

BAGS, BASKETS & BLESSINGS

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NOBLESVILLE First



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SPREADING THE WORD

NOVEMBER 2023

Notes from Pastor Nicole

Thanksgiving: A way of living



Dear Noblesville First Family,
As the days grow shorter and the air turns crisper, we are reminded that the season of Thanksgiving is upon us. It is a time when we gather with loved ones, savor delicious meals, and express our gratitude. But, Thanksgiving is more than a holiday; it's a spirit, a way of living.

Yet, in the hustle and bustle of life, we're often absorbed in our daily challenges and overlook the countless blessings we receive. But, I bet if we took the time to reflect

on the gifts we've been given, they'd far outweigh the challenges.

When we recognize our blessings, it leads us to generosity, a powerful force that can transform our lives and the lives of those around us. We've heard about that transformation in our sermon series, "Miracle on Monument Street" and we will see that transformation continue as you prayerfully consider pledging in worship on November 5 or at NoblesvilleFirst.com/pledge. Together, we will share God's abundance and create more miracles of grace, hope and love.

I am truly thankful for each and every one of you and look forward to celebrating this season of gratitude together.

With love and blessings, Pastor Nicole



VISION

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

ON THE CALENDAR



- NOV 5 Pledge Sunday
- NOV 5 Devos & Donuts begins
- NOV 10 Bags, Baskets & Blessings
- NOV 16 GriefShare Surviving the Holidays seminar
- NOV 23-24 Office closed
- NOV 26 Angel Tree tags available

More at ... NoblesvilleFirst.com/events

NoblesvilleFirst
united methodist church

Food drive to benefit two pantries

The Missions Team is hosting a food drive, November 6-20, benefiting Dinner's On Us and the Come to Me Food Pantry. Specific requests include: canned meats (chicken, tuna, roast beef, spam), canned vegetables (corn, creamed corn, canned potatoes, yams, pumpkin, canned spinach), canned fruit, canned tomatoes (diced, paste and sauce), soup (beef based chunky, chicken and dumplings and clam chowder), pasta, dried potatoes and

stuffing, canned beans, spaghetti sauce, alfredo sauce, granola bars, cereal, cake mixes and icing, Jiffy pizza crust, cream of chicken soup, flavored pasta

Bring donations to the church on or before Monday,



November 20. They'll be collected on the racks behind the stairwell outside the Sanctuary (Door 1).

Questions? Contact Juanita Kipp at juanitajp@gmail.com or call the church office at 317-773-2500.

Daylight saving time "fall back"

Daylight Saving Time ends at 2AM on Sunday, November 5. To be sure you get to church on time, set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night. Did you know daylight saving time (note that there's no S on saving) was first suggested in 1784 by Benjamin Franklin in a satirical essay. He proposed the idea to Parisians as a solution for saving money on candles and lamp oil.

SPREADING THE WORD

is a publication of
Noblesville First United
Methodist Church

Have a story to share?

Contact Anita Walker
awalker@NoblesvilleFirst.com
317-225-8028

Next newsletter deadline
December issue: Nov 20

Noblesville First Kids: Gratitude

Noblesville First Kids will explore the concept of gratitude in November. The Israelites celebrated God with feasts and festivals and the writers of the Psalms wrote songs of praise to thank God for being faithful. Throughout the month we will help kids learn to be grateful for the world God made, for the promises

God has kept, and for the new life God offers the world through Jesus. It is easier to be thankful when we remember all these things.

Questions?
Contact Pastor Amber Good at agood@NoblesvilleFirst.com or call the church office at 317-773-2500.

Sunday School volunteers needed

Do you feel the Spirit calling you to share time and the love of Christ with the kids of our church? Choose to volunteer on a rotational schedule for 45 minutes one or two Sundays per month.

All plans and supplies are

provided and you will be paired up with at least one other adult.

Questions?
Contact Pastor Amber Good at agood@NoblesvilleFirst.com or call the church office at 317-773-2500.

Serve in the Take a Meal Ministry

When you or a loved one is recovering from surgery, illness or injury, meal planning can quickly become a burden.

You can ease that burden for someone in the congregation by serving on the Take a Meal Ministry. Members of the team are informed when a need arises.

There's no obligation. Serve only when you can. You'll be provided with the individual or family's likes, dislikes, food allergies and details about meal delivery.

Questions? Ready to volunteer? Email Kathy Suzo at kasuzo54@gmail.com or call the church office at 317-773-2500.

Get a jump on holiday shopping

Bags, Baskets & Blessings

Everyone is invited for Bags, Baskets & Blessings on Friday, November 10 for an evening of fun, fellowship and food to benefit United Women in Faith's projects including preschool scholarships, food pantry, mission projects and Hope for Women International.

Gift baskets, purses and bags will be sold in both a silent auction and a "bargain bin" of purses and other bags. This year we'll have some "beautiful bouquets" for sale too.

Doors open at 5:30PM in Celebration Hall (Door 2,7). Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at

the door. Ticket order forms are available at the information desk outside the sanctuary and in the church office.

