

NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

Encourage One Another

²³ Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

-Hebrews 10:23-25

The pastor who wrote the *Letter to the Hebrews* mounts an extraordinary effort to save a church that has lost its Amen. Why? Why is this pastor doing this? It is evident to me that the pastor is doing it because the pastor cares. Not all of the reasons for staying a Christian speak to us today. Some of them are strange. Some of them hardly apply anymore. Some are so related to Jewish rituals, we can't really identify. But everything the pastor is doing is out of care for the church. It has been my observation that care frequently is raw, interferes, intrudes, says the wrong thing, has the wrong timing, disrupts, makes mistakes, frequently feels it needs to apologize. But one thing care never does... care never lets anyone go completely. Room... yes. Let go... no. Never. The pastor of the church of the Hebrew Letter cared for the church. It is not limited to him, nor is it limited to pastors in my experience.

I have watched the way the people in our church express the way they care about people. Some of you serve on our Care Committee or as Congregational Care Ministers. You visit our homebound members. You minister to people who are grieving the loss of a loved one. You take flowers to people. You call to check in with people.

Some of you serve in our Neighborhood Market or our Bear Cave Clothing Closet at John Marshall High School. You offer food and clothing to students. You offer a friendly hug or a handshake. You care, and so you show up every Friday.

Some of you have felt God calling you to serve as a Reading Buddy. You want to make a Christian difference in the life of a child, and you know that if you can help a child learn to enjoy reading you will bless that child for many years to come. You commit to show up every week for thirty to forty-five minutes to read and show that you care.

Some of you serve as greeters and ushers. It only takes twenty minutes on Sunday morning, and you know that it makes a difference when you welcome people into the church for Sunday school or worship. You are the first person to greet a new person who decided to come to our church for the first time. The hospitality you offer makes people feel welcome, part of the church.

Some of you bring cookies and donuts to church on Sunday to share with everyone. You know that people need time to visit with each other, and that is exactly what happens as we share fellowship after our worship services.

The Holy Spirit has been moving in our church through each of these ministries, and these ministries wouldn't happen if you didn't care. At our Block Party, you offered hospitality to many people from our community, and I have been delighted to see many of these families return to our church to join us for Sunday school and worship. In recent weeks, I have had several discussions with parents about joining the church and having their children baptized. This Saturday I will be baptizing Dale Vaughn in the pool at his house, and he and his wife, Mario, will be joining the church on Sunday. I hope you will plan to worship with us as we talk about the ways we can encourage one another.

Blessings,
Trevor

Ministry Calendar

Sunday, September 15

Worship at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Charge Conference at 1:45 p.m.

Monday, September 16

Bear Cave Clothing Closet at 11:00
Women's A.A. Meeting at 5:30
Cub Scouts at 6:30 p.m.
Boy Scouts at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 17

Nominations Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday September 18

Nichols Thrills Meal at 5:30 p.m.
The Places You'll Go... How Will You Know? Study at 5:30
Not Quite Holy Study at 5:30
Chancel Choir Rehearsal at 7:30

Thursday, September 19

Bear Cave Clothing Closet at 11:00

Friday, September 20

Neighborhood Market at 10:30

Tuesday, September 24

S.P.R.C. Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 1

Nominations Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 8

Stewardship Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 15

Finance Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 27

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

Tuesday, October 29

Church Council Meeting at 5:30

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 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, September 15

The coffee host is General Bill Bowden.

The chancel flowers are given by Jeff Cloud in memory of Buster Cloud and in honor of Jereme Cloud.

The mission candle is lit by Jereme Cloud in memory of Buster Cloud.

The acolyte for 8:30 is Gabriel Ireland.

The acolytes for 10:50 are SaRaiya Gavin, A'Shiya Perkins, Collier Vaughn, and Wesley Vaughn.

Serving In Ministry on Sunday, September 22

The coffee hosts are Kati, Casey, and Regan Miller.

The chancel flowers are given in memory of Dr. Moorman and Margaret Prosser by their daughters.

The mission candle is lit in memory of Dr. Moorman and Margaret Prosser by their daughters.

The acolytes for 8:30 is Gabriel Ireland.

The acolytes for 10:50 are Graham Fraley and Avery 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: Anne Holbrook, Carol Magness, and Alfred Walker.

Letter from a Pastor

Sometimes the journey of faith is longer and harder than we thought it would be. When we have grown weary from the journey we need someone to encourage us to keep going. The writer of the Hebrew Letter is a pastor who is trying to revive a church because he cares. His letter still speaks into the difficult times in our lives and helps us to find again the joy, love, and delight of walking the road of faith.

Join us at *Nichols Hills United Methodist Church* at 8:30 or 10:50 on Sunday mornings as we learn explore this special **Letter from a Pastor**.

September 15

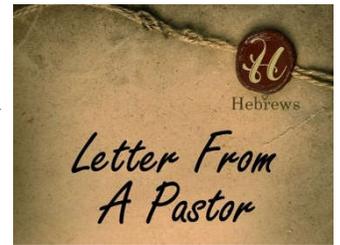
Encourage One Another

September 22

Faith of Our Fathers and Mothers

September 29

The Great Cloud of Witnesses



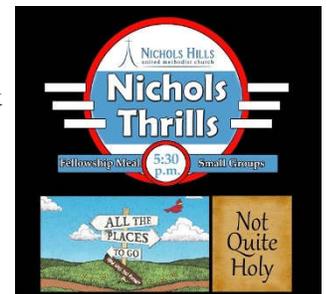
Nichols Thrills

Nichols Thrills meets on Wednesdays with a Meal at 5:30 p.m. and two meaningful studies for adults.

