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SPREADING THE WORD

OCTOBER 2023

Notes from Pastor Nicole

Trick or treat Noblesville First family!



It's October ... when costumes, candy and fun are on the calendar. For our church, the month is full of treats (and not tricks), as many opportunities to serve, fellowship and have FUN take place this time of year.

We'll begin the month with the Rummage Sale fundraiser (see page 3) led by the United Women in Faith. We'll host our first Arts & Music Academy for K-5th graders October 16-20 (see page 2). Next we'll have Imagination Sunday on

October 29 (see page 2) when ALL of us (yup, you too!) are invited to wear a costume to Sunday worship followed by Trunk or Treat in the afternoon (see page 2). There will be prizes for best costumes and trunks!

Finally, each Sunday in October we'll be preaching messages in our stewardship series "Miracle on Monument Street." I cannot wait to share with you the miraculous ways God moves through our church!

As I look over this month, it does seem like it would take a miracle just to accomplish all we've scheduled to accomplish together.

However, I have learned the truth of Luke 1:37 ...

"Nothing is impossible with God." Here's to a month of no tricks just the treat of serving God together.



VISION

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

ON THE CALENDAR



- OCT 8-10 Rummage Sale donations
- OCT 11-13 Rummage Sale shopping
- OCT 16-20 Art & Music Academy
- OCT 22 State of the Church
- OCT 28 Service Day in The Vine
- OCT 29 Imagination Sunday
- OCT 29 Trunk or Treat

More at ... NoblesvilleFirst.com/events



K-5th graders invited for fall break theater camp

The kick off of 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 on Friday, October 20. Doors will open at 6:30PM, the performance at 7PM.



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," explained Noblesville First Lead Pastor Nicole Caldwell-

Gross, "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, assisted by members of the 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.

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.

Questions?

Visit NoblesvilleFirst.com/academy or contact Anita Walker at awalker@NoblesvilleFirst.com.

Noblesville First is creating its own FarmAid attention

The church's Teter Organic Farm attracted the attention of the annual FarmAid music and food festival, hosted at Ruoff Music Center on September 23. The farm was chosen to host a private dinner, was depicted on the stage background during the show, and Farm Manager Katy Rogers was interviewed by several podcasts and radio programs related to the festival. Congratulations to Katy and the army of Teter volunteers who make the farm's mission a reality!

State of the Church

What have we accomplished as a church? How have we used the resources God has blessed us with? Who are the laity leading us? Where is God calling us next? These are the questions at the heart of our **October 22** Sunday services that we're calling "State of the Church." We want every

person who is a part of our community of faith to be informed and inspired by the ministry we're doing together, the impact we're making, and the leaders God has raised up to lead us forward. Join us to learn about the "state of our church."

Imagination Sunday & Trunk or Treat

Celebrate the season with Imagination Sunday and Trunk or Treat on Sunday, **October 29!**

On Sunday morning, all are invited to wear their most imaginative costume to worship, as there are prizes awaiting for the best-dressed participants.

Later in the afternoon from 4-6PM, come for the annual Trunk or Treat event which creates a safe,

fun, trick-or-treating experience for the whole community and we need your help! We are looking for candy donations and trunk hosts to decorate their cars. There will be prizes for the most creative trunks so you won't want to miss out!

Questions?

Visit NoblesvilleFirst.com/trunk or contact Pastor Brittney at bstephan@NoblesvilleFirst.com.

SPREADING THE WORD

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Methodist Church

Have a story to share?

Contact Anita Walker
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317-225-8028

Next newsletter deadline
November issue: Oct 22

United Methodist Women host fundraiser

Rummage Sale: donate & shop

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



DROP OFF TIMES

Sunday, October 8, 1-5pm
Monday, October 9, 8am-4pm
Tuesday, October 10, 8-11am
(No items accepted after 11am)

SHOPPING TIMES

Wednesday, October 11, 3-7pm
Thursday, October 12, 10am-4pm
Friday, October 13, 8am-12pm ...
\$5 bag day and 1/2 price jewelry & large items

Also noteworthy ... the Methodist Mountain Mission in Jackson, Ky., sends a truck each year to collect unsold items.

Questions?
Call the church office at 317-773-2500.



Renovation service day in The Vine

This beloved community space is undergoing renovations to enhance the youth experience and we need YOUR help!

We'll host the first in a series of service days on Saturday, **October 28** from 9AM-12PM when we'll tackle the removal of the existing flooring. No experience is necessary. On the job training will be provided!

The next phase will include painting, new flooring, modern lighting, new seating and audio-visual equipment and an updated coffee bar.

These renovations aim to create an even more inviting and versatile space for youth gatherings, meetings and celebrations.

Questions? Ready to sign up? Visit NoblesvilleFirst.com/youth or contact Pastor Brittney at bstephan@NoblesvilleFirst.com.

