



NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

The Shunammite Woman

⁸ One day Elisha went to the town of Shunem. A wealthy woman lived there, and she urged him to come to her home for a meal. After that, whenever he passed that way, he would stop there for something to eat. ⁹ She said to her husband, "I am sure this man who stops in from time to time is a holy man of God. ¹⁰ Let's build a small room for him on the roof and furnish it with a bed, a table, a chair, and a lamp. Then he will have a place to stay whenever he comes by." -II Kings 4:8-10

This room became known as the Prophet's Chamber, and you might say that it was the first parsonage. The Shunammite woman's decision to bless Elisha by using her resources to build a place for him to stay speaks to the heart of stewardship and generosity. We give to the people, the places, and the ministries we love because our giving makes us a part of what God is doing in the world and our lives. But this generous gift is just the beginning of the Shunammite woman's story. She is one of the most extraordinary women in the Old Testament, and it is very likely that you have never heard of her. On Sunday, I am looking forward to sharing her story with you.

In appreciation for her kindness and generosity, Elisha asked the woman, "What can we do for you? Can we put in a good word for you to the king or to the commander of the army?" "No," she replied, "my family takes good care of me." What do you get for the woman who seems to have everything? ¹⁴ Later Elisha asked Gehazi, "What can we do for her?" Gehazi replied, "She doesn't have a son, and her husband is an old man." This woman had given up on the idea of having a child, and when Elisha told her that she would give birth to a son she said, "No, my lord!" she cried. "O man of God, don't deceive me and get my hopes up like that." ¹⁷ But sure enough, the woman soon became pregnant. And at that time the following year she had a son, just as Elisha had said. What great joy she experienced after years of emptiness and heartbreak.

But this is also a story of tragic loss and faith. When the boy was still young, he tragically died one day in his mother's arms. But in the face of death, this woman refused to let death have the final word. She said, "It will be all right." She put her faith in God and travelled over thirty miles to where Elisha was to convince him to come and pray over her son. I hope you will join us for worship on Sunday as we continue our **Elisha** sermon series with a message that will touch your heart and give you faith to make it through the difficult moments in your own life.

On Saturday, August 3rd, I invite you to serve in ministry through **Mission Madness** by preparing the Neighborhood Market and the Bear Cave Clothing Closet for another school year and planting flowers at John Marshall High School. We will also trim trees and bushes and adjust the backboards on basketball goals at Nichols Hills Elementary School. I look forward to serving with children, youth, and adults.

Our church will also welcome back the teachers from both schools by hosting a breakfast for the faculty at John Marshall High School on Tuesday, August 6 and a breakfast for the faculty at Nichols Hills Elementary School on Wednesday, August 7. I am so thankful for the way the people in our church come together to serve and share God's love in ways that make a Christian difference in our community. Both schools are so appreciative for the ways we are serving and loving them. I'll see you on Sunday.

Blessings,
Trevor

Ministry Calendar

Saturday, August 3

Mission Madness, 9:00 to 1:00

Sunday, August 4

Worship at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

Monday, August 5

Care Committee at 4:00 p.m.

Care Ministers Meeting at 4:45

Women's A.A. Meeting at 5:30

Tuesday, August 6

Teacher's Breakfast at John

Marshall High School at 7:30 a.m.

Finance Committee at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, August 7

Teacher's Breakfast at Nichols

Hills Elementary School at 8:00

Thursday-Friday, August 8-9

Global Leadership Summit at

Crossings Community Church

Meet the Teacher Night at Nichols

Hills Elementary School at 5:30

Saturday, August 10

St. Yootz Day at Frontier City

Sunday, August 18

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

Sunday, August 25

Bring A Friend Sunday

at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.



Thank you!

Thank you to Ellie Roberts, Sharon Ives, Jerry Jennings, and Sue Goodman who fold, stuff, and address the newsletters every other week. You all are a blessing!

Nichols Hills U.M.C.

