



May 4, 2016

Volume 24, Issue 68

NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

Children and Parents

¹⁶ Honor your father and your mother, as the Lord your God commanded you, so that your days may be long and that it may go well with you in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

-Deuteronomy 5:16

Biblical families had their problems. It's hard to have a healthy family. It's difficult and challenging because humans are broken. If we weren't broken and marred by sin we wouldn't need Jesus. We wouldn't need the Holy Spirit to transform us. Both children and parents are marred by sin.

Perfect families are rare. There are probably only a couple of perfect families in our church. Your Mom and Dad never yelled at you. They never did anything wrong. They never wrongly chastised you. You had that perfect family childhood. I'm pretty sure that you're in serious therapy right now because you've got to live in a world with all of the rest of us who didn't grow up like that. You've got to figure out how you're going to relate to all of those other people. Give thanks if you had a perfect family, but know that the rest of us didn't. Life is just that way. People make mistakes. We struggle. We have our challenges. We've all grown up in families that are somewhere between the Huxstables on the Cosby Show and Abraham and Sarah.

On Sunday, we are going to try to understand more about what our responsibility is as children towards our parents. Before we do that, let me say a word to moms. My experience in talking with mothers is that most mothers carry around with them a fair amount of guilt about being bad moms. They had in their minds what a perfect mom was supposed to look like, and they never could measure up. You can't measure up. It's impossible. So, you tried to measure up. Then you blew your cool with your kids. You yelled at them. You over-disciplined them. You didn't show up at this thing. Then, your kids are great at reinforcing all of your guilt. "You're the meanest mom in the world." If you haven't heard that yet, you will. But, you know what? Every mother loses her cool. Every mother blows it. Every mother makes mistakes because you're not perfect.

Mary surely got frustrated with Jesus sometimes. The only story we have of Jesus as a boy was when he was twelve. She probably felt like a failure that she hadn't noticed that he wasn't with them when they headed home. After looking for Jesus for three days in Jerusalem, she came unglued when they found him in the Temple.

All of this is part of being a mother. Part of what you have to be able to do is to experience and accept grace for yourself. You've got to accept that you're not perfect, and then do the best you can. Ask God, "Lord, help me be the best mother I can be." Pray for your children every day. At the end of the day, you ask for forgiveness for the ways that you blew it. You try to do better the next time. That's how it works. God uses your mistakes to sanctify and shape your children. None of us are perfect. Accept the fact that God's grace is sufficient for you. Trust that God is able to take what you do as a Mother or a Father and finish the work that you've done.

I hope you will worship with us on Sunday at 8:30 or 10:50 a.m. as we honor the women in our church and celebrate Mother's Day. Have a great week.

Blessings,
Trevor

Ministry Calendar

Sunday, May 8

Mother's Day - We will honor all of the women in our church in worship at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.
Worship at 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Worship at 10:50 p.m.
Youth Group at 5:00 p.m.

Monday, May 9

Trustees Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Pentecost Sunday, May 15

Pentecost Birthday Celebration in Worship at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.

Sunday, May 22

Honoring Our Graduates in Worship at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.

Memorial Sunday, May 29

Memorial Sunday Worship Services at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.

Friday and Saturday, June 10-11

Mission Madness

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 **May 8, and all of June.** 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, Ellie Roberts, and Sally Stringer.

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

Life-changing Relationships



It's all about relationships.

In this series of sermons, we'll explore what the Bible teaches us about the most important relationships in our lives. We'll consider how we can cultivate and maintain friendships, what it takes to raise children while loving our parents, what it means to love your neighbor in the workplace, and some keys to growing in a personal relationship with God.

Join us for this meaningful series on ***Life-changing Relationships.***

May 8 *Children & Parents*

May 15 *A Real Friend*

May 22 *Workplace Relationships*

May 29 *The Difference a Mentor Makes*

Manage Your Giving Online

Nichols Hills United Methodist Church is excited to announce that you can now manage your giving online! Giving online is easy, secure, and allows you to either make a one-time gift, or set up automatic recurring contributions. You can view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the internet. Simply follow these easy steps:

Visit the church website at www.nicholshillsumc.org,

Click on the *Make A Donation* button,

Click on the *Create Profile* button, then

MAKE A DONATION

follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your contributions.

