



DAY CAMP FOR K-5TH GRADE
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ROOTED in love **CONNECTING** people
PLANTING seeds of hope



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WEB & EMAIL
addresses are
hot-linked.
Just click them!

SPREADING THE WORD

September 2023

From Pastor Nicole's Desk
All the World is a Stage



Dear Noblesville First Family,
William Shakespeare was famous for saying "All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players."

I might say it this way, "All the world's a sanctuary and the men and women merely disciples."
As followers of Jesus, we are all cast in the priesthood of believers, sharing in the unfolding production of grace, hope and love.

As a congregation we want everyone to know they have a role to play on God's stage and that's why we are SO excited for this season full of opportunities for every disciple to play their part! In this edition of *Spreading The Word*, you'll learn about our Arts & Music Academy Camp for K-5th graders, October 16-20, the relaunch of Youth Group on September 27, the annual Rummage Sale, the start of Disciple Bible and SO much more!

Whether it's bible study, hands-on service, ministry with children or our new worship schedule which provides children's Sunday school at both services, there's an opportunity for every disciple to make an impact. The only question God has is: what role do you want to play?

I'll see you on God's stage,
Pastor Nicole Caldwell-Gross
pastor@NoblesvilleFirst.com



VISION

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

ON THE CALENDAR



- Sep 19 – Steppin' Up to Help
- Sep 22 – Teter Farm to Table Dinner Fundraiser
- Sep 24 – Pizza with the Pastors
- Sep 27 – Youth Group Kick-off
- Oct 01 – Blood Drive
- Oct 08 – Rummage Sale
- Oct 10 – Disciple Fast Track Begins
- Oct 16 – Arts & Music Academy Camp

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



Farm to Table Dinner Sold Out

Once again, Teter Organic Farm's annual Farm To Table dinner fundraiser has sold out! Proceeds benefit the farm's mission to increase access to healthy food for the vulnerable and provide ecological education while building relationships and community. "The Farm To Table dinner is one of the highlights of the farm year," explained Farm Manager Katy Rogers. "We're on track to raise and donate 30,000 servings of fresh organic produce to Hamilton County residents in need. Without the support of our 'farm-ily,'" Rogers shared, "we couldn't make this mission a reality. From volunteers who give of their time, to those who purchase tickets for the dinner, to those individuals and businesses who sponsor our efforts, every role is important." For more information, visit TeterOrganicFarm.com.



Steppin' Up to Help Fundraiser



The ladies of the United Women in Faith's Lydia Circle, are hosting another "Steppin' Up to Help" line dancing fundraiser on Tuesday, September 19 from 6:30-8PM in Celebration Hall (Door 2,7).

All are welcome! No experience necessary. Come join the fun and learn some new steps. Dancing not for you? You can still come and soak up the fun!

A free will offering will be collected which will benefit Agape Therapeutic Riding, offering life-changing experiences that bring

people and horses together to impact lives and cultivate unbridled hope. Learn more at ... AgapeRiding.org. Bring cash or checks made out to UMW the night of the event or click the link below to make a donation online. Questions? Contact Marilyn Hensley at marilyn8557@msn.com or call the church office at 317-773-2500.

New Prayer Chain Coordinator

The Parish Care Team is excited to share that Barb Weaver has accepted the role of Prayer Chain Coordinator. We are thankful she answered the call to serve God in this way. To submit a prayer email barbw427@comcast.net or visit NoblesvilleFirst.com/CareMinistries

You can also use the Connection Card found in the bulletin on Sundays and drop it in the offering plate or call the office at 317-773-2500 or the 24-hour Care Line at 317-773-2590.

Be sure to let us know if your prayer request is for the

pastors, the parish care team and/or the prayer chain. If you are requesting prayers for others, be sure to have their permission to share the information with the church whether it be the pastors, the pastoral care team and/or the prayer chain.

We will not publish prayer requests submitted anonymously because we need your contact information should we have any questions concerning the request.

Questions?

Contact Mary Eileen Spence at 317-773-2500, ext. 38 or mspence@NoblesvilleFirst.com.

SPREADING THE WORD

is a publication of Noblesville First United Methodist Church

Have a story to share?

