



January 13, 2016

Volume 24, Issue 53

NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

A Future with Hope

¹¹ For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a future with hope. -*Jeremiah 29:11*

January 15 will mark my one year anniversary as the senior pastor of Nichols Hills United Methodist Church, and I want to thank each of you for the warm way you have embraced Allyson, Charlotte, Avery, and me. We love being part of the Nichols Hills UMC family. We have received many blessings in the last twelve months, and we are looking forward to serving in ministry with the fine people of Nichols Hills UMC for many years to come.

2015 was a very fruitful year in the life of our church. Our average weekly worship attendance grew 14% from 152 to 173. Thirteen people joined the church. Five people were baptized. Many people in our church have grown in generosity including 24 people who made a financial commitment to the church for the first time, 37 people increased their financial commitment to the church, and our overall pledges have risen from \$571,695 in 2014 to \$597,320 in 2015. I am so happy to see the way that the Holy Spirit is at work in our church helping so many people grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. Thank you for the wonderful way so many of you give generously and serve in ministry through our church.

I am confident that God will bless us in many ways in 2016, and I am excited about the opportunities we will have to grow as a disciples of Jesus and to grow as a church. Lent and Easter come early this year, and our **Ash Wednesday Service** will be on February 10 at 6:00 p.m. We are also planning to start **Nichols Thrills** on Wednesday, February 17, and we are planning on offering **Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University** which is a nine-week class on money. Dave and his teaching team will walk you through the basics of budgeting, dumping debt, planning for the future, and much more! We are also going to offer a 4-week study called **Catch** which focuses on invitational evangelism. This study includes daily scripture readings for you to do at home and will help you learn how you can be part of helping our church to attract people in our community and help them grow in faith. I hope you will consider being part of one of these exciting small group opportunities during Lent.

This Sunday we will continue our **Moving Past Your Past** sermon series by focusing on **Forgiving Those Who Hurt You**. The work of forgiveness is never easy, but learning how to let God help you work through a process of forgiveness is one of the greatest gifts any of us can receive. We are also going to offer anointing with oil as a way of helping you heal from any of the hurts you have received. I hope you will join us for worship at 8:30 or 10:50 this Sunday. Have a great week.

Blessings,
Trevor

Ministry Calendar

Sunday, January 17

Worship at 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Worship at 10:50 a.m.
Confirmation at 4:00 p.m.
Youth at 5:00 p.m.

Monday, January 18

Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Church Offices Closed

Tuesday, January 19

Trustees Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 20

Altar Guild Meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 23

Boy Scout Pinewood Derby at
10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Saturday, January 30

Saturday of Service
from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Tuesday, February 2

Church Council Meeting at 5:30

Sunday, February 7

Scout Sunday at 8:30 & 10:50 a.m.

Wednesday, February 10

Ash Wednesday Service at 6:00

Friday, February 12

30 Hour Famine

Wednesday, February 17

Nichols Thrills begins at 5:30 p.m.

Nichols Hills U.M.C.

(405)842-1486

(405)843-1835 Fax

www.nicholshillsumc.org

The Learning Center

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

(405)842-5325

*Like us on Facebook and
Follow us on Twitter!*

Ministry Opportunities

Hospitality Greeters

Do you like to smile and talk to people? Are you enthusiastic about our church? If so, please consider becoming one of the Sunday morning Greeters.

Greeters provide a welcoming smile to people walking in the door for our Sunday worship services. They encourage newcomers and visitors to get involved in a Sunday School Class, direct people to the restrooms or to the children's nursery area as necessary.

You can sign up to serve for 20 minutes on Sunday morning at one of three time slots: 8:15 to 8:35, 9:30 to 9:50, or 10:35 to 10:55. If this seems like an opportunity you would enjoy, please see Alfred Walker for more details.

Coffee Hosts

Coffee hosts provide 8-9 dozen cookies. At the close of the 10:50 Service, the host(s) stand by the cookie table in the Narthex and greet people. We have openings for coffee hosts for **January 24 and 31**. To serve, sign-up on the bulletin board outside the office.

Altar Guild

Serving in Altar Guild this month are: Becky Buchanan, Ann Garrett, Janet Jones, Brenda McDaniel, Ellie Roberts, Marty Smith, Sally Stringer, Kathy Walker, and Jean Warner

Cares and Concerns

Epworth Villa

Bill and Katie Alexander,
Maxine Asch, Joanne Crosby,
and Bonnie Miller

Town Village

Joanna Garnett

The Fountains at Canterbury

Barney and Virginia Brown
Anita Dahlgren

At Home

Roger Etling, Ann and Tom Flesher,
Jess and Bette Harris,
Beth & Dale Jordan, Frances Lewis,
Joye McLain David Mueller,
Maxine Permenter, and Gene Wheeler

Transportation Ministry

Would you like to bring joy to someone by bringing them to church? If you would like to join our transportation ministry contact the church at 405-842-1486. This may just be one of the easiest ways for you to serve in our church and make a Christian difference.



Moving Past Your Past

Do you feel trapped in your past? Instead of being dragged down and immobilized by the weight of guilt, pain, or a lingering sense of failure, what freedom could you find in laying those burdens down? Pastor Trevor Smith will help us consider how to leave the past in the past and step into the blessings of God's future.

Bring a friend and join us for ***Moving Past Your Past.***

January 17

Forgiving Those Who Hurt You

January 24

How to Say, "I'm Sorry."