(405)842-1486

(405)843-1835 Fax

www.nicholshillsumc.org



Ministry Opportunities

Hospitality Greeters

Are you enthusiastic about our church? If so, this is an opportunity you might enjoy. Please see Rev. Charles Neff 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, August 4

The coffee host is available.

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, Avery Smith, and Louis Fraley.

Serving In Ministry on Sunday, August 11

The coffee host is available.

The chancel flowers are given by Bill and Pam Shdeed in memory of John Goodman.

The mission candle is available.

The acolytes for 8:30 is Gabriel Ireland.

The acolytes for 10:50 are

Jimmy Tirrell, SaRaIya Gavin, 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 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:

Donna Blakley, Mary Crownover, Cheryl Fraley, Ann Garrett, Carla Hill, Anne Holbrook, Sarah Lee, Carol Magness, Jennifer McGinnis, Beverly Perri, Marty Smith, and Alfred Walker

Birthdays

08/02 Steve Brown

08/04 Zachary Bloomfield

08/04 Garrett Davis

08/04 Delaney Henry

08/04 Molly Love

Continued on the next page.

Elisha

We all face problems that can overwhelm us... an incurable disease, barrenness, unexpected death or financial loss, or even a harmful adversary. In these moments we need healing, hope, and faith to see that God will make a difference in our lives.

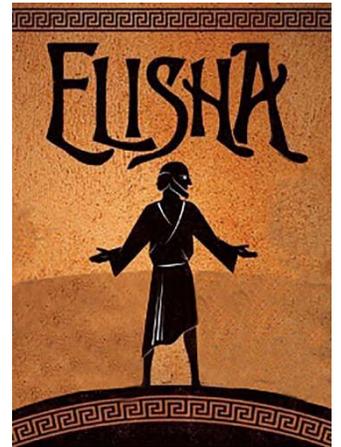
The story of the prophet Elisha takes us into the lives of people who experienced some of life's worst pains but also some of God's greatest miracles.

Join us at Nichols Hills United Methodist Church at 8:30 or 10:50 on Sunday mornings as we learn from *Elisha*.

August 4 *The Shunammite Woman*

August 11 *Open Our Eyes, Lord*

August 18 *Not Alone*



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Rachel and Collins Peck on the birth of their son, Barney Collins Peck, who was named after Rachel's grandfather, Barney Brown. Little Barnes weighed six pounds and eleven ounces. We are very excited for Rachel and Collins and look forward to meeting the newest baby boy in our church family!

Mission Madness

Saturday, August 3rd from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Mission Madness will be on Saturday, August 3rd from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There will be opportunities to serve in ministry for everyone from pre-school through adults.

Our children, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Cub Scouts will serve at Nichols Hills Elementary School by doing some landscaping including trimming bushes and trees and putting out mulch as well as some indoor tasks to help prepare for the new school year.

Our youth and adults will serve at John Marshall High School by preparing the Neighborhood Market and Bear Cave Clothing Closet as well as planting flowers and doing other projects around the school to help the teachers prepare for the new school year.

Lunch will be provided.

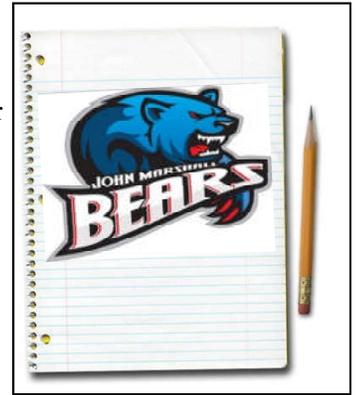
We invite you to serve with us from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. or for any portion of the time that day.

Please sign up in the Narthex or call the church office. As part of Mission Madness, we will also be collecting supplies for the pantry and clothing closet. See the list of school supplies for the Neighborhood Market and items for the Clothing Closet in this newsletter. If you would prefer that we do the shopping for you, you are welcome to donate money.

MISSION MADNESS

It's Back To School Shopping Time!

