Bank Balances.....	\$126,776.67

Extra principal paid on building fund:

	Great Hall	West Epler
January.....	\$0.00	\$0.00
February.....	\$400.00	\$ 782.00
March.....	\$280.00	\$ 640.00
April.....	\$210.00	\$ 140.00
May.....	\$480.00	\$ 861.92
June.....	\$450.00	\$ 200.00
July.....	\$200.00	\$2,290.00
August.....	\$ 300.00	\$ 375.00
September.....	\$ 200.00	\$ 390.00
Mortgage Balance.....	\$66,169.66	\$72,005.62

Please call Treasurer Ken Parks with questions at (317) 888-8292.

November Sermon Planning

A 3 Part Finance Series: The Measure of Our Faith. A glimpse of how we exercise our trust and faith in God and how our giving reflects faith/lack of it. November (6/13/20)

All Saints' Sunday, November 6 (Communion)

Scriptures:

Responsive Scripture Reading: **Habakkuk 2:1-4**

Second Scripture Reading: **Genesis 12:1-8**

Second Scripture Reading: **Luke 17:1-6**

Sermon: **Mountain Moving Faith**

November 13

Scriptures:

Responsive Scripture Reading: **Psalms 43**

Second Scripture Reading: **I Kings 18:19-39**

Sermon Scripture: **Exodus 24:1-13**

Sermon: **Mountain Climbing Faith**

November 20

Scriptures:

Responsive Scripture Reading: **Psalms 65:2-7**

Second Scripture Reading: **Matthew 14:14-32**

Sermon Scripture: **I Kings 17:1-16**

Sermon: **Mountain Claiming Faith**

4 Part Advent Series: Interpreting the Signs. What are we looking for as signs from God, and what does the Nativity story tell us about God? November (27) December (4/11/18)

November 27

Scriptures:

Responsive Scripture Reading: **Psalms 78:38-43**

Second Scripture Reading: **Isaiah 7:6-15**

Sermon Scripture: **Matthew 2:1-10**

Sermon: **What Is The Star?**

December Sermon Planning

4 Part Advent Series: Interpreting the Signs. What are we looking for as signs from God, and what does the Nativity story tell us about God? November (27) December (4/11/18)

December 4 (Communion)

Scriptures:

Responsive Scripture Reading: **Psalm 25:6-12**

Second Scripture Reading: **Micah 5:1-5a**

Second Scripture Reading: **Luke 2:1-17**

Sermon: **What Is The Stable?**

December 11

Scriptures:

Responsive Scripture Reading: **Psalm 25:1-5**

Second Scripture Reading: **Matthew 1:17-23**

Second Scripture Reading: **Isaiah 9:6-7**

Sermon: **What Child Is This?**

December 18

Scriptures:

Responsive Scripture Reading: **Isaiah 52:6-9**

Second Scripture Reading: **Isaiah 61:1-9**

Second Scripture Reading: **Matthew 1:18-23**

Sermon: **What Message Is This?**

Christmas Sunday, December 25

Scriptures:

Responsive Scripture Reading: **Psalm 24:6-10**

Second Scripture Reading: **Haggai 2:1-9**

Second Scripture Reading: **John 1:11-15**

Sermon: **Glory Comes Down**

Church family,

Wow, what can we say except we are rejoicing in God's gift of each of YOU! Words just do not seem adequate to be able to thank you all for surrounding us in your loving care. On August 6th our lives were turned upside down and we had to pick up and leave on a moment's notice when our son Josh was critically injured in Afghanistan. We had no idea what was in store for us.

Our church quickly rallied around us with support in helping us during this unknown venture. We immediately had so many offers of help even when we did not even know what we needed, but that did not stop you. Within days, we were blessed by a special visit from Pastor Dan where Josh was presented with a prayer shawl in cameo colors matching his desired attire! And then a final blessing came where we were given a generous donation to help us out financially. Thank you for your loving response without hesitation. We are taught in the Bible that the church is made of believers that should look out for one another. Each of you at Center UMC has made Jesus smile.

