



The Enlightener

ODENTON, MARYLAND 21113

EMAIL: NBUMC@VERIZON.NET

410-674-2272 / 410-519-8665

WEBSITE: NICHOLSBETHEL.ORG

Going for the Green House Effect



Let's do it. This fall, let's determine to GO FOR THE GREEN HOUSE EFFECT here at Nichols-Bethel. I'm not urging us merely to adopt the current trend toward better stewardship of the earth. Though that's a good thing, mind you. And I'm not, in *this* article, urging us onward to complete our plans and financing for our Family Life Welcome Center. Though that's a very good thing, too. No, I'm thinking and praying bigger than either of these. Bigger than both. *I'm inviting us to be a spiritual house where people are fed, body, mind and soul in the things and seasons of God in Jesus Christ.*

Scripture asks and affirms: What gain has the worker from his toil? *I have seen the business that God has given to the sons of men to be busy with. He has made everything beautiful in its time; also he has put eternity into man's mind, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.* Ecclesiastes 3: 9-11

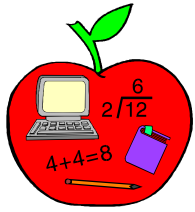
Green-on-earth is always a great surprise from heaven! In *our* climate we really only see it a few months a year. By now we're usually brown or headed that way, from grass to withering leaves. NOT THIS YEAR. From lawns to 'lopes, corn to carrots, tomatoes to peas it's been a delicious delight. And lots of us sit up and take notice. Why, we'll run much of the fall and even the winter on what we've gained in the season-of-green! As for the body, why not for the mind and soul? It is our hope... no, *our plan*... to be just such a nourishing place across the months to come. On Sundays, our messages will focus on the real questions posed by real folks. (My thanks to nearly 20 souls who have guided me in preparing for preaching/teaching.) You can read in the special "Education Section" of this *Enlightener* of more than a dozen opportunities for spiritual nourishment through study in classes large and small on Sundays, weekday mornings and evenings in groups large and small, short and long term. We've "gotcha covered" from basic Bible to church doctrine, how to guide your kids to navigating hard times. All this doesn't even include the fellowships for women, men, children, youth and young adults. If there's a hunger in your heart, we want to feed it! We want to make visible & understandable what God has made beautiful.

Even as we *fill up*, we are called to *build up*. In mortar and brick, yes. (See inside this newsletter.) BUT EVEN MORE, *in the spirit! Personally, and as a community, the Body of Christ.* So we'll be focusing this autumn on having and being a good name for God in Jesus Christ. We'll be examining our own hearts, that's the foundation of this house(hold) of ours. We'll be thinking and praying on the doors we share, by which to let others into the life of Christ and through which we go out to bring them in. We'll be moving room to room, checking out the spaces and places where we "love one another" as Jesus has taught. Practical rules for building and maintaining ourselves in Christ will be our aim. And we'll be looking at ways to live beyond the walls we build in order to touch God's family everywhere. ... *A spiritual house where people are fed, body, mind and soul in the things and seasons of God in Jesus Christ. What a GREEN HOUSE that can be!*



FEEDING THE
MIND
BODY
& **SOUL**

Ken



Connecting Through Worship and Praise

September 6

In the Kingdom's Season

The Lord, The Maker of All

Prov. 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23; Mk. 7: 24-37

Building a Spiritual House!

A Good Name Is a Good Beginning

Holy Communion

On September 27 Nichols-Bethel will receive New Members. Please express your interest via the "Who's Who" worship registry, call or email the office (410-674-2272, or office@nicholsbethel.org) or speak to one of the pastors.

September 13

In the Kingdom's Season

Unless the Lord Build the House...

Envision The Dream, Building The Future

Psalms 127: 1-2; Matthew 7: 24-29

Building a Spiritual House!

"Start with Your Heart... Worship & Praise"

Between Services Fellowship

Sunday School PROMOTION SUNDAY

September 20

In the Kingdom's Season

Unless the Lord Build the House...

Envision The Dream, Building The Future

Acts 16: 5-14; Luke 16:19-31

Building a Spiritual House!

"Come On to My House, Come On... Outreach & Mission"

...Celebrating our Work Camp Ministries.

Missions Moments: enjoy the chance to express your interest in sharing our service for Christ, both locally and globally. Sign on and sign up (before and after services) to serve and learn!

September 27

In the Kingdom's Season

Unless the Lord Build the House... Envision The Dream,

Building The Future

I Samuel 1: 10-17, 20, 24, 27-28; Acts 9: 10-19

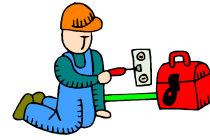
Building a Spiritual House!