Contact Anita Walker
awalker@noblesvillefirst.com
317-773-2500 ext. 226

Next newsletter deadline

October issue: Sept 18

Pipe Organ Progress

We are anxiously awaiting the installation of our new pipe organ, which will be the culmination of a journey that began in 2018 when the Pipe Organ Committee set out to determine whether we should repair, restore, or replace the old pipe organ. Over the next three years, thousands of hours were spent researching the websites of leading pipe organ builders and their professional associations. The team made site visits to other churches and had representatives from six pipe organ companies inspect the old pipe organ and submit proposals.

In August 2021 an all-church conference voted to approve the project followed by the signing of the contract with Reynolds and Associates Pipe Organ Builders and Conservators of Marion, Ind. The value of the Reynolds option (\$565,562) was mid-range among all the options (\$400,000-\$1,300,000).

The new pipe organ will be comprised of a new 3-manual (or keyboard) console with state-of-the-art features that are expected by today's organists. There will be 33 ranks of pipes (2,013 pipes in all), some of which will be exposed to the sanctuary on either side of the cross, as pictured below.



The original completion date of Easter of 2023 was not met, and there is no single person or happening responsible for the delay. While the pandemic was the major factor behind most of the challenges faced, the war in Ukraine and supply chain issues were also contributing factors. In addition, the strict lock-down in Europe caused some suppliers to go out of business, and key people in the Reynolds shop faced significant health challenges.

All the wind chests, air pressure regulators, the console, the blower motor and many other components

are completed and ready to go, and Reynolds has been working in the pipe chambers preparing them for installation when all the pipes are available. Because of the aluminum shortage, we have not received 48 of the largest pipes (16-feet tall and larger), which have to be installed first.

The Reynolds' pipe voicing specialist is now in the process of "voicing and tuning" all of the available 1,900 pipes. This tedious and time-consuming process requires working with each pipe individually, making sure it sounds good by itself and in combination with all the other pipes of that rank. With 33 ranks of pipes, this process is the main task that is yet to be completed.

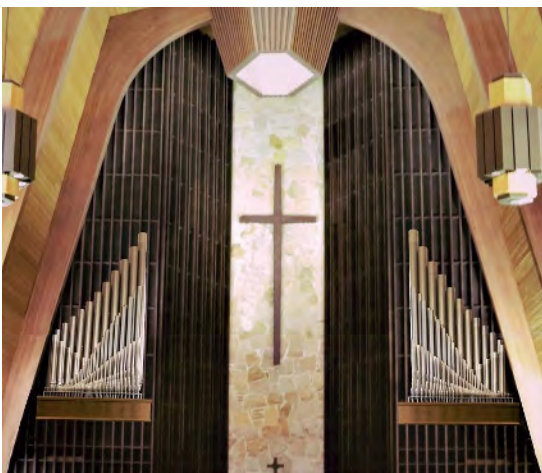


Voicing organ pipes is both a science and an art that consists of:

- Manual adjustments to the size of the bottom orifice to regulate the volume of air entering that pipe, which determines loudness
- Manual adjustments that trim and shape the speaking mouth of each pipe to create the desired tonal color and quality, and
- Manual adjustments to the length of the pipe to achieve the precise pitch. It is during the voicing process that the actual soul of the pipe organ is being born.

We now hope the new pipe organ will be playable at some point in October or November with a full completion date early in 2024.

Ultimately, there will be a formal dedication with a recital, blessing, and consecration of the new pipe organ for God's service.



Arts & Music Academy Kick Off

The kick off for Noblesville First's inaugural Arts & Music Academy for students K-5th grade begins with a camp, October 16-20 from 10AM-2:30PM each day, with a concluding performance Friday evening at 6:30PM.



church and our community to engage with the arts. Plans are underway for a year-round program of musical theater performances, including sessions in the fall, spring, and summer. We also hope to

offer students the opportunity to take voice lessons and instrumental music lessons, and to be part of a choral ensemble. Stay tuned for more information on these opportunities.

To register, click the link at NoblesvilleFirst.com/academy.

Questions? Contact Anita Walker at awalker@NoblesvilleFirst.com or 317-773-2500.

Noblesville First is creating its own Arts & Music Academy to provide opportunities for the children and youth of Noblesville to grow in the arts.

