



NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

8 Major Changes in Churches

American churches have experienced tremendous change in the last decade, and our congregation has been navigating many changes in recent years. I really appreciate the way we deal with change, and I do my best to stay informed of the way healthy churches are experiencing and initiating change. Recently, I read a blog from Thom Rainer, and I wanted to share some of his findings with you. Thom shares eight changes that healthy churches have experienced in the last decade.

1. Today: Smaller worship gatherings. Ten years ago: Larger worship gatherings. There are several factors impacting this change, among them more multi-site churches, more non-traditional worship times, and a desire among the Millennials to be a part of a smaller gathering rather than a larger gathering.

2. Today: Smaller church facilities. Ten years ago: Larger church facilities. There are three major issues at work here. First, church leaders are more hesitant to spend funds on largely unused facilities. Second, churches are building with less space for adult small groups or Sunday school, and are choosing to have those groups meet off-site or on non-worship days. Third, the smaller worship gathering noted above means smaller worship centers.

3. Today: First priority staff person hired: children's minister. Ten years ago: First priority staff person hired: worship leader. This shift is largely influenced by the large Millennial generation and their children. Millennials are looking for a church that is safe, sanitary, educational, and fun for their children.

4. Today: Ministry degree optional for church staff members. Ten years ago: Ministry degree strongly preferred for church staff. Churches today are more likely to call someone on staff from within their congregations. That person may not have a seminary degree.

5. Today: Emphasis on congregational singing. Ten years ago: Emphasis on performance singing. Healthy churches are seeing an awakening of congregational singing today. Ten years ago, contemporary churches emphasized the performance of the praise team and band, while traditional churches emphasized the performance of the choir and soloists.

6. Today: Community focus. Ten years ago: Community myopia. Too many churches the past two decades all but abandoned their communities and are paying the price for their shorts-sightedness today. Healthy churches realize that the community is their place of ministry, their "Jerusalem" of Acts 1:8.

7. Today: Vital importance of groups. Ten years ago: Marginal importance of groups. Healthy churches today make groups (community groups, home groups, Sunday school, life groups, etc.) a high priority. Ten years ago, many church leaders did not see how groups could enhance the health of the church in discipleship, evangelism, prayer, ministry, and fellowship.

8. Today: Church leaders are continuous learners. Ten years ago: Church leaders were "degree and done." For several decades, church leaders essentially ended their education process with a college or seminary degree. In today's ever-changing world, leaders of healthy churches have intentionally established a discipline of continuous learning.

I am so grateful for the way we are reaching out to bless our community through our ministry at John Marshall High School, and I am excited to be starting a new small group for the younger adults in our church between the ages of 25 and 35 years old. The Holy Spirit is blessing us and leading us into the future. I look forward to worshipping with you on Sunday as we bless and honor our graduates. Have a great week, and I will see you on Sunday.

Blessings,
Trevor

Ministry Calendar

Graduate Sunday, May 21

Worship Services at 8:30 and 10:50
Girl Scouts at 2:00 p.m.
Youth Party at 5:00 p.m.

Monday, May 22

Women's A.A. Group, 5:30 p.m.
Cub Scouts at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 24

Newsletter Folding at 10:00 a.m.
Young Adult Alpha Course at 6:30

Friday, May 26

John Marshall Market, 10:30-12:30

Memorial Sunday, May 28

Worship Services at 8:30 and 10:50

Monday, May 29, Memorial Day

Church Offices Closed
Women's A.A. Group, 5:30 p.m.

Monday, May 29-Friday, May 31

Annual Conference
The Learning Center Closed

Pentecost Sunday, June 4

Worship Services at 8:30 and 10:50

Monday, June 5

Care Committee at 4:00 p.m.
Women's A.A. Group, 5:30 p.m.

Nichols Hills U.M.C.

(405)842-1486
(405)843-1835 Fax
www.nicholshillsumc.org

The Learning Center

(405)842-5325
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



Ministry Opportunities

Hospitality Greeters

Do you like to smile and talk to people? Are you enthusiastic about our church? If so, this is an opportunity you might enjoy. Please see Alfred Walker for more details.

Coffee Hosts

Coffee hosts provide 8-9 dozen cookies. At the close of the 10:50 Service, the host(s) stand by the cookie table in the Narthex and greet people. We have openings for coffee hosts for **May 28 and all of June**. To serve, sign-up on the bulletin board outside the office.

Serving In Ministry on Sunday, May 21

The coffee host is Jereme Cloud. The cake is in honor of Michael Wylder and Trevor Smith's birthdays.

The mission candle is lit in memory of Carole Kerr McClendon.

The chancel flowers are given in memory of Jeffrey Connor Elkins, son of Dr. and Mrs. Ronald Elkins.