"From the Nursery to the Kitchen... Formation &

Discipleship"

NEW MEMBERS Received

A NOTE FROM THE TRUSTEES



My, the summer is rushing by so quickly. Unfortunately, our beautiful church is a bit like me, just continues to get old and

have little things go wrong. I will not bore you with all of the details, suffice to say that we have been working to keep on top of everything.

The main reason for this article is to let you know that I expect to see all of you show up for the church wide work day on **Saturday September 26, 2009**. We will have lots of fun and help to spiff up our religious home. We will paint some, plant some flowers and shrubs, clean out the garage and boiler room, the stage in the social hall, etc..

As I said, lots of things not now sitting somewhere in the church or garage that are important to your function at church **must be identified** or they will be given a good Christian burial at the local landfill.

I must take just one more line to compliment Rev. Ken on the functionality of the new electronic sign. He has come a long way in learning how best to program it and will continue to get even better (remember the initial message with what "looked like" a bottle with a straw in it?).

Ken Dunshee, Trustee Chairman

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



September 19th 10
a.m. Brunch Meeting.

All ladies are invited to attend. We will have an update on activities for the remainder of the year. Two ladies attended School of Christian Missions – they will give a report and program on Native Americans. For more information call Bev, Jeanne, Donna or Kay at 410-305-8435

Music Classes

Adult Handbells (weekly)

Meets at 6:30 in Room 208. No experience necessary – learn as you go! We are currently in need of 2 ringers to complete our group. See Rev. Linda for details or questions. Begins September 14

Children's Choir (Choristers)(weekly)

A singing and learning opportunity for younger children, ages Pre-K through 2nd grade. Children experience singing songs of faith, rhythm and movement opportunities within a biblical framework. The choir sings for worship monthly.

Children's Bells (weekly)

Children learn the basics of handchime ringing, in preparation for playing handbells. Both groups meet in Choir Room 208: Choir at 5:00 p.m., Bells at 5:45 p.m.

Sunday Children's Choir Sunday School Class (Junior Choristers)

This class, for ages 3rd grade through 5th grade, meets concurrently with the 9:30 a.m. Sunday School classes. The class provides opportunity for middle and upper elementary children to have a choir experience, combined with a Sunday School lesson. Hopefully, this will serve those children who are unable to come during the week, due to extra-curricular activities. Begins September 13 in Choir Room 208

Please register and indicate your preference(s) below:

Name _____

Phone # _____

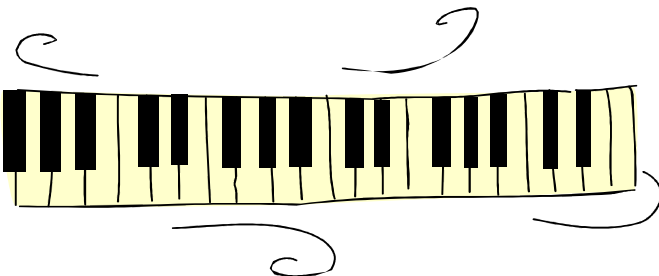
Class _____

For Children's Choirs: Thursday ----- Sunday -----

Child's Name _____

Parent's Name _____

Age and grade last completed _____



2010 DINNER GROUPS

Dinner Groups is a fellowship meeting in home of members. Couples as well as singles are welcome to meet in groups of about eight people. The host prepares the main course and sets the table. Others bring a dish to fill-in: salad, vegetable, or dessert. Then the next time the group does it all over again in another home. Each group sets their own schedule. The entertaining style is whatever makes the host comfortable. Some enjoy using their wedding china and grandmother's crystal while others prefer an informal meal around the kitchen table. Not enough chairs? Consider a buffet and lap trays or a cookout with paper plates. Some groups may chose to meet at a restaurant for a Dutch-treat meal.

However your group decides to function, you will have spent at least four evenings (or afternoons) with your group. Then next year sign up again and you can meet another group of Nichols-Bethel friends.

Questions or comments? Peggy Williams (410) 672-5190 emptywilliams@hotmail.com Drop off the sign-up sheet at the church office or place in the collection plate.

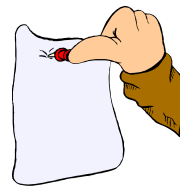
NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

Age -- Check one:
20-30's ___; 30-40's ___; 40-50's ___; 50 + ___



A Personal Note

Mary Carol wishes to express her sincere thanks and appreciation for all of the beautiful cards, prayers, and gifts she has received from the congregation. She is looking forward to coming back to the organ bench in September.

