



NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

Journey to the Cross

²⁸ After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴ They said, "The Lord needs it." ³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸ saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" ³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." ⁴⁰ He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out." -Luke 19:28, 33-40

Jesus is on a journey to the cross. On Palm Sunday, Jesus entered Jerusalem, riding a colt. The crowd recognized that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah, but they were expecting him to be a military leader who would conquer and drive out the Romans from their country. And yet, Jesus did not come, riding a white horse with a sword in his hand. He is a different kind of King. In fact, he wept over Jerusalem, ⁴² saying, "If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. ⁴³ Indeed, the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you, and hem you in on every side. ⁴⁴ They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God." His journey would not lead to an earthly throne but to a cross.

This Sunday we will take a closer look at Jesus' journey to the cross which began with a parade on Sunday and ended with Jesus walking the Via Della Rosa which is the road that led to the place called The Skull where they nailed Jesus to a cross and placed him between two criminals to die a slow and agonizing death.

This is the hardest journey for us to walk with Jesus. Like the first disciples, we are tempted to run away and leave Jesus to walk this journey alone. But walk it, we must. I want to invite you to walk the journey to the cross with us during Holy Week. I hope you will worship online with us on Palm Sunday at 10:50 a.m.

I also want to invite you to make plans to participate in our Holy Week Worship Services. Join us for our **Maundy Thursday Service on April 9 at 6:00 p.m.** The service will conclude with Holy Communion and the *stripping of the sanctuary* as Jesus is taken into custody by the Roman soldiers.

We will remember our Lord's passion and death on the cross in our **Tenebrae Service of Darkness on Good Friday, April 10 at 6:00 p.m.** I hope you will join us online at [facebook.com/nicholshillsumc](https://www.facebook.com/nicholshillsumc) for these meaningful services.

Then, on **Easter Sunday, April 12 at 10:50 a.m.** we will celebrate Jesus' victory over the grave. I am saddened that we will be unable to gather together to worship our risen Lord, but I believe we need the message of Easter more now than ever. Most people are more open to an invitation to worship at this time of the year, and I hope you will invite someone you know to come to worship online with us this Easter. May the Holy Spirit work through you to share the hope of Easter with the people in your life.

Blessings,
Trevor

Ministry Calendar

Sunday, April 5

Online Worship at 10:50 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 9

Online Maundy Thursday Service at 6:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 10

Online Tenebrae Service of Darkness, at 6:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 12

Online Worship at 10:50 a.m.

Sunday, April 19

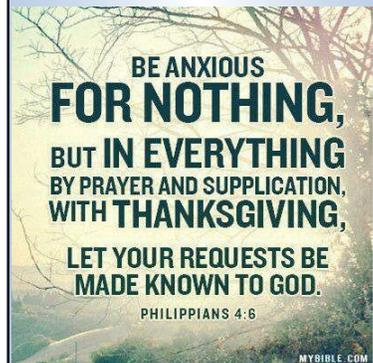
Online Worship at 10:50 a.m.

Sunday, April 26

Online Worship at 10:50 a.m.

Church Ministries and Outside Groups

All Nichols Hills U.M.C. ministries and programs as well as outside groups that meet at our church will be postponed until after Friday, April 10. We will be reevaluating as needed. Thank you for your continuous support of our ministry.



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 Dr. Trevor Smith 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.

Online Worship

We have transitioned to online worship and will ask our congregation to stay home on Sunday mornings. You can view our livestream at 10:50 a.m. on Sundays on our Facebook page, [facebook.com/nicholshillsumc](https://www.facebook.com/nicholshillsumc). You can also view the worship service throughout the week. Please send us a message on Facebook to let us know you are participating. We will also post the Bulletin, the Sermon Notes, and the Prayer and Study Guide on Facebook as well as our website, www.nicholshillsumc.org.

Tithes and Offerings

Although we will not be meeting in person the next few Sundays we are continuing the ministry of Jesus Christ at our church and in our community, and your giving makes that possible. There are many ways to give beyond passing the offering plate on Sunday mornings. Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness. You can mail a check to Nichols Hills United Methodist Church at 1212 Bedford Drive, Nichols Hills, OK 73116 or you can give online through our website, www.nicholshillsumc.org.

Church Offices

Additionally, our church offices will be closed to the public and our staff will work remotely when possible. You can reach staff members by phone or email. All of our staff are actively working to ensure that our family of faith remains connected through these unprecedented times.

Walking with Jesus

“Come, and follow me,” Jesus said to his disciples.

“Come, and follow me,” Jesus says to us.

When we choose to follow Jesus we learn to walk the pilgrim’s pathway.

We learn to worship like Jesus.

We learn the stories of Jesus.

We learn to give like Jesus gives, to serve like Jesus serves, and to invite people to join us on the journey, **Walking with Jesus.**

Worship online with us on Sundays as we walk with Jesus and learn five essentials practices of a disciple.