And then throughout the following days and weeks, we were flooded with cards and several gift packages. A few people even took the time to send us regular personal emails with words of encouragement during our journey. A daily devotional was given to us and it spoke to us about directly with what was going on! I quickly began to look forward to every encouraging and loving message. Many of you even offered your services to keep the Homeless Ministry going. We are thankful for the many volunteers that offered to help and of course those, that did in fact keep the ministry going while we were away. What a blessing.

While in Virginia, we experienced many other challenges; the burning Dismal Swamp, an Earthquake, and a Hurricane. The Dismal Swamp is still burning at this time, although it is 90 percent contained; the Earthquake when we wondered what was causing such a vibration, and then after surviving Hurricane Irene, we experienced life with no power for a few days in town that was 80% evacuated. Oh, also the Internet connection was interrupted for many days after the hurricane which made it challenging to work. Throughout it all, God was with us.

God takes care of his children: God led us to Monumental UMC where we were showered in God's love – He gave us new friends in Christ. Within minutes of being in worship with them, we had offers of help to meet about any need! Two days later we were in a home having a gourmet dinner and fellowship with three lovely ladies. We had offers of everything from doing our laundry to several offers of places to stay. We were flooded with cards, Josh had visits at the Naval Hospital, and we had several gifts and gift cards dropped off to our hotel. The list goes on with more offers still on the table. We were even able to serve a weekly Homeless meal along the side of them.

Again, thank you for the kind and thoughtful things you do without hesitation.....Your friendly dispositions and your warm and caring ways.....Your kindness, understanding and love that seems to have no end.....your strength, your gentleness and comforting smiles.....For all of these things and much more, you are loved by us. Our lives have been richly blessed by each of you. Please keep us and Josh lifted up in our continued journey over then next year. See you in worship!

Much love and many blessings,
Andy, Glenda and Josh



Authority of the Bible

Written by Dr. Patrick Zukeran and presented by Dr. John Abbott



The Bible is the only book with supernatural confirmation to support its claim of divine inspiration. The testimony of Christ and the legacy of prophecy are two proofs for inspiration. A third line of evidence is the unity of the Bible.

The Bible covers hundreds of topics, yet it does not contradict itself. It remains united in its theme. Well, what's so amazing about that? you may ask. Consider these facts. First, the Bible was written over a span of fifteen hundred years. Second, it was written by more than forty men from every walk of life.

For example, Moses was educated in Egypt, Peter was a fisherman, Solomon was a king, Luke was a doctor, Amos was a shepherd, and Matthew was a tax collector. All the writers were of vastly different occupations and backgrounds.

Third it was written in many different places. The Bible was written on three different continents: Asia, Africa, and Europe. Moses wrote in the desert of Sinai, Paul wrote in prison in Rome, Daniel wrote in exile in Babylon, and Ezra wrote in the ruined city of Jerusalem.

Fourth it was written under many different circumstances. David wrote during a time of war, Jeremiah wrote at the sorrowful time of Israel's downfall, Peter wrote while Israel was under Roman domination, and Joshua wrote while invading the land of Canaan.

Fifth, the writers had different purposes for writing. Isaiah wrote to warn Israel of God's coming judgment on their sin; Matthew wrote to prove to the Jews that Jesus is the Messiah; Zechariah wrote to encourage a disheartened Israel who had returned from Babylonian exile; and Paul wrote addressing problems in different Asian and European churches.

If we put all these factors together the Bible is written over fifteen hundred years by forty different authors at different places, under various circumstances, and addressing a multitude of issues, how amazing that with such diversity, the Bible proclaims a unified message! That unity is organized around one theme: God's redemption of man and all of creation. The writers address numerous controversial subjects yet contradictions never appear. The Bible is an incredible document.

Let me offer you a good illustration. Suppose ten medical students graduating in the same year from medical school wrote position papers on four controversial subjects. Would they all agree on each point? No, we would have disagreements from one author to another. Now look at the authorship of the Bible. All these authors, from a span of fifteen hundred years, wrote on many controversial subjects, yet they do not contradict one another.

