

ROOTED in love **CONNECTING** people  
PLANTING seeds of hope



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# SPREADING THE WORD

June 2023

*From Pastor Nicole's Desk*

## We Are The Church



Well, hello there!

I hope this is the first of many hellos from our newly relaunched Noblesville First newsletter.

Over the last several years there have been many features of church as we knew it that have changed. Yet, with so many exciting events, impactful ministries, inspiring worship series and life changing serving

opportunities, we knew we had to resurrect this monthly opportunity to share with you. Why? Because YOU are the church!

In fact, all June long, you'll hear me preach and teach about the body of Christ, and how our shared unity, spiritual gifts, giving and serving continues the world changing ministry of Jesus Christ.

Covid left many of us feeling isolated and disconnected from church but scripture makes it clear that we cannot do church alone. We need a community sharing together to do the work we've been called to do. I hope this newsletter helps you know and find ways to join in this work, and that together we will continue being, growing and serving OUR church together!

God loves you, so do I, and there's nothing you can do about it!

Pastor Nicole  
[pastor@NoblesvilleFirst.com](mailto:pastor@NoblesvilleFirst.com)



### VISION

Noblesville First is an inclusive faith community that embraces all persons, with no exceptions!



### ON THE CALENDAR

- JUN 09 — Ugly Quilts
- JUN 16 — Teter Adventure Club
- JUN 18 — Celebrate Ally & Bonnie
- JUN 19 — VBS Starts
- JUN 29 — THE SQUARE Training
- JUL 01 — Widows In Grace (WIGS)
- JUL 02 — Welcome Pastor Brittney
- AUG 10 — GriefShare Restarts

[More at NoblesvilleFirst.com/events](https://www.NoblesvilleFirst.com/events)





## Vacation Bible School

# Register. Volunteer. Donate.

Make sure to invite your friends and secure your spot today at [NoblesvilleFirst.com/VBS!](http://NoblesvilleFirst.com/VBS!)

Childcare will be available for kids too young for Vacation Bible School (VBS) if their parents want to volunteer.

Family Ministry Director Ally Hall shared, "The thing about VBS that excites me the most is seeing Noblesville First transform and welcome so many people from our community. Throwing big

one-off events is always fun but getting to spend day after day with people and creating environments where they can form lifelong memories is always my favorite aspect of VBS. I love watching leaders of all ages teach and laugh and invest in the future of the church. VBS truly is a representation of the Kingdom of God. There is a common goal and everyone comes together to make it a reality. It is equal parts magical and exhausting but you show up time and time again because it matters. Being a part of designing that experience is such a gift."

Questions? Contact Ally Hall at [ahall@NoblesvilleFirst.com](mailto:ahall@NoblesvilleFirst.com) or 317-773-2500.

"Hero Hotline: Called Together to Serve God" will take place Monday, June 19 through Thursday, June 22 from 9AM-noon for four-year-olds (fully potty trained) through 5th graders. We'll learn how to follow Jesus, help others, work together, and show grace.

## Calling All Volunteer Heroes

Vacation Bible School (VBS) is looking for volunteer heroes! Is teaching a Bible story to a room full of kids your idea of fun? Serve in the Bible Story Station!



Does helping a group of 3rd graders make life-long memories sound like fun to you? Be an Elementary Group Leader!

Do you like to welcome people to Noblesville First and organize

spreadsheets? Work at registration!

Choose from the following roles:

- Station Leader
- Station Assistant
- Preschool Leader
- Preschool Assistant
- Elementary Group Leader
- Elementary Group Assistant
- Registration
- Worship Leader
- Floater

Note that childcare is offered for kids younger than four years who are too young for VBS so you can drop your kids off and still serve!

Questions? Ready to sign up?

Contact Ally Hall at [ahall@NoblesvilleFirst.com](mailto:ahall@NoblesvilleFirst.com) or 317-773-2500 or visit [NoblesvilleFirst.com/VBS](http://NoblesvilleFirst.com/VBS)

## Wish List and Wish Wall

From crayons to clipboards, crackers to crepe paper ... we're running a supply drive for items needed as we welcome our community for VBS. There are two ways you can help:

1) Pick a star(s) from the "Wish Wall" outside the sanctuary and return the item(s) to the church office, or

2) Scan this QR code and shop from the Amazon wish list.