April 5 *Journey to the Cross*

April 9 *Love One Another*

April 12 *Walking with Jesus*



COVID-19

As we continue to monitor the developments regarding COVID-19 concerns, Nichols Hills United Methodist Church is adjusting the way we experience worship, grow in our faith, and stay connected as a family of faith. We want you to know how we are responding wisely in a way that will help us continue to live out our mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

In the face of fear, God repeatedly says to us, “Do not fear, for I am with you.” Now more than ever it is important for us to remember that God is faithful and will carry us through these times to a brighter day. In the meanwhile we can act with wisdom, love, and compassion by praying for the development of a vaccine and reaching out to our brothers and sisters in Christ through phone calls, texts, and emails.

Please let us know if you have a need. The people in our church as well as our staff will be willing to help. We will continue to monitor the situation and communicate with you. We look forward to the day when we can come together as the people of God to worship and serve God together.

May God bless you. We look forward to worshipping with you online on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday.



Celebrate Easter Online with Us!

Join us online this Easter, Sunday April 12, at 10:50 a.m. at [facebook.com/nicholshillsumc](https://www.facebook.com/nicholshillsumc) for a celebration filled with hope and joy. You’ll experience a beautiful worship service, complete with heart-stirring music and a message that relates Jesus’ death and resurrection to your life today. This will be an Easter celebration that will leave you renewed, refreshed, and full of hope for the future.

Church Office Repairs

The church office area was flooded on December 22, 2019. The floors have been replaced, the ceiling repaired, and the walls repainted. Everything looks great! We are excited for you to see it once we are able to all worship together again.



Tausha
Davison-Beverly

Children's Ministry

During this time of social distancing I would like to remind our families to look at our Deep Blue curriculum online. There are interactive biblical games to go along with each weekly lesson. There are also scriptures for the children to memorize. In the coming weeks I will make phone calls or send text messages to our children and families to check up on everyone.

We are also taking extra precautions by cleaning and sanitizing toys and materials in our classrooms. I look forward to hearing from you soon!

Keep the Faith,
Tausha

Condolences

We are saddened to share with you that our longtime member, Jess Harris, passed away on Monday, March 30. Jess turned 100 years old last fall. Please keep Jess' wife, Bette, and their family in your prayers. Funeral services are pending.

Online Holy Week

Join us online for our Holy Week services at [facebook.com/nicholshillsumc](https://www.facebook.com/nicholshillsumc).

Palm Sunday Online Service, April 5 at 10:50 a.m.
Maundy Thursday Online Service, April 9 at 6:00 p.m.
Tenebrae Service of Darkness Online, April 10 at 6:00 p.m.
Easter Sunday Online Service, April 12 at 10:50 a.m.



Tidbits from The Learning Center



Denise Buthion,
T.L.C. Director

It is not clear when The Learning Center will re-open. Our staff was off for Spring Break and the last two weeks following the recommendations from the Center for Disease Control and our church leadership. We are fortunate to have maintained our staff with their normal pay.

We are discussing some things The Learning Center staff can do to prepare for the time when we are able to re-open. We are exploring opportunities for our teachers to receive training, and we are planning to do some deep cleaning in the T.L.C. rooms. We have always taken cleanliness and sanitation very seriously and daily sanitize toys, tables, chairs, and floors. We also require each child to wash his or her hands when arriving at T.L.C. Safety is our number one priority at all times, and we are planning to practice some new practices as we prepare for the day we can welcome our children back to The Learning Center. I pray God's blessings on you and your family.

Denise



THE LEARNING CENTER

Birthdays

04/03 Jim Buchanan, III
04/03 Amy Hall
04/05 Avery Robinson
04/07 Jake Huchton
04/08 Mason Heflin
04/08 Leigh Love
04/09 Calli Heflin
04/09 Nell Johnson
04/10 Olivia Miller
04/10 Jean Webber
04/11 Robert Sullivan
04/12 John McKee
04/13 Avery Smith
04/14 Alivia Rogers
04/15 Emily Ellis
04/16 Olivia Brien
04/16 Delaney Sheffield
04/17 Cathy Betterton
04/17 Tom Knott
04/17 Casey Miller
04/18 Thad Butler
04/18 Raymond Greene
04/20 Alan Chase
04/20 Carter Cloud
04/20 Louis Fraley
04/20 Griffin Jones
04/20 Jim Jones
04/21 Bernadene Moore
04/22 Claire Fraley
04/26 Kery Mueller
04/29 Marty Margo
04/30 Colin Anderson

Cares and Concerns

Epworth Villa

Sylvia Miller

Town Village

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
- Coats and Jackets
- Sample size perfume or cologne

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. We look forward to gathering together again soon.

The Brew Class: *Meets in Room 131* - Bring your coffee and join "The Brew" as we gather for fellowship and a meaningful study. For more information about "The Brew" contact Tim Baker (405) 209-5467 or Christie Baker (405) 922-5154.

KIVA Class: *Meets in the Parlor* - Join us as we learn from different speakers on various topics. 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 fellowship and a meaningful study. Our Circle is always Open.

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

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

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

Jeremy Gossett, Audio Visual Team Leader

Randall Blair, Sunday Host and A/V Tech

Dustin Davis, Sunday Host and A/V Tech

Edith Guzman, Nursery Attendant

Marita Barkus, Nursery Attendant