

September 20, 2017

Volume 25, Issue 41

NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

Forgiven

¹ Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. ² Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit. ³ While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. ⁴ For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. ⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

-*Psalm 32:1-5*

Most of us deal with a certain amount of guilt on a daily basis. We carry it around with us wherever we go. Guilt weighs us down. In Psalm 38:4, the Psalmist says, *"My guilt has overwhelmed me like a burden too heavy to bear.* When we don't ask for God's forgiveness and we don't seek to be reconciled to God through repentance, then we carry around with us the guilt and the weight of our sins. There are all kinds of sins in our lives. Some of them seem small, and some of them seem just huge. We carry them around with us in our souls. We carry them so long as we don't confess them. Some of them become quite heavy. There are things, that if someone found out about it, we might lose our jobs... we might find ourselves in violation of the law. Every day there's a host of small things that fit in this category. And then every so often, there is something so significant, you know that if it really became known, we could lose our family. We don't repent of these things. We don't come to God and ask for healing and deliverance. We just carry them with us. And so long as you keep carrying these things, and adding to them everyday, what you find is that the burden becomes overwhelming.

Forgiveness is an essential part of lives, and on Sunday we are going to begin a four-week sermon series on ***Forgiveness*** in which we will focus on the two dimensions of forgiveness: our willingness to ask for it and receive it from God and others along with our willingness to extend forgiveness to others. On Sunday we will deal primarily with how we can seek and receive forgiveness from God. I truly believe that learning how to seek forgiveness and offer it to others is one of the greatest blessings you could attain for yourself or share with others. I hope you will plan to worship with us on Sunday as we begin this meaningful sermon series.

I also want to share with you that on Tuesday I had the joy of telling the story of our ministries with John Marshall High School and North Highland Elementary School with all of the United Methodist Pastors in Oklahoma at our Orders Meeting. It makes me proud to know that our story is an inspiration for other pastors and churches, and I am humbled to know that we are willing to share our model for ministry to students in need with other churches with the hopes of blessing more young people. Thank you for the example you set through your service and your generosity.

I also had the privilege of attending the Criminal Justice and Mercy Ministries banquet at our church on September 12 in which our very own Lew McGinnis received the Stan Basler Award for the many years he has spent helping inmates adjust to life outside of prison. Lew had a very significant part in starting our Exodus Houses in Oklahoma City, Tulsa, and Lawton which are apartments for inmates who are transitioning out of prison. Congratulations Lew. We are proud of you.

Blessings,
Trevor

Ministry Calendar

Sunday, September 24

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

Monday, September 25

John Marshall Bear Cave at 9:00
Care Committee at 4:00 p.m.
Nominations Committee at 5:00
Alcoholics Anonymous at 5:30
Cub Scouts at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 27

Nichols Thrills Meal at 5:30 p.m.
Purpose Driven Life at 6:00 p.m.
Love to Stay at 6:00 p.m.
Seamless at 6:00 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 28

John Marshall Bear Cave at 9:00
College Group at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, September 29

Neighborhood Market at 10:15

Sunday, October 1

Girl Scouts at 2:00 p.m.

Monday, October 2

Care Committee at 4:00 p.m.
Stewardship Committee at 5:30

Monday, October 9

Nominations Committee at 5:00

Sunday, October 29

Fall Festival at 5:00 p.m.

Nichols Hills U.M.C.

(405)842-1486
(405)843-1835 Fax
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

Wednesdays 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, September 24

The coffee hosts are Bill and Sandra Smith.

The chancel flowers are given by General Bill Bowden in memory of Isobel Bowden.

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

Serving In Ministry on Sunday, October 1

The coffee hosts are Denise Buthion and The Learning Center teachers.

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

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 in the Narthex.

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, Marty Smith, and Kathy Walker.

Birthdays

09/22	Billie Boston
09/22	Jami Cravens
09/22	Meg Miller
09/24	Jason Ott
09/25	Pamela Bracken
09/26	Juanita Greer
09/26	Ellie Roberts
09/27	Alan Niemann

Forgiveness

Jesus was clear in his teaching; He offers us God's **forgiveness** and teaches us to **forgive** one another.

Why is **forgiveness** so hard?

What makes us so **unforgiving** of ourselves and of each other?

We invite you to join us for worship at 8:30 or 10:50 on Sunday as we take an honest, realistic look at how to seek, extend, and accept **forgiveness**.

September 24

Forgiven

October 1

Forgiveness and Marriage

October 8

Forgiving Others

October 15

Forgiving Families



Tausha

Davison-Beverly,
Director of
Children
and Family
Ministry

Children's Ministry

Our Girl Scouts Troop at N.H.U.M.C. was started by our very own Jennifer McGinnis. She saw that there was a need and helped young girls from North Highland Elementary get involved in an after school activity. This idea was based on her work as a volunteer for many years at North Highland and some of the challenges the parents and the girls have shared with her. Mrs. McGinnis herself was a former girl scout. She said that the organization helps to build self-confidence in young ladies as they grow and face different challenges.

