

Welcome to... *Nichols-Bethel*
United Methodist Church

December 18, 2011

8 & 11 AM

Visit us any time at www.nicholsbethel.org.

Advent IV
My Soul Magnifies the Lord

Medley for Gathering “*Come Christmas*”

Greetings of the Season, Words of Welcome

*Call to Worship

Blessed be the Lord our God,

for he has visited and redeemed his people,

God has raised up a horn of salvation, just as he said he would.

Mercy is coming, and a Child to be born...

Saving Knowledge, Tender Mercy, Light in the dark,

The Way of Peace! Promise of the angels! Joy of the ages!

*Hymn: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing No. 240

Lighting the Advent Candle

We light the *candle of joy*, longing for God’s promises to come to pass. Our every hope lies again in a simple manger. There is blessed peace in the Christ Child’s love. And pure joy overflows!

Advent Prayer for Illumination (All)

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of Your Holy Spirit. As the Scriptures are read and Your Word is spoken, may we draw near with faith, and see that even now You are coming into our world and into our lives. Let it be so and our joy shall be full and our wait for your Son fulfilled.

(As candle lighters come forward all sing)

O come, Thou wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh; to us the path of knowledge show and cause us in her ways to go. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to thee O Israel.

(As the candle is lighted, together we sing)

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thy justice here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death’s dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to thee

O Israel.

Moments at the Manger... with the children of God.

Response: Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (Verses 1, all singing) **No. 229**

Greetings of the Season, Words of Welcome

Signing our Presence, Invitations, Joys and Concerns

Listening for the Word of the Lord

Psalm 33: 1-3, 20-22

Canticle: “*Advent Carol*” The Chancel Bell Choir

T A P E S T R Y O F L I G H T

CANTATA

Genesis 1: 1-3

Carols of Light and Hope Combined Choirs

Isaiah 40: 3-5; 42: 6

Longing for the Light

Featuring Ed Garrant and Terri Higgins

Isaiah 35: 1-2

An Advent Garden Combined Choirs

Isaiah 7: 14; Luke 1: 26-33

The Holy Child of Mary Combined Choirs

Offering our Gifts and Tithes...

Offertory... *Oh Wondrous Night* Isaiah 9: 6; Luke 2: 1-7

Featuring Bill Oley

***Praise God In Christ**

Tune No. 94

Praise God in Christ who waits to come

And make our hearts His earthly home: Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise God in Christ who comes to birth

To save God’s children in the earth.

Join the angels, sing His praises, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Isaiah 60: 1-3; Matthew 2: 1-2

Carols of the Quest Combined Choirs

Matthew 5: 14-16

A Celtic Gloria Combined Choirs

John 8: 12

Bethlehem Light

Featuring Jessica Knoll

John 1: 1-4

Carols of Celebration Combined Choirs

*Hymn: Angels From the Realms of Glory No. 220

*Blessing

*Choral Benediction: *May the Lord, Mighty God, bless and keep you for ever; grant you peace, perfect peace, courage in every endeavor. Lift up your eyes and see His face, and His grace forever. May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever.*

*Postlude "From a Distant Home"

CHRISTMAS DAY

DECEMBER 25, 2011

11 AM-11: 45 ...COME AS YOU ARE!

Next Sunday we will share in the delight of our children with a special "Blessing of the Gifts." *Children & adults are invited to come to church next week with their favorite Christmas present.*

...A blessing time for the gifts, as well as a time to think on the BEST Christmas gift, wrapped... and laying in a manger!"

A DELIGHTFUL TIME to mark the HOLY BIRTH

NEW YEAR'S DAY

ONE SERVICE TIME, 9:30 AM, TWO SERVICES!

We begin the year uniquely: offering both traditional and contemporary styles: Sanctuary & Lighthouse! Both services will feature the Lord's Supper & the Wesleyan New Year's Covenant. Special setting for Sunday School.

(This is a once only schedule!)

Nichols-Bethel United Methodist Church

1239 Murray Road, Odenton, Maryland 21113

*Website: nicholsbethel.org *e-mail: office@nicholsbethel.org

*Church Office: 410-674-2272 *FAX: 410-674-2602

*Pastor's Study: 410-551-9285

E-Gifting now available

The survey is over and the E-Gifting is here. The procedures have been approved by the bank and the set up has been completed at the church. Sign up forms up are in the Narthex in blue envelopes with the application form inside. We understand the confidentiality so please follow the instructions by bringing the form to the church office or mail it back in the blue envelope.

Christian Assistance Program (CAP)

NBUMC and MUMC will staff the CAP sponsored Community Soup Night the third Friday of each month (this Friday) 4 PM – 7 PM at St. Joseph Catholic Church (the old church building) along with members from MUMC. Anyone interested in participating in this rewarding ministry please contact Meredith Long.