Questions? Contact Ally Hall at [ahall@NoblesvilleFirst.com](mailto:ahall@NoblesvilleFirst.com) or 317-773-2500.

### SPREADING THE WORD

is a publication of Noblesville First United Methodist Church

**Have a story to share?**

Contact Anita Walker  
[awalker@noblesvillefirst.com](mailto:awalker@noblesvillefirst.com)  
317-773-2500 ext. 226

**Next newsletter deadline**  
July issue: June 21

# Lunch Bunch Superstars

After Pastor Nicole's sermon encouraging us to reach out to our neighbors, a group of members felt it was time to revive the sack lunch program for the students in Noble Manor next door.

A pilot program was launched this past spring break for two Mondays, sharing a hot meal and a sack lunch brigade where children were given the opportunity to pack five lunches for the coming week to carry home with them.

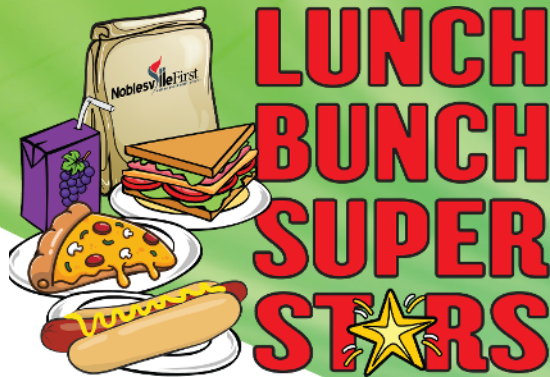
This summer, a hot meal will again be offered on Mondays, along with the five sack lunches, as well as a fun program each week.

Program coordinator Carol Miller shared, "This ministry is not just

about sharing a meal, or offering food for their pantries, it is about community, hospitality, and making new friends by sharing God's love to all who come to our doors. It is a joy to not only welcome our weekly guests, but to also offer a time for

fellowship among our volunteers each week, a fellowship time that has been missed since Covid days. To see smiling and happy faces of our guests and to hear the chatter of our volunteers is a gift of joy to all who gather together on Mondays this summer."

Questions?  
Contact Carol Miller at [cmiller@noblesvillefirst.com](mailto:cmiller@noblesvillefirst.com) or 317-773-2500.



# LUNCH BUNCH SUPERSTARS

## Welcoming Pastor Brittney

Noblesville First is thrilled to welcome Rev. Brittney Stephan to the associate pastor role on July 1.



Pastor Brittney is an ordained Elder in the Indiana Conference and currently serves in extension ministry in the Michigan Conference.

Learn more and link to a Facebook post to extend a welcome at [NoblesvilleFirst.com/stephan](https://www.facebook.com/NoblesvilleFirst.com/stephan).

## Teter Adventure Club

Noblesville First Kids and Teter Organic Farm are excited to bring back Teter Adventure Club.

Kids in kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to Teter Farm every third Friday of the month for wild adventures out in nature!

Parents can drop their elementary-aged kids off for an evening of fun on the farm, snacks, and memories to last a lifetime. We will learn about beekeeping, therapy farm animals, taking nature hikes, and so much more.

If you missed the start of the program in May, join us on June 16 from 6-8PM.

Learn more or register at [NoblesvilleFirst.com/adventure](https://www.NoblesvilleFirst.com/adventure)

## Bonnie & Ally's Celebrations

Come for the farewell celebrations of Pastoral Care Coordinator Bonnie Zickgraf and Family Ministry Director Ally Hall on Sunday, June 18 at 11:15AM. We'll hold Bonnie's celebration in the church parlor and Ally's celebration in the atrium outside of the nursery entrance.