In the spring, the troop started with about seven young ladies. Currently it has blossomed to about 18 young ladies. The troop has more than doubled their size, and they are still accepting new enrollments.

The Girls Scouts meet on the first and third Sundays of the month from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Ms. Ann Beavers is our troop leader. Megan Fagundes, Gloria McKinney, and Jennifer McGinnis are the leaders of the different age groups. They are currently selling magazines, keepsakes, and tumblers to benefit the Scouts in different ways such as scholarships for families in need of assistance for camp.

If you need more information about Girl Scouts please contact our church office. We are thankful that God has used Mrs. McGinnis and the Girl Scouts to help further our mission to touch and change lives so they too may know God through our church and this organization.

Sincerely,
Tausha Davison-Beverly



Prayers for Our World



Rev. Matt Patrick

Hello Church! I am very thankful for all of the ways in which you all reached out to see how you could support relief efforts for Hurricane Harvey. I would like to say the worst is past us, but it seems Puerto Rico, Florida and Mexico City have all been effected recently by natural disasters. I think it's very appropriate this week that we spend some time in prayer for those facing immense suffering in our world.

Many of us could never imagine what it would be like to lose everything in one moment. However, we remember that in the midst of the chaos that is in the world that God is with us, through all of it. May we pray that we as a church would stand in solidarity with those facing suffering and that we would work for the relief and support of those facing natural disasters.

For more info on how you can extend help through our church, please check out www.umcor.org. This website is for our United Methodist disaster response agency. Thank you all for your generosity.

Blessings,
Matt



Denise Buthion,
Director

Tidbits from The Learning Center

Last week we celebrated our children's grandparents with a "come and go" breakfast. We had a table of muffins, cinnamon rolls, juice, and flowers. The children (18 months and older) had prepared a painted memento for their grandparent. The children and their grandparents were photographed by our two photographers. Each family received a copy of the picture electronically to share with the grandparents. The turnout was larger than last year! It is such a joy to know an entire family and visit with each grandparent. We had grandparents who came from North Dakota to join us for this gathering. Our children are so proud to introduce their grandparents to us. What interesting names are given to these grandparents - Gigis, Gagas, Grandpops, etc., and other names we cannot spell. Enjoy our photos as we share the joy of our Grandparents' Breakfast.

Blessings,
Denise



Birthdays (continued)

09/28	Caitlin Dyke
09/30	Cara Fraley
10/02	Randall Blair
10/03	Cheryl Fraley
10/04	Carol Magness
10/05	Louise Glass
10/05	Linda Klos

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

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.nicholhillsumc.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.

John Marshall Neighborhood Market and Clothing Closet

We are in need of:

- Individual Bags of Snacks such as Cheez-its, Goldfish, etc.
- Peanut Butter Crackers
- Cheese Sandwich Crackers
- Fruit Snacks (Rollups or Gummy)
- Nature Valley Granola Bars
- **Jeans/Shirts** - Boys/Girls Sizes 12-20 (we have some small middle school students)
- **Men's Jeans** - All Sizes
- **Men's Shirts** - Dress, Polo's and Casual) - Size Small
- **Coats** - All Sizes
- **Women's Casual Tops** - All Sizes
- **Accessories** - Ties and Jewelry



Chancel Choir Singers to Perform in *Sister Act*

Konnor Callender, Melissa Campbell, Stewart Ottersberg, and Tom Hoblin, members of the NHUMC chancel choir and OCU music majors, have been cast in OCU's upcoming production of *Sister Act*, a musical by Alan Menken and Glenn Slater. Performances are scheduled in OCU's Kirkpatrick Auditorium at 8:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, September 29 and 30, and at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 1. Tickets are available at 405.208.5227.

Saturdays of Service

Thank you to all who helped serve at John Marshall High School for our Saturday of Service! The shelves are stocked now and ready for the students on Friday!

Below are some items still needed for the John Marshall Neighborhood Market and the Bear Cave Clothing Closet.
John Marshall Neighborhood Market is in need of:

- Individual Bags of Snacks such as Cheez-its, Goldfish, etc.
- Peanut Butter Crackers
- Cheese Sandwich Crackers
- Fruit Snacks (Rollups or Gummy)
- Nature Valley Granola Bars

The Bear Cave Clothing Closet is **only** in need of the following:

- **Jeans/Shirts** - Boys/Girls Sizes 12-20 (we have some small middle school students)
- **Men's Jeans** - All Sizes
- **Men's Shirts** - Size Small Dress, Polo's and Casual
- **Coats** - All Sizes
- **Women's Casual Tops** - All Sizes
- **Accessories** - Ties and Jewelry



We Are The Church

Our church makes a Christian difference through the many wonderful people in our congregation. This week, Libby and Aaron Gober share with us about their lives and how Nichols Hills U.M.C. is blessing them.

