



The Enlightener

ODENTON, MARYLAND 21113

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And God Said, "YES!"



On Thursday evening, September 23rd, the people of Nichols-Bethel asked of God, in the quiet of our hearts and in our public prayers, "Is this the time?"

And God said, "Yes!"

And so we said the same.

The Congregational Meeting called to act on the proposal voted (unanimously!) to proceed to construct

The Nichols-Bethel Welcome Center

The Guaranteed Maximum Price of Construction, as presented: 1.588 million dollars. (Horst Construction, our General Contractor has committed to work with us to reduce costs further, as possible and advisable.) The congregation authorized securing a permanent loan from Sandy Spring Bank of *up to* the GMP. Further, the Building and Finance Committees are instructed to solicit additional gifts of cash or equity, and proceed with a Church Bond Program to secure 300,000-500,000 to subscribe the building. (Successful completion of this phase of the funding process will reduce our loan accordingly. The

more we contribute, the less we borrow.) You will definitely want to read the combined reports of the Building and Finance Committees elsewhere in *The Enlightener*. A great deal of added information is available. And of course, we'll be sharing with you in a variety of other ways as we work together through this adventure in faith and finance. One GREAT WORD NOW:

AS ANNOUNCED ON SEPTEMBER 23RD,

SOME 300,000 IN GIFTS AND BONDS HAS ALREADY BEEN PROMISED THE PROJECT!

There's more. Within days, we hope to receive our building permits. As our site preparation (now so visibly under way) winds down, actual construction will be able to begin. During this period, we'll need both your prayers and your patience. And your careful attention, too. Maybe the first example of this...

NEW PARKING AND TRAFFIC PATTERNS WILL ADD TO OUR SENSE OF ADVENTURE!

At this writing, these are yet to be worked out. But I CAN remind you we'll have alternative spaces available on the upper lot (where the pumpkins go, the cut through sits and access to Oakton Rd. lets us on and off the grounds). We can parallel park @ church curbside along Murray Rd. We can angle park on Murray in the church sign area. And our nearest businesses offer Sunday parking too.



GROUNDBREAKING/CONSECRATION ACTIVITIES WILL CONCLUDE ALL WORSHIP SERVICES, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17. AT NOON, WE'LL HAVE A COMBINED CELEBRATION WITH MUSIC AND REFRESHMENTS AS WE TRANSITION TO OUR FALL FESTIVAL!



Connecting Through Worship & and Praise

OCTOBER 3 WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Luke 10: 17-24; 22:15-20

"The Feast of Earnest Desire!"

Celebrating Servant Ministry at the Lord's Table.

The Lord's Supper *Enjoyed with believers everywhere.*

ON OCTOBER 31

We receive New Members. Please express your interest via the "Who's Who" worship registry, call or email the office (410-674-9272, or office@nicholsbethel.org), speak to the pastors.

OCTOBER 10 IN THE KINGDOM'S SEASON

Genesis 4: 1-9; Luke 10: 38-42

"All in the Family:

Kids Say the Darndest Things!"

Children's Choir

OCTOBER 17 IN THE KINGDOM'S SEASON

Genesis 37: 23-28; 45: 1-11a; Luke 22: 19-26

"All in the Family: Joey LOOKED at Me, Mom!"

Ground Consecration, ALL Services

Groundbreaking, Noon w/music

Food & Fall Festival to Follow!!!

OCTOBER 24 IN THE KINGDOM'S SEASON

Exodus 4: 10-17; Acts 16: 1-10

"All in the Family: ...ANYthing...

Better'n You!"

October 31 In the Kingdom's Season

I Sam. 2: 12-17; 4: 12-18; Lk. 1: 35-42, Mtt. 3: 13-17

"All in the Family: Brothers, Cousins and Consequences

Groundbreaking For The Soul...

How to Welcome a Friend in Faith

Sharing the faith is natural. It's just saying to someone, "Hey, come on over here. You gotta see this!" Jesus expects us to do this. (Mtt. 28:18-20). Still, lots of us tend to be rather shy evangelists.

Here are some tips.

