

NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

The Great Cloud of Witnesses

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. -Hebrews 12:1-2

Our church is growing, and God is working through our church to grow the kingdom of God. On Saturday, September 14 I was blessed to baptize Dale Vaughn in the pool at his house, and the next morning, Dale and his wife, Mario, joined our church in the 10:50 worship service. Dale and Mario first came to worship with us on Christmas Eve in 2017. They had been worshipping at a large church, but they were looking for a smaller congregation when they received the direct mail we sent out in December. So, they came to our Candlelight Christmas Eve Service and were surprised to see Dale's brother, Gary, and his wife, Julie, who are members of our church. Over the next year Nichols Hills United Methodist Church began to feel like a church home. I am very glad to welcome Dale and Mario into our church family.

Scarlett Hoffman is a second grader who came to our Sports Camp in June to have fun participating in Cheerleading. Scarlett and her parents, Travis and Rebecca, then came to our Block Party in August. I had the opportunity to visit with Travis and Rebecca that night, and they said they were interested in worshipping with us. They attended worship in the 10:50 worship service the very next Sunday, and Scarlett served as an acolyte. That afternoon I delivered a mug to their home and we talked about Scarlett getting baptized and Travis and Rebecca joining the church. We visited again a few weeks later, and it was a great joy to baptize Scarlett last Sunday and to have Travis and Rebecca join our church.

I want to thank you for the way you offer hospitality and help us welcome new people into our church. God is using you to build the kingdom of God and to grow our church family.

I hope you will plan to worship with us on Sunday as we conclude our **Letter from a Pastor** sermon series by talking about the Great Cloud of Witnesses who cheers us on as we look to Jesus, the Pioneer and Perfecter of our faith. We'll talk about the way God helps us continue to live out our faith even when we face struggles and challenges.

On Sunday, October 5 we will begin a new sermon series called **I Dare You** in which we'll discuss some of the ways we can overcome the fear of rejection so we can step into the future that God has for us. When we are willing to dare to fail, it is likely that we will actually dare to succeed. I Dare You to invite someone to come with you to worship during this fun sermon series.

Have a great week, and I will see you on Sunday.

Blessings,
Trevor

Ministry Calendar

Sunday, September 29

Worship at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

Monday, September 30

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, October 1

Nominations Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday October 2

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, October 3

Bear Cave Clothing Closet at 11:00

Friday, October 4

Neighborhood Market at 10:30

Monday, October 7

Care Committee at 4:00 p.m.
Care Ministers at 4:45 p.m.

Tuesday, October 8

Stewardship Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Friday-Saturday, October 11-12

Beth Moore - Living Proof Live

Tuesday, October 15

Finance Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 22

Endowment Committee at 5:30

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 29

The coffee host is Billie Boston.

The chancel flowers are given by General Bill Bowden in honor of Samantha Trammell.

The mission candle is available.

The acolyte for 8:30 is Gabriel Ireland.

The acolytes for 10:50 are StyZierra Johnson, Semaj Malone, and Regan Miller.

Serving In Ministry on Sunday, October 6

The coffee host is available.

The chancel flowers are given in honor of Bill Shdeed on his 80th birthday by Pam Shdeed.

The mission candle is available.

The acolytes for 8:30 is Gabriel Ireland.

The acolytes for 10:50 are Graham Fraley, Jimmy Tirrell, and Ashiya Perkins.

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.



I Dare You!

Overcoming the Fear of Rejection

She said, “No,” when you invited her to go to the dance.

No one picked you to be on the team.

The letter said you were not accepted into your favorite university.

He called and said you didn’t get the job.

Rejection stings. The fear of rejection can keep us from trying new things and experiencing many of the joys God wants to give us. But what if I told you that rejection may just be one step in achieving your dreams and living your best life?

Join us at *Nichols Hills United Methodist Church* at 8:30 or 10:50 on Sunday mornings as we discover how we can overcome the fear of rejection and step into the future that God has for us.

I Dare You! I triple dog dare you!

October 5 *I Dare You to Share Good News*

October 12 *I Dare You to Forgive Someone*

October 19 *I Dare You to Help Someone*

October 26 *I Dare You to Make a Friend*

Coat Drive for the Bear Cave Clothing Closet

The Bear Cave Clothing Closet is in desperate need of fall and winter clothing items in advance of the changing seasons. Especially needed are men’s and women’s coats, jackets, sweaters, and sweatshirts sized

XS-XXXL. If you would like to donate a new or gently used item, please bring it with you on Sunday morning and place it in the coat closet in the Narthex or hang them on the coat racks by the Fellowship Hall.