Refreshments will be served and we'll collect cards & love offerings for Bonnie and Ally. To give online,



follow the instructions at [NoblesvilleFirst.com/farewell](https://www.NoblesvilleFirst.com/farewell).

Questions? Email Pastor Nicole Caldwell-Gross at [awalker@noblesvillefirst.com](mailto:awalker@noblesvillefirst.com) or call 317-773-2500.

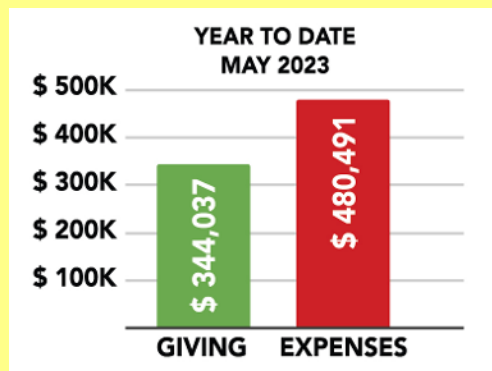
# Financial Report

Matthew 10:8 "... Freely you have received; freely give."

Noblesville First supports over 30 ministries that minister to children, individuals with special needs, feed the hungry, provide housing, education, disaster relief, clothing, medical care, furniture, grief support, prayer and spiritual direction.

In order to continue to make an impact, we need disciples who will give freely. As of May 31, we have a deficit of over \$100,000. We don't want to cut ministry support, but trust that through you, God will provide.

Please give today at [NoblesvilleFirst.com/give](http://NoblesvilleFirst.com/give)



## Worship Schedule

Early worship has moved to 8:15AM through Labor Day weekend and to its summer home at Teter Retreat & Farm, 10980 E. 221st Street, Noblesville. Sometimes the benches are damp in the morning. Bring a towel or blanket or your own lawn chair. If weather is threatening ... we'll move outdoor worship to the church. This will be communicated by 7AM on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, NoblesvilleFirst.com, and in a push notification to our church app users. Traditional worship in the sanctuary (Door 1) continues at 9:45. More at [NoblesvilleFirst.com/worship](http://NoblesvilleFirst.com/worship).

## Monday Morning Study

The Monday Morning Study Group is exploring Shannon Bream's *The Mothers and Daughters of the Bible Speak: Lessons on Faith from Nine Biblical Families* from 9:30 to 11AM in the church parlor (Door 1). Learn more at [NoblesvilleFirst.com/MondayStudy](http://NoblesvilleFirst.com/MondayStudy).

## Rummage Sale Storage Available

The United Methodist Women's Annual Rummage Sale will be Oct 8-13. If you wish to have them store your donations, contact Marianne Jacobi at 317-508-1354 or Janet Roberts at 317-900-6607. More details to come!

## Get Connected with THE SQUARE

THE SQUARE is a great way to connect with people and events around Noblesville First!

- View the church's pictorial directory
- Edit your profile information
- View the church calendar
- View the groups you are participating in
- Share with your groups
- View your giving record
- Check out events you might be interested in
- Communicate with other members



Ministry leaders and anyone interested in learning more about THE SQUARE is encouraged to attend one of two upcoming training events ...

**June 29 from 1:30-3:30PM**  
**July 13 from 6:30-8:30PM**

Whether you lead a Bible study, a ministry, an event, or just want to further connect with the church, you'll be amazed at what THE SQUARE can do!

Questions? Contact Anita Walker at [awalker@NoblesvilleFirst.com](mailto:awalker@NoblesvilleFirst.com) or call 317-773-2500.

## Momma's Got Moves!

Come shake things up this summer with a fun cardio fitness class on Thursdays from 9:30 to 10:30AM in Stephenson Hall (Door 1) through July. All fitness levels are welcome. The classes are designed around the music so use that motivation and make it your own. No equipment needed. Childcare is provided! Think you are not coordinated enough? Remember laughter is a great core workout! Questions? Email April Conard or call the church office at 317-773-2500. Registration is required. Click the link at [NoblesvilleFirst.com/mommias](http://NoblesvilleFirst.com/mommias).