

# NICHOLS HILLS

## united methodist church



### Making a Christian Difference

Did you hear about everything our church did at Mission Madness? Over sixty children, youth, and adults from our church came together to make a Christian difference in our community and around the world. Twenty-one youth and adults went down to *Exodus House* and pulled out 20 of the biggest holly bushes you've ever seen. We cleaned out and reorganized the supply garage, and we also worked on renovating Tony's apartment. Tony is the manager of the *Exodus House*.

Dr. Trevor Smith Eight of our elementary children and four adults went to *Cleats 4 Kids* and worked on stocking and organizing their warehouse. They got to see how *Cleats 4 Kids* blesses children and youth who can't afford sports equipment by giving them what they need so that they can experience the joy of playing sports.

Ten of our adults worked with nine of our youngest children to teach them that God has blessed us so that we can be a blessing to others. They put together 150 school kits for United Methodist Committee On Relief. They also learned about the mission trips our church has taken to Kenya when we built a library and stocked it full of books.

And don't let me fail to mention all of the ladies who served in the kitchen to make lunch and feed everyone a delicious meal. Mission Madness is just one example of what God can do through us when we work together to make a Christian difference. When we show God our faith through our actions, it is amazing to see how God blesses so many people through us. That is faith that believes big but is willing to start small.

On August 23, we are going to have a *Bring A Friend Sunday*. Through many years of ministry, I have learned that there are generally three times each year when unchurched people are more likely to respond to an invitation to come to church: Christmas Eve, Easter Sunday, and Back to School. If you stop and think about the people you know, I am sure that you know at least one or two people who don't have a church home. Or, maybe you can think of someone you know who just hasn't gone to church in a long time because they just kind of got out of the habit. I want to challenge you to do two things for that person. I want you to begin praying for that person every day for the next four weeks. Ask God to bless that person. Pray for God to demonstrate God's love to that person. And then I want you to ask God to give you an opportunity to invite that person to come to church with you on our *Bring A Friend Sunday*. It will be amazing to see the way that God uses you to bless your friend or family member or neighbor or classmate.

On that same Sunday, August 23, we are also going to have a *Block Party* that night from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. It's going to be a fun evening for our church to open our doors and invite children, youth, and adults to come and experience our church's hospitality. We will need some of you to make homemade ice cream. Some of you are going to help cook hotdogs. Still others of you are going to help us do face-painting for our children. We're going to have games for children and youth. We are going to let the whole Nichols Hills Community know that the people in our church love them and know how to have fun.

I would tell you more about what we're going to do, but the truth is that I need your help to plan our Block Party. So, next Sunday after worship, we are going to meet in the Fellowship Hall to plan the Block Party. We'll have pizza, and we're going talk about how we can make this the best Block Party you've ever been to in your life. Please call the Church Office or email me at [revtrevor@gmail.com](mailto:revtrevor@gmail.com) if you will be able to attend this meeting so that we can be sure to have enough pizza for everyone.

Blessings,  
Trevor

### Upcoming Events

#### Sunday, August 2

Worship at 8:30 a.m.  
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.  
Worship at 10:50 a.m.  
Block Party Planning Meeting at 12:15 p.m.

#### Monday, August 3

Care Committee at 4:00 p.m.

#### Sunday, August 9

*Too Busy Not to Pray* Study begins in the KIVA Class  
Trustee Meeting at 4:00 p.m.

#### Sunday, August 16

SPRC at 3:00 p.m.

#### Sunday, August 23

Bring A Friend Sunday  
Worship at 8:30 a.m.  
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.  
Worship at 10:50 a.m.  
Block Party, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

#### Wednesday, August 26

Fellowship Meal and  
Discipleship Classes for  
Children, Youth, and Adults  
Begin

#### Sunday, August 30

*Simple Church* Study at  
5:00 p.m.

405-842-1486

405.843.1835 Fax

[www.nicholshillsumc.org](http://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

## 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 **August 2, 30, Sept. 13, and 20**. 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 you help grow in your faith.

