



NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

Finding Hope This Easter

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ²They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. ⁶Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.” -*Luke 24:1-7*

The journey through **the Final Week** of Jesus life has shown us the cruelty and despair caused by sin and death, but it has not been a journey without hope. In fact, the whole point of Jesus’ journey to the cross was his hope that the Father would work through his suffering and death to offer grace, forgiveness, love, and salvation to a world caught in the clutches of sin and death. We all need the hope that God has offered us in Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection.

On Easter Sunday we will begin a four-week sermon series called **Finding Hope** in which we will find hope on Easter morning at the empty tomb, on Easter afternoon on the road to Emmaus, and on Easter evening with the disciples who gathered in Jerusalem. We will discover how Jesus’ resurrection continues to give us hope when we encounter death and despair, and we will learn how we can help others find hope.

Easter Sunday will begin at **8:30 a.m.** with our **Early Worship Service** followed by **Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., a Brunch at 9:45 a.m., an Easter Egg Hunt for our children at 10:15 a.m., and our Late Worship Service at 10:50 a.m.** It will be a joyous day you will not want to miss.

I believe in my heart that people need the hope that Jesus offers us. I hope you have been thinking about the people you know who are not actively part of a local church. I would invite you to pray for these people and to find an opportunity to invite them to come to one of our Easter Worship Services. Most people are more open to an invitation to come to church at this time of the year. I pray that you will take advantage of this opportunity to make a Christian difference by inviting someone you know to come to our Easter Services with you.

I am also looking forward to our second **John Marshall High School Dinner** on Tuesday, March 29 at 6:30 p.m. I want to thank each of you who have volunteered to serve on this meaningful night as we continue to build relationships with the student athletes, coaches, and administrators. We are excited to have former OU and NBA basketball player Brent Price serving as our speaker that evening.

We are still putting together our Mission Team for our Mission Trip to Henderson Settlement in Frakes, Kentucky during the week of July 16 to July 23. The deadline to turn in a \$150 deposit is Wednesday, March 30. We would love to have you serve on this mission team, and I would be glad to answer any question you may have.

I am looking forward to seeing you this Sunday. Have a great week, and may the Holy Spirit work through you as you share your faith with the people you know.

Blessings,
Trevor

Ministry Calendar

Maundy Thursday, March 24
Maundy Thursday Service at 6:30

Good Friday, March 25
Tenebrae Service at 6:30 p.m.
The Learning Center Closed

Easter Sunday, March 27
Worship at 8:30 and 10:50
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Family Breakfast at 9:45 a.m.
Easter Egg Hunt at 10:15 a.m.

Tuesday, March 29
John Marshall High School
Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 30
Nichols Thrills Meal at 5:30 p.m.
The Power of a Whisper at 5:30
Financial Peace University at 5:30

Sunday, April 3
Worship at 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Worship at 10:50 a.m.
Youth Group at 5:00 p.m.

Monday, April 4
Trustees Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 10
Confirmation Sunday at 10:50

Sunday, April 17
Children’s Choir Sings in Worship
at 10:50 a.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

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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 **April 3, 10, 17, 24 and all of May.** To serve, sign-up on the bulletin board outside the 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.

Serving in Altar Guild this month are: Mary Ann Carmichael, Carla Hill, Janet Jones, Carol Magness, and Ellie Roberts.

