



NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

Maundy Thursday

¹⁷ On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" ¹⁸ He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" ¹⁹ So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal. -*Matthew 26:17-19*

We have been walking through **The Final Week** of Jesus' life throughout Lent. Last week we talked about how Judas decided to betray Jesus for 30 pieces of silver. On Sunday we turn to Maundy Thursday. We are going to learn why we call it Maundy Thursday and what commandments Jesus gave us on Maundy Thursday. We're going to focus on two things: the Last Supper and the things that took place in the Garden of Gethsemane. My intention is to take you to those places and help you experience the story, to see yourself in the story, and to understand what Jesus was trying to say to us as his disciples on Maundy Thursday.

The Gospel writers are relatively silent about what Jesus did during the daytime on Thursday. He may have gone back to the Temple Mount as he had on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday and taught the people. He may have stayed in Bethany. He may have gone to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. We don't know because the Gospels don't tell us.

When it comes to the evening of Maundy Thursday, the Gospels come alive. Matthew, Mark, and Luke tell us in great detail what happened that evening when Jesus shared the Last Supper with his disciples. They went to the Garden of Gethsemane where he prayed in agony. Judas Iscariot brought the Temple Guard there to arrest Jesus that night. He was taken to the Sanhedrin at the High Priest's House, and there they sentenced him to die. All of this happened on that Thursday night. I want to remind you to set your clocks forward one hour on Saturday for Daylight Savings Time and plan to join us in worship at 8:30 or 10:50 on Sunday as we continue our journey through **The Final Week** of Jesus' life.

I also want to invite you to make plans to participate in our Holy Week Worship Services. On **Maundy Thursday, March 24**, join us for our **Maundy Thursday Service at 6:30 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. On **Good Friday, March 25**, we will remember our Lord's passion and death on the cross in our **Tenebrae Service of Darkness at 6:30 p.m.** I hope you will join us for these meaningful services.

Easter Sunday on March 27 will begin at **8:30 a.m.** with our **Early Worship Service** followed by **Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.**, a **Family Breakfast 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.

Most people are more open to an invitation to come to church at this time of the year, and 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. I am looking forward to celebrating Easter with you on March 27. Have a great week, and may the Holy Spirit work through you as your share the hope of Easter with the people in your life.

Blessings,
Trevor

Ministry Calendar

Sunday, March 13

Daylight Savings Time

Spring Forward One Hour

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.

Wednesday, March 16

Financial Peace University will not meet because of Spring Break.

Wednesday, March 23

Nichols Thrills Meal at 5:30 p.m.

Financial Peace University at 5:30

Maundy Thursday, March 24

Maundy Thursday Service at 6:30

Good Friday, March 25

Tenebrae Service at 6:30 p.m.

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

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 **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

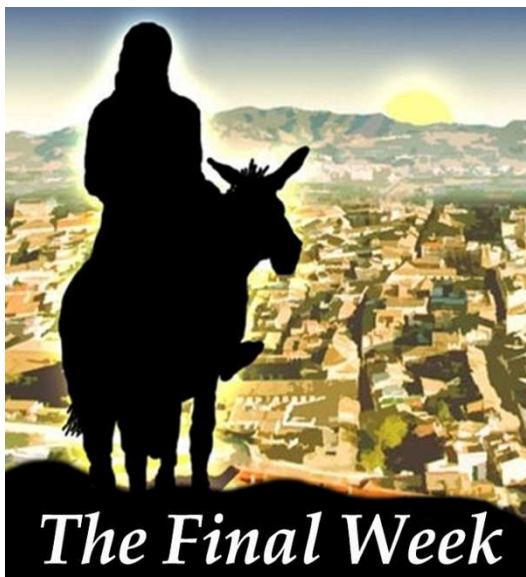
Joanna Garnett

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



The Final Week

This Lent join us on a remarkable journey retracing the events of the last six days of Jesus' life. Each week Pastor Trevor Smith will take us to Jerusalem, helping us recall the words Jesus spoke and the things that Jesus did leading up to his crucifixion.