To Nichols-Bethel UMC Congregation:

I and my family would like to thank all for the many cards and calls in the weeks leading up to Marlene's death, and the great outpouring of love at the celebration of her life. Special thanks again for the calls from Rev. Ken, the beautiful service by Rev. Linda, the music by Jeanne, and the great help by Joyce.

Love, Dave Keck and family

EDUCATION SECTION

The Nichols-Bethel...

Academy of the Spirit...

feeding mind, body and soul

building a spiritual house.

Disciples determined to be more like Jesus.

Coming to KNOW... GROW... SHOW

... and GO... in Christ.



**An exciting array of offerings to invite and assist you
and your family in the spirit-adventure
of following our Lord, Jesus Christ.**

Settings include Sunday Mornings for all ages, 9:30 and 11 AM
and a variety of day and evening classes open to all.

(We are committed to making child care available.)

We have assembled superior study guides and leaders to enable us
to delve deeply, whether as beginners or lifetime learners, into these
important lessons in faith and life! *So don't delay. Plan now to attend.*

Among our teachers and guides:

Bruce Metzger... Ed. and Chief, the Revised Standard Bible translation
Chris Altrock... Christian Writer, Pastor Highland St. UCC
Max Lucado... Author, Sr. Pastor, Oak Hills, Texas
Kevin Leman... Christian Counselor, Psychologist, Author
Barbara Lundblad... Union Theological Seminary
Barbara Brown Taylor... Nationally recognized Bible teacher
AE Learn... of United Methodist Communications, Nashville
Rick Binfield, Adult Seminar Sunday School Leader
Chet DeVore, Adult Bible Study Sunday School Leader
Rev. Bruce Thompson, Chaplain, Hospice of the Chesapeake
Rev. Linda Coolbaugh, Minister of Education and Evangelism, NBUMC
Rev. Ken Humbert, Pastor, NBUMC



**New Guest Guides
to be announced.**

Sunday Mornings

9:30 AM on the lower floor.

Adult Seminar Class... meeting weekly in room 106. The class features study of a variety of topics relevant to life and faith. Currently the group is moving through its "great religions" series, trying to better understand our own traditions and those of other confessions that shape our community and our world. September theme: American Methodism. Rick Binfield, leader

Adult Bible Study... meeting weekly in room 103. Gathering around the Ancient Word, the class seeks to find its meaning for today. Studies beginning in September are focused on the Book of Genesis, considering the theme, "God Created a People." You are cordially invited to share in these lively discussions, whether a new or "old hand" reader of the Bible story. Chet DeVore, leader

“Into the Word, Into the World”

Disciple Bible Study, 32-week course

Disciple Bible Study is an award-winning, highly rewarding United Methodist course. It is designed to deepen Biblical knowledge through reading, discussion and *video instruction from some of the finest scholars of the Scripture*, who teach in engaging, understandable terms. *This course offers a deeper examination of Genesis, Exodus, Luke and Acts – emphasizing coming to God and going for God, approaching all life experiences as opportunities for faithful witness and service.*

Begins: September 22 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 206.

Rev. Linda Coolbaugh, discussion leader

“Dancing with David”

The Story of the shepherd-become-king, his life of faith and frailty and its lessons for us.

Tuesday Night Bible Study... Beginning September 22, meeting in room 106 at 7:30 pm. This initial series runs for ten weeks. Only Jesus gets more “sacred ink” in scripture than David. His story covers some 66 Bible chapters. More importantly, his story spans the faith journey that so many of us share. And the faith lessons so many of us require. COME AND HEAR AND SEE. COME AND DANCE WITH DAVID! You may share this opening topic only, choose from those that follow, or come for the entire series! Whichever, we’ll be glad to have you...!

The entire series runs from late September through mid-May. Future studies include (Advent) *Bethlehem’s Promise, What Jesus Wants to Know (So much we want to ask Jesus. What does Jesus ask us?!), (Lent) On a Hill Not So Very Far Away, Now that He’s Risen (What do we do with our Easter faith), Marking Time (As the prophets taught us)*

Rev. Ken Humbert, discussion leader



Wednesday Mornings: Women Plus One

“Dancing with the Stars”

Beginning September 23, meeting in room 106 at 10:30 am. This initial series runs for 10 weeks. *Series uses stories from the Old and New Testaments to explore the challenges of “dancing” the spirit journey with those we love, while remaining in love with God.* THE ADVENTURE IS DESIGNED FOR WOMEN ACROSS THE AGE-SPAN, AND MAY BE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO YOUNG MOMS AT HOME. As with all our courses, CHILD CARE WILL BE AVAILABLE. Here’s a great chance for both learning and fellowship!