January 31

Moving Past Your Personal Failures



Matt Patrick

30-Hour Famine

One of the greatest spiritual disciplines for discernment and obedience is fasting. In our modern church culture, fasting from food, water, or really anything has become one of the spiritual disciplines to be placed on the back burner as instant gratification has become the normative value. However, on February 11th-12th, many students from around the OKC metro area will gather at Nichols Hills UMC to fast from food for 30 hours to stand in solidarity with those who live in poverty around the world. We will also have worship, games, small groups, and competitions that help simulate what it is like to live in extreme poverty, which is defined as living on less than one dollar a day. The 30 Hour Famine raises money for World Vision, which is an organization that actively works to bring people out of extreme poverty through education and building sustainable lifestyles. It should be a great event and I am looking forward to it. If you have a student from 6th-12th grade that would like to participate, give me a call!

Blessings,
Matt

Children's Ministry

This week during Children's Sunday school we are going to be talking about how great it is that Jesus is our forever friend! We will be looking at some of the amazing things Jesus did for his friends and the people that came to hear him speak. We will talk about how neat it is that Jesus tells us in John 15:15, "Now you are my friends." During the last few weeks, the kids have been learning about how God is always with us, and we are able to pray and talk to Him anytime we want. We will also do a few fun activities to show the children how hard it would be to do some things without the help of Jesus and our friends.

Thank you to the parents who have recently helped out in Creation Station during Sunday School and Children's Worship. We love your help, and there's no way we could do it without you!

-Madison Chilless



We Are The Church



Our church makes a Christian difference through the many wonderful people in our congregation. This week, Amy Margo shares with us about her life and how Nichols Hills U.M.C. is blessing her.

"I have been a member of Nichols Hills United Methodist Church since elementary school. I left after high school to attend TCU. I continued to live in Fort Worth where I taught school. I moved back to OKC in 2010, and I am currently teaching Pre-K at Nichols Hills Elementary. I really enjoy coming to The

Brew Sunday School on Sunday mornings. It is so great to see the membership of our class and the church grow.

We are happy to have Amy in our Nichols Hills U.M.C. family!

Tidbits from The Learning Center

Each winter we are challenged to keep our children active and moving because of the weather. Our Amazing Athletes' Coaches come twice a week for activities and instruction in different types of sports. It is a year-round program specially designed to enhance children's learning through movement. The children learn the basic fundamentals and mechanics of nine different sports while also building self-confidence, teamwork, and improving seven key areas of motor development. Each child receives instruction based on their own developmental level. It is non-competitive and provides a learning-based environment. There are the typical sports we are all familiar with. They learn about basketball, baseball, soccer, football, volleyball, hockey, golf, tennis, and lacrosse. The coaches have the children warm up, cool down, and have group discussions about the importance of athletics. Two year olds and up participate in Amazing Athletes. We are so proud to have them in The Learning Center.



Job Openings

Nichols Hills United Methodist Church is currently seeking to fill the following positions:

Director of Children's Ministry to lead a dynamic children's ministry. Part-time.

Nursery Attendant to minister to small children. Sundays and Wednesdays. Part-time.

Childcare Teacher for The Learning Center to minister to small children. 35 hours weekly.

For more information, please contact Dr. Trevor Smith at 405-842-1486, or visit our website at www.nicholshillsumc.org. Send resumes to revtrevor@gmail.com or 1212 Bedford Drive, Nichols Hills, OK 73116.

Serving In Ministry January 17

The coffee hosts are Matt and Pam Eales.

The flowers are given by Mary Ann Carmichael in memory of her mother, Mary Alice Carmichael.

Birthdays

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 01/13 | Pam Eales
Joan Payne |
| 01/14 | Maddy Davis |
| 01/15 | Kathy Griffin
Graham Murray
JoAnn Oakley
Pama Palmer |
| 01/18 | Cynthia Meyerson |
| 01/19 | Sue Ann Hyde |
| 01/22 | Katie Alexander |
| 01/24 | Mary Crownover
Barbara Dean
Lou Kerr
Mason Martin
Marjorie Polk |
| 01/25 | Fletcher Hill |
| 01/28 | Ken Blakley
Morgan Hunt
Stuart Hunt
Rosemary Scalpone |
| 01/30 | Nick Berry |
| 01/31 | Tausha Smith |

Nichols Hills United Methodist Church
1212 Bedford Drive
Oklahoma City, Ok. 73116

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit Number 1226
Oklahoma City, OK



Sunday School Classes - Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

The Brew Class: *Meets in the Room 131* - The Brew is studying Bill Hybel's book, *Too Busy Not to Pray*.

Teachers: Tim and Christie Baker. Tim (405) 209-5467 and Christie (405) 922-5154

KIVA Class: *Meets in the Parlor* - Buzz McDaniel will introduce Bob Hammock, OKC Public School Board Member, who will speak on the State of the OKC public Schools. Leaders: Buzz McDaniel and Linda Rosser-McDaniel.

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 learn about the Bible through songs and scriptures. Teacher: John Marshall.

Roundtable Class: *Meets in Room 124* - The Roundtable Class will look at Hosea 1, and the author of the lesson titles it, "An Unfaithful Bride." This is an unusual story and we look forward to our teacher, Dr. Jerry Perryman, explaining its message for us. Join us. Teacher: Dr. Jerry Perryman.

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

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.
Leader: Madison Chilless.

Dr. Trevor Smith, Senior Pastor

Rev. Matt Patrick, Student Pastor

Michael Wylder, Director of Church Music

Delaney Sheffield, Administrative Assistant

Michael Hall, Maintenance/Custodian

Dr. Antone Godding, Organist

Kathy Smith, Bookkeeper/Treasurer

Louise Glass, Financial Secretary

Denise Buthion, Director of The Learning Center

Alfred Walker, Sunday Host

Randall Blair, Sunday Host

405-842-1486 • 405.843.1835 Fax • www.nicholshillsumc.org

The Learning Center (T.L.C.): 405-842-5325