"Our goal is to provide opportunities for children and youth to engage with a variety of visual and performing arts," Pastor Nicole explained, "so they can discover and develop their own artistic abilities while also exploring the relationships between art and faith."

The first step in building the Arts & Music Academy is to offer a theater camp for students while they are on fall break. It will be directed by Nancy Lafferty, a 40-year high school theater educator and Director for The Belfry Theatre. She will be assisted by members of our congregation who will provide visual arts instruction, the staff of Noblesville's En Pointe Ballet who will teach dance, and students from Noblesville High School.

We hope this theater camp will be the first of many opportunities for children and youth from our

What is an Altar Guild?

Our Altar Guild is looking for those who take pride in our church and want to assist with making it welcoming and inviting to all.

The Altar Guild is a lay ministry that serves in preparing God's house for worship and assists with holiday preparations, Communion, weddings and funerals. We are looking for those

who are interested in serving on one of five teams: Worship, Communion, Holidays, Funerals and Weddings. If you are interested in learning more about serving on one of the teams or for detailed information about each, contact Emma St. Dennis at threelsmom@hotmail.com or Carol Miller at cmiller@noblesvillefirst.com.

Hungry to Learn about Noblesville First?

Are you new to the congregation and want to learn more?

Are you interested in becoming a member?

Or do you just want to get to know the pastors better?



Come for Pizza with the Pastors on Sunday, September 24 at 11:30 in the church parlor. To sign up, click the link at ...

NoblesvilleFirst.com/pizza.

Questions? Contact Pastor Brittney Stephan at bstephan@NoblesvilleFirst.com or 317-773-2500.

Save a Life

Give Blood on Sunday, October 1 from 9AM-1 PM

It's simple. Donating blood saves lives. Donating is a generous thing to do. It helps people in need and it helps people in our community.

Donating is simple, fast, and convenient. It takes about 60 minutes from registration to refreshments. The actual blood donation time is approximately 10 minutes.

The church's blood drive helps maintain a safe, stable blood supply, for patients in our community who rely on your donations.

Sign up to donate blood on Sunday, October 1, from 9:00 am until 1:00 pm in Celebration Hall. [Click here](#) to register.

Free Halloween socks for every donor!

Did You Know?

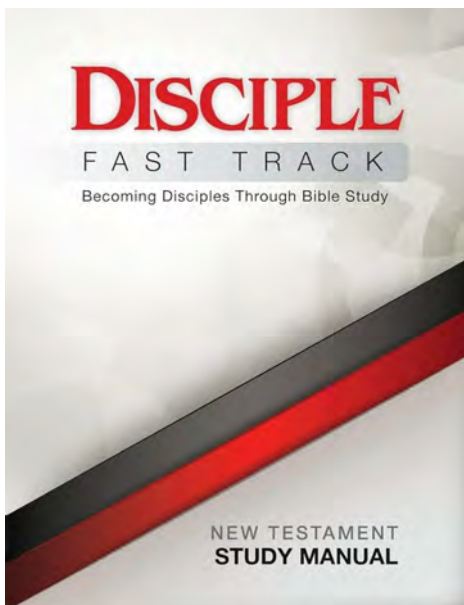


Across the communities we serve, more than 2,400 donors are needed every day to maintain a safe and adequate blood supply for patients.



While about 38% of the population is eligible to donate blood, fewer than 5% do. Your convenient community blood drive helps attract more donors!

Disciple Fast Track Bible Study



Disciple Fast Track Bible Study is an adaptation of the original, bestselling *Disciple Bible Study: Becoming Disciples through Bible Study*, but Fast Track is suited for busy people who want to fit a shorter, but still comprehensive Bible study into their schedules.

Classes meet for a total of 24 weeks, studying the Old and New Testaments for 12 sessions each. Daily study is manageable, with only 3-5 chapters of the Bible to read each day. Weekly group sessions last 75 minutes and

there will be a small group activity in most sessions.

The first 12-week session starts on Tuesday, October 10 at 6:30PM with Richard Bellaver leading the study of the New Testament. The cost of the study manual is \$17 and childcare is available!

Sign up and purchase the manual at NoblesvilleFirst.com/disciple.