Entire series runs from late September to mid-May. Future studies determined by the participants.

Rev. Ken Humbert, discussion leader. Guest leaders also enrich our gatherings!

Daytime & Evening Offerings

“Cover To Cover”

(1xmonthly)

A book discussion group, Bible based, meeting in Rev. Linda’s office or the church library. Most book selections run 6 to 8 sessions. Please join us for small group discussion and fellowship.

Begins September 16 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon

**PLACE
HOLDER
FOR SEPT.
CALENDAR**

**PLACE
HOLDER
FOR SEPT.
CALENDAR**



Habits Of The Heart

(10 weeks)



This class introduces the personal characteristics, qualities and virtues of men and women who follow Jesus Christ, on a journey to deepen spirituality and discipleship. Among the session topics are: Where is the Spirit in spirituality? What is most important to me? Can I find balance in a whirlwind world? How do I keep my possessions from possessing me? What do I do with my doubts? Can a change in me change the world?

Begins Thursday October 1 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 206 Rev. Linda Coolbaugh, discussion leader

“Friends In Faith”

(1xmonthly)

This group meets in Rev. Linda’s home, for fellowship and Bible study. Our book, with scripture and discussion is titled Moments That Take Your Breath Away, by James W. Moore (U.M. Pastor). Join us for refreshments, fellowship and fun! We combine selected books with scripture, discussion and refreshments. Relax at the end of your work week, while growing in your faith. **Begins September 18 at 6:00 p.m.**

“Cover to Cover”

We meet as Christian friends once monthly for fellowship and discussion of selected books.
We will meet on Wednesday mornings (time TBD). Rev. Linda Coolbaugh, discussion leader

Tutoring Program

We tutor every Tuesday at 4 p.m., following the school calendar.

Volunteers help Odenton Elementary School students with homework and remedial lessons.

We begin September 29. This is a wonderful way to mentor and be a positive influence on young lives. We can use lots of volunteers

to keep a good student/teacher ratio. Please consider this worthy endeavor.

ALL NEW. WAY COOL!!! On-Line Learning and Sharing...

“Wired World...News of the Day, Understood by the GOOD NEWS of the GOSPEL”

A web-site launched learning adventure for adults and youth. Uses weekly news reports. Guided by the staff of Timothy Merrill and other national religious writers, we will interact with our world as interpreted and challenges by Scripture. You will need to sign up on our www.nicholsbethel.org site to participate.

Further details will be posted shortly. An in-home adventure, nourished by conversation with fellow-believers and friends.

Parent Offerings

“Upside Living in a Downside Economy”*

Beginning Sun. 9/13 6:30, One hr.! Schedule mirrors MYF thereafter, 6 classes. The class offers a helpful perspective, especially to parents, on living effectively and faithfully in what appears a new economy.

“How to Have a New Kid... in Five Days!”*

Back by request, Dr. Kevin Leman serves as our guide on a wonderful tour through helpful tips and insights for renewing our families as autumn begins. Beginning Sun. 9/20 5:00 PM. 1 hr. Mirrors our Thursday Children’s Music schedule thereafter.

* Rev. Ken, with guests, discussion leader(s).

**Lots to Choose : sign up at church, on line, in newsletter...
See and use the chart provided in this Enlightener.**

Academy of the Spirit: SIGN UP...Here, at Church, on Line				
Course	Term	Your Name	Your Phone	E-address
Adult Seminar	Year Round			
Adult Bible Study	Year Round			
Into the Word/ World Disciple	32 Weeks From Sept. 22			
Tuesday Night Bi- ble: Dancing with (SERIES I) David	Sept. 22 - May BY SERIES... Avg. 4-9 wks.			
Weds. Women Plus One: ... Dancing with the Stars	Sept. 24 -May BY SERIES... Avg. 4-9 wks.			
Habits of the Heart	10 Weeks From Oct. 1			
Friends in Faith	Fridays Monthly from Sept.18			
Cover to Cover	Wednesdays TBA			
TUTORING	Tuesdays 4 pm From Sept. 29			
Wired World	Sign-up on web- site!			
TUTORING	Tuesdays 4 pm From Sept. 30			
“Upside Living in a Downside Economy”	Beginning Sun. 9/13 6:30, One hr. Schedule mir- rors MYF thereafter, 6 classes.			
“How to Have a New Kid... in Five Days!”	Beginning Sun. 9/20 5:00 PM, 1 hr. Schedule mir- rors Thurs. Kids Music thereafter.			

