



NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

Lessons from the Farm

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ²He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. -*Luke 10:1-3*

Both of my grandfathers were farmers and ranchers in Alfalfa County. Grandpa and Grandma Smith lived on a farm in the country north of the Great Salt Plains Lake, and Granddad and Grandma Cochran lived in Cherokee. When I was a boy, I loved to go and see my grandparents and help them on their farms. I would ride along on the tractor or the combine as they plowed their fields and harvested their wheat. During the wheat harvest, Grandma Cochran would make a home-cooked meal of fried chicken or chicken-fried steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, iced tea, and chocolate pie, pack it in her car and take it out to the field for Granddad and his hired hands. I also loved to go with them to feed the cattle hay and cake. I learned a lot of valuable lessons on the farm.

In July we are going to focus on the illustrations from the farm that Jesus used to teach his disciples about growing spiritually. Each week we'll hear interviews with some of the farmers that will help us better understand how we can live lives that are pleasing to God. On Sunday, we will welcome Dr. Dick House back to our pulpit to share a message about how Christians deal with suffering. We will learn how God can redeem our pain and give us hope.

Then, on Sunday, July 24, we will talk about the Parable of the Sower and explore the reason why God is a foolish farmer. I hope you will invite someone you know to come with you and join us for this fun sermon series.

I want to invite you to consider an exciting opportunity to grow as a leader and to help us consider some of the ways the Holy Spirit is calling our church to grow in its ministries. The Global Leadership Summit is a two-day event that is broadcast live in HD from the campus of Willow Creek Community Church near Chicago to more than 375 locations in North America. On August 11-12, most of our church staff will be attending the Global Leadership Summit at Crossings Community Church here in Oklahoma City, and I wanted to invite you to consider attending with me so that we can be in conversation about some of the possibilities for ministry in our church and our community. Please let me know if you are interested in learning more. The speakers for this year's Summit include Bill Hybels, Melinda Gates, Alan Mulally, T.D. Jakes, Horst Schulze, Travis Bradberry, Erin Meyer, Wilfredo De Jesus, Patrick Lencioni, Chris McChesney, Danielle Strickland, Jossy Chacko, and John C. Maxwell. For more information, visit www.willowcreek.com/events/leadership/index.html.

Finally, I invite you to pray for our mission team who will be serving in ministry at Henderson Settlement in Frakes, Kentucky next week. The team will build a 12 by 12 foot storage shed for a family, and they will look forward to sharing some wonderful stories of how God worked through the team when we gather for worship on Sunday, July 24. I appreciate each of the team members who will be representing our church.

Blessings,
Trevor

Ministry Calendar

Sunday, July 17

Worship at 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

Worship at 10:50 a.m.

Thursday, July 21

Clothes 4 Kids at Skyline Urban Ministry from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 27

John Marshall Breakfast at 7:15 a.m.

Sunday, July 31

Children's Ministry Meeting at 12:15 p.m.

Monday, August 1

Care Committee Meeting at 4:00

Thursday & Friday, August 11-12

Global Leadership Summit at Crossings Community Church

Newsletter Change for Summer

We will be creating a newsletter every other week. The weeks that you will receive a newsletter will be the week of July 13th and 27th. We will continue to send out our weekly email announcements on Fridays. If you would like to receive a weekly email and are not currently on our list, please contact the church office at 405-842-1486.

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 Matt Patrick 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 **July 31 and all of August**. 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: Jereme Cloud, Ann Garrett, Janet Jones, Carol Magness, and Kathy Walker.

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



Jesus began one of his most famous parables, "A farmer went out to plant seeds..." He frequently used illustrations from the farm to teach his disciples about growing spiritually, the practices that help us become deeply committed Christians, and the struggles we face in experiencing the joy of the Christian life. Beginning on July 17, we will study Jesus' *Lessons from the Farm* and other New Testament teachings regarding the spiritual life.

We'll consider the intriguing connection between manure and being a Christian. We'll consider how the relentless onslaught of weeds in a garden teaches us about the many challenges to the Christian life. We'll learn how the process of putting up hay helps us understand one of the most important ingredients to spiritual maturity. And we'll look at how harvest time teaches us about the life that pleases God. Each message will include humorous stories and interviews with actual farmers to help us understand these biblical principles for growth. You will not want to miss any of these messages as we seek to grow in the Christian life.

July 17

Re-Thinking Manure

July 24

God is a Foolish Farmer

July 31

Farming Together

August 7

Weeds and Water

August 14

Harvest Time



Preparing the Heart for Mission Work

In a few days, members from Nichols Hills U.M.C. will travel to Frakes, Kentucky to build a storage shed for those in need. However, before I go and do any mission project, I have found that it is incredibly important to prepare my heart and mind for the work that we will do. If I show up to the job site grumpy or having a bad attitude, it could affect the way that I interact not only with my teammates but also the people whom I am serving. The last thing I would want is for the people I'm serving to remember me as "that one pastor who had a bad attitude." So in preparation for the trip, I pray that God would give me the strength, patience, and endurance for the journey. I also constantly remember the mission of the Church, which is "to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." It's not about me. It's not about being a hero. It's about putting myself last and everyone else first. Sometimes, I fall short, but I do my best to serve Christ in the most faithful way possible. I hope you will join me in praying for our mission team over the next week as we serve.

