

# NICHOLS HILLS

## united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

### You Can't Run from God

Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before me.” <sup>3</sup>But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid his fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord. *-Jonah 1:1-3*

The Bible is filled with call stories in which God chooses a person and calls that person to go and do a work of ministry to build the kingdom of God. In the prophetic books like Isaiah and Jeremiah there is always a call story in which God calls the person to speak a prophetic message, the person has an excuse for why he can't fulfill that call, God doesn't accept the excuse and then offers a sign and promises to be with the person, and finally the person accepts the call. But what happens when a person says, “No,” to God's call to ministry and even runs away? Will God accept that?

On Sunday we will begin a sermon series on *The Book of Jonah* called *You Can't Run from God*. Each week as we examine the story of Jonah, we are going to look to answer two questions. First, what does this story teach us about the character of God? And second, what does Jonah teach us about God's will for our lives today?

In the first sermon we will talk about why Jonah struggled with God's calling to go and preach a message of repentance to the Assyrian people in Nineveh. Jonah didn't want any part in God's plan for those hateful people. Jonah was a patriot. He knew that Israel was God's chosen people, and Nineveh was the capital of Assyria, Israel's enemy. Too much blood had been shed. Too many Israelite men had died at the hands of the merciless Assyrian army. Too many Israelite women had been raped. Too many Israelite children had been orphaned because of those people. God was asking too much! Have you ever felt like Jonah? I hope you will plan to join us in worship on Sunday at 8:30 or 10:50 a.m. as we learn together why *You Can't Run from God*.

We will also baptize Cash and Ashley Cameron's Son, Charlie at the 8:30 worship service, and we will have a reception for Rev. Pam Cottrill after the 10:50 worship service. May God bless you this week.

Blessings,  
Trevor Smith

#### Upcoming Events

**Thursday, May 28**  
Open Bible Study at Noon

**Friday, May 29**  
The Learning Center Training at 8:30 a.m.

**Saturday, May 30**  
The Learning Center Training at 8:30 a.m.

**Sunday, May 31**  
Worship at 8:30 a.m.  
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.  
Worship at 10:50 a.m.  
Farewell Reception For Rev. Pam Cottrill  
Youth Group at 5:00 p.m.

**Monday, June 1**  
Care Committee at 4:00 p.m.

**Thursday, June 4**  
Open Bible Study at Noon



Pentecost Sunday

405-842-1486  
405.843.1835 Fax  
www.nicholshillsumc.org  
The Learning Center:  
Closed May 25 - May 29  
Normal hours of operation:  
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

## 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. 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 **June 14, 21, 28 and July**. To volunteer, sign-up on the bulletin board outside the office.

### Small Groups

#### Sunday School Classes, 9:45 a.m.

Our classes are called the Brew, KIVA, Open Circle, Roundtable, Reveille, Youth, and Children. We hope you will participate in our classes! Descriptions of each class are located on the back page.

### Youth Group

#### Sundays at 5:00 p.m.

Our middle school and senior high students gather for a fun time of food, fellowship, and a meaningful lesson that will help you grow in your faith. Leaders: Matt Eales, Jake Tatarian and Dr. Trevor Smith

### Open Bible Study

#### Thursdays at 12:00 p.m.

Join us as we learn what the Bible teaches us about how to live out our faith in the world. Teacher: Jack High

### Cares and Concerns

#### Epworth Villa

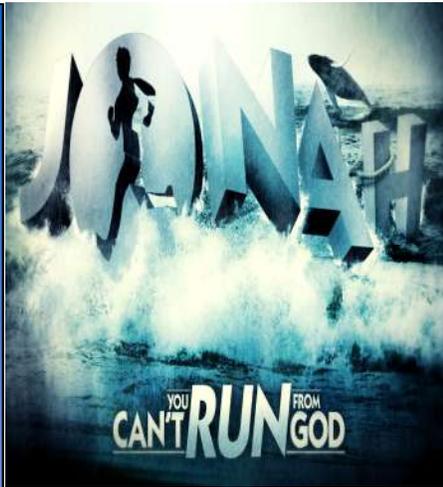
Bill and Katie Alexander, Joanne Crosby

#### Town Village

Joanna Garnett

#### At Home

Barney and Virginia Brown,  
Roger Etling, Beth & Dale Jordan,  
Frances Lewis, Joye McLain  
David Mueller, Barbara Sullivan,  
and Gene Wheeler



Have you ever held a grudge against someone?

Have you ever said, "No," to God?

Have you ever tried to run away from God?

Meet Jonah — a man who held a deep grudge against his enemies...a man who said, "No," to God...a man who tried to run away from God when God called him to go and preach a message of repentance to his enemies.

