

NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

Searching for Lost Sheep

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” ³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices.

⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. -*Luke 15:1-7*

When Jesus wanted to teach his disciples about the kingdom of God he told stories. Jesus always seemed to tell the perfect short story. We call these short stories parables, and Jesus’ parables teach us how to live.

On Sunday we will begin a five week sermon series called *Short Stories* by looking at three parables in Luke 15. A shepherd had 100 sheep, but he lost one of them. A woman had ten silver coins, but she lost one of them. A man had two sons, but he lost one or maybe both of them. There’s a lot of counting in these parables: 100 sheep, ten coins, and two sons. On Sunday we’re going to explore who counts in the kingdom of God.

We have six generations present with us in worship on Sundays. From Ray Green who turned 100 years old in April to the newborn babies in our church family, it is a blessing to include so many people from so many generations. This is really the first time in history that six generations have been alive at the same time, and it presents us with a unique challenge.

You might think of our worship service as a one-room school house. Each Sunday we do our best to touch the hearts and minds of people who see the world in different ways. We seek to honor and bless the people in our church who have been worshipping with us for seventy years while welcoming new people. We sing ancient songs of our faith that have existed for hundreds of years, and we include new songs that have been written in the last few years. We welcome children into our worship service by speaking to them in our Children’s Conversation, and we help children learn to serve by giving them opportunities to carry in the cross and the light of Christ. We try to offer something for everyone because we believe that every person counts in the kingdom of God, and every generation counts in our church.

On Wednesday, October 3, at 5:30 we will offer two new studies for adults. Rev. Michael Carpenter and I will be leading a six week study called *Keeping Faith Alive* in which we will be talking about the way we pass our Christian faith from generation to generation and the importance of mentoring relationships. Allyson Smith will be leading a six week women’s study by Beth Moore called *Quest* which will discuss ways to grow more intimate with God through prayer. I hope you will join us for one of these studies. Have a great week, and I will see you on Sunday.

Blessings,
Trevor

Ministry Calendar

Sunday, September 23

Worship at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Girl Scouts at 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 26

Nichols Thrills Meal at 5:30 p.m.
Love Does Study at 5:30 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, September 30

Worship at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Girl Scouts at 2:00 p.m.

Monday, October 1

Care Committee at 4:00 p.m.
Women’s A.A. Meeting at 5:30
Cub Scouts at 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 2

Stewardship Committee at 5:30

Wednesday, October 3

Nichols Thrills Meal at 5:30 p.m.
Keeping Faith Alive begins at 5:30
Quest begins at 5:30 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 9

Finance Committee at 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 16

Church Council at 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 17

The Learning Center Closed

Friday, October 18

The Learning Center Closed

Sunday, October 28

Fall Festival from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 3

Charge Conference at New
Covenant U.M.C. at 9:00 a.m.

Nichols Hills U.M.C.

(405)842-1486

(405)843-1835 Fax

www.nicholshillsumc.org

The Learning Center

(405)842-5325



Ministry Opportunities

Hospitality Greeters

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

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 23

The coffee host is Della Walker.

The mission candle is available.

The chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Dr. and Mrs. Allen Greer, always in our hearts, by Janet and Fred Streich.

The acolytes for 8:30 are Gabriel Ireland and Kate Maloney.

The acolytes for 10:50 are Charlotte Smith and Regan Miller.

Serving In Ministry on Sunday, September 30

The coffee host is Katherine Buxton.

The mission candle is lit by Mary Ann Carmichael in memory of her parents, Jim and Mary Carmichael, and sister, Jody.

The chancel flowers are available.

The acolytes for 8:30 is Gabriel Ireland.

The acolytes for 10:50 are Charlotte Smith and Regan Miller.

Chancel Flower Delivery

We are in need of people to deliver the chancel flowers to homebound members. If this opportunity is for you, please call the church 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: Mary Ann Carmichael, Mary Crownover, Ann Garrett, Anne Holbrook, Janet Jones, Carol Magness, Beverly Perri, and Marty Smith.

Birthdays

09/19 Jess Harris, Jr.
09/22 Billie Boston
09/22 Jami Cravens
09/22 Meg Miller

Continued on the next page.



Short Stories - The Parables of Jesus

Jesus taught people by telling parables—short stories from real life that address important questions. His short stories still speak in powerful ways and paint a picture of how God intends for us to live in the kingdom of God.

