

# NICHOLS HILLS

## united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

### Parable of the Nets and Fish

Jesus said, <sup>47</sup> “The kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; <sup>48</sup> when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. <sup>49</sup> So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous <sup>50</sup> and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

-Matthew 13:47-50

On Sunday we will continue our sermon series on **The Fishing Stories in the Gospels** by talking about the *Parable of the Nets and Fish*. It is a story that helps you understand something about God... something about Jesus... something about the kingdom of God... something about how Jesus wants you to live your life. It is a story where Jesus is saying, “The future of this world looks bright.” For those people who say that the future is a dooms-day full of destruction and sadness, Jesus says, “That’s not the case. The future of this world is creation renewed.” He says, “On that day when the kingdom of God is running rampant over this earth, people who are planning evil will be obsolete. Hatred and violence will be washed away and defeated. There’s no place for that.” So, Jesus tells his disciples, “If you want to put your money and your life on the winning side, choose me. I am the true King of this world. I am the One who will last. It is God’s rule that is eternal, not Rome or any other person or empire.” Jesus says, “Follow me!” I hope you will join us for worship at 8:30 or 10:50.

As the summer comes to an end and we preparing to start another school year, most people who do not attend a church are more likely to respond to an invitation to come to church. I am sure that you know at least one or two people who don’t have a church home. Or, maybe you can think of someone you know who hasn’t been to church in a long time because they just kind of got out of the habit. Our church has created three great opportunities for you to invite someone you know to experience the fellowship and hospitality of our church.

At noon on **Sunday, August 13**, I hope you will plan to stay for our **Fish Fry at noon in the Fellowship Hall**. We will have fried catfish, beans, coleslaw, and hushpuppies, and we invite you to bring your favorite dessert.

I hope you have been praying for the persons whom you plan to invite to our **Block Party on Sunday, August 20 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.** The Block Party is your opportunity to meet new friends and connect with old friends. I am certain that the Block Party will give many people their first impression of Nichols Hills United Methodist Church. You have the opportunity to welcome a stranger and make a new friend. A conversation you have with a new person at the Block Party could lead to that person experiencing the love of God and becoming part of our church. If you would like to help with the Block Party you can make homemade ice cream, help cook hotdogs, bring Bingo prizes, help with one of our games for children, or simply come and share in the fellowship with new and longtime friends. We will be inviting our friends at John Marshall High School, North Highlands Elementary School, Nichols Hills Elementary School, and West Nichols Hills Elementary School.

Then, on **August 27** invite a friend to our **Bring A Friend Sunday** as we begin a new sermon series called **Why: Making Sense of God’s Will**. A simple invitation could change the trajectory of the life of someone you know and love. Have a great week, and I will see you on Sunday.

Blessings,  
Trevor

### Ministry Calendar

#### Sunday, August 13

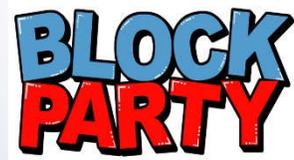
Worship at 8:30  
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.  
Worship at 10:50 a.m.  
Fish Fry at Noon

#### Monday, August 14

Women’s A.A. Group, 5:30 p.m.  
Scouts at 6:00 p.m.

#### Wednesday, August 16

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



#### Sunday, August 20

Block Party from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

#### Monday, August 21

Trustee Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

#### Thursday, August 24

College Group at 7:00 p.m.

#### Sunday, August 27

Bring A Friend Sunday  
at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.

#### Monday, September 4

Labor Day - Church Offices and  
TLC Closed

#### Monday, September 11

Care Committee at 4:00 p.m.

#### Nichols Hills U.M.C.

(405)842-1486

(405)843-1835 Fax

[www.nicholshillsumc.org](http://www.nicholshillsumc.org)

#### The Learning Center

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

(405)842-5325



## Ministry Opportunities

### Hospitality Greeters

Are you enthusiastic about our church? If so, this is an opportunity you might enjoy. Please see Alfred Walker for more details.