If you currently have a monthly automatic contribution to the church it will not change. If you want to make a change to it, prefer to use this new option for your giving, or if you have any questions, please contact Louise Glass in the church office, 405-842-1486.



RSVP for Alfred's Wedding

Alfred Walker and his fiancée, Della Roberts, are getting married, and everyone is invited! The wedding will be June 25 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Lew and Jennifer and McGinnis, 2550 East Overholser Drive. RSVP to Alfred Walker at 405-600-5640. Congratulations, Alfred and Della!

Missions

Skyline Clothes 4 Kids Program

It's that time of year again! As we wind down on another school year, it's time to gear up for school uniforms for August. Families are able to come to Skyline Urban Ministry 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 680 students. This was down from past years when we were able to serve 1,000 children. Nichols Hills U.M.C. has been a longtime supporter of this program. We hope that you will get involved.

There are three ways that you can get involved:

1. Undie Sundays at N.H.U.M.C. on May 15, 22, 29 and June 5

Bring a package or two of NEW underwear to donate.

Sizes: Girls: 4-16; Boys: 4-20; Women: 5-10; Men's: 30-48 (boxer briefs only in dark colors)

Donation hampers will be 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. We will forward the money to Skyline.

3. Volunteer

We will have designated days in June and July for Nichols Hills U.M.C. to volunteer. This is a great opportunity to show our Christian love for these children and encourage them in their new school year. We will have more details in the near future.

Mission Madness 2016

June 10th 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Family Cookout, Art Project, and Fellowship.

June 11th 9:00-3:00 p.m.

Mission Opportunities for Everyone (Pre-School through Adult). Different age groups will be serving in many ways including packaging rice and beans, stocking shelves at the Skyline Food Resource Center, visiting the shut-ins from our church, doing repair projects at the Exodus House, and packaging underwear for the Skyline's Clothes 4 Kids program.

If you would like to volunteer to be part of organizing this event, please contact Delaney Sheffield at the church office, 405-842-1486.



Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who donated and supported our Chancel Choir! The Best of Broadway was a great success!

Tidbits from The Learning Center



Denise Buthion

This week we celebrated and honored our teachers with Teacher Appreciation Week. Our Parent Advisory Committee has had something special for the staff every day.

On **Monday** we kicked off the week with Bagels & Coffee. This was compliments of the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC.) On **Tuesday** each child was asked to bring a flower to their teachers. Can you just imagine the beautiful bouquets that we received? A lady can never receive too many flowers! On **Wednesday** each child was asked to bring a note of gratitude, card, or picture. This often brings a tear to our eye or a hearty laugh. You never know what the little ones are truly thinking. On **Thursday** the families will give gift cards to the teachers from Wal-Mart or Target. On **Friday** we will end as we began with food. A pizza party will be held for the staff for lunch. All week there will be a banner displayed so that families may write a note or two for the teachers. Our families mean a great deal to us, and apparently our families feel the same way about T.L.C.

In honor of Mother's Day we will have Muffins with Moms with a "come and go" breakfast treat. Feel free to come by between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 6 for some treats. We hope to see you!

-Denise

The Learning Center Muffins with Moms last year.



Special Sundays in May!

Join us for four special Sundays in May!

On May 8, we will honor the women in our church as part of our Mother's Day Celebration. It will be a wonderful worship service!

On May 15, we will celebrate Pentecost, the birthday of the Church. The children will be singing during the 10:50 a.m. service.

On May 22, we will honor our graduating seniors and hear their plans for the future.

On May 29, we will observe Memorial Sunday and remember our loved ones who have died in the last year by lighting a candle in their memory. If you would like your loved one remembered, please fill out the form below and return to the church office.

Memorial Sunday

Person to be remembered:

Your name:

Relationship of the person to you:

Being a Witness in the Day-to-Day



Rev. Matt Patrick

In one of my seminary courses, we were discussing the importance of testimony and witnessing to our faith. One of the vows that United Methodists take when they join a church is to support the church with the witness of their life. One of the concerns within the class was that many people in our church may not feel that they have a “compelling” faith story. In church, people are used to hearing faith stories that feature dramatic details with a dramatic transformation. However, because this isn’t the experience of a majority of people, many feel that they don’t have a testimony and can’t be an effective witness. I want you know this isn’t true. I encourage everyone to look for how God works in his or her life. The people in your life and in the church would probably be inspired with stories about how you experience God in your everyday life. God is alive and well. God is moving. I hope you will join me in seeking those movements, and telling your friends and family about it.