Join us for worship on Sundays at 8:30 or 10:50 a.m. as we begin a new sermon series: **Short Stories—The Parables of Jesus.**

September 23

Searching for Lost Sheep

September 30

This Story Is Not Over

October 7

R.S.V.P.

October 14

The Widow and the Judge

October 21

The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Hospitality

Thank you to everyone who has expressed interest in serving as a Greeter on our growing Hospitality Team! We are well on our way to assembling this awesome team, but we still need you. Yes, you, reading this newsletter! If you are thankful for what God and this church have meant to you, then this is an opportunity to share that with new and familiar faces alike.

We are asking you to serve for 20 minutes on a month-on, month-off basis, at whatever time is most convenient for your worship routine. You can serve before early service (8:15 - 8:35 a.m.), before Sunday school (9:30 - 9:50 a.m.), or after second service (10:35 - 10:55 a.m.) We are praying for God's Spirit to break through in new and exciting ways, and your willingness to share the love you have received will help make that happen!



Rev. Michael
Carpenter

Youth News

The youth had an amazing time at Metro Worship last Sunday! Methodist youth from all over the OKC Metro came together to worship, so it was truly uplifting to see youth of all ages, schools, and churches worshipping the same God together. There will be another Metro Worship on Sunday, November 11, so if you missed this time or have any youth to invite, don't worry! Also, the youth will be helping this Saturday at our John Marshall Neighborhood Market, restocking the shelves and helping with organization. Meet us there at 9:00 a.m. ready to be the hands and feet of Jesus!

Finally, in a couple weeks, the youth will have our inaugural Nichols Hills Olympics! Right after church on October 7, from 12:00 to 2:30 p.m., we will have bouts of strength and endurance, teamwork and ingenuity. Lunch will be provided, so bring appropriate athletic clothes and a friend to find out who will get the gold!



Grace upon Grace,
Michael

How Can We Keep From Singing



Michael Wylder

Over the past few weeks my Grandmother has been camped out in Baptist Hospital while the doctors treat her husband for a rare infection. It has been so wonderful to have her in OKC so that I can spend more time than usual with her. We have been in prayer for her husband, Ed, as he struggles with his critical health crisis, and we have had many laughs telling stories from the past and recounting old times. She always asks about my life and wants to know what is new as well as what's old. I was talking about some songs we have been singing in church that are new to me, and she could relate as she had been learning new songs since she moved back to Duncan, Oklahoma and joined a new church. We shared some of the new songs we liked and some of the songs that were taking time for us to learn, and we talked about some of our old favorites and the songs that we would like to have at our memorial services. In the end we laughed a lot and acknowledged that life flows on in song... how can we keep from singing both new and old gems. This week she emailed me this article that she remembered from her newspaper reading many years ago. I thought I would share this with you as well.

DEAR BILLY GRAHAM: *Maybe I'm just old-fashioned, but from time to time our church's music director introduces new songs into the service, and I don't care for them. I like the old hymns and wish he'd just stick with them. Should I complain to our pastor? — E.W.*

DEAR E.W.: *I know this has been a controversial issue in many churches, and I don't pretend to have all the answers, especially since I'm not particularly musical! But we have a singing faith, and God has given us the gift of music to praise him. The Psalmist declared, "With singing lips my mouth will praise you" (Psalm 63:5).*

Instead of complaining to your pastor (or anyone else), I urge you to ask God to help you be grateful for all music that points us to God, new or old. No, you may not like some of it, but others do, and God can use it in their lives to encourage them and bring them closer to Christ. Remember: The old hymns you like were once new, and someone probably didn't like them, either!

Sometimes, I'm afraid, a hymn can become so familiar to us that we sing it without even thinking about the words. But this is wrong, because then our singing becomes empty and meaningless. Don't let this happen to you, but meditate on the words of the songs you sing, and even turn them into a prayer.

-Michael Wylder

Getting to Know Our Chancel Choir

Gabriella Ottersberg Enriquez is a Santa Fe, New Mexico native and a senior at Oklahoma City University. After an exciting summer of performances at theaters like Theatre Under the Stars in Houston and The Lexington Theatre Company in Kentucky, Gabriella is happy to be back in OKC to complete her double degree in Vocal Performance and Musical Theatre. She aspires to move to New York after graduation and pursue a life in performance. She feels blessed to be able to sing with her talented peers here at Nichols Hills United Methodist Church and extends her gratitude to Michael Wylder for the opportunity and the congregation for all the warmth and support they have displayed to her and the entire choir.