### Newsletter Folders Needed

Every other Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Conference Room.

### Coffee Hosts

Coffee hosts provide 4-5 dozen cookies. At the close of the 10:50 Service, the host(s) stand by the cookie table in the Narthex and greet people. To serve, sign-up outside the office.

### Serving In Ministry on Sunday, August 13

The acolyte for 8:30 is Gabriel Ireland. The acolytes for 10:50 are Louis and Graham Louis Fraley.

### Serving In Ministry on Sunday, August 20

The chancel flowers are given by Paul Lindsey in honor of Midge's birthday on August 18.

The acolyte for 8:30 is Gabriel Ireland. The acolytes for 10:50 are Avery and Charlotte Smith.

### Chancel Flower Delivery

We are in need of people to deliver the chancel flowers to homebound members. If this opportunity is for you, please sign-up 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: Anne Holbrook, Janet Jones, Bette MacKellar, Carol Magness, and Marty Smith.

## John Marshall Neighborhood Market and Clothing Closet

We are in need of bar soap, body lotion (maximum of 8 oz.), toothbrushes, men's antiperspirant, women's antiperspirant, and 10 oz. laundry detergent (available at Dollar Tree).



## Going Fishing

Join us as we take a look at the fishing stories in the gospels and explore what Jesus was really teaching us about life. Whether you're into fishing or not, you'll love this special series of worship services. Our "fishing trip" will include a

Fish Fry on August 13. So bring a friend and join us at *Nichols Hills United Methodist Church* on Sunday mornings at 8:30 or 10:50 a.m. as we learn about the fishing stories in the gospels.

**August 13** *Parable of the Nets and Fish*

**August 20** *The Gospel's Final Fishing Story*

## Children's Ministry

Greetings!

On behalf of the Children's Ministry, we would like to thank Mr. Lew McGinnis and Mrs. Allyson Smith for their outstanding volunteer involvement in making this year's summer camp such a great success! Three wonderful campers from our church family attended: Mr. Gabriel Ireland, Miss Reagan Miller, and Miss Charlotte Smith. All three children expressed how they had such a wonderful time at camp this year and that they look forward to going back next summer!

The United Methodist Church has several camps for all ages. Gabriel, Regan, and Charlotte attended Sonshine camp for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders at Canyon camp near Hinton, Oklahoma.

We also just finished our VBS Remix: Mission Madness 2017. Our theme this year was J.O.Y., which stands for Jesus first, Others second, and Yourself third. We had an outstanding support of church family members to help us achieve our mission of reaching out to the youngest people in our community. We had a wonderful time at Cleats 4 Kids! The children, parents, volunteers, and Mr. Dudley Hyde all worked together to sort and organize shoes and supplies for children who need sports equipment to participate in after school activities. Thanks to Cleats 4 Kids for giving us this wonderful opportunity to give back to those who are in need. I would also like to thank the entire Children's Ministry, Mrs. Cara Fraley, and Mrs. Allyson Smith for making VBS Remix: Mission Madness 2017 so successful for our Children's Ministry!

Sincerely,

Tausha Davison-Beverly

*These photos are of the children and adults helping at Cleats 4 Kids at VBS Remix: Mission Madness.*



Tausha Davison-Beverly,  
Director of  
Children  
and Family  
Ministry





Rev. Matt Patrick

## College Group Begins Again!

For the last two years, Nichols Hills U.M.C. has been a place that college students from around the OKC metro can find a church home while they are in college. On average, we have about 15-20 students each week who come for Bible study, food, fellowship, and Communion. At the start of every year, our group grows to include a new class of freshman, and it is an exciting time. This year our group will return on Thursday August 24<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m.! We will begin a 4-week study in Ephesians. If you know a college student in the OKC metro, please let them know about our great group! We would love to have them.