Look for a natural opening. Regular daily conversations offer lots of chances to talk about faith. Listen for comments like, "I wonder why life is like that," or, "Sometimes life seems so hard." When possible, offer a response from a Christian perspective. Begin sentences with phrases such as, "I've come to think..." or, "I don't have the perfect answer, but I believe..."

Be yourself. Just share your faith as you share normally. Don't suddenly switch your tone of voice or vocabulary. You needn't impress. A debate's not the thing, just a chat. No one can argue your experience. Let the Spirit guide you.

Watch for a chance to take the conversation deeper. Kindly gauge the other person's response: his or her facial expression, verbal tone, and body language. If he or she seems to be closing down, set the topic aside and wait for another time. If he or she keys in and perks up, be prepared to continue.

Open up. Human beings are attracted to each other by our strengths, but we bond because of our weaknesses. Key to sharing your faith is the willingness to be honest about your own life's struggles. This will communicate safety, which for many people is critical.

Follow up. Offer to continue the conversation later. It will become personally valuable to you. Allowing the person to see you're your own faith commitment, though you still have questions (as they do) will reassure him or her of you're sincere.

Offer to share your church, our church with people.

Most people come after being invited by a friend. When the time is right, invite the person to attend with you. Tell the person what makes it special to you.

Helping Hands Week!

Nichols-Bethel invites YOU to celebrate "Helping Hands Week!" From Oct. 3 -Oct. 9, *let's just do some everyday or little thing for our neighbors* as our witness, *You're invited to sign up for a personal ministry to our community.* Some examples:

- + Give-Away Joy Day (goodies to local Sr. housing, Marc Sta., etc.)
- + Food service at Manna House
- + Adopt-a-Road Clean-up
- + Volunteer local Schools/Sr. facilities (E.g. Friendship Station)
- + Deliver Spiritual Aids to Jennifer Det. Ctr.
- + Serve a lunch: Ryan Site, Rt. 175 @ NBUMC
- + Distribute Thank You's to Ft. Meade Troops
- + Call a Neighbor, Give a Blessing
- + Operation Invitation (for new neighbors)

Select a Service for Christ... Sign up! Schedule a good-day-for-you across the week. Do your thing!
We'll celebrate together on October 3rd -10th



Trick or Trunk

Halloween at Nichols Bethel
United Methodist Church
Oct. 31st at 12:15pm

What is trick or trunk?

It is Halloween tailgating Nichols Bethel style

Kids come to church with your Halloween costume (church appropriate, fun not gross) for show and tell. Grown-ups decorate your trunk for kid-friendly Halloween fun.

After the 11am service we will pop open our trucks & hand out candy and treats to the kids.

Remember to bring lots of treats for a lots-of-fun time!!!

Remember to bring your friends and neighbors.

This is a rain or shine event.

Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake (HFHC) West County Faith Coalition

The next fund raising event for the HFHC West County Coalition is being hosted by Ark and Dove on the weekend of Oct. 23rd - 24th as part of Habitat Faith Weekend. The fund raiser consists of the construction of playhouses that will then be put up for auction or raffling off. Volunteers are needed in the following areas:

1) Volunteers to assist in the cutting/assembling of the kits on Sat Oct 23rd, (10:00 - 2:00) and serve as team leaders to various teams in constructing the playhouse on Oct 24th (11:00 - 5:00).

2) Volunteers (groups or individuals) within NBUMC who would like to participate in the building of the playhouses on Sunday, Oct 24th, or who would like to assist in leading children activities that are a part of the event.

If you can assist in either of these areas, please contact Doug Wallace (410-969-8640; email dougwall1@comcast.net) by Oct 6th.

Thanks for your support in the effort to bring affordable housing to Anne Arundel County.



UMYF pumpkin patch 2010



We need your help! The UMYF is sponsoring Nichols-Bethel's Fifth annual community pumpkin patch. While the youth are in school, we need help selling pumpkins during the day. The truck of pumpkins will be delivered on Saturday, October 16 at 8:30 a.m. Please plan to help us unload and set up the patch. Any time you can donate will be a tremendous help. The money raised will help sponsor



Camp Hope team(s) this summer, and support the UMYF throughout the year. Please sign up in the narthex, or contact Meghan Humbert at 410-874-7431 for details.