-Matt

Skyline Urban Ministry Clothes 4 Kids

A few volunteers are still needed to serve on **Thursday, July 21 from 12:45 to 4:00 p.m.**! This is such an awesome opportunity to work with the children and families in our community that are in need. The Clothes 4 Kids Ministry allows families to receive two school uniforms, shoes, underwear, and socks for each child attending public school. We love to have men volunteers. The older boys really prefer men to work with them. Sign up in the Narthex or by calling the church office at 405-842-1486.

John Marshall Breakfast for Teachers and Staff

Wednesday, July 27 – 7:00-8:30am

On Wednesday, July 27, the teachers will be reporting back to school for the start of the

new school year. We are going to be there to welcome them back with breakfast and fellowship. Thank you for the wonderful support already given for this ministry. People have signed up for all of the food needed, **BUT we still need volunteers.**

Here are the details: We will need to arrive at John Marshall High School at 7:00 a.m. to set up the breakfast and get in place to welcome the teachers into the building. It would be so encouraging to them to have a large number of people from our congregation there showing them our support. If you can smile or give a high

five, you have all the qualifications needed to participate. These teachers have a challenging year ahead of them. Let's show them that Nichols Hills U.M.C. cares. Come by the table in the Narthex and sign up today, or call the church office at 405-842-1486.



Children's Ministry

Thank you to everyone who has helped out in Children's Ministry lately, we could not thank you enough for everything you do!

For the month of July we will have a new memory verse for the kids. Philippians 4:13 says, "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." If your child is able to tell me the verse, they will be able to get a prize from the treasure box!

We have started a new curriculum with the children called *Deep Blue Kids* and are learning about Fruits of the Spirit. We would love for your children to be at church with us and learn more about God and His words!

There will be a Children's Ministry meeting on Sunday, July 31 at 12:15 p.m.. Everyone is welcome! Hope you all are having a wonderful summer and staying cool!

-Madison



Madison Chilless

Tidbits from The Learning Center



Denise Buthion

We are having such a fun summer! Even the heat can't change the enjoyment we have been experiencing with our children. They are so busy every day and we hear from their parents that they are "crashing" early each evening. I'm told this is a good thing. Last week the Summer Campers (our school-age group) went to the Science Museum of Oklahoma with 13 children and three adults. The small groups really

allowed the children to take their time and engage with the different displays. Thank goodness it was an inside activity as the weather was much too hot for anything outdoors. Our program will have an Art Show displaying the children's work they have created with our art teacher, Ms. Heather. We will demonstrate with photographs how the work was created while displaying the actual product. We celebrate the process more than anything. Make sure you plan to walk through the Art Show the week of July 25-29.

-Denise



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 on Sunday, July 17.

The coffee host is Kathy Walker.

The mission candle is lit by Carla and Layton Hill (Casey) in honor of the wedding of their son, Layton Hill, III and Megan O'Connell on 7-16-16.

The chancel flowers are given by Paul and Midge Lindsey in honor of their son, Mark Lindsey's 50th birthday on 7-21-16.

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.

Birthdays

- 07/09 Melita James
James Meyerson
Gladys Miskovsky
Michael Palmer
- 07/10 Nathaneal Crownover
- 07/11 Joe Womack
- 07/14 Bret Davis
Steve Dickey
- 07/15 David Brown
- 07/17 Margaret Wells
- 07/18 Jan Womack
- 07/20 Owen Lafferty
- 07/21 Stuart, Jr. Hunt
- 07/22 Becky Robinson
- 07/23 Janet Jones
Beverly Pirtle
- 07/24 Linda Howell
- 07/27 Dutch Lippoldt

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

Manage Your Giving Online

Nichols Hills United Methodist Church is excited to announce that you can now manage your giving online! Visit the church website at www.nicholshillsumc.org. Click on the blue *Make A Donation* button. Then, follow the online instructions.

If you have any questions, please contact Louise Glass at the church.

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 doing a study on Moses in July. Join us for this study with Ray Vander Laan as we travel to Egypt and the wilderness with Moses. Teachers: Tim and Christie Baker. Tim (405) 209-5467 and Christie (405) 922-5154.

KIVA Class: *Meets in the Parlor* - Join us as we learn how to show our Christian faith in the world. Leader: Hank Bradley.

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* - We have completed our study of the first 24 of the 35 miracles by Jesus listed in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. And we will study the 25th miracle, "Delivering a demon-possessed boy," in Mark 9: 14-29. during our lesson this week. A quote from our devotional from the **Jesus Calling** book by Sarah Young: "When you feel discouraged, you tend to look inward so you can correct whatever is wrong. Instead of trying to 'fix yourself,' fix your gaze on me, the lover of your soul." John Marshall, Teacher.

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

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