



October 19, 2026

Our New Bethel Oral History Project is underway! Together, we're learning how to record the stories of people whose memories connect us with the life of our church and community. Two special opportunities are coming soon.

Our First Practice. During our most recent Class, we took our first look at our field recorders and practiced our interviewing skills by asking Tracey questions. Thank you, Tracey! Each new conversation gives us an opportunity to learn how to ask good questions and listen carefully to the answers.

A Special Guest. This Sunday (October 25th), we'll welcome Pastor David Blitch, who served New Bethel from 2004 – 2017, overseeing a vibrant youth ministry program. We'll interview him about the Schoolhouse and its use as a gathering place for area youth. What happened there? What made it a place young people wanted to be? Please bring two questions you would like to ask Pastor Blitch.

All Hallow's Eve. On Saturday, October 31st, we'll meet at the church from 1:00–4:30 p.m. for an afternoon of remembering and recording. Local historian Jon Bond will lead us through the New Bethel Graveyard, pausing to remember and honor some of our local "saints." We'll also learn about the special significance of All Hallow's Eve — the evening before All Saints' Day.

An Interview with Marie. That same afternoon, we'll also travel to the nearby home of Marie Lutz. At 95, Marie is among New Bethel's oldest living members, with vivid memories of her childhood on a local farm. Using our new recording equipment, we'll capture some of those memories so that others can hear and enjoy them. What would you like to know about growing up on a rural farm when Marie was your age?

Hope to see you Sunday! Church begins at 9:00 a.m., and our Class meets at 10:15 a.m. Please remember your two questions for Pastor Blitch. Your curiosity and careful listening are important parts of this project!

Wishing you everything good! Bob Peiffer 570.778.1245