*The Book of Jonah* is the story of how God used a big fish to send an unwilling prophet to turn a foreign people to God. In this series of sermons, Pastor Trevor Smith will help us learn more about the gracious ways God offers love and forgiveness to all of us. Bring a friend and join us

at *Nichols Hills United Methodist Church* on Sunday mornings at 8:30 or 10:50 a.m. as we learn about Jonah and why ***You Can't Run from God***.

**May 31** *Running from God* • **June 7** *Forgiving the Unforgivable* • **June 14** *Angry Enough to Die?*

## Skyline Urban Ministry's Clothes 4 Kids

There is one Sunday left to collect! Families are able to come to Skyline with a school referral to receive two new school uniforms, shoes, a pair of new tennis shoes, three pair of socks and three pair of underwear. This program is solely supported by donations from area churches, and last year they were able to serve 829 students. There are three ways that you can get involved:

- 1. Undie Sundays May 31.** Bring a package or two of NEW underwear to church to donate. Sizes: Girls: 4-16; Boys: 4-20; Women: 5-10; Men's: 30-48 (boxer briefs only in dark colors) **Donation hampers are located in the Narthex and by the doors south of the Parlor.**
- 2. Donate Money to Purchase Uniforms.** It costs approximately \$75 to outfit each child. Checks can be made out to N.H.U.M.C. Write *Clothes 4 Kids* in the memo line.
- 3. Volunteer -** We will have designated days in June and July to volunteer.

**Sign-up sheets are located in the Narthex.**

## Casey and Kati Miller

Kati & I were both born and raised in the far northeast corner of Oklahoma, primarily around Fairland, OK. Following graduation from NEO A&M, we married on May 23, 2003, and we just celebrated 12 years of marriage. We moved to the Tulsa area as we completed our undergraduate work at Northeastern State (Kati - B.A. Psychology, w/HR Development Option, Casey - B.S. Mathematics, w/Engineering Physics Minor). At the end of 2005, we moved to OKC/Edmond so that I could take an opportunity with Chesapeake (where I remain today, currently as Supervisor - Planning & Logistics, Rockies Business Unit). From 2006-2008, I also earned my MBA from the University of Central Oklahoma. In 2007, Kati joined "the industry" full time, working Land at Yale Oil. After nearly 4-years with Yale, Kati also joined Chesapeake, in 2011, initially working Land Administration, then moving to her current role in Land - Mid-Con South Business Unit.



On October 27, 2010, we were blessed with the birth of our now 4-year old little girl, Regan Claire Miller. Regan has established herself as the gravitational force at the center of our new world. She loves talking, dancing, going to the park, and anything "girly." We moved to Nichols Hills in August 2013, and in May 2014 began our search for a church closer to home. We began that search at NHUMC, and looked no further. We joined the church on February 22, 2015. We quickly felt welcomed, and knew that it was the church in which we wanted to raise our daughter. We enjoy seeing the involvement of the young children on Sundays. Kati & I attend The Brew Sunday School Class, which is helping us to become more "plugged in" to the church.

# Farewell Reception for Rev. Pam Cottrill

There will be a farewell reception for Rev. Pam Cottrill following the 10:50 service. Please help us thank Pam for her service to Nichols Hills United Methodist Church. A card basket will be available for anyone that would like to participate.

## HYMN

**H**ow Great Thou Art! As the storms of life pass me by, the clouds open up so I can clearly see the azure blue sky. I hear the thunder roll further from me, and now descend the birds singing sweetly from the tree. Each time I hear the birds sing it echoes in my mind, they are singing the great acclamation...God Heals the Blind! Such power and such love, and it all comes from above.

**Y**e Servants of God! No matter how high I sit on my throne in life, I still feel all alone, amid all the tumult and strife. Visions of my own grandeur aloft, this is my ego clouding my sight. I am blind and cannot see until I humbly proclaim...Oh God, you are the Great I Am! I fall flat on my face and worship the Lamb!

**M**y Country 'Tis of Thee! Sweetly sing the birds in the breeze, bells of freedom ring hung from mighty trees. Liberty to worship my God, and share his holy light, stem from our fathers fight. Like the faith of my fathers; my passion for peace runs deep, like tree planted by the waters. Then let our chorus swell...Our Great God and King, All is Well!

**N**earer My God to Thee! Angels ascending and descending as I fly away in my dream. Running to catch the angelic mirage in my mind; leaving my wandering earthly life behind. Sun, moon and stars keep drawing me up to the sky. Still all my song shall always be... Draw me nearer my God To Thee!

