

NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church

Regathering

In the last several weeks, we have monitored guidelines and best practices for gathering in a safe way. After a significant amount of prayer and preparation, we will continue worship services at Nichols Hills United Methodist Church on Sunday, May 31. We're committed to creating an environment that meets government recommendations for safety. To make that possible, our worship services have been redesigned to create a sanitary, touchless environment that allows for physical distancing. This includes a significantly reduced capacity. To reopen and regather our church community our Church Council has voted to take the following steps. Each step is contingent on the latest information available.

Step 1 — Online Worship at facebook.com/nicholshillsumc on Sunday, May 24.

We will continue to livestream our worship services each Sunday.

Step 2 — On Campus Worship beginning on Sunday, May 31.

We will maintain social distancing, and families will worship together.

Worship Services will be offered at 9:30 and 10:50 a.m.

No Childcare will be available.

No Sunday School Classes or Small Groups will meet.

No Outside Groups will meet.

Step 3 — Sunday School and Small Groups Resume on Sunday, July 5.

Children's Sunday School Classes and Adult Sunday School Classes resume with restrictions on size and with expectations for social distancing.

Worship Services will be offered at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.

Step 4 — Normal Activities Resume at Nichols Hills U.M.C. on Sunday, August 2.

Let's Work to Stay Healthy Together

What We're Doing

- All staff and volunteers will be wearing masks.
- Additional hand-sanitizing stations will be placed throughout the building.
- All worship services will be a touchless experience, and all high-traffic areas will be thoroughly sanitized between services.
- No water fountains will be open or usable.
- No hospitality food or beverages will be offered.
- No offering plates will be passed. Instead, there will be offering plates in the back of the sanctuary for people who want to give.
- All hymnals, bibles, seatback materials, papers, and pens will be removed.
- We will use infrared thermometers to take the temperature of each person entering the building.

How You Can Help

- If you don't feel well or have health concerns, please stay home and join us for online worship at facebook.com/nicholshillsumc.
- We encourage you to wear a mask, and will have one available for you if needed.
- Please wash your hands and use hand sanitizer often.
- Maintain a distance of six feet between yourself and other guests.

Ministry Calendar

Memorial Sunday, May 24

Online Worship at 10:50 a.m.

Monday, May 25

Church Office and The Learning Center Closed for Memorial Day

Monday, May 26 through

Friday, May 29

The Learning Center Open at 9:00

Pentecost Sunday, May 31

Worship at 9:30 and 10:50 a.m.

Online Worship at 9:30 and 10:50

Sunday, June 7

Worship at 9:30 and 10:50 a.m.

Online Worship at 9:30 and 10:50

Sunday, June 14

Worship at 9:30 and 10:50 a.m.

Online Worship at 9:30 and 10:50

Sunday, June 21

Worship at 9:30 and 10:50 a.m.

Online Worship at 9:30 and 10:50

Sunday, June 28

Worship at 9:30 and 10:50 a.m.

Online Worship at 9:30 and 10:50

Sunday, July 5

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

Online Worship at 8:30 and 10:50

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

Sunday, July 12

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

Online Worship at 8:30 and 10:50

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

Nichols Hills U.M.C.

(405)842-1486

(405)843-1835 Fax

www.nicholshillsumc.org

The Learning Center

Mon, Wed 9:00 - 2:30

Tues, Thurs 9:00 - 4:00

Friday 9:00 - 1:59

(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.

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.

Sports Camp

We regret to inform you that Sports Camp has been canceled for this year. We look forward to hosting Sports Camp in 2021!

Worship Online

Join us online for worship! 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 Sermon Notes and the Prayer and Study Guide on Facebook as well as our website, www.nicholshillsumc.org.

The Hope of Resurrection



Dr. Trevor Smith

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, ⁴ who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. ⁵ For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ. ⁶ If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you patient endurance of the same sufferings we suffer. ⁷ And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort.

-II Corinthians 1:3-7

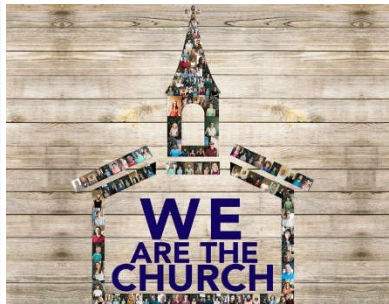
Suffering is part of life, but sometimes Christians suffer because they are Christians. The Apostle Paul suffered greatly for his faith in Christ, but he never asked why he suffered or became embittered by what happened to him. He knew his sufferings were unavoidable because he had no option but to follow and serve Jesus. Paul knew that every time he suffered God comforted him, and God's comfort was more wonderful than the suffering was terrifying. His suffering was a sign to him that he was truly serving Christ.