Questions?

Call the office at 317-773-2500.

Prayer Cards are Back!

We are excited to have our Prayer Cards available again each Sunday for your signature!

The Prayer Cards are on the table outside the sanctuary on Sunday mornings and you are invited to add your signature to each card,

along with your prayers during the week for each recipient.

The cards are then mailed to those in the congregation and friends that are in need of prayer. If you have a family member or friend in need of prayer, they can be added

to the card list. We also welcome volunteers interested in addressing envelopes. Contact Carol Miller at cmiller@NoblesvilleFirst.com or call the church office at 317-773-2500.



The annual United Women in Faith's Rummage Sale funds ministries that benefit women, men, children and those with special needs here in Noblesville and around the globe!

DONATION DAYS

Sunday, Oct. 8, 1-5PM
 Monday, Oct. 9, 8AM-4PM
 Tuesday, Oct. 10, 8-11AM
 (No items accepted after 11AM)

We welcome furniture but it must be no larger than what

two people can carry. No building materials please.

SHOPPING DAYS

Wednesday, Oct. 11, 3-7PM
 Thursday, Oct. 12, 10AM-4PM
 Friday, Oct. 13, 8AM-12PM
 (Friday is \$5 bag day and 1/2 price jewelry & large items)

Also noteworthy ... The Methodist Mountain Mission in Jackson, Kentucky, sends a truck each year to collect items that aren't sold.



Donations Needed

The Lunch Bunch Superstars team is in need of individually wrapped snacks and cookies for the upcoming lunches that will be served during fall break to our young neighbors at Noble Manor. If you can help, drop off your donation in the office.

Noblesville First will again host Lunch Bunch Superstars on Monday, October 9 and Monday, October 16 for students that will be missing meals during their time off of school. Each Monday at noon we serve a hot lunch to all that come and share in a fun program. Then each student is invited to pack five lunches for the following week to take home.

Our packed lunch bags consist of five sandwiches (meat, peanut butter, Nutella), five snacks, five fruits, five juice boxes, and five cookies! Each student is able to make their own selections for their lunch bags.

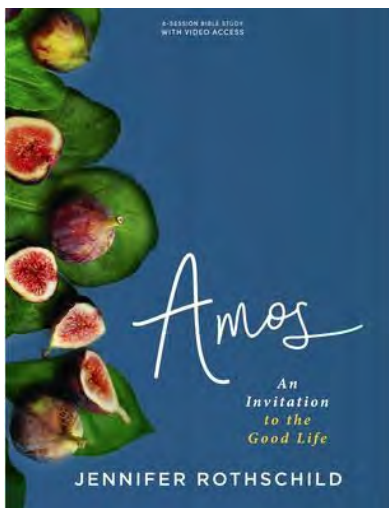
If you would like to come to help with this fun mission project, contact Cindy Ariel at ccarieltennis@gmail.com or Carol Miller at cmiller@noblesvillefirst.com

The team has made new friends with Noble Manor families and helped to support them with back-to-school supplies when school started. Come and join in the giggles and munchies!

Fall Study is Coming!

A new Monday Morning Bible Study is coming!

We will delve into the Old Testament with a study of the prophet, Amos, by Jennifer Rothschild. With your book purchase you will have access to Jennifer's weekly videos for each chapter.



Please order your book from your favorite supplier and plan to join us on Monday, October 23, 9:30-11:15 AM. Our group is an open group and everyone is invited! Ask a friend!

Questions?

Contact Carol Miller at cmiller@noblesvillefirst.com

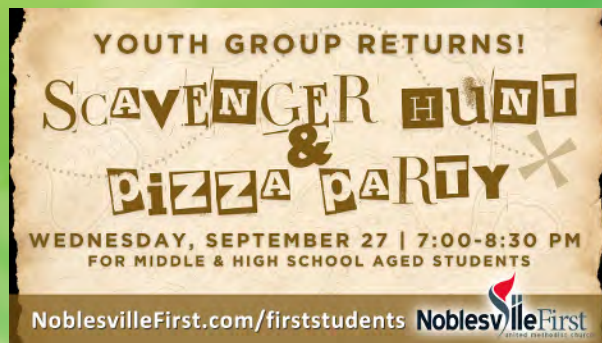
Youth Group Fun Resumes

Get ready for an exciting adventure as our youth group returns for middle and high school students!