Children’s Music & Bells Opportunities & Registration



United Methodist Youth Fellowship News

Schedule of Events:

September 6	5:00 p.m. UMYF Information night Parents and Youth
September 13	6:00 p.m. Camp Hope Meeting to plan for Camp Hope Sunday and Meeting
September 20	Camp Hope Celebration Sunday (No Meeting)
September 25-26	REVOLVE TOUR!
September 28	Outdoor Adventure Day at Savage Mill Time TBA
October 4	5:00 Regular Meeting
October 11	Pumpkin Set-up Night
October 14	PUMPKINS DELIVERED! 4:30 p.m.
October 16-31	SELL THOSE PUMPKINS!
October 31	Ham and Oyster Supper
November 1	Pumpkin Patch Clean Up

WORK CAMP RECAP

Where to even begin? I cannot even begin to thank the adults who gave of their time and money to chaperone Camp Hope this year! Kim and Dave Denis, David Baldwin, Steffanie Felder, and Frank "T. Dirty" Onest. Their witness to our youth made each trip a true spiritual journey. Needless to say there were trying times with home owners, high roof work, and LOTS OF DRYWALL DUST, but each handled every situation with a Christ-like heart. All of our youth enjoyed successful job sights and were truly moved by the ways in which they encountered God that week. Another thank you goes to the congregation of Nichols-Bethel. We could never have even gotten to Camp Hope had it not been for your prayerful dedication and your financial generosity. Thank you so much! We look forward to sharing our experiences with each other and with the church on Sunday, September 20.

CAMP HOPE CELEBRATION SUNDAY

We will be celebrating and sharing all of our work camp experiences on Sunday, September 20 at all three services. Please plan on wearing your work camp T-Shirts. There will be more information at the September 13 meeting as to what the service actually entails. It is important that we have the opportunity to share the ways in which we grew in their spiritual journey. IF YOU HAVE PICTURES, PLEASE MAKE SURE THEY ARE GIVEN TO MEGHAN ASAP TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SLIDE SHOW!

SEPTEMBER 6: KICK OFF MEETING!

Please join us with your parents on Sunday evening, September 6 for our first kick off meet and greet meeting. This is an opportunity for all the new members UMYF and their parents to meet some of our more "seasoned veterans" of UMYF. Directions will follow. UMYF is open to ALL youth from grades 6-12.

UMYF OFFICERS

Please consider running for an officer position in the UMYF this year. Positions include: President, Vice-President in charge of Service, Vice-President in charge of Discipleship, Vice-President in charge of Welcome, Secretary, Senior High Representative, Mid-High Representative. These positions will be discussed and described at the opening meet and greet meeting on September 6. At that point, we will decide when you would like to have elections.

PUMPKIN PATCH INFO

The pumpkins are coming again! They will be delivered on October 14. Just like last year, we will need people to help unload pumpkins, run the patch, and clean up excess pumpkins. Since the general body of the church will be running the patch while we are in school, it is our job to run it while out of school. There will be a sign up sheet for a **youth and parent** to man the patch every night from 5:00 – 8:00. If more than one youth can cover a night, we can run in smaller shifts. We are responsible for the patch all day Sunday from 12:00 to 6:00. So, clear your calendars. This is the opportunity to raise a lot of funds for Camp Hope.

ROCK RETREAT!

Before we know it, ROCK retreat will be upon us. IT SELLS OUT QUICKLY! And by quickly I mean September 10! So, please plan to have your deposit ready at the end of September to reserve your spot. We will discuss this in more detail throughout September.

REVOLVE TOUR

Attention Ladies! Please plan on attending the REVOLVE Tour September 25-26 at the First Mariner Arena in Baltimore. 5:30-9:30 p.m. on Friday night, and 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on Saturday. Cost is \$78 per person with under 10 people, and \$64 with over 10 people. Boxed lunch is \$8.00. Please let Meghan know ASAP if you would like to attend. Check out the website at revolvetour.com for more information.

This
page
for ads

September 2009



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METHODIST CHURCH**

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YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

The Nichols-Bethel Young Adult Fellowship has been enjoying summer activities in- on the Bay, a home gathering along with ily for GRILL and LUNCH



cluding sailing -hosted picnic, our church fam- CHILL, and BUNCH. LUNCH pot-luck meal

BUNCH meets for a the second Sunday of each month at 12:15 in the Fellowship Hall. Join us on September 13th to learn all about us and our plans. Check us out on the N-B website! Questions or comments contact Peggy Williams (410) [672-5190/](tel:4106725190)

emptywilliams@hotmail.com

Colby Knoll: colbyk2@gmail.com



Do you have something for the newsletter? Contact Steffanie Felder via email at msjv@comcast.net or by phone 410-672-6807.