Youth Group is back!

We're excited to gather the church's 6th-12th graders each Wednesday from 7-8:30PM in The Vine (Door 5) for growth, connection and fun. Youth leaders have planned engaging activities, meaningful discussions, and opportunities for personal development. Whether you're new to the group or a regular member, join us and bring a friend!

Questions?
Visit NoblesvilleFirst.com/youth or contact Pastor Brittney at bstephan@NoblesvilleFirst.com.

Eight-week study on Amos

The Monday Morning Study Group will explore the Old Testament prophet Amos in the book of the same title by Jennifer Rothschild, beginning Monday, **October 23** from 9:30-11:15AM.

"Amos is often called a prophet of doom but every condemnation he declares serves as an invitation to 'seek [God] and live' (Amos 5:4). In this eight-session study, we'll be invited to live assured, faithful,

chosen, humble, justly, prayerful, and hopeful. Amos promotes the God life, and the God life is the good life!"

Order the book from your favorite retailer. The group is open to anyone and all are encouraged to bring a friend!

Questions?
Visit NoblesvilleFirst.com/MondayStudy or contact Carol Miller at cmiller@NoblesvilleFirst.com.

Disciple Fast Track returns

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 focus on the Old Testament for 12 weeks and the New Testament for 12 weeks. Daily study is manageable, with only 3-5 chapters of the Bible

to read each day. Weekly group sessions last 1 hour and 15 minutes and there will be a small group activity in most sessions.

The first 12-week session starts with the New Testament on **October 10** from 6:30-7:45PM in Conference Room B (Door 1). And childcare is available!

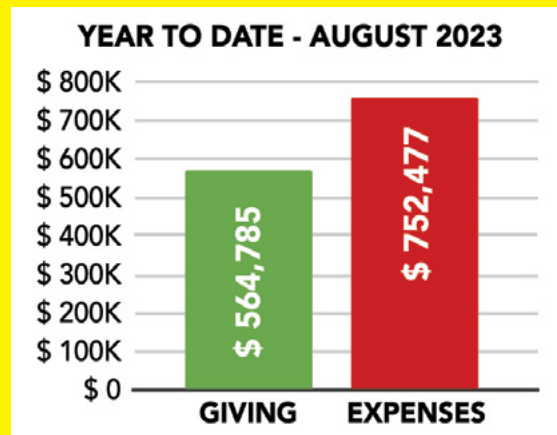
Questions? Ready to register? Visit NoblesvilleFirst.com/disciple or call the church office at 317-773-2500.

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



The September financial report will be available at NoblesvilleFirst.com/give on or around October 10.



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.

Learn more at NoblesvilleFirst.com/UMW.

Questions?

Contact Anita Beck at 317-753-3111 or anitajbeck@comcast.net.

CIRCLE UPDATES

Grace Circle will not be having a formal meeting in October but please volunteer, donate and shop the Rummage Sale October 8-13. We decided to read the book "Girl Gone Missing" by Marcie R. Rendon and will be discussing at our meeting on November 14.

Lydia Circle will meet on Thursday, October 26 to serve the Kathy Harlow Memorial Dinner for Dinner's on Us. We would also like to thank all of those who attended the Steppin' Up to Help line dancing fundraiser. Fun was had by all!

Pricilla Circle will meet on Monday, October 16 at 6:30PM in the church parlor. We will be working on and planning for the Bags Baskets & Blessings fundraiser.

Rebekah Circle will encourage members to work the Rummage Sale set-up on Monday, October 9. If you cannot work that day, please try to support in other ways.

Ruth Circle continues their mission of food insecurity.

Note & Card Ministry returns

Can you send a note or card to 3-4 members of the church family each month? Volunteers will receive the names and addresses and description of the need for a note or card. It's a wonderful way

to share God's love with others!

Questions? Want to volunteer? Contact Carol Miller at cmiller@NoblesvilleFirst.com or call the church office at 317-773-2500.

Noble Manor kids invited for lunch

Noblesville First invites kids living in Noble Manor next door to come for a hot lunch, a fun program, and five sack lunches to take home each Monday at noon in the summer and during school breaks, including the upcoming fall break on Monday, **October 9**

and Monday, **October 16**. Volunteers are always welcome to help offer friendly hospitality in a variety of positions!

Questions? Want to volunteer? Contact Cindy Ariel at ccarieltennis@gmail.com or call the church office at 317-773-2500.

Safety tip: manage cords carefully

Piggybacking electrical cords is frowned upon industry wide both by most state fire codes and risk of injury. Electrical cords should always be sized to the equipment utilized, not be interrupted from the device to the wall outlet unless utilizing a UL rated power outlet plugged into the wall outlet (which should never be plugged into another power outlet) to prevent risk of potential injury to personnel from water sources, damaged prongs (exposed) or objects coming in contact causing shocks and / or damage to equipment.