Stewart Ottersberg hails from The City Different of Santa Fe and is currently in his last semester at O.C.U. where he will be graduating with a B.A. in Voice. His plans for after graduation include auditioning for cruise ships in order to save money to be able to eventually move to Nashville, Tennessee to further pursue a career in music!



Chancel Choir Singers to Perform in *Side Show*

Tom Hoblin, Anna Lasbury, Ian Marcontell, Maddie Powell, and Jonah White, members of the NHUMC Chancel Choir and Oklahoma City University music majors, have been cast in OCU's upcoming mainstage musical production of *Side Show*. Inspired by a real-life story, the show features twins who are conjoined at the hip and displayed as curiosities since childhood. The musical features lyrical, soulful music and theatrical show-stoppers as the sisters appear in the vaudeville and burlesque shows of America in the Roaring Twenties. Performances are scheduled for the Kirkpatrick Auditorium in OCU's Bass Music Center on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 28 - 30. Tickets are available at 405.208.5227.

Nichols Thrills

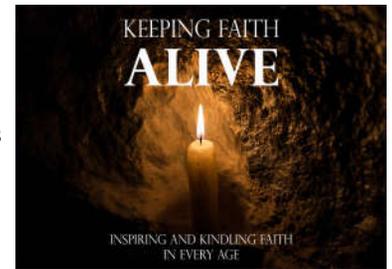
Nichols Thrills will begin a new session on Wednesday, October 3 with a Meal at 5:30 p.m. and two meaningful studies for adults.

Keeping Faith Alive is a six-week study that focuses on passing our faith from one generation to the next. How can older and younger Christians, and everyone in between, work together to strengthen the Church? The apostle Paul captures these challenges in his two letters to his young protégé, Timothy, and another letter to a young leader named Titus. Join us as we study these books and **Keep the Faith Alive**.

Leaders: Rev. Michael Carpenter and Dr. Trevor Smith

The Quest is a six-week women's study by Beth Moore that invites you to experience vulnerability and intimacy with God. Over and over in the Bible we see the people of God asking questions of their Creator. We also see the God of the universe asking questions of God's creation. **The Quest** is a challenge to accept the invitation. Learn to dig into God's Word, to respond to the questions of God, and to bring your questions before God. This study includes daily scripture readings for you to do at home and will help you learn how you can be part of helping our church attract people in our community and help them grow in faith. The price of the Study Journal is \$15.

Leader: Allyson Smith



We hope you will us for one of these meaningful small group opportunities. Sign-up in the Narthex after worship or in the Church Office at 405-842-1486 during the week.

Children's Ministry



Tausha
Davison-Beverly,
Director of
Children and
Family Ministry

We have a new nursery attendant to welcome in our Children's Ministry. Ashley Huling has chosen to join our nursery staff. Ashley has two children and many years of experience working in the Early Childhood field. She is CPR and First Aid certified and also plays a dual role at our church by working in the Pre-K classroom for The Learning Center. We invite you to stop by Creation Station and welcome Ashley to our church family.

Blessings,
Tausha



Tidbits from The Learning Center



Denise Buthion

They say blessings come in many ways. Sunday, September 9, The Learning Center staff was once again on the receiving end of being blessed by our church family. Nine teachers were able to attend while three others worked in the nursery. Senior Pastor Trevor Smith and Associate Pastor Michael Carpenter gave us kind remarks and thanked us for the work that we do. It truly is our blessing to work in such a wonderful church with such supportive people. Each teacher received a gift bag with a porcelain dish with a Bible verse and a book of daily confirmations for teachers. Our teachers then served as the cookie hostesses for the day. K2 Creations made our darling cookies with The Learning Center trees with our logo and marquees with our name. Not one cookie was left over which tells you they were pretty tasty. Thank you all for your support and lovely blessing.

-Denise



Girl Scouts Update

Do you remember those delicious dill pickle peanuts from last year? Well they're back along with other wonderful fall products that are for sale. Look for our table at church this Sunday. We are excited to share that our troop has grown to almost 30 girls! We now have a multi-level troop after accepting the West Nichols Hills troop into ours. Thanks so much for all you do to support us.

North Highland

Last year we sponsored two 4th grade class teachers: Ms. Bell and Ms. Maxwell. Ms. Maxwell moved out of state and Ms. Bell has become the art teacher. We would like to continue to sponsor Ms. Bell. and will also be sponsoring another grade this year but are awaiting our assignment.