Leaders: Matt Patrick and Matt Eales

### Cares and Concerns

#### Epworth Villa

Bill and Katie Alexander,  
Maxine Ashe, Joanne Crosby

#### Town Village

Joanna Garnett

#### The Fountains at Canterbury

Barney and Virginia Brown

#### At Home

Jeremee Cloud, Roger Etling,

Beth & Dale Jordan,

Frances Lewis, Joye McLain

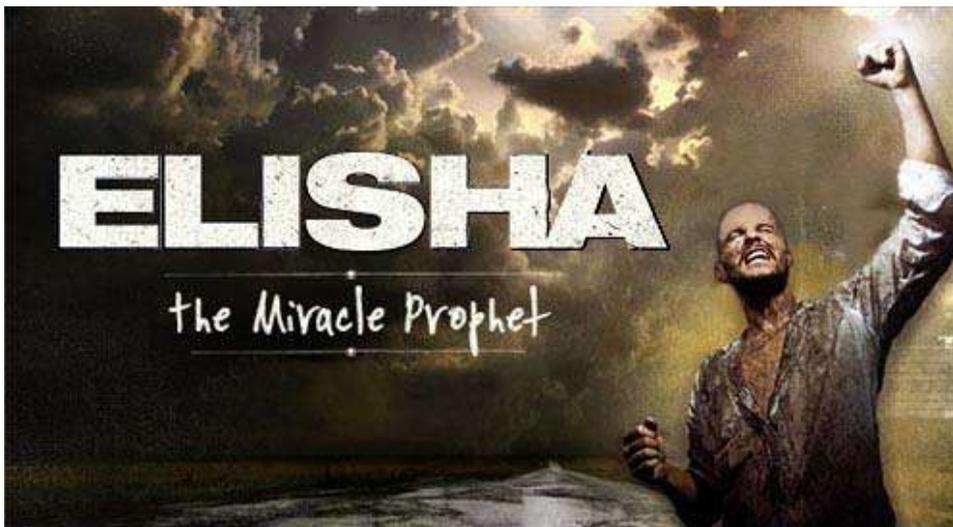
David Mueller, Barbara Sullivan,

and Gene Wheeler

### Mission Candle

#### Sponsorships Available

**August 2, 9, 16, and 23** 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.



The Lord sent his great messenger, Elijah, to anoint a prophet to follow him. God chose someone ordinary. Elijah found Elisha, a nobody, plowing his father's field.

And what was Elisha's response? He burned his plow and left everything he knew to answer God's call. Even the ordinary can be called to greatness. His very first miracle repeated his mentor's last. The rest of Elisha's life was original, surprising, bold. More miracles fill the pages of his life story than anyone's but the Son of God himself.

Join us at *Nichols Hills United Methodist Church* at 8:30 or 10:50 on Sunday mornings as we learn from *Elisha - the Miracle Prophet*.

**August 2** *A Lot With a Little*

**August 9** *Humble Healing*

**August 16** *Finding What You Lost*

## The Dangers of Over-Commitment



Over the next few weeks, the Fall semester will begin for school and for our lives. With Fall comes busier schedules, more appointments, and school for our youth and children. Especially for teenagers, it can become incredibly easy to say, "Yes," to the thousands of opportunities that are thrown at them. We all want to say, "Yes," to great opportunities, but eventually, they can start piling up until we are over-committed. My rule has been to be able to count the number of things to which I am committed on one hand. If it exceeds that, then I am over committed. I would challenge our students and our adults to keep themselves from being over-committed. It may seem that you are being productive, but in actuality, you aren't doing anything well. Remember that Jesus said, "You cannot serve two masters, for you will love one and hate the other." I would submit that business and time can become our master if we let it. I hope you will join me in serving our Master Jesus this coming Fall as we discern new steps in the life of our Church.

Matt Patrick

## God and Me Award

Congratulations to Dylan Sims on his God and Me Award! The Cub Scouts have a requirement related to faith for each grade level. They can fulfill that requirement by doing a program such as God and Me. Successful completion of God and Me qualifies them for the Boy Scouts of America Religious Award square knot. The God and Me Award was presented to Dylan this past Sunday.



## We Are The Church

Our church makes a Christian difference through the many wonderful people in our congregation and on our church staff. This week, Lauren Matthes, our new Director of Children and Family Ministry, is sharing with us about her life and how Nichols Hills U.M.C. has blessed her.

Lauren and her husband, Curtis, have attended New Covenant United Methodist Church in Edmond for 19 years. Lauren was raised in the United Methodist Church. Curtis and Lauren have both been active with the Walk to Emmaus and the Chrysalis communities together. This photo is from when they celebrated their 23rd anniversary at the Liberty Fest - 4th of July parade! "We love having the Fourth of July as our wedding anniversary; we always have the day off together and there are always fireworks!" They have three children: John, Quinn and Rosie. Their family is very active and loves being in ministry. Quinn and Rosie both work in children's ministry, as well as Lauren.