Bring a friend and join us for worship on Sundays at 8:30 or 10:50 as we deepen our understanding and grow in our faith, traveling through ***The Final Week.***

March 13 *Maundy Thursday*
March 20 *Good Friday*



Rev. Matt Patrick

Inviting People to Grow in Faith

On Ash Wednesday, I challenged the church to try out something new for Lent that they may have not done in long time. I invited everyone to think about a person who is an active part of their life who may not have a church home and invite them to church either at Easter, or at some other Sunday during the Lenten season. Inviting people to join us in the faith journey can be a powerful experience, but it can also be a nerve-racking experience as well. Inviting someone to church can be frightening because it requires us to be vulnerable and risk the possibility of rejection. However, one of the best ways we can be witnesses is by letting people know honestly and openly the difference that God has made in our lives and then inviting them to join us in that journey. People are most likely to consider returning to church during Christmas and Easter, so I hope that you will consider bringing a friend with you for our Easter Sunday services. I'm looking forward to our church's continued outreach!

Blessings,
Matt

Children's Ministry

Using Skittles to Teach the Easter Story

This is a fun way for you and your kids to eat some candy but also learn the story of Easter! You can read through the resurrection story in Matthew 27:62 - 28:10, and use the color of the Skittles to help tell the story.

Purple: Our hearts were dark with sin.

Yellow: God sent Jesus to Earth and His light shone bright.

Red: Jesus shed His blood on the cross for me.

Orange: Like the sun, the Son rose again.

Green: Through Jesus, my life can be fresh and new.

During Sunday school and Children's Church we try to incorporate a memory verse. For the weeks leading up to Easter our memory verse is Matthew 28:6 which says, "He is not here; He has risen, just as He said. Come and see the place where He lay."

I hope you and your family enjoy this activity!

-Madison



Madison Chillless

Easter Brunch and Easter Egg Hunt

The Children's Ministry Committee is working towards enriching our children's Easter experience. We are planning to have a wonderful Easter Brunch and Easter Egg Hunt. The brunch will be church wide and will also be open to our community. We would like it to be so memorable that you will want to invite your out of town guests and family to attend. To do this we need your help with any of the following:



1. Sign up to attend the brunch.
2. Sign up to bring pastries, fruit, breakfast casserole, or anything you think would be special for Easter.
3. Donate bags of candy for the Easter Egg Hunt.
4. Donate Easter decorations.

Remember how hard it is to get Easter Brunch reservations? This will be a fabulous alternative!



Skyline Urban Ministry Donation Request

Toilet paper is the greatest need that Skyline Urban Ministry has right now, and so Nichols Hills U.M.C. is collecting toilet paper to donate to them. The last day to donate will be Sunday, March 20. Thank you for helping Skyline to "impact lives, empower those in need, and address the roots of poverty in Oklahoma."

John Marshall High School Dinner

Tuesday, March 29 at 6:30 p.m.



We are pleased to again honor the Winter and Spring sports athletes and coaches from John Marshall High School with a dinner and program. We will need 50 people to decorate, greet, serve in the kitchen, wait tables, host table, etc. Please sign up in the Narthex or by calling the church office, 405-842-1486.

Tidbits from The Learning Center



THE LEARNING CENTER

We annually screen children's vision, speech, and hearing so that we know they are developing as they should. This Wednesday and Thursday the University of Central Oklahoma will bring their Speech-Hearing students to screen our threes and older for hearing and speech. Their instructor, Elaine Martindale, oversees all of the work to assure it is accurate. We are grateful for their contribution to our program. This is a complimentary service and the screening students are gaining valuable experience in dealing with young children. We call that a win-win! It is almost time for our spring break. The Learning Center will be closed March 14-18. We will return to normal activities on March 21.

-Denise Buthion

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 13

The coffee hosts are Jim and Cynthia Meyerson.

The flowers are given by Tim Baker in celebration of Tim and Christie's marriage, 23 years ago in this Sanctuary.

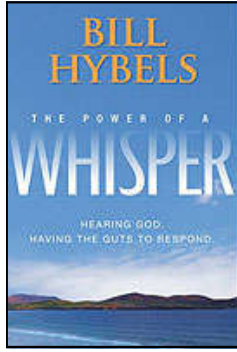
The mission candle is lit by Carol Magness in memory of her mother, Margaret Prosser.

Birthdays

03/11	G. T. Blankenship Lauren Heflin Marilyn Keller
03/15	Lydia Hunt Gordon Ryan
03/16	Kathryn Guerra
03/17	Gene Wheeler
03/19	Mary Ann Carmichael
03/20	Kneely Buxton Caleb Magness
03/21	Becky Sims
03/22	Stephanie Henry
03/24	Dick Graves Helen Sullivan Russell Walker
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

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

Nichols Thrills - The Power of a Whisper



Beginning Wednesday, March 30 at 5:30 p.m., Matt Patrick will lead a new study called *The Power of a Whisper*, written by Bill Hybels.