We will kick things off on Wednesday, September 27 from 7:00-8:30PM in The Vine (Door 5) with a scavenger hunt within

the church building and a pizza party. It will be a night of fun, food, and fellowship you won't want to miss. So mark your calendar, gather your friends, and join us as we begin an exciting new year!

To register, click the link at NoblesvilleFirst.com/youth. Questions? Contact Pastor Brittney Stephan at bstephan@NoblesvilleFirst.com



Sunday worship is hosted in the sanctuary every Sunday at 9:00 & 10:30AM and nursery care (infants to Pre-K) and Sunday School (K-5th grade) are offered during both services!

Caregivers of infants to Pre-K can drop their kids off in the nursery before worship. Kids K-5th grade will begin worship in the sanctuary with their caregivers then be released to their worship time after the Children's Moment.

Youth Group (6-12th grade) will also begin again on Wednesday, September 27 and continue weekly from 7-8:30PM. If you have a child or youth that you know, please encourage them to join! Details at ...

NoblesvilleFirst.com/youth.

All Are Invited to Serve Communion



All of God's children are called to serve others and being a Communion Steward is one of the most rewarding ministries that we are called to serve.

Following Communion Sunday, we have the opportunity to visit and serve communion to those that are unable to attend church. It is a joy to carry this gift of Jesus to those that are ill or homebound. We currently have 10 Communion Stewards that serve others monthly, but we can carry communion to many others with YOUR help.

Each month you will receive the name and location of someone in need of a visit and communion. You are given a communion bag with your supplies, blessed elements and a card with a short worship service and prayers to carry with you. You are asked to serve sometime during the week following communion. Sharing information following your visit with the Care Ministry care@NoblesvilleFirst.com helps to update the care team of any needs. Don't miss this opportunity to share God's love with others that are unable to be part of our Sunday community.

If you would rather serve communion with others, on every third Wednesday, we gather at the entrance to Allisonville Meadows, 10312 Allisonville Road, Fishers (South building) at 1:45PM. We conduct a short worship service, serve communion and end with glorious singing. Come and join us for another opportunity to serve those that are yearning for a touch of God's love.

Questions? Contact Carol Miller at cmiller@NoblesvilleFirst.com.



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. We don't want to cut ministry support, but trust that through you, God will provide. Give today at NoblesvilleFirst.com/give.



United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith, formerly United Methodist Women, provides a means for women to meet new friends, become involved in various mission and service projects, and encourage one another in the Christian faith.

MEET THE CIRCLES

Grace Circle combines mission work with supportive fellowship. They meet on the second Tuesday morning of each month, August to May.

Lydia Circle meets on the third Tuesday evening of each month at 6:30PM and concentrates on mission and ministry.

Priscilla Circle meets on the third Monday of the month at 6:30 PM. The Circle hosts the Bags, Baskets and Blessings event each November.

Rebekah Circle meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 9:30 AM. Their main focus is on Christian fellowship, service and learning. The Church Rummage Sale and the Christmas Tea are highlights of the year.

Ruth Circle continues to work very hard at Teter Organic Farm during the successful growing season.

Learn more and find meeting dates at NoblesvilleFirst.com/UMW

Questions?

Contact Anita Beck at 317-753-3111 or

anitajbeck@comcast.net

Mums for Missions Sale Successful



Many thanks to each of you for your help with and support of the Mums for Missions project! Thankfully the rain held off all day and all mums were picked up. Thanks to all who purchased mums and all who volunteered, we made almost \$1,400 for missions!

The sale of mums will fund future mission projects. Thanks to everyone who helped make this year's sale a success!

Keep Kids Safe: Join the Safety Team

The safety of the church and the guests who use our buildings are very important to us. The newly established Safety Team will share safety tips periodically.

The church's preschool teachers and students train on how to secure classrooms to stop threats from entering classrooms. We want to ensure you are aware of what you can do to keep our children safe.

If you are interested in joining the new church safety team, contact Anita Walker at awalker@noblesvillefirst.com or 317-773-2500.