All of the items are donated and carefully cataloged and organized for a one-of-a-kind shopping event. And it's a great chance to get a jump on your Christmas shopping. You'll find something for EVERYONE on your list!

Questions?

Visit NoblesvilleFirst.com/bbb, contact Phyllis Hunter at seacrestway@yahoo.com or call the church office at 317-773-2500.

Pick a tag from the Angel Tree

It's time to start thinking about the church's annual Angel Tree and consider getting a gift or two for one of the children at the Indiana United Methodist Children's Home. Stop by the tree on or after Sunday, November 26 and select a tag.

Each one will show a child's name and age and a list of up to three gifts that they would like to receive. You can buy one or all of the gifts, depending on the

price of the items. The Children's Home staff tries to ensure gift distribution is somewhat even, so gifts need to be unwrapped.

Return the gift or gifts and the tag, preferably in a gift bag, to the Angel Tree by Sunday, December 10.

Questions?

Contact Lorrie Overton at lco2may@comcast.net or call the church office at 317-773-2500.

The Square church database

The church database, called **The Square**, was updated last month to make it easier for participants to contact one another and update their own profiles.

With a username and password, you'll be able to make changes to your profile information and access email addresses, phone

numbers & mailing addresses for others in the database.

Questions?

Contact Anita Walker at awalker@NoblesvilleFirst.com if you do not want to share any or all of your contact information, if you need a username and password, or if you need to reset your password.

Noblesville First Youth

Devos & Donuts. Youth in 6th-12th grades are invited to join us in the Library for Devos and Donuts! This gathering will take place on Sunday mornings from 10-10:30AM (between worship services). Participants gather together for devotions (devos), discussion about various topics related to their faith, donuts & other tasty treats!

The Vine renovation. Progress has been made in our Vine renovation project! Thanks to the dedication of our 19 amazing volunteers, we've successfully removed the old carpet and baseboards. The space is now a blank canvas for the transformation ahead. We're excited to see this project come to life and provide an even better



environment for our youth. Stay tuned for our next service day to be scheduled!

Youth Group reminder. All 6th-12th graders and their friends are invited each Wednesday, 7-8:30PM in The Vine (Door 5) for games, food & fun! The youth leaders plan 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!

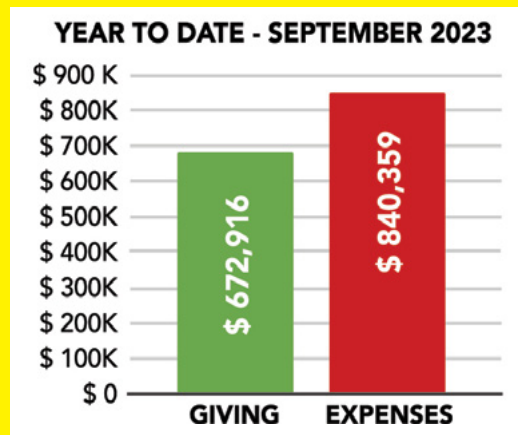
Questions?

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

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 October financial report will be available at NoblesvilleFirst.com/give on or around November 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/UWF.

Questions?

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

CIRCLE UPDATES

Grace Circle will meet on Tuesday, November 14 at 11AM in the church parlor. We will be discussing the book "Girl Gone Missing" and assembling goodie bowls/trays for the hard workers at Five Star as part of the Community Appreciation.

Lydia Circle will meet on Tuesday, November 14 at 6:30PM in the church library. We will be collecting for the World Thank Offering and making cards with Peg Adams.

Priscilla Circle will not be having a regular meeting in November due to the wonderful hosting of Bags, Baskets & Blessings. Lots of fun for ALL!

Rebekah Circle will meet on Wednesday, November 15 at 9:30AM in the church parlor. We will be planning the Christmas Tea and collecting monetary donations for Seasonal Support for White River kids in need.

GriefShare Surviving the Holidays

When you're grieving the death of a family member or friend, you may dread the holiday season.

The GriefShare Surviving the Holidays seminar on Thursday, November 16 from 7-9PM in Wesley Hall (Door 7) is open to anyone who

is experiencing grief after the loss of a loved one and needs practical, actionable strategies.

Questions?

Visit NoblesvilleFirst.com/surviving or call the church office at 317-773-2500.

Church to host Belfry performance

Noblesville's Belfry Theatre will host the classic comedy "The Man Who Came to Dinner" in Celebration Hall (Door 2,7) November 24 through December 3. Purchase tickets at TheBelfryTheatre.com

or call 317-773-1085. Doors open 45 minutes prior to curtain. No reserved seats. No seating after curtain. Reservations not claimed 10 minutes prior to curtain will be released to standbys.

Safety tip: Ladder safety

Before using a ladder, inspect it to confirm it is in good working condition. Ladders with loose or missing parts should be disposed of. If you're prone to losing your balance, find someone to which you can delegate the task. Be sure you're wearing clean, slip-resistant shoes. Select a ladder tall enough so that the climber does not have to stand on the top rung or step. Place the ladder on firm level ground and without any type of slippery condition at the base or at top.