Chancel Flower Delivery

We are in need of people to deliver the chancel flowers to homebound members. If this opportunity is one you would enjoy, please sign-up on the bulletin board outside of the office.

Altar Guild

The sacrament of communion is a meaningful and important part of our weekly worship. If you are interested in helping prepare the table, please contact Carol Magness at 405-640-4429 or Janet Jones at 405-627-1566.

Serving in Altar Guild this month are: Ann Garrett, Janet Jones, Carol Magness, Jan Pitney, and Marty Smith.

Cares and Concerns

Epworth Villa

Maxine Asch, Joanne Crosby, Bonnie Miller, and Sylvia Miller

Town Village

Joanna Garnett

The Fountains at Canterbury

Anita Dahlgren

Autumn Leaves

Katie Alexander

At Home

Roger Etling, Ann Flesher, Jess and Bette Harris, Dale Jordan, Frances Lewis, David Mueller, and Maxine Permenter

Parenthood

If you have kids or are even thinking about having them, you won't want to miss this three-week series that explores what God's Word has to say about all things parental. Whether they're bawling, crawling, walking, talking, driving you crazy or asking to drive your car, kids are a gift from God, and God provides some very clear guidance and insight on how to raise them to be full of faith and focused on God, rather than leaving you frustrated, frazzled and fatigued.

Join us at 8:30 or 10:50 on Sunday mornings for this fun series on *Parenthood*.
May 21 Discipline



Wrestling with God

Meet Jacob, a spoiled son, a shrewd but unethical business man, and the only person to ever wrestle with God and lived to tell about it. Despite his flaws and challenges, Jacob was blessed by God and managed to redeem himself and his broken relationships. If you have ever wrestled with God, struggled with relationships, or done things you're not proud of, you'll see yourself in Jacob's story. Join us for our next sermon series, *Wrestling with God* on May 28.

Alpha Course for Young Adults

We are really excited that the church is starting a new small group for 25 - 35 year olds that will began meeting last week on Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m.

We have a lot of young people and families becoming interested in our church, and we are excited to have all of the new faces! The small group will begin meeting by doing The Alpha Course, which is an introduction to basic Christian beliefs and doctrine.

If you have someone in your family who is a young professional around this age range who is looking for a church home, then let us know! We would love to get them plugged in!

-Matt



Rev. Matt Patrick

Missions in May

As we wind down on another school year, it's time to gear up for school uniforms. Families are able to come to Skyline with a school referral to receive two new school uniforms, shoes, a pair of new tennis shoes, three pair of socks and three pair of underwear. This ministry is solely supported by donations from area churches. There are three ways that you can get involved:

1. **Donate Money to Purchase Uniforms.** It costs approximately \$75 to outfit each child. Checks can be made out to N.H.U.M.C. – write *Clothes 4 Kids* in the memo line.
2. **Volunteer.**
Tuesday, May 30: 9:00 - 12:00 p.m.
Monday, June 5: 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Monday, July 10: 9:00 - 12:00 p.m.
Monday, July 17: 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
3. **Stock the Pantry and the Clothing Closet.** Bring canned and dry goods, particularly on soap, dry beans, cereal, canned fruit, and canned vegetables. For the Clothing Closet, please bring a package or two of NEW underwear to donate. **Sizes needed:** Girls: 4-16; Boys: 4-20; Women: 5-10; Men's: 30-48 (boxer briefs only in dark colors)
Sign-up to serve in the Narthex.



Tausha Davison,
Director of Children
and Family Ministry

Children’s Ministry

Happy Mother’s Day, to our wonderful mothers! This week we had a wonderful celebration of mothers during our services. We gave all of our mothers flowers, cards, and a special book to read. We talked about how a mother’s love is a lot like the love God has for us as a church. So whether your mother is here on earth or has gone to be with God; whether you are a mother yourself or you have been a mother to someone, we as a church would like to say, “Thank you for all that you have done and your influence on our lives as children of God. Your work within us has not been overlooked nor forgotten. We love you, and may God’s blessing be upon you!”

-Tausha

Special Sundays in May!

Join us for two special Sundays in May!

On May 21, we will honor our graduating seniors and hear their plans for the future.

On May 28, we will observe Memorial Sunday and remember our loved ones who have died in the last year by lighting a candle in their memory. If you would like your loved one remembered, please fill out the form below and return to the church office.

Memorial Sunday

Person to be remembered: _____

Your name: _____

Relationship of the person to you: _____

Tidbits from The Learning Center



Denise Buthion,
Director

We are so happy to welcome Jamie Henderson to our staff. We wanted to let Jamie introduce herself to our church.