Lauren and Curtis believe that "we make an eternal difference when we invite someone to church, and we are excited to see what God has planned for Nichols Hills U.M.C.! We love how relational this church is to visitors, and the warm welcome reflects the heart of this church!" We are so glad to have Lauren serving in ministry with us here at Nichols Hills United Methodist Church.



## Tidbits from The Learning Center

This week we are introducing you to our newest staff member Andrionna Goff. She is in her final semester at U.C.O. majoring in child development. Andrionna goes by "Andi". She has five years of experience in childcare. Her love for children began with her family who are from OKC. She has three sisters, three brothers, nine nieces and 2 nephews. Andi plans to graduate this December with her Bachelor's Degree. When asked what we could share with families she wrote, "I love being involved with children as this is my passion. I have always wanted a career working with children and watching them grow." Her favorite color is pink, and she loves going to church. She works every Sunday with the children at her church. This summer she completed her second mission trip to Haiti. Some of her hobbies are being with her family, swimming, and scrapbooking. She will fit in nicely with our team, and we are thrilled to have her here. Welcome Miss Andrionna!



## Block Party Planning Meeting

Join us for a very important meeting after worship on this Sunday, August 2 at 12:15 in the Fellowship Hall. We will meet to make plans for our Block Party on Sunday, August 23. We really value your thoughts and ideas as we work together to welcome our community into our church for an evening of fun and fellowship for all ages. Please call the church to let us know if you will be able to attend the meeting so that we can make sure to have enough pizza.

## Wednesday Night Meal and Small Groups

At our Block Party Planning Meeting we are going to talk about re-starting our Wednesday Night Meal and Small Groups for Children, Youth, and Adults. I've heard that we used to call it WOW which stood for Welcome On Wednesday. We are going to come up with a new name for it. We might just call it Nichols Thrills.

If you have a faith that believes big but is willing to start small, then you engage in ministry with children and youth. I can tell you that ministering to children and youth will never bring in more money for a church. But I can also tell you that churches that fail to minister to children and youth won't have a future.

I am going to come around to all of our Sunday School classes and ask each of our classes to sign up to cook or provide for two of our Wednesday nights this fall. Something wonderful and mysterious happens when Christians gather around a table to share food and fellowship. I really can't explain it, but I can tell you that it is a great privilege to be part of such an important ministry in our church.

Blessings,  
Trevor Smith

## Serving In Ministry - August 2

The chancel flowers will be given by Paul and Midge Lindsey in honor of their granddaughter, Ella Ward's, birthday.

### August Birthdays

08/01	Sarah Tirrell Cindy Withrow
08/04	Zachary Bloomfield Garrett Davis Delaney Henry Molly Love
08/05	Craig Sanders
08/06	Anita Dahlgren Megan Dean
08/07	Caroline Sexton
08/11	Charles Brown
08/12	Philip Pippin Chloe Robinson
08/14	Katie Dickey
08/15	Cinda Lafferty Jon Rogers
08/16	Allen Evans
08/18	Midge Lindsey Sheridan McMichael Sue Ryan Katherine Schoeffler
08/20	Regan Henry Gunnar Lavenue Shawn Love
08/21	Dick Manley Clark Musser
08/22	Madison Dean Caroline Mueller
08/24	Bruce Fraley Tom McDaniel
08/25	Thomas Flesher, III
08/26	Claire Vick
08/28	Allison Jones
08/30	Judy Kauffman
08/31	Sue Hood David Reed
08/24	Bruce Fraley Tom McDaniel
08/25	Thomas Flesher, III
08/26	Claire Vick
08/28	Allison Jones
08/30	Judy Kauffman
08/31	Sue Hood David Reed

### Rice Cereal Bars Recipe

This is the much requested recipe by Charlette Perryman at Mission Madness!

1 Cup White Corn Syrup, 1 Cup White Sugar, 1 cup Peanut Butter, 6 Cups Rice Krispy Cereal, 1 12 oz. Package Butterscotch/ Chocolate Chips.