Ms. Sela, the principal, asked us to help provide school uniforms. If you have any uniforms that your children have outgrown, we would love to have them for the North Highland students. She uniforms for boys and girls, larger sizes starting with size 10 and going up to size 20. The uniform colors needed are tan, black or navy pants, and white, navy, or maroon shirts. New uniforms cost approximately \$20. If you would like to donate money for new uniforms, please mark North Highland on your checks to the church.

We still need books for the library and the new kiosk from Ready OKC. We would love your old books for both adults and children. If you would like to donate to the specific list for the school library, specify on your check to the church, and we will buy them..

North Highland has four very needed projects. Please go to donorschoose.org to see the details on these items and to donate.

1. Ms. Bell's class - Camera
2. Mr. Harle's class - 4 Chrome Notebooks for computer class.
3. Mr. Rhoades' 2nd grade class - Interactive reading activities.
4. Mr. Rhoades' 2nd grade class - Seating.

Thanks,
Jennifer McGinnis

John Marshall Neighborhood Market

2018 Fall Schedule - 10:00 a.m. - 12:40 p.m.



Friday, September 21
Friday, September 28
Friday, October 5
Friday, October 26
Friday, November 2
Friday, November 9
Friday, November 16
Friday, November 30
Friday, December 7
Friday, December 14

If you are be interested in volunteering, please contact Stephanie Henry at 405-850-5518 or sajhmom@aol.com.

John Marshall Bear Cave Clothing Closet

The Clothing Closet is in need of small sizes of jeans - girls sizes 0-12 and boys sizes 26 waist to 34. Sweatpants of all sizes are also requested.

If you are be interested in volunteering, please contact Christie Baker at 405-922-5154.

Birthdays (Continued)

09/24 Jason Ott
09/26 Ellie Roberts
09/27 Alan Niemann
09/28 Caitlin Dyke
09/30 Cara Fraley
10/01 Angela Michael
10/02 Randall Blair
10/03 Cheryl Fraley
10/04 Carol Magness
10/05 Louise Glass
10/05 Linda Klos
10/05 Graham Murphy
10/05 Harrison Murphy
10/06 Joie Dickey
10/06 James Lavenue
10/07 Anna Bookout
10/07 Hardy Robinson
10/07 Fred Schonwald, Jr.

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 and
Jess and Bette Harris

The Fountains at Canterbury

Anita Dahlgren

At Home

Roger Etling, Ann Flesher,
Frances Lewis, and David Mueller

John Marshall Neighborhood Market and Clothing Closet

The best prices on the following items is generally found at the Dollar Tree.

Neighborhood Market

We are in need of:

- Men's and Women's Deodorant
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes (*prefer the 4-pack at Dollar Tree that can be cut apart*)
- 8 oz. Body Lotions
- 10 oz. Laundry Detergent (*Tide or Gain*)

Bear Cave Clothing Closet

We are in need of help in the Clothing Closet. If interested, please contact Christie Baker at 405-922-5154.

Items needed are:

- Athletic Socks (*above ankle/footies*)
- Men's White T-Shirts (*all sizes*)
- Men's and Women's Jeans (*Small Sizes Please*)
- Sweat Shirt "Hoodies" or Crew Neck
- Men's and Women's Coats/Jackets
- Men's and Women's Sweatpants, Athletic Shirts, Jerseys, T-Shirts
- Men's and Women's Shoes (*Men's 7 - 12 and Women's 6 - 12*)

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. We are currently doing a study called *Modern Parables* which focuses on six of Jesus' life-changing stories. 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 Rev. Shannon Fleck speaks on the Oklahoma Conference of Churches. Leader: Dudley Hyde.

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 focuses on the Lectionary approach with studies of scriptures from both the Old and New Testaments. Although we change our approach for "special Bible-study events," the Lectionary approach is based on "The United Methodist Music and Worship Planner." Class discussion and applying Christianity in today's world are an important parts of our lessons. Teacher: John Marshall.

Youth Class: *Meets in the Youth Basement* - Join us for fun, fellowship, and a lesson that will bring you closer to God. Associate Pastor: Rev. Michael Carpenter.

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. Michael Carpenter, Associate 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

Brandon Price, Custodian

Alfred Walker, Sunday Host

Randall Blair, Sunday Host

Brandy Jones, Nursery Attendant

Jessica Mayberry, Nursery Attendant

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