A Lasting Legacy

Jesus said, “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” -Matthew 6:19-21

The goal of life isn’t to live on earth forever but to leave something that does. On Sunday we will conclude our Legacy—Leave Your Mark sermon series by talking about the way we can make an eternal difference by using our accumulated assets to make a planned gift that will bless ministries and people for generations to come. During my sermon I will interview David Battles who is the Executive Vice-President of the Oklahoma United Methodist Foundation. David will also lead a Wills Seminar for us in the fellowship hall at 9:45 a.m.

Planned giving is a person’s ultimate expression of a life of faithfulness; it is a way for you to make a commitment to leave a legacy and a testimony that will endure. Planned giving is an opportunity to give out of your accumulated assets by giving to support our church’s ministry through endowments, wills, bequests, and charitable gift annuities.

According to Donald Joiner, five things happen when a church makes plans to receive planned gifts:

1. The church receives increased gifts to fund various ministries.
2. Members begin to examine their Christian stewardship concepts and understandings in a broader context and begin to include planned gifts as well as current gifts in their stewardship response.
3. Members are educated about the many gift opportunities for mission and ministry through the church.
4. Current contributions given in support of the ongoing annual budget are freed up to strengthen and even expand existing programs.
5. The church and its various ministries and institutions begin to receive major planned gifts that have previously been directed to other causes where planned-giving programs are already in place.

Planned giving yields many blessings. In his book, Wit, Wisdom and Moxie, Jerold Panas writes, “Those who provide for charity in their estate plans live longer than the general public—six years beyond the Actuarial Tables.” Planned giving can help you continue your faithful giving even after your death.

I also want to let you know that we will begin the Lenten season with our Ash Wednesday Worship Service on March 6 at noon. At the conclusion of the service we will have a lunch at 12:30 in the fellowship hall. If you would like to attend the lunch, please call the church office at (405)842-1486 or email info@nicholshillsumc.org. Have a great week, and I will see you on Sunday.

Blessings,
Trevor
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 in the Narthex.

Serving In Ministry on Sunday, March 3
The coffee hosts are the Smith family. The chancel flowers are available, The mission candle is available. The acolytes for 8:30 is Gabriel Ireland. The acolytes for 10:50 are Lucy Ann Vaughn and Jimmy Tirrell.

Serving In Ministry on Sunday, March 10
The coffee host is available. The chancel flowers are given by Janice Pitney in memory of her daughter, Jill Morgan Thompson. The mission candle is available. The acolytes for 8:30 is Gabriel Ireland. The acolytes for 10:50 are Charlotte Smith and Collier Vaughn.

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. Altar Guild this month are: Becky Buchanan, Anne Holbrook, Janet Jones, and Sarah Lee.

Legacy

Leave Your Mark
The goal of life isn’t to live on earth forever but to leave something that does. Legacy is about life and living. It’s about learning from the past, living in the present, and building for the future. Legacy is fundamental to what it means to be human. Research shows that without a sense of working to create a legacy, adults lose meaning in their lives. Exploring the idea of legacy offers us a glimpse not only into human relationships and building strong communities, but also the human spirit.

Join us for worship at Nichols Hills U.M.C. as we explore the way our words and actions can make an eternal difference and build a lasting Legacy.

March 3 A Lasting Legacy

Our Next Sermon Series:

24 Hours That Changed the World
No single event in human history has received more attention than the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus of Nazareth. Beginning on March 10, Dr. Trevor Smith will share a series of messages that guide us through the last 24 hours of Jesus’ life. Each sermon will help you experience and understand the significance of Jesus’ suffering and death. Whether you are a long-time Christian or simply curious about the story of Christ’s crucifixion, we invite you to join us for this powerful series as we retrace 24 Hours That Changed the World.

March 10 The Last Supper
March 17 Betrayed
March 24 Condemned
March 31 Sentenced
April 7 Tortured and Humiliated
April 14 Crucified
April 21 Resurrected
Children’s Ministry

This past Sunday we were blessed to have our Girl Scout Troop 22 and their families join us in both of our worship services for Girl Scout Sunday. The troop is led by our very own Jennifer McGinnis and Anne Beavers, Heather Small, Megan Fagundes, and Gloria McKinney.

Some of our Girl Scout parents have created their own legacy of being involved in Scouts and all their service projects to give back to the community. Our young ladies have been involved in several community projects including the Bella Foundation, Harvest Hills Veterinary Clinic, providing Christmas gifts to children in foster care, and giving school supplies to children living in transitional housing. Thank you to our Girl Scout families for your wonderful work in serving others in our city.

Blessings,
Tausha

Tausha Davison-Beverly

Youth News

Over the past few weeks in Youth Sunday school, we’ve been talking about the importance of serving others, in big and small ways, in our homes, and around the world. Next Sunday, March 3, we’re going to put what we’ve learned to the test with our Mission Relay! Right after church, we’ll gather for lunch in the Youth Basement and start a series of fast-paced, impactful mission activities that will help people near and far. Join us and see how your service skills stack up!