Blessings,  
Matt

## Block Party

Sunday, August 20, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Bring a friend and join us for home-made ice cream, hot dogs, music, Bingo, games, a giant Slip-N-Slide, water games, face painting, and fun for all ages!

Please help us make this year's Block Party the best one yet by signing up in the Narthex or calling the church office to see how you can volunteer to help!



## Why?

*Why does God allow suffering?  
Why do bad things happen to good people?  
Why should I trust God when nothing seems to make sense?*

We all wrestle with these questions. When we go through tough times it's natural to wonder how or if God's will is at work in our world. Even people who are

deeply committed to their faith struggle to answer these perplexing questions.

Join us as we seek to answer these difficult questions through both ancient scriptures and new ideas.

- August 27** *God and Suffering*
- September 3** *Why Do My Prayers Go Unanswered?*
- September 10** *Why Is God's Will So Elusive?*
- September 17** *More Than Conquerors*

## Tidbits from The Learning Center

Last week we were very busy with professional development, team building, trainings, having our floors stripped and waxed, spot painting, and general maintenance in the classrooms. The children were on our minds as we prepared for our fall session.

The new session began on August 7, and we wanted everything to look refreshed for our 94 children. The TLC staff visited four programs that are "three stars" in Oklahoma, which means they have achieved national accreditation. Our program is "two stars" out of three. We are working toward accreditation as a three-year goal. It is interesting to see the caliber of schools available to

young children in our city. Teachers saw a myriad of ways to make our environment more child-centered and homey. All in all it was a productive week, and we are happy to have the children return.



Denise Buthion,  
Director

-Denise

## Cares and Concerns

### Epworth Villa

Joanne Crosby 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, Frances Lewis,  
David Mueller, and Maxine Permenter

## Manage Your Giving Online And Use Our QR Code



Visit the church website at [www.nicholshillsumc.org](http://www.nicholshillsumc.org), to make an online donation. Then 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 questions, contact the church.

## Birthdays

- 08/11 Charles Brown
- 08/12 Philip Pippin
- 08/12 Chloe Robinson
- 08/15 Cinda Lafferty
- 08/15 Jon Rogers
- 08/16 Allen Evans
- 08/18 Midge Lindsey
- 08/18 Sue Ryan
- 08/18 Katherine Schoeffler
- 08/20 Regan Henry
- 08/20 Gunnar Lavenue
- 08/20 Shawn Love
- 08/21 Dick Manley
- 08/21 Clark Musser
- 08/22 Madison Dean
- 08/22 Caroline Mueller
- 08/24 Bruce Fraley
- 08/24 Tom McDaniel
- 08/25 Thomas Flesher, III
- 08/26 Claire Vick

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



Above: The Learning Center teachers visiting programs.

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

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Oklahoma City, OK



## 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 gather for fellowship and for an Andy Stanley study called *Christian: It’s Not What You Think*. For more information about “The Brew” 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 being a Christian influence in the world. Leader: Bruce Day.

**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* - In addition to our Lectionary scripture study approach, we will be studying selected lessons from the 29 lesson “Bible Study Fellowship on Revelations.” We have members of the Open Circle Class, who either had lessons on Revelations or completed these 29 lesson plans. If we get into a “bind” on this study, we will contact Dr. Smith or Matt to resolve it. Our first lesson last week covered the first three lesson plans. Teacher: John Marshall.

**The Bible Class:** *Meets in the Conference Room*. - Please join the Bible Class on August 13 as we study *Called to Break Down Barriers*; to grasp the importance of and commit to ministering to the marginalized. Background text is Acts 8. On August 20 we will study *Called to Preach* and discuss how we are called to recommit and to respond to God’s Call to share the gospel. Background text is Acts 9:1-31.

**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-Beverly.

**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-Beverly.

**Dr. Trevor Smith**, Senior Pastor

**Rev. Matt Patrick**, Student Pastor

**Michael Wylder**, Director of Church Music

**Tausha Davison-Beverly**, 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

**Marita Barkus**, Nursery Attendant