One of the most important things that we can supply our students at John Marshall High School is paper and pencils. Please stop by Staples, Target, or wherever you shop and purchase **College Ruled One-Subject Spiral Notebooks** and **#2 Pencils** (either regular or simple mechanical). At Staples you can purchase up to 30 one-subject notebooks for \$0.25 each with one transaction. There are also great deals on pencils, too. Target and other stores may have similar deals. Please drop the notebooks and pencils off at church. Your generous donations last year lasted us the entire school year and were greatly appreciated by both students and teachers.



Please consider donating these items for the Bear Cave Clothing Closet:

NEW Men's white T-shirts sizes M-XXL

Men's and women's shoes – Casual shoes, dress shoes, and athletic shoes. Shoes need to be polished, in good repair and canvas or athletic shoes must be clean and in good condition.

Boys/Men's Shoes: sizes 8-18

Girls/Women's Shoes: sizes 6-10

Costume jewelry, purses, men's belts, athletic socks, sample size bottles of girl's perfume or men's cologne.

Teacher Breakfasts

Our church will welcome back the teachers for the new school year by hosting a breakfast for the faculty at John Marshall High School on Tuesday, August 6 and a breakfast for the faculty at Nichols Hills Elementary School on Wednesday, August 7.

We need your help. Sign up in the Narthex or call the church office if you are able to bring food, drinks, or help serve.

Tuesday, August 6

Teacher's Breakfast at John Marshall High School at 7:30 a.m.

Wednesday, August 7

Teacher's Breakfast at Nichols Hills Elementary School at 8:00 a.m.



Dr. Charles Neff,
Associate Pastor

Greeters and Ushers Needed

The Ushers Team, which distributes bulletins, collects the offering, and assists with communion each Sunday morning, is looking for a few persons to join the team. The 8:30 service needs one back-up usher who can be available as a sub, and the 10:50 service needs one weekly team member and two back-up ushers.

The Hospitality Team, which welcomes guests and members at the outer doors and provides directions for anyone in need, is in need of several team members to serve on a month-on/month-off rotation. Greeters serve for twenty minutes on Sunday mornings at either 8:15, 9:30, or 10:35 a.m. Families (including children!) are welcome to serve together. Ushers serve on Sunday mornings from 8:10 to 9:40 or 10:30 to 12:00. If you are interested in serving as an Usher or a member of the Hospitality Team, please sign-up in the narthex. We will train all new team members before you begin serving. Contact Pastor Charles if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Block Party

Sunday, August 18 from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

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

There are lots of ways to help with the Block Party: make some homemade ice-cream, brownies, or cookies; bring a prize or school supplies for Bingo; or help with the set-up at 3:00 or the clean-up at 7:00.

Sign-up in the Narthex or call the church office at 405-842-1486 to serve at the Block Party.

BLOCK PARTY

Children's Ministry



Tausha
Davison-Beverly

The summer is coming to an end for our elementary aged children. Our campers who attended church camps at Canyon Camp have returned. This summer we sent more children to church camp than we have in many years. We are so happy that we were able to send six children to church camp. I asked Collier Vaughn, Regan Miller, Charlotte Smith, and Gabriel Ireland what they enjoyed most about camp, and they said, "The food was awesome, and swimming with my friends was the best!" I would like to thank Allyson Smith for their going to church camp with our children. For the past three years Allyson has driven our children to and from camp and has also served as a leader. Thank you for helping our children make memorable connections with others. Here are a few pictures from their wonderful adventures at this year's Oklahoma United Methodist camps.



We would love for you, your family, and friends to join us in serving at Mission Madness on Saturday, August 3. Come help us welcome the teachers at Nichols Hills Elementary and John Marshall High School. You can sign up to serve by contacting the church office at 405-842-1486.

Blessings,
Tausha

Skyline Urban Ministry Gala

An Evening with Ron Hall

Ron Hall is the author of #1 New York Times best seller
Same Kind of Different as Me.