Also, our Cub Scouts will be hosting their Blue and Gold Banquet this Saturday, March 2, at the Church. The banquet is the opportunity for the boys who have finished all the requirements of Cub Scouting to cross over into Boy Scouts. We have several Cub Scouts who will be crossing over, and we are so proud of their accomplishment!

Finally, the youth will be attending YouthForce this summer on July 7-12. YouthForce is a weeklong mission trip and church camp you will not want to miss. This will be my first camp experience with our youth, and I am so excited to see how the Spirit moves during the week!

Grace upon Grace,
Michael

Rev. Michael Carpenter

ReConnection Ministry

In Hebrews 10:34-35 the writer of Hebrews encourages us, “Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Don’t stop meeting together, which some people have gotten into the habit of doing. Instead, encourage each other.” As a family of faith, we cherish the time we spend together and miss each other when one of us is sick or out of town.

In the near future we are launching a ReConnection Ministry to stay connected with people. If a member of our congregation is absent from worship for four weeks in a row, a member of our ReConnection Team will reach out to the person to say that he or she has been missed and to find out if there is any way we can be a better serve them.

If you have a heart for the people in our church, consider volunteering in this new ministry. Email me at MCarpenter@nicholshillsumc.org or call the church office at (405) 842-1486. Your warm spirit and heart for fellowship will spur us toward love!

Grace upon Grace,
Michael
A Guide to Giving

WHICH TYPE OF GIFT FITS YOUR NEEDS?

Each year the generous spirit of donors makes the work of our United Methodist churches and ministries possible. This generosity is evident in countless ways, including financial support. There are many ways people make charitable gifts and careful planning will ensure your desires are met. Below is an overview of the most common ways to make a gift with an explanation of the benefits to you and the beneficiary of each.

### GIFTS THAT PAY YOU INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>Charitable Gift Annuity</th>
<th>Charitable Remainder Trust</th>
<th>Outright</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **BENEFITS** | Current income tax deduction  
Portion of payments may be tax free  
Fixed and predictable payments | Current income tax deduction  
Bypass capital gains tax  
Diversification of investments  
Payments for life and/or term of years | Current income tax deduction  
Bypass capital gains tax  
Enjoy the gift during your lifetime |
| **BENEFICIARY** | One or two annuitant beneficiaries  
Your church or ministry is future residual beneficiary | One or more income beneficiaries  
Your church or ministry is future residual beneficiary | Your church or ministry is the immediate beneficiary |

### GIFTS THAT TAKE EFFECT AFTER YOUR LIFETIME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>Bequest</th>
<th>Life Insurance</th>
<th>Retirement Plans</th>
<th>Retained Life Estate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **BENEFITS** | Charitable deduction for taxable estates  
Allows you to make a large gift at no immediate cost to you | Allows you to make a large gift at little cost to you | Avoid double taxation of retirement assets  
The Foundation applies the full amount of plan assets to the church or ministry you choose | Current income tax deduction  
Potential estate tax savings |
| **BENEFICIARY** | Your church or ministry is the future beneficiary | | | You retain lifetime beneficial use of property  
Your church or ministry receives future rights to property |
Wills Seminar - Sunday, March 3 at 9:45 a.m.

Just as the church is concerned about your spiritual health, we are conscious about the need each of us have to be good stewards of our accumulated wealth and assets. Being a good steward of your assets is difficult after your death unless you establish a plan that will carry out your wishes. That plan is called a will or trust.

Many people are reluctant to write a will or even discuss one. However, those who create a will are always glad they did. When we write a will, we tell the world what is important to us. A will affirms our hopes and our dreams and protects our loved ones and cherished causes. It becomes part of our legacy which lives on and continues to bless the people we love.

On Sunday, March 3 at 9:45 a.m. The Brew Sunday school class will host a Wills Seminar in the Fellowship Hall. David Battles, CPA and executive vice president of the Oklahoma United Methodist Foundation, will lead the seminar. The seminar will answer the following questions and more:
- What is a will?
- What if I die without a will?
- Is joint tenancy a substitute for a will?
- What is a revocable living trust and what are its advantages over a will?
- Do I need a will or trust to leave a gift to the church or other charitable organizations?

There will be plenty of time for questions and individual consultations. A packet of information will be provided to each participant at this free seminar.

Please let us know if you would like to attend by contacting the church office at (405)842-1486 or by emailing Delaney Sheffield at info@nicholshillsumc.org.