United Methodist Women

October Meeting – Saturday, October 16th, 10 a.m. Brunch. Bring an item to share. Harriet Haynes will be presenting the program.

November Meeting – Saturday, November 20th, 10 a.m. Brunch. Bring an item to share. Carrie Matthews – YWCA Adon House – Safe Haven for Domestic Violence.

A personal Note...

Just a brief note of thanks to you all for prayers, cards, and caring during my recent brief encounter with appendicitis. Special thanks to Rev. Ken for visiting with me before the surgery.

The Lord was truly looking out for me in this case. I cannot imagine what it would have been like had we gone camping at Harmison as planned and the attack occurred there. All I can do is praise the Lord for his mercy and care.

Dan Lewis

ALL HANDS ON DECK FOR "A NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM"

Saturday November 20th from 4:00 – 7:00 pm

It is a night like no other; you will see the marketplace in Bethlehem as it was the night that Jesus was born. Learn the trades of the time with a hands-on experience, meet the census taker, have your family's picture taken in period costume, visit a tax collector, and more.

The next preparation meetings are on Oct 6th and 27th at 6:30 pm in room 206.

We need your help to put this event on. Can you help? So far we have these volunteers:

- The youth group will be performing a short skit at 5:00 and 6:15 pm.
- Mark Dale has lovingly made miniature nativity scenes for every family that attends.
- Reverend Bruce has volunteered to teach to us the real meaning of the nativity scene.
- A special Thank You to Peggy Williams for all her great ideas.
- David Baldwin will construct the Gate into Bethlehem.
- Jody Brill and company will man the Census table.
- Beverly Humbert will be showing us how to turn wheat into flour. You will learn if it is as easy as it looks.
- June Sumner and Kay Bush will teach us about fragrance and how essential it was to cover up every day smells.
- Eric Danielson and company will be giving us a look into a Jewish home and feeding us period snack type food.
- Renate Ryan will show us how they baked bread without an electric oven, what a trick to learn.
- Dolores Bell and June Grove will have a toy shop that where we can play with period toys and you can make a wooden clothes pin doll that will make an excellent Christmas tree ornament.
- Beth Stokes and Becky Williams will teach us

how to run a loom.

- Johnny Fuller and John Goodland will help the professional photographer take family portraits in costume.
- The Binfield's are going to share with us music of the time.

We still need help filling these positions:

- We need a volunteer to start and man a campfire (and get permission from the fire department).
- We need a guitar player and carolers around the campfire that can get the weary travelers involved.
- We need one or two couples to perform the live nativity scene.
- We need a volunteer to help us stamp on our nativity bags made at the loom.
- We need volunteers to teach how to make rope.
- We need volunteers to help us make our own instruments.
- We need a tax collector, some acting involved.
- We need an advertiser.
- We need a few Roman Centurions
- We need someone to run the wreath commitment station.
- We need lighting and sound experts.
- **WE NEED YOU!**

We also need some item donated that will be returned after the event:

- Old rugs
- a Chimenea
- wooden toys/animals
- corn stocks
- hay bales
- a search light
- pop-up canopy's
- lots of old fabric

**PLACE
HOLDER
FOR JAN
CALENDAR**

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CONGREGATION DECIDES TO MOVE FORWARD WITH WELCOME CENTER

WELCOME CENTER UPDATE

CHARGE CONFERENCE (CONGREGATIONAL MEETING):

On September 23, 2010 a Charge Conference was held to decide the final course of action on the Welcome Center Project. We are very pleased to report that by unanimous vote the following motion was passed by this Charge Conference: "The congregation of Nichols-Bethel United Methodist Church hereby authorizes the construction of the Nichols-Bethel Welcome Center and pursuant to the same, authorizes the securing of a permanent loan from Sandy Spring Bank of up to 1.588 Million Dollars as presented at the congregational meeting on September 23, 2010. Further, the Building and Finance Committees are instructed to proceed with the solicitation of additional gifts of cash or equity, and to proceed with a Church Bond Program to secure \$300,000-\$500,000 to subscribe the building."