Some people use suffering as an argument against the existence of God, but for Paul it confirmed his faith in God. Paul never viewed suffering as a problem, and he would want us to realize the marvelous reward suffering brings in comfort. This comfort is not the removal of suffering nor the assurance that everything will turn out all right in the end nor that others have suffered worse things nor that it will soon be over. Paul associates comfort with salvation. The God of comfort is the God of mercy who saves. Through Jesus, God offers us the hope of resurrection when we face death.

On Memorial Sunday we will honor and remember our loved ones who have passed away by lighting candles for each of them and embrace our faith in Jesus' promise of resurrection and our hope to see them again in heaven. Our message will focus on the way God comforts those who suffer and how we share in suffering and comfort. We'll also discuss the way we can offer comfort to each other through intercessory prayer and the ministry of presence.

On Pentecost Sunday, May 31, we will celebrate the birthday of the Church by opening the doors of our sanctuary to worship together for the first time in over two months. We have temporarily changed our worship times to 9:30 and 10:50 a.m. If you don't feel well or have health concerns, please stay home and join us for online worship. Our message that day will focus on what it means for us to be the body of Christ. I am looking forward to worshipping with you.

Blessings,
Trevor



We Are The Church

I am the church!

You are the church!

We are the church together!

All who follow Jesus, all around the world!

Yes, we're the church together!

The word *church* comes from two Greek words: *Ek* means *out*, and *Klesia* means *called*.

The church is people who are called out by God to serve God and be God's people. Join us for online worship on Sunday mornings at 10:50 as we continue our **We Are The Church** sermon series and learn why *the local church is the hope of the world* and why being part of the church will bless you and build you up in the days and weeks to come.

May 24 *The Hope of Resurrection*

May 31 *The Body of Christ*



Tausha Davison-Beverly

Children's Ministry

Happy Teacher Appreciation! The Bible gives us great details on how Jesus served others. Mark 9:36-37, says, ³⁶ *Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them,* ³⁷ *"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."* When I read this scripture, it reminded me of



the great influence that our faithful and loving staff and volunteers have made for children in our church, in our surrounding communities through Scouts, Nichols Hills Elementary School, John Marshall High School, and in our state with *Shepherd's Law* being passed. They have all dedicated their lives to serving and making a lasting impression on one of God's greatest gifts to us. So Happy Teacher Appreciation and thank you for taking a hand, opening a mind, and touching a heart that will one day shape our future.

Keep the Faith,
Tausha

Ways to Give

Checks may be mailed to 1212 Bedford Drive, Nichols Hills, OK 73116.

To make an online donation, visit www.nicholshillsumc.org.

To set up an electronic funds transfer contact Louise Glass in the Church Office at (405) 842-1486 or email her at lglass@nicholshillsumc.org.

We appreciate your generosity as we continue to minister to people in our church, our community, and our world.

Tidbits from The Learning Center



Denise Buthion,
T.L.C. Director

It is certainly easier to close than it is to re-open to a new world. We've implemented a myriad of safety measures to protect our children and our teachers. We are taking temperatures of teachers and children. All children wash their hands when they arrive. Staff are wearing masks throughout the day. Wearing a mask makes you **really** appreciate the front line nurses and doctors who do this for extended shifts. Pick-up and drop-off of children are at specific doors, and parents do not enter the building. Children's belongings are placed in large clear bags. We've deep cleaned items in our rooms like never before. We have been blessed to re-open The Learning Center, and we are blessed to be a part of Nichols Hills United Methodist Church.

-Denise



Birthdays

- 05/20 Dudley Hyde
- 05/21 Jeff Cloud
- 05/23 Jerry Richardson
- 05/23 Trevor Smith
- 05/24 Michael Wylder
- 05/28 Sharon Ives
- 05/29 Rob Saunders
- 06/04 Grant Davis
- 06/04 Julian Diaz-Granados
- 06/06 Reese Robinson
- 06/10 Samuel Stafford
- 06/13 Jessica Castoe
- 06/13 Don McCarty
- 06/14 Kathy McCarty
- 06/15 Kurlisa Briggs
- 06/17 Jeremea Cloud
- 06/18 Linda Rosser McDaniel
- 06/19 Antone Godding
- 06/19 Caroline Rainbolt-Forbes
- 06/19 Eleanor Rainbolt-Forbes
- 06/20 Akia Douglas
- 06/20 John Pippin
- 06/21 Bette MacKellar
- 06/22 Ann Marshall
- 06/24 Jackson Edmonds
- 06/27 Mary Forster
- 06/29 George Malone

Cares and Concerns

Epworth Villa

Sylvia Miller

Town Village

Bette Harris

The Fountains at Canterbury

Anita Dahlgren

StoneCreek

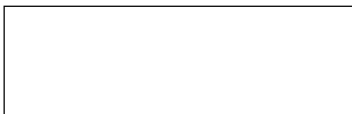
Ray and Lynn Greene

At Home

Roger Etling, Frances Lewis,
David Mueller

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. Sunday School Classes will begin meeting again on July 5.

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