



NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

R.S.V.P.

¹⁵ One of the dinner guests, on hearing this, said to him, “Blessed is anyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!”

¹⁶ Then Jesus said to him, “Someone gave a great dinner and invited many. ¹⁷ At the time for the dinner he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come; for everything is ready now.’ ¹⁸ But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have

bought a piece of land, and I must go out and see it; please accept my regrets.’ ¹⁹ Another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am

going to try them out; please accept my regrets.’ ²⁰ Another said, ‘I have just been married, and therefore I cannot come.’ ²¹ So the slave returned and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and said to his slave, ‘Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.’ ²² And the slave said, ‘Sir, what you ordered has been done, and there is still room.’ ²³ Then the master said to the slave, ‘Go out into the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled.’ ²⁴ For I tell you, none of those who were invited will taste my dinner.’” -*Luke 14:15-24*

Do you love hosting a good banquet or dinner party? You create the guest list and spend time thinking about which of your guests would enjoy visiting with each other, as you put together a seating chart with all of the little name plates to tell your guests where to sit. Finally, you send out invitations with the hope that all of the people you invite will be able to attend the party, and you include an R.S.V.P. card in each invitation with the option to “Accept with Pleasure,” or to “Decline with Regrets.” Then you wait to receive all of the R.S.V.P. cards.

In the *Gospel of Luke*, Jesus is either going to a meal, at a meal, or coming from a meal. Meals were important social ceremonies. Little was left to chance. People noticed where you ate, with whom you ate, whether you washed before eating, and where you sat to eat. Your social position was at stake. There was a definite pecking order. So, I want to ask you, if Jesus invited you to come to a dinner party, would you come, or would you make a perfectly good excuse because you had something better to do? If he said you could bring a friend, who would you bring? For Jesus, meals were times of celebration. They were a time to include others in anticipation of how God would include people in the kingdom of God.

On Sunday we will celebrate World Communion Sunday by gathering around the Lord’s Table to receive Holy Communion with our brothers and sisters in Christ all around the world. We will also continue our *Short Stories—The Parables of Jesus* sermon series by taking a closer look at three parables Jesus told in Luke 14 about our table manners. I hope you will join us for worship at 8:30 or 10:50 a.m.

On Sunday, October 14, we will discuss the Parable of the Widow and the Judge in Luke 18 and discuss the effectiveness of persistence in prayer and talk about some of the prayer habits that can help us grow closer to God as we spend time talking and listening to our heavenly Father.

I am looking forward to our Fall Festival on Sunday, October 28 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. The Fall Festival is always a great opportunity for us to meet new friends and reach out to our community. I hope you will plan to join us for a fun evening.

Blessings,
Trevor

Ministry Calendar

Sunday, October 7

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 8

Women’s A.A. Meeting at 5:30

Cub Scouts at 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 9

Finance Committee at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 10

Nichols Thrills Meal at 5:30 p.m.

Keeping Faith Alive at 5:30

Quest at 5:30 p.m.

Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 16

Church Council at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 17

Nichols Thrills Meal at 5:30 p.m.

Keeping Faith Alive at 5:30

Quest at 5:30 p.m.

Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 18

The Learning Center Closed

Friday, October 19

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., 9:30 - 3:30

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, October 7

The coffee host is needed.

The mission candle is available.

The chancel flowers are available.

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

The acolytes for 10:50 are Charlotte and Avery Smith.

Serving In Ministry on Sunday, October 14

The coffee host is Billie Boston.

The mission candle is available.

The chancel flowers are given by Ann Garrett in loving memory of Bill Garrett.

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

The acolytes for 10:50 are Lucy Ann Vaughn 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: Carla Hill, Anne Holbrook, and Janet Jones.

Birthdays

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 Hardy Robinson
10/07 Fred Schonwald, Jr.