We will be collecting baking mixes (cakes, muffins, etc.) for the month of December. Please remember to check the expiration dates on donated food. We've discovered many expired foods in the donations and we are unable to use them. The "best if used by..." foods are fine.

Please continue to drop off seasonal clothes at the clothes pantry.

Thank you for your continued support.

2012 Offering Envelopes

The 2012 offering envelopes are located on the table in the Narthex. If you do not have envelopes currently and would like them please contact the church office at 410-674-2272.

Bible Studies

An adult Bible study opportunity has now begun, Sundays, 11:00. This is the beginning of a series of short-term, small group studies on foundations of our faith, beginning with Getting Acquainted with Jesus led by Allen Mitchell, a certified lay speaker and former local pastor in the United Methodist Church. Please sign-up below and place in the offering plate or Rev. Linda's mailbox.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Dates to Remember

Today, 12/18 - 8 AM & 11 AM – Traditional Service

9:30 & 11 AM – Sunday School

9:30 AM – Contemporary Service

Tuesday, 12/20 – 6:30 PM – Advent Study

6:45 PM – 8 AM Singers

Wednesday, 12/21 – 7:30 PM – Chancel Choir

Thursday, 12/22 – 5:00 PM – Choristers

6:30 PM – Hand Bells

Journey to Bethlehem

Walk with Mary, Joseph and a waiting world from the place where Jesus coming birth was announced to the manger where he was born. See the sites that marked the way and place yourself among the people of that day. We'll be guided by Adam Hamilton, leading United Methodist preacher and teacher.

Tuesday evenings, 7:30 PM, Wednesday mornings 10:30 AM.
(Meeting in the Welcome Center.) Nursery provided on request.

The Season of Giving Good Gifts



This is the season for giving: to those we love best, and to those we may never know. Why? Because God has given us the best love and the best gift in the coming of Christ.

And because Jesus says he comes for the least, lost, even faceless. When we touch them, we touch him. With so much want in our world, we encourage your gifts for others, and provide opportunities to do so through Nichols-Bethel (See elsewhere in our bulletin.) Of course, *we all love our church*. It shows and teaches us the love of God in Christ. So we welcome your gifts to our church. Our *General Fund* requires a healthy balance moving into 2012 after a full year of extraordinary work in serving Christ. And *our Building Fund* will begin regular mortgage payments in January. This season represents an excellent time to give a gift, even a special gift, to support a facility that, even now, is becoming a beacon of hope and faith for decades to come. (Feel free to call us at 410-674-2272 to learn more about *making a difference* for Christ.)



Mary Carol Hawthorne, Organist and Chancel Choir Director
Art Foster, Liturgist (8 AM), Bill Oley, Liturgist (11AM)
Wayne Yant, Director, Eight O'clock Singers
Meghan Humbert, Youth Director (410-874-7431)
e-mail: humbert.meghan@gmail.com
Linda Coolbaugh, Minister Education/Evangelism
Kenneth Humbert, Pastor



2012
youth retreat
ROCK
more than
Conquerors

ROCK MONEY IS DUE NOW! PLEASE SEE MEGHAN ASAP WITH PAYMENT!

December 18
Christmas Caroling!
Meet at church at **3:30**.



December 23 – Time TBD
Last chance to rehearse for Christmas Eve!

Flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the 40th anniversary of Rev. and Mrs. Humbert by Micah and Meghan



The Congregation is cordially invited to attend a

Reception in honor of

Rev. Ken and Beverly's 40th Wedding Anniversary

*Sunday, December 18th at Noon
Beacon Café*

Refreshments will be served



Christmas Eve & Day

Live Nativity 5:15, 7:45 PM

New: 4 PM Praise Service

*at the Lighthouse *with cookies to follow.*

6 PM Family Worship

*... a special, engaging time to share with our children
and families in the joy of Christmas.*

"Journey to Bethlehem"

7:00 - 8:15 Lite Times

at the Lighthouse!!!

***NEW!!!** Gather at the Lighthouse (1st floor, Welcome Center).

Come in from the LIVE Nativity, tarry after Family Service. Come Early for 8:30 Candlelight... Enjoy Lite Fare cookies & treats, sip a little warm drink or cool... be lifted by the cascade of Christmas Bells & more. 'Way fun! Visit as long or briefly as you choose.

8:30, 11 PM Candlelight Services

(Concert at the Cradle's Edge 8:15 & 10:30 PM)

Evening Lesson: Luke 2: 1-20

"At the Birth of the Evening Star!"

Nursery available for all evening services.

Christmas Day: 11-11:45 AM

"Come as you are"! INFORMAL! Lessons, Carols!!!

BLESSING of gifts (bring a favorite)! BIRTHDAY CAKE!



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