



# NICHOLS HILLS

## united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

## They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

Jesus said, <sup>34</sup> "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." -John 13:34-35

I attended District Church Camp at Canyon Camp for the first time in the summer of 1987 before I entered the seventh grade. We worshiped in Lower Miller Hall where we sat on carpet squares and sang from a little brown book called *Songs* compiled by Yohann Anderson. We sang acapella unless we were blessed with someone who could play the guitar. It was there that I first sang, "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love." The song touched my heart as a teenager, and at some point I memorized the words. I've carried that song with me for over thirty years. When *The Faith We Sing* was published in 2000, it included "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love."

When I meet with Michael Wylder, our Director of Church Music, to pick hymns and songs, we do our best to choose singable songs that support the scriptural themes of the sermon for each worship service. "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love" helps us sing a theology of active participation and discipleship in and for the world. It is a versatile hymn that applies to many stories in the Bible, and Michael Wylder, can tell you that it may just be the hymn I tend to pick the most.

Peter Scholtes wrote the hymn "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love" while he was a parish priest at Saint Brendan's Catholic Church on the South Side of Chicago in the 1960s. At the time, he was leading a youth choir out of the church basement, and was looking for an appropriate song for a series of ecumenical, interracial events. When he couldn't find such a song, he wrote the now-famous hymn in a single day.

As I think about the brutal death of George Floyd, the peaceful protests that seek to overcome racism, and the violent riots that have hurt and harmed so many people in our nation, I believe we may need this hymn more than ever. We in the church have a different message to proclaim than the world. We proclaim the message of Jesus who said, "They will know you are Christians by your love." Jesus' message overcomes differences and unites people in his name. His love changes the world. On Sunday our message will focus on the way Jesus calls us to love people and find unity and peace in his Spirit.

I hope you will join us for worship or online worship on Sunday at 9:30 or 10:50 a.m. as we begin our summer sermon series, **Playlist**, by singing your favorite songs and telling the stories that inspired them. I'll see you on Sunday.

Blessings,  
Trevor

### Ministry Calendar

#### 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

#### Father's Day, 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

#### Friday, July 3

Church Office Closed  
The Learning Center Closed

#### 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.

#### Sunday, July 19

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 26

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](http://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.

### Chancel Flowers

June 7: The chancel flowers are given in memory of Jeffrey Connor Evans, son of Dr. and Mrs. Ronald Elkins.

June 14: The chancel flowers are given in memory of Isobel Bowden by General Bill Bowden.

### Mission Candle

June 7: The mission candle is available.

June 14: The mission candle is available.

### 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](http://www.nicholshillsumc.org).

### 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](http://www.nicholshillsumc.org).



## Playlist

Your life has a **Playlist**—songs you sing in your car, songs that touch your soul songs you play again and again.

The great songs of our faith connect scripture to our hearts and help us live our faith each day.

Join us for our summer sermon series as we sing your favorite songs and tell the stories that inspired them.

<b>June 7</b>	<i>They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love</i>
<b>June 14</b>	<i>O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing</i>
<b>June 21</b>	<i>I Know Whom I Have Believed</i>
<b>June 28</b>	<i>Beautiful Things</i>
<b>July 5</b>	<i>This Is My Song</i>
<b>July 12</b>	<i>Take My Life, and Let It Be</i>
<b>July 19</b>	<i>The Old Rugged Cross</i>
<b>July 26</b>	<i>Oceans</i>

**Online Worship:** [facebook.com/nicholshillsumc](https://www.facebook.com/nicholshillsumc)

## Children's Ministry



Tausha  
Davison-Beverly

I have asked our children to submit a prayer of faith, love or gratitude to share with you over the next few months. This week I have submitted a prayer from my daughter Krystian. Krystian volunteers throughout the church from working in the nursery to helping at John Marshall in the Bear Cave Clothing Closet. When I asked her what her prayer would be not only for our church but for the world, her response was, ***"I want to encourage everyone that we will get through this epidemic together and come out strong."*** I pray that this is not only encouraging to you but also to your loved ones. If you would like to submit a prayer to share or a favorite song that inspires you please email me at [tdavison@nicholshillsumc.org](mailto:tdavison@nicholshillsumc.org).

Be Blessed,  
Tausha



# Regathering

We were glad to welcome people into our sanctuary on May 31 to worship together for the first time in two months. We are 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. We are following the plan our Church Council approved by taking the following steps. Each step is contingent on the latest information available.

## Step 1 — Online Worship at [facebook.com/nicholshillsumc](https://www.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](https://www.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.

## Tidbits from The Learning Center



Denise Buthion,  
T.L.C. Director

We have been busy welcoming children and families back to The Learning Center for our summer session which began on June 1. We are happy to have 97 children enrolled.

We are now receiving online payments. Check writing may truly be a thing of the past. Our teachers and I have had face to face orientations with our new families. This process takes the edge off of being a newbie. All in all we are moving forward with more normalcy and feeling good about our next session. We'll keep you all posted.



-Denise

### Birthdays

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 Jereme 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

### 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!

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

**Marita Barkus**, Nursery Attendant