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.**

October 7
October 14
October 21

R.S.V.P.
The Widow and the Judge
The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Youth News



Rev. Michael
Carpenter

This Sunday, the youth will have our inaugural Nichols Hills Olympics! Right after church on October 7, from 12:00 - 2:30 p.m., we will have bouts of strength and endurance, teamwork and ingenuity. There will be activities and games for all types of interest, so you don't want to miss out. Bring some appropriate athletic clothes and join us for a low-stress, high-excitement afternoon of games. Lunch will be provided.

Also, I sent out a letter to our youth families last week with some vision-casting as well as a list of our events through the end of the year. If you are a youth family (6th - 12th grade) but didn't receive a letter, please let me know. We have some amazing fun and formation planned!

Grace upon Grace,
Michael



Children's Ministry



Tausha
Davison-Beverly,
Director of
Children and
Family Ministry

It's that time of the year again, as the leaves begin to turn colors and pumpkins are all around. Our annual Fall Festival will soon be here. This year's festival will be on Sunday evening, October 28 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. We will have hay rides, arts and crafts, face painting, a photo booth, s'mores, hay rides, games, a Chili Cook-off, and sweet treats for children young and old. Children are welcome to dress up in their favorite costume for this free family-friendly event.

We will also have our annual Chili Cook-off. Mrs. Sandra Smith is our current Golden Spoon winner. If you think you have what it takes to win, we would love for you to bring your chili in a crock pot for all to sample and enjoy. There will be a sign-up list to enter the cook off, bring a dessert, or volunteer in the Narthex. I look forward to seeing you and your family as we fellowship and share God's love.

Blessings,
Tausha

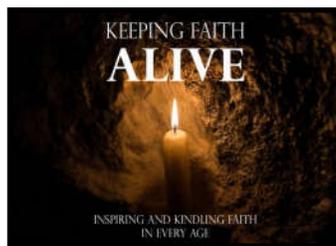
Nichols Thrills

Nichols Thrills has begun a new session but it isn't too late to join! Join us on Wednesdays with a Meal at 5:30 p.m. and two 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 join 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.



Tidbits from The Learning Center



Denise Buthion

We are sad to say, "Goodbye," to Ms. Maggie Figueroa who retired on September 27, after five years of faithful service with The Learning Center. Ms. Maggie was a hard-working teacher and an early bird who liked to be among the first to arrive in the morning.

Ms. Maggie enjoyed sewing and repairing little things in the classroom and always took great care of our smallest children. Her husband even repaired toys for us several times, always with joy and love.

Ms. Skylar will be moving into the Cubs classroom where she will offer love and care to the infants in the same spirit Ms. Maggie did. We held a farewell party for Ms. Maggie to celebrate her retirement. Adios Senora Figueroa y muchas gracias. We will miss you, and we wish you well in your retirement.

-Denise



Fall Festival

Sunday, October 28, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Join us for our annual Fall Festival on October 28 from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. We will have a chili cook-off, s'mores, hayrides, crafts, and games! Bring your friends and family for an evening of Fall Fun!

Sign up for the chili cook-off in the Narthex, online (nicholshillsumc.org) or call the church.

Birthdays (Continued)

10/09	Randi Garza
10/09	Jacob Roan
10/09	John Rowntree, Jr.
10/10	Bill Shdeed
10/11	Blythe Butler
10/11	Ann Garrett
10/12	Tracey Saunders
10/13	Trish Cloud
10/13	Annemarie Edmonds
10/13	Dick Sias
10/17	Gwen Niemann
10/17	Patricia Schonwald
10/18	Cynda Ottaway
10/18	Nicholas Schoeffler
10/20	Preston Robinson
10/21	Melissa Davis
10/22	Chris Kauffman
10/22	Sylvia Miller
10/24	Tim Sanders

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. Join us on Sunday as we study the Parable of the Shrewd Manager. For more information about “The Brew” contact Tim Baker (405) 209-5467 or Christie Baker (405) 922-5154.

KIVA Class: *Meets in the Parlor* - Jennifer McGinnis has asked Bishop Bennie Warner, former VP of Liberia, to speak to the class.
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, Director of Communications

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

Ashley Huling, Nursery Attendant