Bring syrup 7 sugar to a full rolling boil. Boil for 5 minutes. (Do not over cook.) Take off heat and add peanut butter stirring until melted and smooth.

Stir in cereal and coat all of rice cereal with syrup mixture. Turn out into a 9 X 13" pan and smooth (press) down. Take melted and mixed smooth chips and spread over cereal bars. Cut into squared while warm. Let cool so topping will set. ENJOY!

# MISSION MADNESS

We had a wonderful turn out for Mission Madness! Over 60 children, youth, and adults served together to help make a Christian difference by repairing and painting at the Exodus House, serving at Cleats 4 Kids, putting together school kits for the United Methodist Committee on Relief, as well as other various projects.



**The Exodus House** is a small apartment complex where people newly released from prison can live with their families while they re-enter life successfully outside prison walls. Twenty-one youth and adults from our church served by pulling out 20 holly bushes, re-organizing a garage, and helping to renovate one of the apartments.



**Cleats 4 Kids:** Thanks for the warm welcome that I received at Nichols Hills U.M.C.! Your children are so much fun, and we've had a great time getting to know each other.

Last Saturday, we had the opportunity to serve at Cleats for Kids (C4K). C4K is a non-profit organization that helps equip low income and inner city children and youth with sporting equipment that are new or gently used. It allows these students to get in the game, be part of a team, and be encouraged by a coach. We had eight elementary aged children and four adults from our church serve by stocking and doing inventory. I was amazed at how hard our students worked and saw how happy they were to be helping others! The day was wonderful! Jesus is at work through us! If you want to help it's not too late! We have a C4K collection bin at church where you can donate your gently used or new sporting equipment.



You are a blessing, Miss Lauren

**For our youngest disciples,** Mission Madness was productive and fun! Our nine preschoolers spent the morning and afternoon at church doing a variety of activities tied to a "Helping Hands" theme. Through art, music, and stories the children learned about serving others. Also, Cynthia Meyerson guided us on a tour of the Sanctuary, Parlor, and garden, and even our adult volunteers observed many new details about our beautiful building. After a delicious lunch, the elementary-age children joined us to watch a photo presentation by Jean Warner of three amazing mission trips to Kenya. They also assembled 150 school supply kits for United Methodist Committee On Relief. It was a very special day and our little children continue to show us how strong, intelligent, helpful, creative, and full of spirit they truly are!



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

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## Sunday School News

**The Brew Class:** *Meets in the Adult Bible Class room* This class is studying Bill Hybel's *Just Walk Across the Room*. The class discussion includes how the Bible applies to current events in our world. Teachers: Tim and Christie Baker. Tim (405) 209-5467 and Christie (405) 922-5154

**KIVA Class:** *Meets in the Parlor* - Jim & Robin Riley will speak. They have an Outreach for men & women with addiction problems They support homes where they mentor the people with problems. Jim played football for OU & the Miami Dolphins. Leaders: Allen and Sherron Evans.

**Open Circle Class:** *Meets in the Archives room* - Join us as we learn through Scriptures and songs. John Marshall, Teacher.

**Roundtable Class:** *Meets across from the Parlor* - The Roundtable Class is studying Isaiah 59:15-21 this Sunday. Isaiah is assuring the Hebrews that their God is intervening on their behalf and punishing their enemies. Isaiah said their suffering was because of their own sins, but that God would come as their redeemer. Join us as Dr. Jerry Perryman leads our discussion of this important time in the history of the Jewish people. You are welcome to visit or to join. Teacher: 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.

**Youth Class:** *Meets in the Youth Basement* - Join us for fun, fellowship, and a lesson that will bring you closer to God. Student Pastor: Matt Patrick.

**Children's Class:** *Meets in the Children's Area.* - Join us for a child-friendly lesson, snacks, and crafts as we learn about God together.  
Director: Lauren Matthes.

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**Dr. Trevor Smith**, Senior Pastor  
**Rev. Matt Patrick**, Student Pastor  
**Michael Wylder**, Director of Church Music  
**Lauren Matthes**, Director of Children and Family Ministry  
**Dr. Antone Godding**, Organist  
**Delaney Sheffield**, Administrative Assistant

**Kathy Smith**, Bookkeeper/Treasurer  
**Denise Buthion**, Director of The Learning Center  
**Michael Hall**, Maintenance Man and Custodian  
**Alfred Walker**, Sunday Host  
**Randall Blair**, Sunday Host