Cares and Concerns

Epworth Villa

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

Town Village

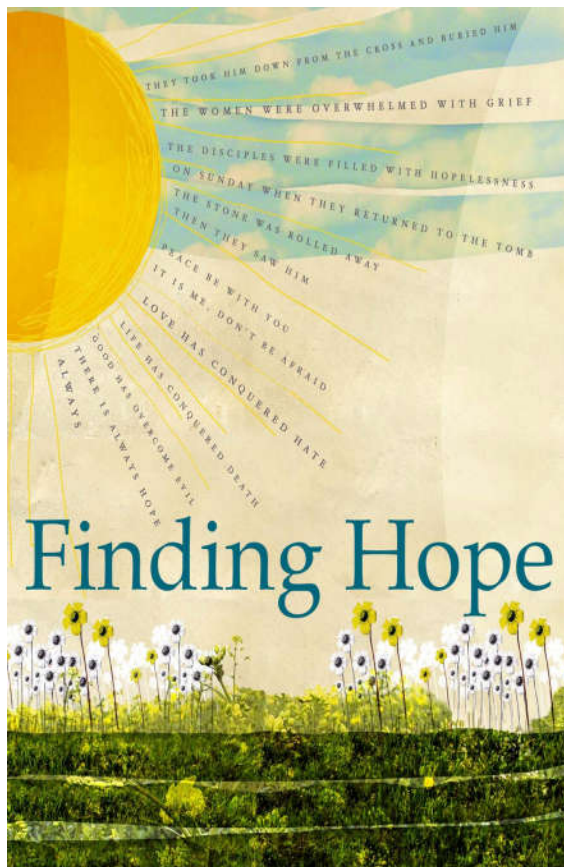
Joanna Garnett

The Fountains at Canterbury

Barney and Virginia Brown
Anita Dahlgren

At Home

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



Where do you find hope?

When we encounter despair in our lives we long to find hope... hope for a better day... hope for new life... hope for the future...

This Easter we invite you to find hope in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Join us as we find hope on Easter morning at the tomb, on Easter afternoon on the road to Emmaus, and on Easter evening with the disciples who gathered in Jerusalem. We'll discover how Jesus' resurrection continues to give us hope when we face death and despair.

Join us at Nichols Hills United Methodist Church on Sunday mornings at 8:30 or 10:50 a.m. as we find hope together.

March 27 *Finding Hope at the Tomb*

April 3 *Finding Hope on the Road*

April 10 *Helping Others Find Hope*

April 17 *Finding Hope in Resurrection*

Embracing the New Covenant



Rev. Matt Patrick

This Thursday, we will be celebrating Maundy Thursday with a service at 6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday is a celebration of the Last Supper when Jesus ushers in a new covenant for God's people. The Last Supper is recorded as a Passover meal which Jesus and his disciples would have celebrated every year as a remembrance of God's deliverance of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. The Jewish people had been celebrating the Passover for almost a thousand years at this moment in history, but Jesus was about to do something new.

At The Last Supper, Jesus breaks the bread and blesses the cup and proclaims that the cup is "the new covenant in my blood." In this moment, Jesus' new covenant proclaims that God is doing something new and that all people for all time are welcome into the kingdom of God. The covenants of the Old Testament fell short because God's people would not remain faithful to God's commandments. So, when Jesus gives himself, both body and blood, he proclaims himself as the ultimate sacrifice that will take away the sins of the world. Because of what Jesus did at The Last Supper and at his death, we don't have to worry anymore about being "good enough." We are free from the bondage of sin and death as we become the people of the new covenant.

God is still doing new things in our lives and seeks to do a new work in my life and yours. Will you come and celebrate the new covenant and respond to God's great love? I hope you will join us this Thursday as we respond to the new covenant by allowing God to do something new in our lives and in our community.

Blessings,
Matt

Thank You!

Thank you for helping provide for Skyline Urban Ministry's greatest need. Nichols Hills U.M.C. collected 415 rolls of toilet paper! Thank you for helping Skyline to "impact lives, empower those in need, and address the roots of poverty in Oklahoma."



Children's Ministry

We have so many exciting things happening on Easter Sunday, and we would love for you to join us! On Easter, March 27th, there will be a Brunch at 9:45 a.m. followed by an Easter Egg Hunt for the children at 10:15 a.m. This will all take place during the Sunday School hour.

During Children's Church we will learn more about the sacrifice Jesus made for us and celebrate His return to Earth with a fun craft and snack!

The children will have another chance on Sunday to get a prize from the treasure box if they have their memory verse memorized. "He is not here for He has risen, just as He said!" -Matthew 28:6

We hope to see you on Sunday!

-Madison



Madison Chilless

Easter Brunch

Please join us for a fabulous Easter brunch at 9:45 a.m. Everyone is invited!

The menu includes: fresh fruit, lox and bagels, shrimp, kolaches, cheesy eggs, scrambled eggs, sausage bread, sliced ham, honey roasted turkey, bacon, egg casseroles, grits, quiche, pastries, sweet breads, muffins, desserts, coffee, tea, and strawberry lemonade.

All guests are invited! You don't have to wait in line at a restaurant. See you there!