“My name is Jamie Henderson. I have worked in child care for almost four years. I am a junior at Oklahoma State University, and I am transferring to the University of Central Oklahoma in the fall. My major area of study is in Early Childhood Education. I love working with children because it’s an awesome feeling watching them learn. In my spare time I love to eat and try new foods. I enjoy watching sports and going to games. Basketball and baseball

are my favorite sports. I also enjoy watching movies, both new and old. When I am not doing any of these things I stay home and spend quality time with my family and friends.”

Join us in welcoming Jamie to our team. We look forward to her contributions as a floater/substitute.

-Denise



John Marshall Neighborhood Market and Clothing Closet

Neighborhood Market Needs

- Snacks – bars, snack bags of
- Goldfish, Cheez-Its, Pretzels, etc.
- Chicken salad and tuna salad boxes (found at Dollar Tree)

Clothing Closet Needs

- Hangers (from the dry cleaners)
- Jeans (men and women – appropriate for teenagers)
- Women’s uniform type pants (washable) - black, khaki or navy
- Polo shirts for men and women in white, red or black
- Women’s shoes for school
- Prom Dresses, shoes, bags, jewelry

Clothing should be clean and ready to wear. Please drop off clothing and food at the church.

Manage Your Giving Online And Use Our QR Code

Nichols Hills United Methodist Church is excited to announce that you can now manage your giving online! Visit the church website at www.nicholshillsumc.org, Click on the blue *Make A Donation* button. Then follow the online instructions.

We also have a QR Code that you can scan with your cell phone to donate. If you have any questions, please contact Louise Glass at the church 405-842-1486.



Birthdays

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|-------|----------------------------------|
| 05/20 | Dudley Hyde |
| 05/21 | Jeff Cloud |
| 05/23 | Jerry Richardson
Trevor Smith |
| 05/24 | Michael Wylder |
| 05/28 | Sharon Ives |
| 05/29 | Rob Saunders |
| 06/04 | Grant Davis |
| 06/04 | Julian Diaz-Granados |
| 06/06 | Reese Robinson |
| 06/07 | John Marshall |
| 06/10 | Samuel Stafford |
| 06/13 | Jessica Castoe |
| 06/13 | Don McCarty |
| 06/14 | Kathy McCarty |
| 06/15 | Kurlisa Briggs |

If your birthday isn’t included in our list, please contact the church office (405-842-1486) to be added.

Nichols Hills United Methodist Church
1212 Bedford Drive
Oklahoma City, Ok. 73116

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Sunday School Classes - Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

The Brew Class: *Meets in the Room 131* - Bring your coffee and join "The Brew" as we study Adam Hamilton's book, *Creed: What Christians Believe and Why*. This Sunday we will talk about the forgiveness of sins. For more information about "The Brew" please contact Tim Baker (405) 209-5467 or Christie Baker (405) 922-5154.

KIVA Class: *Meets in the Parlor* - Join us as we learn from different speakers on how we can be a Christian influence in the world.
Leaders: Mike and Pama Palmer.

Reveille Class: *Meets in the Library* - Do you like to see how your faith impacts your everyday life? Join us for a discussion of how the Bible speaks to the current events in our lives. Teacher: Tom Fraley.

Open Circle Class: *Meets in the Archives Room* - The Open Circle Class primarily utilizes the lectionary approach to studying scriptures, which excerpts scriptures from the Bible so that the full Bible is covered every three years. We also study hymns. Teacher: John Marshall.

The Bible Class: *Meets in the Conference Room*. - Please join The Bible Class Sunday as we study God's Love for Nineveh to affirm that God's love extends to even our enemies. The background texts are Jonah 3 and Nahum 1-3. For more information, contact the Church Office at 405-842-1486.

Youth Class: *Meets in the Youth Basement* - Join us for fun, fellowship, and a lesson that will bring you closer to God.
Leaders: Rev. Matt Patrick and Matt Eales.

Second Graders through Fifth Graders: *Meets in Room 124*. Join us for a fun time with your friends as we grow closer to God and each other.
Director of Children's Ministry: Tausha Davison.

Children's Class: *Meets in the Children's Area*. - Join us for a child-friendly lesson, snacks, and crafts as we learn about the Bible together.
Director of Children's Ministry: Tausha Davison.

Dr. Trevor Smith, Senior Pastor
Rev. Matt Patrick, Student Pastor
Michael Wylder, Director of Church Music
Tausha Davison, Director of Children and Family Ministry
Delaney Sheffield, Administrative Assistant
Dr. Antone Godding, Organist
Kathy Smith, Treasurer
Louise Glass, Financial Secretary

Denise Buthion, Director of The Learning Center
Michael Hall, Maintenance/Custodian
Alfred Walker, Sunday Host
Randall Blair, Sunday Host
Jessica Mayberry, Nursery Attendant
Ashley Edwards, Nursery Attendant
Hollie Cuthbertson, Nursery Attendant