My life flows on in endless song.  
Michael Wylder



## Tidbits from The Learning Center



This week The Learning Center is having a break between sessions. We will be closed all week. However, we will have five teachers participating in a training on May 29-30 in the Fellowship Hall. These teachers are the last group to receive Early Learning Guidelines for 0-3 year olds. These 14 hours of training are the anchors of all we do in our program planning. Children need learning experiences that engage them socially, emotionally, intellectually and physically. Each classroom has different learning centers where we have thought through the potential outcomes for

the children. The Early Learning Guidelines help us to incorporate all the areas that should be covered. The training is a hands-on learning experience for the teachers, too. We will return June 1 to a new session for summer that will end July 31. There are 93 children enrolled for the summer so it will be busy!

## 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.

**Bookkeeper/Treasurer** to manage and maintain the church's finance office. Part-time or Full-time.

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

## Chancel Flower Sponsorships Available

**September 6, 13, and 20** are available for flower sponsorship. Reserve your special dates now to honor or remember loved ones. The cost to sponsor chancel flowers is \$70.50 for two arrangements per Sunday. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board by the church office.

## Mission Candle Sponsorships Available

**July 12, 26 and August** are available for mission candle sponsorship. Sponsorships of \$25 per Sunday for the mission candle help support our missionary, Rev. Meri Whitaker. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board by the church office.

## May/June Birthdays

- 05/28 Vivian Gross
- 05/29 Rob Saunders
- 06/04 Grant Davis
- Julian Diaz-Granados
- 06/06 Reese Robinson
- 06/07 John Marshall
- Leslie Maye
- 06/10 Samuel Stafford
- 06/13 Don McCarty
- 06/14 Kathy McCarty

## Serving In Ministry - May 31

The coffee host fellowship time is hosted by the SPRC in honor of Rev. Pam Cottrill and her time at Nichols Hills United Methodist Church.

The mission candle is lit by G.T. and Libby Blankenship.

The chancel flowers are given by Jane Harlow in memory of James G. Harlow, Jr.

## Celebration of Methodist Music

Edmond First United Methodist Church is pleased to present "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing! - A Celebration of Methodist Music" on Sunday June 14th at 3:30 in the church sanctuary (305 E. Hurd). The event will feature the First Methodist Chancel Choir, Hand bell Choir and nationally acclaimed Methodist organist Dr. Adam Ward. Admission is free and there will be a free-will offering taken to benefit the Wesley Foundation at the University of Central Oklahoma. A free dinner will follow the worship in the Christian Activity Center. Everyone is invited!

We celebrated the birthdays of the Church, Rev. Trevor Smith, and Michael Wylder this past Sunday.



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

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Oklahoma City, OK



## Adult Sunday Class News

**The Brew Class:** (*Meets in the Adult Bible Class room*) - *Bringing the Bible Into Today's World* - Looking for a class that combines today's world with the history of the Bible? Come join us for open discussion on how the teachings of the bible influence our lives in today's world.

**Making Sense of the Bible -** *Rediscovering the Power of Scripture Today:* Written by Adam Hamilton. This book is our guide for discussion on topics that are biblically based and how they can be related to our lives in today's world. Come join us and "percolate" your thoughts in an open and engaging discussion. Teachers, Tim and Christie Baker. Tim (405) 209-5467 and Christie (405) 922-5154.

**KIVA Class:** (*Meets in the Parlor*) - Don Wilson will present part of the Amy Jill-Levine Series on the New Testament. Leaders, Ken and Linda Howell.

**Open Circle Class:** (*Meets in the Archives room*) - Last week our Open Circle Class reviewed two recent articles in The Daily Oklahoman about the increase in the "religiously unaffiliated" over the past seven years. Here is what Rev. Bob Long of St. Luke's Methodist was quoted as saying: "The needs of people have not changed and neither has the relevance of the (Christian) message. The Church is being challenged to find new and effective ways to share God's love and bring hope to the world." Our lesson this week will come from John 15:26-27 and 16:4-15. Teacher, John Marshall.

**Roundtable Class:** (*Meets across from the Parlor*) - We will be studying 1 Corinthians 13 on Sunday, one of the most memorable and best known scriptures. Here Paul takes the meaning of love to a higher level than most of us understand. Our teacher, Dr. Jerry Perryman, is particularly capable of helping us raise our expectation and understanding of love. Join us in the Roundtable Class. Teacher, Dr. Jerry Perryman.

**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.

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**Dr. Trevor Smith**, Senior Pastor  
**Michael Wylder**, Director of Church Music  
**Delaney Sheffield**, Administrative Assistant  
**Alfred Walker**, Sunday Host  
**Denise Buthion**, Director, The Learning Center

**Rev. Pam Cottrill**, Associate Pastor  
**Dr. Antone Godding**, Organist  
**Antonio McCarroll**, Custodian  
**Randall Blair**, Sunday Host

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