



NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

Serving Together

¹² “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you.” -*John 15:12-14*

Sometimes people ask me, “Why should we travel a thousand miles from home to serve on a mission when there are so many people in need here in Oklahoma?” It is a fair question, and I always answer it the same way. When you travel to a different country or to a different part of our country it gets you out of your comfort zone. When you experience a different culture and get out of your regular routine, God helps you to see with new eyes. It can be one of the most transformative experiences of your life. It helps you more clearly see what is truly important and to appreciate the blessings God has given you. It can also open our eyes to the ways we can serve people in need when we return home.

Our mission to Henderson Settlement in Frakes, Kentucky was my twentieth mission trip, and it was one of the best. I really enjoyed serving with Jennifer McGinnis, True Wallace, Morgan Smith, Michael Wylder, Michael Hall, and Matt Patrick. Each member of the team worked hard and shared God’s love with the other members of the team and the Huddleston family whom we served.

We were blessed to have the opportunity to get to know Michael, Angela, and Jacob Huddleston and to learn their story. Michael had a good job working on heaters and air conditioners until he injured his back and became disabled. Angela had managed four Subway restaurants until she decided to stay home to care for Michael. Now, Michael repairs small engines for lawn mowers and weed eaters. We built a 12 by 12 foot storage shed for the family, and we learned that Michael planned to use the shed as a small shop for his work. It felt good to know that our hard work would bless the Huddleston family in the months and years to come, and we were very grateful for the ways they blessed us with their hospitality and kindness. I really enjoyed working with Jacob, who is eleven years old, by holding some of the nails as he hammered them into the shed.

This mission trip was significant for many reasons. As True Wallace shared with us on Sunday, this mission trip was the answer to prayer, and it was the first mission trip for our church in many years. It was also significant because it showed us what we can accomplish through generous giving and a willingness to go and serve God together. I want to thank each member of the team and each of you who gave generously to support this mission. I am confident that we will offer another mission trip next year, and we will continue to offer many opportunities to serve in mission in our local community. It is exciting to see the way that the Holy Spirit is working through our church to make a Christian difference.

I hope you will plan to worship with us at 8:30 or 10:50 a.m. on Sunday as we continue our *Lessons from the Farm* sermon series by talking about why Jesus calls us to gather together in small groups to grow in our faith by studying God’s Word and to work together to serve in ministry. Have a great week, and I will see you on Sunday.

Blessings,
Trevor

Ministry Calendar

Sunday, July 31

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

Monday, August 1

Care Committee Meeting at 4:00

Monday, August 1 through Friday, August 5

The Learning Center will be closed

Monday, August 8

T.L.C. Fall Session Begins

Thursday & Friday, August 11-12

Global Leadership Summit at Crossings Community Church

Thursday, August 11

CJAMM Banquet at 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 21

Block Party from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 24

Nichols Thrills Begins

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 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 **August 7, 14, 21, 28, and all of September.** 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 Flesher,
Jess and Bette Harris,
Beth and Dale Jordan, Frances Lewis,
Joye McLain David Mueller,
Maxine Permenter, and Gene Wheeler



Lessons from the Farm

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 31 *Farming Together* **August 7** *Weeds and Water* **August 14** *Harvest Time*



Reflections from Kentucky

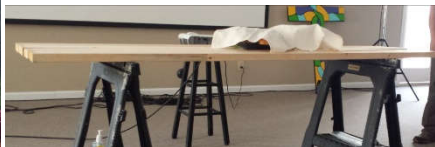
Rev. Matt Patrick

After a week on our mission trip to Kentucky, I have done some reflecting on the work that we did there. Physically and literally, our mission objective was to build a 12 by 12 foot storage shed for a family right across the state line in Tennessee, however, our greatest accomplishment had nothing to do with the shed. Throughout the week, we started having conversations with the family, and we learned about the unfortunate situation that they were in. The husband was on disability and the wife was unable to work in order to take care of the husband. It was heartbreaking to see the financial, emotional, and spiritual stress they were under due to circumstances outside of their control. After many good conversations where we would mostly just listen, we came to know them at a deeper level. At the end of the week, after the shed was finished, we blessed it and prayed with the family, and you could see their souls beaming with gratitude from the love and service they were receiving. Touching the lives of that family was the true objective that we accomplished that week. The shed was only the means to get us there.

-Matt

Henderson Settlement Mission Trip





Children's Ministry

We have some exciting things coming up with summer ending and the school year quickly approaching! On Sunday, July 31st we will be having a Children's Ministry meeting at 12:15 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend this meeting, whether you are a parent of a child or are just genuinely interested and want to be involved with our Children's Ministry. It will be a great meeting, and I would love to see you there!

The Block Party will be on August 21 so mark your calendars because this will be another awesome event!

For the month of August our memory verse is I Corinthians 10:31 which says, "Whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God." If kids can memorize the verse and tell me by the end of August, they will get a prize from the treasure box!

Hope to see you all on Sunday!

-Madison



Madison Chilless

Tidbits from The Learning Center



This is our last official week of summer. There are several things that will take place. First, we are honoring two of our teachers who have obtained their formal credential (CDA) to work with children. Da'Shanique Beamon and Trisha Ibendahl have both worked full-time and attended twice-a-week evening classes for the last year. We are so proud of their accomplishment.

Second, we are ending the session with our creative art show. This display will be up this week, and we will leave it for a couple of weeks for all to see. The children have really grown in their artistic endeavors. They have experienced a variety of techniques from sculpting, rubbings, splatter painting, etchings, and so on. The last day of our week we will have an outdoor picnic (weather permitting) and treats to end our session. The Learning Center is closed the first week of August. Our fall session officially begins on Monday, August 8. We currently have 88 children enrolled for the next session. Caring for our children is always a special gift from God.

-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 31.

The coffee host is Jackie Hall.

The mission candle is lit by Ron and Lida Elkins in honor of Alfred's and Della's marriage.

The chancel flowers are given by Paul and Midge Lindsey in honor of their granddaughter Ella Ward's 15th birthday.

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

- 07/28 Stella Shdeed
- 07/30 Phillip Rosier
- 07/31 Kristin Byrdsong
Matt Eales
John Griffin
- 08/01 Sarah Tirrell
Cindy Withrow
- 08/04 Zachary Bloomfield
Garrett Davis
Delaney Henry
Molly Love
- 08/05 Craig Sanders

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

The Learning Center creating artwork.



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* - Join us in the Brew for good fellowship and a discussion about how we can grow as disciples of Jesus Christ..

Teachers: Tim and Christie Baker. Tim (405) 209-5467 and Christie (405) 922-5154.

KIVA Class: *Meets in the Parlor* - Taylor Barnett is a Summa Cum Laude 2016 graduate of the Wimberly School of Religion at Oklahoma City University. She will be presenting her Senior thesis paper dealing with helping others during times of grief and loss. She is a dynamic young Christian lady and you will enjoy her presentation. Invite friends to experience this time with you. 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* - Our class is beginning the devotional from the book, *Jesus Calling* by Sarah Young, confirming that Jesus is with us at all times. One of our scriptures, Luke 12:13-21, deals with greed, and advocates that we should not hoard things for ourselves but should be rich toward God. We meet in the archives room, and our Circle is always open. 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.

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 (405) 842-1486.

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