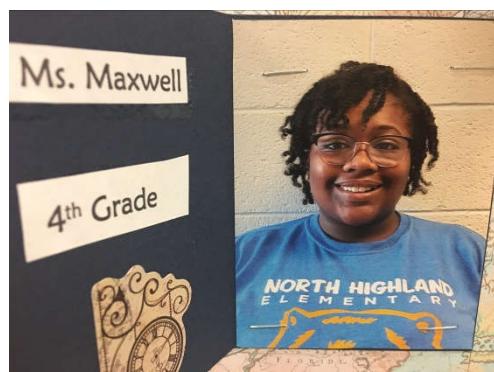
Libby and Aaron Gober are excited to be official members of Nichols Hills U.M.C. after being invited to church by some friends last spring. They began attending the Alpha Course on Wednesdays over the summer and continuously felt welcomed by the friendly staff and members. They both liked the sense of community within the congregation and are so thankful for the wonderful choir every Sunday.

Aaron is originally from Shawnee, OK and Libby grew up in Oklahoma City. Both are graduates of The University of Oklahoma, and they were married in Oklahoma City in 2013. Aaron is a Landman for Lowry Land Company, and Libby is an Interior Designer with Rees Associates specializing in the commercial and healthcare market segments. In their spare time, Aaron enjoys bicycling, golf, and playing the guitar while Libby remains close with her sorority sisters (Kappa Alpha Theta) and is a huge fan of gymnastics and the performing arts. Together they enjoy traveling, game days in Norman during football season, and relaxing at their family's cabin just outside Branson, MO.

They reside in Quail Creek with their one year-old daughter Caroline and their beagle named Moses. They are currently enjoying Nichols Thrills on Wednesday nights and look forward to becoming more involved in the local serving opportunities within the church.

Aaron and Libby joined our church on September 10. We are happy to have them in our Nichols Hills U.M.C. family!





Nichols Hills U.M.C. and North Highland Update

Nichols Hills U.M.C. has been asked to sit on an oversight committee by the volunteers and staff at North Highland Elementary School. Jennifer McGinnis has been attending on behalf of the church. The goal of the committee is to help the school be successful this year. We have been asked to sponsor the two 4th grade classes, led by Ms. Bell and Ms. Maxwell. So far we have responded to specific needs for the two classrooms through a donation from a member of our church. Below are a few of the teacher's classroom needs and personal likes for care packages.

Due to the reported closing and vandalism this summer, some of the classes started with no basic supplies, such as staplers, dictionaries, big paper, desk lamps, some bean bag reading chairs, and some "luxury" items as well.

Our Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Alfred Walker cleaned up their four raised flower beds by the basketball court during Mission Madness in July. Alfred has continued to care for those areas by planting vegetables, and we are adding a butterfly garden this Fall.

We have some volunteer openings for a committee to keep in direct contact with our two teachers to help meet their immediate needs and to support the teachers directly with care packages. These teachers have a tough job, and we want to show them how Nichols Hills United Methodist Church supports them. I guarantee this to be a rewarding job. Anyone interested in this opportunity can text Jennifer McGinnis at 405-641-1038 or email her at skipjip@aol.com.

Ms. Bell:

Classroom needs: Chapter books grade level 1st - 4th
Book series to read
Help with testing

Ms. Bell likes: 100% Real Juice
Peanut butter cookies
Seaweed
Carican Flavors Restaurant
Books on African American topics

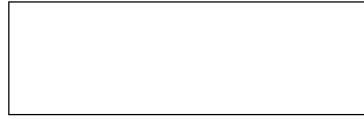
Ms. Maxwell:

Classroom needs: Incentives for the children such as candy or toys
Pencils
17 copies of the same book for the children to read
Classroom volunteers

Ms. Maxwell likes: Arizona Sweet Tea
Lemonade
Reece's Peanut Butter Cups
Vanilla Oreos
Pringles (BBQ or Cheddar)
Red Lobster Restaurant
Encouraging notes
Relaxation gifts for home use

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 gather for fellowship and for an Andy Stanley study called *What Makes You Happy*. 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 how to help others by using our Christian faith.

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 - Our Open Circle Class is mid-way through a series of lessons about the Book of Revelation, the gospel written by the apostle John in the 90s A.D. We are utilizing a lesson-plan for studying Revelation called the "Bible-Study Fellowship." A member of our class, Joie Dickey, completed the 29 lesson-plans several years ago. Joie loaned them to us to help our teacher and class to better understand and appreciate the Book of Revelation. Join us in the Archives Room. Teacher: John Marshall.

The Bible Class: Meets in the Conference Room. - Please join the Bible Class September 24 as we study Spirit-Filled Heart; to cultivate a new heart and a new spirit, transformed by the grace of God. Background texts are Ezekiel 36-37 and Titus 3:1-11. On October 1, we will study God's Covenant with Abram to have the courage to question and trust in the Word of God. Background text is Genesis 15.

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.
Teacher: Lecye Lippoldt.

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