All the Places to Go, How Will You Know? Very rarely in the Bible does God command someone to “Stay.” He opens a door, and then he invites us to walk through it, into the unknown. How we choose to respond will ultimately determine the life we lead and the person we become. To fail to embrace the open door is to miss the work God has made for us to do. In *All the Places to Go . . . How Will You Know?*, bestselling author John Ortberg opens our eyes to the countless doors God places before us every day, teaches us how to recognize them, and gives us the encouragement to step out in faith and embrace all of the extraordinary opportunities that await. So go ahead—walk through that door and join Dr. Trevor Smith in this six week study. The price of the book is \$10.50.

Not Quite Holy is a 6-week study. Buried in the desert for thousands of years, ancient tales of Jesus and the Apostles thought lost have returned to the light - stories of Mary and Joseph and Jesus’ childhood, a strange revelation attributed to Peter, and a gospel where Judas is the hero. The tales were not included in the Christian canon and scholars assumed that all copies had been destroyed. And then, in the last 75 years, some of these lost tales have been rediscovered in desert tombs and ancient libraries and translated into modern languages. They offer a unique glimpse into the development of the early Church and in some cases the influence of these stories can still be felt in the Church today. Join Dr. Charles Neff on Wednesday nights from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. starting September 4 to learn about these Early Christian books that didn’t make the cut.

Sign-up in the Narthex or in the Church Office by calling 405-842-1486.



Youth Game Night at Energy FC



Dr. Charles Neff,
Associate Pastor

The youth will enjoy an evening with Oklahoma City’s own professional soccer league for one of their last home games of the season. The 10th ranked Energy take on #7 Sacramento Republic on Sunday, September 22. The game begins at 6:00, so the youth will meet at the church at 5:00 to travel together to Taft Stadium. Family members and friends are welcome too. The church is picking up the cost of the game, so participants will only need to bring money for snacks. Contact Pastor Charles at 405-842-1486 or cneff@nicholshillsumc.org by Thursday, September 19 to reserve your tickets.

Children's Ministry



Tausha
Davison-Beverly

Our school year has begun for all of our children, and our Sunday School lessons are focusing on how we can reach out to others. We have been exploring how we can be a friend to new students and tell them about God's love. In Sunday School and Children's Church we are talking about how to start a conversation with a new friend.

We are happy to welcome three new Nursery Attendants to our Children's Ministry. Edith Guzman, Aubryanna Jones, and Jasmine Brown have joined our Children's Ministry team. Edith Guzman is a native of Enid, Oklahoma. She has worked in the Early Childhood field for many years. In her spare time, she enjoys baking, crafts, and spin class.

Aubryanna Jones is a long-time resident of OKC. She loves children, helping people, and volunteering. She is a student at Langston University and wants to pursue a career as a therapist.

Jasmine Brown has been in the Early Childhood field for several years. She has been working with children in her father's church for most of her life, and now she has come to be a part of our ministry team. Jasmine enjoys spending time with her family which includes her young son Wraith. We are excited to have Edith, Aubryanna, and Jasmine on our Children's Ministry team.

Blessings,
Tausha



Edith Guzman



Aubryanna Jones



Jasmine Brown

Tidbits from The Learning Center



Denise Buthion,
T.L.C. Director

Wouldn't it be wonderful if children came with an instruction manual? Believe it or not, there are developmental stages that most children experience although no two children are exactly the same. This is why observing and recording development of young children is so very important.

The Learning Center takes great pride in keeping portfolios on each child. We include work samples, photos, and anecdotal records of what is happening in regards to each child's social, emotional, physical, and intellectual development.

Our classrooms are dynamic areas of learning. Come and see what is happening on any given day. It is definitely a happening place.

In September we will provide vision screening to children who are six months and older. Next month we will screen for speech and language issues. These screenings are important for each child's optimal development. Our program provides benefits not just for the children but whole families. We are blessed.

-Denise



Birthdays

09/14 George Craig
09/14 Robert Vick
09/15 Gracie Sanders
09/16 Geoffrey Stafford
09/16 William Stafford
09/17 Kerry Maye
09/17 Sally Stringer
09/19 Jess Harris, Jr.
09/22 Billie Boston
09/22 Jami Cravens
09/22 Meg Miller
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
10/07 386 Hardy Robinson
10/07 Fred Schonwald, Jr.
10/09 Randi Garza
10/09 Jacob Roan

Cares and Concerns

Epworth Villa

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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Oklahoma City, Ok. 73116

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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 Book of Acts. 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 Nancy Anthony from the Community Foundation speaks to the class. Leader: Lance Benham.

Reville 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. 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

Meghan Settle, Audio Visual Team Leader

Dustin Davis, A/V Tech

Edith Guzman, Nursery Attendant

Jasmine Brown, Nursery Attendant

LaRodree Dawkins, Nursery Attendant

Aubryanna Jones, Nursery Attendant

Melita James, Nursery Attendant