DISTRICT BOARD OF CHURCH LOCATION AND BUILDING:

On September 7, 2010, we received final approval from the District Board of Church Location and Building to proceed with the Welcome Center project.

WELCOME CENTER DRAWINGS AND BUILDING PERMIT:

On August 26, 2010 we resubmitted our building plans for the Welcome Center Project to Anne Arundel County responding to the comments (31) provided by the County. Anne Arundel County in a letter dated September 23, 2010 has presented six (6) comments to be resolved before the building permit is granted. We will be providing the response to these six comments during the week of September 27th. We anticipate approval of the building permit for the Welcome Center some time in September or early October.

The permit drawings set has been posted on our church web site. Your feedback continues to be very positive. The Welcome Center, as designed by Dale Yoder, President of Cornerstone Design Architects, will feature about an 8917 sq. ft. addition with a new entry, new contemporary worship space, functional space for meet and greet, book area, café including kitchenette, and fully accessible new restrooms with shower, new full-sized elevator for increasing accessibility for the entire church building, new youth area, classrooms, and full site development including additional parking spaces.

COST TO CONSTRUCT THE WELCOME CENTER:

Members of the Building Committee met with Horst Construction on August 25, 2010 to review the bidding results. The Welcome Center will cost about 1.588 million dollars for the basic building construction. Horst Construction is continuing to refine this number with the goal to have the basic Welcome Centered built for or below this price.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT:

*We need your financial HELP! As of September 19, 2010, the Building Fund has raised about **\$904,838**. We have set a new goal of reaching \$1,050,000 for the building fund to cover the higher cost of the site work. Raising **\$142,162** over the next several months will allow us to achieve our goal and limit or eliminate advances from general funds. *With your help, we will reach and hopefully exceed that goal across the fall. Would you prayerfully consider giving to the Building Fund?* We truly appreciate your support.*

FINANCIAL PLAN:

The Finance Committee in conjunction with the Building Committee has completed a financial plan for the Welcome Center Project. This plan is a three part model:

1. Cash, Gifts, Special Events. *Gifts, cash or securities are interest free to Nichols-Bethel, reduce borrowing, and gives a tax benefit to donor. Events/fundraiser goal: 25,000 annually.*
2. Church bond \$300,000-500,000.
(This provides below market interest cost to Nichols-Bethel and above market return to donor.)
Range 2 - 4% up to 10 yrs. *(Longer bond, higher rate)*
Special Age 70+ bonds for sooner maturity.
3. Commercial loan, 25 yrs:
\$1 -1.5 million (as needed)
(First year: interest only)
Repayment Range: \$6,260.89 to \$9,211.31 monthly
 \$1.2 Million... \$7,513.07 monthly
Sandy Spring Bank will be our lender.

We are thrilled to announce \$300,000 in intended Bonds and gifts to be received. Information on the Church Bond program may be obtained by contacting either Art Yates at 410 672-5566 or Charles Billings at 410 987-5359.

SITE WORK UPDATE

Since we last reported on the site work, many changes have occurred to the property located west of the parsonage. The site has been cleared of all trees, the regenerative storm water conveyance system has been constructed, much of the storm water piping has been installed, the retaining wall (242 feet long) is complete with the exception of a small number of cap blocks, the playground equipment is in the process of being moved to the front of the church, and the installation of water and sewer piping has begun. The site work includes new parking, storm water drains and storm water management, water and sewer lines, fire hydrants, etc. Horst Construction Company is performing the site work. You may find more information about the Horst Construction Company at its website: <http://www.horstconstruction.com>.



UMYF NEWS!