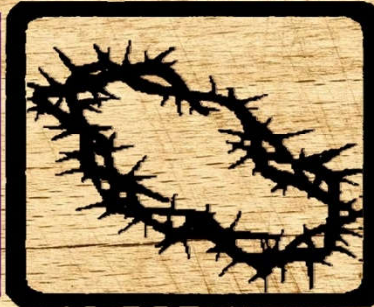
Imagine what your life might become if you were willing to say, “God, I’m listening.” If you were hearing God’s voice and obeying God’s promptings. This powerful book from pastor Bill Hybels provides inspiration and vision for what can happen when you intentionally listen for the Holy Spirit’s promptings and respond decisively to what you hear. Leaning into personal experiences from over three decades of active ministry, Hybels offers practical wisdom on how to better listen for God’s whispers of direction, challenge, and counsel – and how to summon the courage to follow God’s voice.

Sign up in the Narthex or by calling the church office at 405-842-1486.

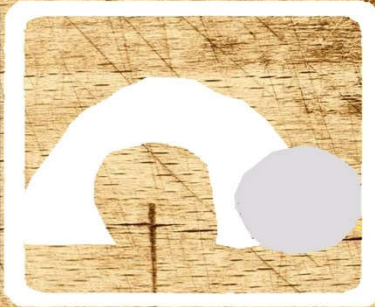
Holy Week



Maundy Thursday
March 24
Service: 6:30 p.m.



Good Friday
March 25
Tenebrae Service: 6:30 p.m. Worship: 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.



Easter Sunday
March 27

Join us on Easter Sunday for our family breakfast at 9:45 a.m. and our Easter egg hunt at 10:15 a.m.



Henderson Settlement, Kentucky Mission Trip

They asked only one thing: that we remember the poor, which was actually what I was eager to do. –Galatians 2:10

When? Saturday, July 16 to Saturday, July 23.

Where? We will stay in the Mission Dorm at Henderson Settlement near Frakes, Kentucky and work in the Appalachian Mountains. We will also spend one night in Nashville, Tennessee at West End United Methodist Church.

Cost? 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. Don't let the lack of money keep you from going.



How will we get there? We will ask members of our church to drive or loan us their vehicles.

Who may go? Adults, college students, high school students, and junior high students may go on this trip. Families are welcome.

What will we do? We will serve together as we seek to do basic home repair projects.

What fun things will we do? We will do some sightseeing and eat a nice dinner in Nashville on our way to Kentucky, and we will eat a nice dinner in Memphis on our way home.

What Training and Preparation are required? There will be two mandatory training sessions on Sunday, April 3 and Sunday, April 17 at 4:00 p.m. at Nichols Hills U.M.C.

What about fund-raisers? We will have to raise between \$2,000 and \$3,000. We will work together to raise this money. You will be expected to help with fundraisers.

What is our purpose? 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.

What is our task? Our task is to do basic home repair projects.

Why should I go on this trip? God calls us to minister to “the least of these who are members of my family.” This is an opportunity for you to serve God and others and to make a Christian difference in the world and in your own life.

Why am I needed on this trip? We need a diverse group of persons. If you can love and teach children, then you are needed. If you have carpentry skills, you are needed. If you are willing to learn how to fix things, you are needed. If you are willing to help God's people, then you are needed. If you can handle money, you are needed. If you love God and want to share God's love with others, you are needed. We will teach you what you need to know.

How Can I sign up? Read and sign the Mission Policy Agreement and fill out the Henderson Settlement, Kentucky Application located in the church office. Be sure to turn your money in on time.

Questions? Contact Trevor Smith at 918-705-1249 or revtrevor@gmail.com or Matt Patrick at 918-978-9102 or mpatrick@nicholshillsumc.org.

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* - Clark Musser will introduce Travis Pickens, who will speak on C.S. Lewis.
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* - Our Open Circle class will focus on the Miracle by Jesus, "Healing a man with a shriveled hand (Luke 5:6-10). Our hymn for study will be *O Mary, Don't Your Weep* - Hymn 134. Our scripture reading will be John 12:1-8. Verse 8: "You will always have the poor among you, but you won't always have me." Teacher: John Marshall.

Roundtable Class: *Meets in Room 124* - Mark 10:17-31 is the story of the young man with many possessions who asked Jesus, "What must I do to obtain eternal life?" Jesus' reply may create questions for each one of us. Join us and hear our teacher, Dr. Jerry Perryman, discuss the meaning of the scripture. Join with us in praying for Joe and Carole McClendon and their family. 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
The Learning Center (T.L.C.): 405-842-5325