Henderson Settlement Mission Trip

Saturday, July 16 to Saturday, July 23

There is still time to sign up for our mission trip! We will be working in Henderson Settlement near Frakes, Kentucky doing basic home repairs. Our purpose is to share the love of Jesus Christ in meaningful ways that make a Christian difference to the people of the Appalachian Mountains. The cost is \$550. A \$150 deposit is due on Wednesday, March 30, 2016 and final payment is due on Monday, June 27, 2016. Talk to Trevor about family discounts if more than one member of your family is going. We will hold some fundraisers to help with the cost of the mission. If you need financial assistance, please talk to Trevor. If you have any questions, please contact Trevor Smith at revtrevor@gmail.com or at 918-705-1249 or Matt Patrick at 918-978-9102 or mpatrick@nicholshillsumc.org.



Denise Buthion

Tidbits from The Learning Center

This week our families are re-enrolling for the summer session. We are excited about our summer plans for the children. The first day of the summer session is June 6, and the last day is July 31. We have two teachers who will take the children on field trips, provide classroom experiences that are hands on fun, and enjoy the summer with the children. Each child receives a tee-shirt with their enrollment, so look out for spirit days too! You will see many T.L.C. children all

over the place.

Building a sense of community for children is very important in their social-emotional development. The Learning Center is a "home away from home" for them. These first experiences in classroom settings help children learn coping techniques, independent problem solving, conflict resolution and language to express their feelings. Naturally it takes many occurrences to fine tune these skills (as some adults need help also.) This is an educational journey that our children will experience this summer.

-Denise



THE LEARNING CENTER

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.

Serving In Ministry

March 27

The coffee hosts are Rob and Tracey Saunders.

The flowers are given by Larkin and Jean Warner in honor of our church family and staff.

The mission candle is lit by the Care Committee in memory of Jim Alexander.

Birthdays

- 03/27 Buzz McDaniel
- 03/28 Tom Flesher, Jr.
Layton Hill, IV
Drake Parsons
Charlette Perryman
Bruce Rosier
Dick Webber
- 03/29 Ann Brown
Judith Flesher
- 03/31 Preston Parsons
- 04/03 Jim Buchanan
Amy Margo
- 04/05 Maxine Permenter
Avery Robinson
- 04/07 Jake Huchton
- 04/08 Mason Heflin
Leigh Love
- 04/09 Calli Heflin
Nell Johnson
- 04/10 Olivia Miller
Jean Webber
- 04/11 Robert Sullivan
- 04/12 John McKee

If your birthday isn't included in our list, please contact the church office (405-842-1486) to be added.

John Marshall Dinner Tuesday, March 29th at 6:30

Thank you to all who signed up to help! If you have any questions or if you need information, please contact Stephanie Henry at 405-850-5518.



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.

The Brew Class: *Meets in the Room 131* - The Brew is studying Adam Hamilton's book, *Love to Stay*. Teachers: Tim and Christie Baker.
Tim (405) 209-5467 and Christie (405) 922-5154

KIVA Class: *Meets in the Parlor* - We will have a roundtable discussion for the holiday weekend.
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* - Following our scripture study last week in Luke that detailed the events of the last days of Jesus as a human kind, we will take up the comparable but different story of it all in John 18:1-19, 42. We have now completed the study of our tenth miracle of Jesus as listed in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John; and next we will study the eleventh miracle of "raising a widow's son" in Luke 7:11-15. Last week, our Open Circle Class, was treated by our teacher with a "Seder" and "Passover" feast sampler of "Haroset" (a paste of apples, raisins, nuts, & honey). Several years ago, the class had enjoyed the "honey and locusts sampler" provided by the teacher as a dining delicacy. Teacher: John Marshall.

Roundtable Class: *Meets in Room 124* - Mark 16:1-8 tells us about Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome going to the tomb to anoint the body of Jesus. There they heard the astonishing word that Jesus was not there, He had risen from the dead. As the core of our Christian faith, you will want to hear Dr. Jerry Perryman help us better understand the consequences. 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.
Leaders: Rev. Matt Patrick and Matt Eales.

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.
Children's Director: Madison Chilless.

Dr. Trevor Smith, Senior Pastor
Rev. Matt Patrick, Student Pastor
Michael Wylder, Director of Church Music
Delaney Sheffield, Administrative Assistant
Madison Chilless, Director of Children's Ministry
Dr. Antone Godding, Organist

Kathy Smith, Bookkeeper/Treasurer
Louise Glass, Financial Secretary
Michael Hall, Maintenance/Custodian
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
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