Friday, August 9th at 6:30 p.m.

Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum

For tickets or more information,
call Kim Parris at 405-600-6217.



Youth Announcements



Dr. Charles Neff,
Associate Pastor

Mission Madness

We invite you to serve with us at Mission Madness on Saturday, August 3. Youth and their Parents are invited to serve at John Marshall High School at 122nd Street and Hefner Parkway. Projects will include power washing, planting flower beds, and working in the Neighborhood Market and the Bear Cave Clothing Closet. If you would like to serve, contact the church office and plan to arrive at John Marshall at 9:00 a.m. Dress for outdoor work. Lunch will be provided. We will finish at 1:00 p.m.

Sunday School Resumes

In Sunday, August 18 in the Youth Room at 9:45 a.m. Pastor Charles will share his story of faith and jump into a multi-week lesson that will bring together all the Bible stories from your childhood into one big Bible Timeline. Parents are also welcome to attend.

Youth Group Kick-Off Event

Following the second service on Sunday, August 25, the Youth (6th - 12th grade) will cruise down to Bricktown for lunch and mini-golf as a back-from-summer kick-off event. We'll have pizza at Brickopolis and play a round of miniature golf. We will plan to be back to the church by 2:30 p.m. for pick-up. It is "Bring a Friend Sunday" that day, so if you'd like to invite a friend to join you, we will be happy to include them in the fun. To insure enough transportation, please RSVP to Pastor Charles by August 22 (cneff@nicholshillsumc.org or 405-842-1486).

Tidbits from The Learning Center



Denise Buthion,
T.L.C. Director

Wow! Where did summer go? We won't miss the heat, but hopefully it will cool off soon. While our children were kept indoors in the afternoons due to the heat index we did provide some fun activities. We had a great time playing in the Fellowship Hall, and our Pottery class was entertaining. We also played in the Youth Basement. The pool table, foosball table, ping pong table, and air hockey table gave every one of our children an opportunity for some large muscle work. Amazing Athletes came each week to also work their muscles and minds. Lacrosse and hockey were two of the most interesting sessions. Suffice to say our children had a busy, productive, and memorable summer. The Learning Center is closed July 29 through August 2. We will have staff development training and work on our plans for the next school year. Our fall enrollment is 98 children. We are excited for another exciting session.

-Denise

Birthdays (Continued)

08/05 Craig Sanders
08/06 Anita Dahlgren
08/06 Megan Dean
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 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
08/30 Judy Kauffman
08/31 Sue Hood
08/31 David Reed

Cares and Concerns

Epworth Villa

Joanne Crosby and Sylvia Miller

Town Village

Jess and Bette Harris

The Fountains at Canterbury

Anita Dahlgren

StoneCreek

Ray and Lynn Greene

At Home

Roger Etling, Frances Lewis,
David Mueller

John Marshall Ministry

The best prices for the neighborhood market items are generally found at the Dollar Tree.

Neighborhood Market needs:

- Men's and Women's Deodorant
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes - *prefer the 4-pack*
- 8 oz. Body Lotions
- 10 oz. Laundry Detergent - *Tide or Gain*

Bear Cave Clothing Closet needs:

- NEW Men's white t-shirts M-XXL
- Men's and Women's Shoes
- Costume Jewelry
- Purses
- Men's Belts
- Athletic Socks
- Sample size perfume or cologne



Nichols Hills United Methodist Church
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Sunday School Classes - Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

The Brew Class: *Meets in Room 131* - Bring your coffee and join “The Brew” as we gather for fellowship and a meaningful study on the Gospel of Matthew. 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 we have an open discussion. 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* - Join us as we gather for worship and a meaningful study.

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

Associate Pastor: Dr. Charles Neff

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: Lacey 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

Dr. Charles Neff, 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 and A/V Tech

Dustin Davis, Nursery Attendant and A/V Tech

LaRodree Dawkins, Nursery Attendant

Melita James, Nursery Attendant

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The Learning Center - 405-842-5325