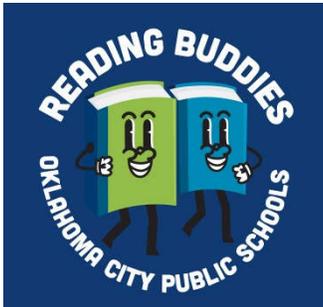


Dr. Charles Neff,
Associate Pastor

Youth Game Night at Energy FC

Youth Night @ the Energy – October 13

Due to the threat of severe weather on September 22, the Youth Night at the OKC Energy has been pushed back to Sunday, October 13. On that evening, the Energy will take on the Rio Grand Valley Toros in their last scheduled home game of the season. N.H.U.M.C. youth, their families, and also their friends are invited to attend the game - though everyone will be responsible for their own transportation. We will meet at the church parking lot at 5:00 p.m. to travel together to Taft Stadium. The game begins at 6:00 p.m. The church will pick up the cost of the tickets, so participants only need cash for snacks or drinks. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Pastor Charles by Thursday, Oct. 10 at cneff@nicholshillsumc.org or by calling the church office, 405-842-1486.



Reading Buddies Begins October 3

Nichols Hills UMC's participation in the Reading Buddies program at Nichols Hills Elementary is set to begin the first week of October. We have an opportunity for twenty people to read with a second grader or third grader on Thursday and Friday mornings and afternoons. It only takes a commitment of 30 minutes, once per week to read with up to five students and impact them for a lifetime. Training is available. Ten people have sign up so, far. If you are interested in serving, please contact Pastor Charles at cneff@nicholshillsumc.org or 405-842-1486.

Nichols Thrills

Beginning on Wednesday, October 23, we will offer two meaningful five-week studies: *Eternity is Now in Session* and *Between the Testaments*. Each week begins with a meal at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall.

Eternity Is Now in Session - Most of us think of eternity as something that begins after we die. However, Jesus doesn't talk about eternity that way. In fact, Jesus defines *eternal life* only once, with great precision, and in a way that has been largely lost in our day. Join Dr. Trevor Smith in this five week study and engage in a radical rediscovery of the Christian concept of salvation. The price of the book is \$13.00.

Between the Testaments - Dr. Charles Neff will lead a study of the Jewish Apocrypha entitled "Between the Testaments." This class will examine the stories that were part of the Christian Old Testament until the Reformation when they were removed from Protestant Bibles and relegated to a separate section in Catholic and Orthodox Bibles. The stories of Tobit, Judith, the Maccabees, Sirach, and Baruch will be considered alongside songs attributed to David and wise sayings attributed to Solomon.

You can sign up in the Narthex or call the church office before October 23.

The graphic features the Nichols Hills United Methodist Church logo at the top. Below it, the text "Nichols Thrills" is prominently displayed in a blue circle with white horizontal lines on either side. Underneath this, a blue banner indicates "Fellowship Meal 5:30 p.m. Small Groups". At the bottom, two book covers are shown: "ETERNITY IS NOW IN SESSION" by JOHN ORTBERG and "Between the Testaments". The text "Starting Wednesday, October 23 at 5:30 p.m." is at the very bottom.



Michael Wylder

Fall Into Choir

Fall is here, school is back in session, and it's time to fire the full choir up again! We have rehearsals on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the choir room. Choir is a great way to study the scriptures in a small group setting. God's Word takes on great meaning in our daily lives when it is combined with the melodies we hear in our minds. If you are interested in giving our church choir a try for the first time or looking to get back in the saddle again please come and join us on Wednesdays. I guarantee you will love the challenge of singing God's music.

"It's such a good feeling when you're growing inside, it's such a happy feeling to sing, "You're Alive!!!"

- Michael Wylder

Beth Moore at Cox Convention Center

You are invited to go with a group of women from our church to hear Beth Moore speak at the Cox Convention Center on Friday, October 11 from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. and on Saturday, October 12 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

The price of tickets is \$59 to \$79.

For more information, contact Allyson Smith at (405)664-2359.



Sunday, October 27 from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Join us for a chili cook-off, games, hayrides, and s'mores!

Join us for our annual Fall Festival on October 27 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 or call the church.

Children's Ministry



Tausha
Davison-Beverly

In our Sunday School classes, we are discussing how we can make a Christian difference in someone that we meet. Our children constructed an artistic spin on the story of *The Good Samaritan* found in *Luke 10:25-37*.

It is a reminder that we are all here to help one another by using the gifts that God has given each one of us. The art is inspired by Dale Chihuly's blown glass sculptures. Each canvas represents God and the cups represent each one of our different gifts or talents. The colors were chosen by each child, and the cups touch to represent community and how we are all here to help one another.



Blessings,
Tausha



Tidbits from The Learning Center



Denise Buthion,
T.L.C. Director

We are proud to share that The Learning Center has added two new staff members. Edith Guzman and Ceres Parker are our most recent staff members. Edith has worked with children in the Enid Technology Center. Ceres is a part-time nanny and has worked as a soccer coach with special needs children. They are both delightful additions to our staff.

Ms. Marita, who works in the Cheetahs, is leaving us in October to complete her student teaching in elementary education. We recently celebrated her third year work anniversary. It is a wonderful to see teachers grow and become successful in their lives. Marita worked in the church nursery on Sundays as well. We wish Marita the best in her journey and thank her for her contributions to The Learning Center.

Blessings,
Denise



Edith Guzman



Ceres Parker



Marita Barkus

Birthdays

- 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
- 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

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* - Cheryl Hudak will speak to the class on the lesser known apostles. 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. 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