It seems one author guided these writers through the whole process: the Holy Spirit. 2 Peter 1:21 states, No prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God. The unity of the Bible is just one more amazing proof of the divine inspiration of the Bible.

About the Author

Patrick Zukeran is a Hawaii-based research associate with Probe Ministries. He has a B.A. in Religion from Point Loma Nazarene University, a Th.M. from Dallas Theological Seminary, and a D. Min. from Southern Evangelical Seminary. He is an author, radio talk show host, and a national and international speaker on apologetics, cults, world religions, Bible, theology, and current issues. His nationally syndicated radio talk show "Evidence and Answers" is broadcast on KTLW Network (covering the West Coast) through all of Asia (Through World Harvest Radio), and on the web at evidenceandanswers.org. Before joining Probe, Pat served for twelve years as an Associate Pastor. He can be reached at pzukeran@probe.org.

Carson's Community Day Fundraiser

From now through November 12, Centered Around Christ (CAC) is partnering with Carson's through the sale of coupon booklets. With 100% of the booklet sales benefiting CAC, you can feel good about going shopping and great about giving back!

This valuable coupon booklet can be purchased for just \$5 each and is good toward great merchandise at the Carson's store (Circle Center Mall) or online during the special Two Day Community Day Sale on November 11 & 12.

The Community Day booklet is filled with great savings coupons and exclusive offers — valued at more than \$200! Take advantage of:

- 1 - \$10 off coupon on a \$10 or more item.
- 1 - 20%* off shopping pass — use the pass over and over
- 1 - 30% Early bird coupon, valid Saturday only from 6am-10am
- 11 - Bonus buys
- 2 - Web Exclusive Offers

*some exclusions apply.

We will be selling coupon booklets after services on Sundays through November 6, 2011.

An order form is also attached for your use. If you are interested in helping by selling booklets to your friends, relatives, co-workers, neighbors, etc.

Please contact Vicki Rady on 881-8720. All proceeds benefit our Homeless Ministry.

Texas Roadhouse Gift Cards Fundraiser

From now through the December 1, Centered Around Christ (CAC) will be taking orders for Texas Roadhouse Gift Cards in \$15, \$25 and \$50 denominations. CAC will receive 10% from the proceeds of the sale of the gift cards.

We will be available to take orders after services on Sundays through November 27.

An order form is also attached for your use. If you are interested in helping by taking orders for the gift cards from your friends, relatives, co-workers, neighbors, etc.

Please contact Vicki Rady on 881-8720. Texas Roadhouse in Greenwood (on SR135) is offering a dinner for four to the top seller (minimum of \$250 in sales) for our organization.

All proceeds benefit our Homeless Ministry.





TEXAS ROADHOUSE GIFT CARD ORDER FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone # _____

Number of Gift Cards _____\$15 _____\$25 _____\$50 Total Amount Due \$ _____

Please return order form and check made payable to Centered Around Christ to the Church Office

If you have any questions, please contact Vicki Rady on 881-8720.

Thank you!



CARSON'S COMMUNITY DAY COUPON BOOKLET ORDER FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone # _____

Number of coupons booklets @\$5 _____ Total Amount Due \$ _____

Please return order form and check made payable to Centered Around Christ to the Church Office.

If you have any questions, please contact Vicki Rady on 881-8720.

Thank you!

**The November newsletter
The Center United Methodist Church**

5445 Bluff Road
Indianapolis, Indiana 46217

Phone: 317-784-1101

Fax: 317-784-1127

email: info@center-umc.org

Pastor Dan's home phone:

317-882-9099

Prayer Request Line:

317-221-3607

Websites: www.center-umc.org

Traditional Worship

in the Sanctuary

9:00 a.m.

The Living Well

Contemporary Worship

in the Great Hall

11:15 a.m.

Sunday School

10:15 - 11:05 a.m.



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PLEASE DO NOT DELAY DELIVERY



November 20, 2011

We will have our
Annual Ingathering For
Fletcher Place Community Center
See inside announcements for
further details!