MEGHAN'S EMAIL HAS CHANGED!
humbert.meghan@gmail.com

Looking Ahead:

- October 10: No meeting
 - October 16: 8:30 a.m. PUMPKINS ARRIVE! UNLOAD!
 - October 16: First day of PUMPKIN PATCH!
 - October 17: Youth pumpkin patch hours are SAT/SUN
 - October 17: Fall Fest (No regular meeting)
 - October 24: Patch all day, regular meeting 5:30
 - October 30: Ham and Oyster Supper
 - October 31: Last day of pumpkin patch!
 - October 31: Trick or Trunk at church!
- Then, stay home and enjoy the trick-or-treating tonight!
- November 2: PUMPKIN CLEAN UP! Time TBD
 - November 7: Daylight Savings Time Regular Meeting 5:30

SEPTEMBER RECAP

What an amazing beginning to our year! We have seen over 40 youth participate in activities so far this year! What tremendous growth and what an amazing testament to the ways in which God is moving through our congregation! Our Camp Hope Sunday on September 12 was a thrilling reminder of all the ways that our youth have been in mission. Nichols-Bethel continues to be proud of each of you for all of the ways in which you mission to our community. How special it was to celebrate with Unsearchable Riches, and we are very excited that they will be playing at ROCK retreat again this year! Let's keep up the good work and go sell some pumpkins in October.

FALL FEST!

This will be our first Sunday open with the pumpkin patch, and it will be CRAZY BUSY, especially from 12:00-2:00! Please clear your calendars and help! We will need many people that day to help make as many sales as possible.

HAM and OYSTER SUPPER

Every year, we try and help with the ham and oyster supper – serving, cleaning, baking. The adults are so helpful with selling pumpkins that we need to give back! We also need LOTS OF PEOPLE to sell pumpkins that night. It is VERY BUSY THAT DAY!!!! Please clear your calendars and lend a hand on October 30. (YOU CAN EVEN WORK IN COSTUME IF YOU WANT!)

Bulletin Boards and Website

Please check the bulletin boards in the hallway outside the youth room, and in the youth room itself. Check out the pictures from our latest trips and adventures. Calendars are posted so you can keep up to date with the schedule and due dates. Also, check out the website for all the pictures from these events and Camp Hope 2010. The schedule of events and coming attractions is also there. Sign up sheets are posted for the retreats.

PUMPKIN PATCH INFO

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 4:00-7:30 (or dark). If you can volunteer for other times, please do so. We need to fill as much time as we can with youth and parents so as not to overload the general congregation. We are responsible for the patch all day on Saturday, October 16, Sunday, October 17 (fall fest), Saturday, October 23, Sunday, October 24. So, clear your calendars. This is the opportunity to raise a lot of funds for the UMYF!



ROCK RETREAT!

Before we know it, ROCK retreat will be upon us. We need to have a total head count of youth who are planning to attend. The retreat is January 21-23 in Ocean City, MD. Deposits and registrations need to be made, and we would like to over-registered to allow for those still deciding to attend. So, if you are interested, please see Meghan Humbert ASAP. Hotel reservations and food money will be due later in the year. Check the bulletin boards in the church for the schedule and speaker list. \$40 is due now to reserve your seat.

COST BREAKDOWN

A cost breakdown for major activities this year will be available at upcoming UMYF meetings.. Due dates are also there. Please be prompt with payments as there is not much in the UMYF account to cover late comers. Do not let costs hinder participation. We always find a way to make it work. Pumpkins help A LOT! There will also be a December fundraiser to help. Please make a note of all due dates. weeks from 5:00 – 6:00 in the youth room.

This
page
for ads

October 2010



The Enlighthouse

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. Postage
P.A.I.D.
Millersville, MD 21108
Permit #17

NICHOLS-BETHEL UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
PO Box 176
Odenton, Maryland 21113

Fall Festival

Nichols Bethel is hosting their annual huge celebration of fall! Fun for all ages, bring family, friends and neighbors.

-  Bobbing For Apples
-  Paint a pumpkin
-  Tug-a-War
-  Fall pie/Cake Contest; bring recipes to share
-  Make a Scarecrow
-  pumpkin Bowling
-  Assorted Games

SUNDAY OCTOBER 17TH

NOON -2PM

Pot Luck Style lunch; bring you favority fall/comfort dish; Nichols Bethel will provide the cider, iced tea and paper products.

Rain or Shine!!