Nichols Hills UMC Endowments and Managed Accounts

**Endowments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jeannette Sias Memorial Endowment</th>
<th>Income for general use and purposes.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rex Kennedy Rosser Memorial Endowment</td>
<td>Income used by Endowment Committee for OKC Public School ministry projects w/ emphasis (not requirement) on N. Highland Elementary and John Marshall HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferne Oliver Permanent Fund</td>
<td>Income for general purposes of the church approved by Endowment Trustees</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Managed Accounts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Garden Endowment Fund</th>
<th>Upkeep of gardens</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Memorial Endowment Fund</td>
<td>General purposes of the church approved by Endowment Trustees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.L. Oliver Endowment Mgmt. Fund</td>
<td>Income for the music program, including visual effects and other related uses in the worship service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferne Oliver Endowment Mgmt. Fund</td>
<td>Income for scholarships or stipends to high school or college students engaged in the study of or showing special talents in the field of music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary L. Oliver Endowment Fund</td>
<td>Income for Christen education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pope Lecture Endowment Fund</td>
<td>Income to host Dr. W. Carrol Pope Lecture – honorariums, travel, lodging, meals for speaker, receptions, dinners and other costs incidental to providing quality program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Rittenhouse Building Endowment</td>
<td>Building, land acquisitions, major repairs or maintenance, other capital acquisitions of the church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nichols Hills UMC Fund</td>
<td>Investment and Management – Principal and income available on request of the Trustees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ione Woodberry Endowment Fund</td>
<td>General purposes of the church approved by Endowment Trustees</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Lenten Bible Study**

Join us as we start a new Lenten Bible study by Beth Moore called *Entrusted*. We will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 6 at 5:30 p.m. Allyson Smith will lead the study. In this 6-session Bible study which focuses on II Timothy, you will be encouraged to guard what God has entrusted to you, further His kingdom by sharing Christ with others, and pour into future generations just as Paul once mentored Timothy. In this journey of joy and hardship, we need each other to stay the course and live a life of faithfulness.

The price of the book is $13. Sign up in the Narthex or by calling at the church office at (405)842-1486. We hope you will join us for this wonderful Lenten study.

---

**Rising Stars Music Ministry Fundraiser**

**Sunday, March 24 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall**

The Music Ministry of Nichols Hills U.M.C. presents *Rising Stars*, a musical review of your favorite songs featuring members of our Chancel Choir. Join us on Sunday, March 24 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for an elegant evening of dinner and music to support our music ministry.

**Encore Table Sponsorships** are $1000.
- 8 **tickets and table name recognition**

**Ovation Table Sponsorships** are $500.
- 4 **tickets and table name recognition**

Individual tickets are $65 per person.

Checks may be made out to Nichols Hills United Methodist Church.

To reserve your seat, call the church office, 405-842-1486, or email info@nicholshillsumc.org.
John Marshall Saturday of Service
Nothing feels better than watching the children and youth in our church serve the students of John Marshall, our missional partner school. On Saturday, February 16, we had a great team of children, youth, and parent volunteers stock the shelves of our Neighborhood Market and organize the storeroom. Jobs that normally take hours were finished quickly! The work of taking inventory of organizing supplies became a competitive, no-nonsense race!

Special thank you to the youth who came out to help: Kneely and Gracie Buxton, Maggie Brown, Sarah Tirrell, Graham and Jackson Murphy, Jack Powell, and Craig and Gracie Sanders! And thank you to the children who came: Regan Miller, Charlotte Smith, Avery Smith, Jimmy Tirrell, and Cameron!

Grace upon Grace,
Michael Carpenter

Josh Kelly to Perform in L’Amico Fritz
Josh Kelly, a member of the NHUMC chancel choir and OCU music major, has been cast in OCU’s upcoming Spotlight Music Theater production of Pietro Mascagni’s opera L’Amico Fritz. Fritz is a wealthy and generous landowner who insists he will never marry. His friend Rabbi David, the local matchmaker, sets out to prove him wrong! Performances are scheduled for OCU’s Burg Theater at 8:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, March 1 and 2, and at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 3. Tickets are available at 405.208.5227 or online at okcu.edu/tickets.

Tidbits from The Learning Center
We are partnering with Oklahoma State University-OKC to host their students for observations. They spend several hours watching the interactions of our children and staff. Each student must observe for 21 hours in a variety of age groups. Background screenings are made on each student by OSU-OKC. It’s challenging to have observers watching your every move, but it is a huge compliment that we were chosen as one of the quality sites. This is also a wonderful connection to students who may want to work in The Learning Center. Two women and one man will do their observations at T.L.C. It is exciting to see our profession include more men. Our children get so excited when the visitors come, and we have to remind them to let our visitors do their work. The feedback from the students has been very kind and positive. It is a win-win for T.L.C.

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

The Brew Class: Meets in Room 131 - Bring your coffee and join “The Brew” for our Will’s Seminar in the Fellowship Hall. For more information about “The Brew” contact Tim Baker (405) 209-5467 or Christie Baker (405) 922-5154.

KIVA Class: Meets in the Fellowship Hall - Join us as Shannon Evers CEO of Girl Scouts of Western Oklahoma speaks to the class. Leader: Lance Benham.

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 part 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 and celebrate Christmas. 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
Ashley Huling, Nursery Attendant
Brandy Jones, Nursery Attendant
Daniel Etti-Williams, Audi-Visual Technician