-Matt

Children’s Ministry

We have a very exciting week coming up, and we would love for you and your family to be a part of it! On Sunday, May 15th, the children will be singing in the 10:50 service! Please make sure your child is able to attend Sunday school so they can practice the song that they will perform with Michael Wylder!

Also on Mother’s Day, we will be doing a craft that will include a picture of mothers with their children. We will be taking a picture when your child is dropped off on Sunday!

With the new month, we have a new memory verse! Psalm 118:24 says, “This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.” Make sure you’re practicing the verse with your children at home so they can get a prize from the treasure box!

If you know anyone looking for a part time job in the children’s nursery on Sunday mornings from 8:00-12:30, please have them contact Trevor Smith.

-Madison



Madison Chilless

Celebratory Dinner

Last week, our student pastor, Rev. Matt Patrick, Dr. Trevor Smith, and some of our members attended a celebratory dinner for OCU’s Saint Paul School of Theology and recognized Rev. Matt Patrick as a fellow at Nichols Hills U.M.C. We are so happy that Matt is serving with us at Nichols Hills U.M.C.!



Welcome!

Last Sunday, Julie and Gary Vaughn joined Nichols Hills U.M.C. during our 8:30 a.m. service. We are excited to have you in our church family!



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

May 8

The chancel flowers are given by Midge and Paul Lindsey in honor of their 54th wedding anniversary.

The mission candle is lit in honor of the World War II veterans.

Job Opening

Nursery Attendant to minister to small children. Sundays and Wednesdays. Part-time. For more information, please contact Dr. Trevor Smith at 405-842-1486. Send resumes to revtrevor@gmail.com or 1212 Bedford Drive, Nichols Hills, OK 73116.

Birthdays

05/07	Jennifer McGinnis
05/08	Jacob Ellis Kathleen Ellis
05/10	Norma Baker
05/13	Roger Etling
05/17	Rosemarie Chase Rachel Huchton
05/18	Warren Henry Charlotte Smith
05/20	Dudley Hyde
05/21	Jeff Cloud
05/23	Jerry Richardson Trevor Smith
05/24	Michael Wylder
05/29	Rob Saunders
06/04	Grant Davis Julian Diaz-Granados
06/06	Reese Robinson
06/07	John Marshall
06/10	Samuel Stafford
06/13	Jessica Castoe Don McCarty
06/15	Kurlisa Briggs
06/17	Jeremee Cloud
06/18	Linda Rosser McDaniel
06/19	Antone Godding Caroline Rainbolt-Forbes Eleanor Rainbolt-Forbes

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

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 beginning a new study in May. Teachers: Tim and Christie Baker. Tim (405) 209-5467 and Christie (405) 922-5154.

KIVA Class: *Meets in the Parlor* - Bill Bowden has invited David Prater, District Attorney to speak on the duties of his office. Leaders: Buzz 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 lesson will begin with Acts 1:1-11. Verse 3: "After his suffering, he showed them that he was alive with many convincing proofs. He appeared to them over a period of forty days, speaking to them about God's kingdom." At the same time, Jesus always believed that a person's belief and faith in him was stronger than the strict reliance on the visual evidence of his appearances and resurrection. "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" will be our study hymn for the day. Teacher: John Marshall.

Roundtable Class: *Meets in Room 124* - Luke 17:11-19 is the story of Jesus meeting ten men with skin diseases. He healed them, and one of the ten returned to praise Jesus and thank him. Jesus replied, "Your faith has healed you." The lesson is to learn to live a life of gratitude to God. You are invited to hear more about the meaning of this scripture and what it means for our lives. Dr. Jerry Perryman is leading the class. 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
Madison Chilless, Director of Children's Ministry
Delaney Sheffield, Administrative Assistant
Dr. Antone Godding, Organist

Kathy Smith, Treasurer
Louise Glass, Financial Secretary
Michael Hall, Maintenance/Custodian
Denise Buthion, Director of The Learning Center
Alfred Walker, Sunday Host
Randall Blair, Sunday Host

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