



NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

What about the Weeds?

²⁴ Jesus put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵ but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸ He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" -*Matthew 13:24-30*

What do you do about the weeds? It is a question that every farmer and every gardener has to answer. What do you do about the weeds? Do you try to kill them? Do you pull them up by the roots? Or, do you leave them alone? What do you do about the weeds? As we continue our sermon series on ***Lessons from the Farm*** on Sunday, we are going to consider two ways we can interpret this story about the weeds and the wheat. First, we're going to talk about the way Jesus interpreted this story in *Matthew's Gospel*, and then we're going to consider another interpretation that just might help each one of us grow in our relationship with God. I hope you will join us for worship at 8:30 or 10:50 a.m. I really believe that worshiping together is one of the most important things we do each week. It matters when you are there, and we miss you when you are gone.

I'm getting excited about all of the new things God is doing in our church. In the next month we will begin several new ministries, and I want to invite you to participate in each of these new beginnings.

August 21 is our **Bring A Friend Sunday**, and I want to invite you to be praying for the people you know who do not have a church home. I hope you will step out in faith to invite those friends and family members to come to worship with you as we begin a sermon series called **Margin** in which we will take a closer look at the circumstances that cause our lives to be so busy. We will also examine some of the principles in the Bible that can help us to find a healthier rhythm for our lives.

That evening we will host a **Block Party** from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on the south end of the church's property. The Block Party will include hot dogs, homemade ice cream, music, games, a giant Slip-N-Slide, water games, inflatables, and fun for all ages. It is not too late to sign up to help with the Block Party, and I hope you will come and enjoy a fun evening as we make new friends and grow closer together.

Nichols Thrills will start again on Wednesday, August 24 at 5:30 with a Fellowship Meal and small groups for children and adults. I will be leading an in-depth Bible Study on the Old Testament called **Disciple Fast Track**. The class is a more streamlined version of *Disciple Bible Study*, and I hope you will join me in growing in faith and fellowship. Jean Warner will be leading **Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University**, and Don and Lynn Batson will be leading **GriefShare** which is a support group for persons who have experienced the death of a family member or close friend. Matt Patrick will be leading a study called *Half-Truths* for our **Young Adult Group** at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. I hope you will join us for one of these meaningful small groups. I will see you on Sunday.

Blessings,
Trevor

Ministry Calendar

Sunday, August 7

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 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

Bring a Friend Sunday at 8:30
and 10:50 a.m.
Block Party from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 24

Nichols Thrills Returns at 5:30
Disciple Fast Track at 5:30
Financial Peace University at 5:30
GriefShare at 5:30
Young Adult Group at 7:00 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 p.m.

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: Mary Ann Carmichael, Cheryl Fraley, Carla Hill, Janet Jones, Carol Magness, and Jean Warner

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



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*

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

Children's Ministry

Thank you to everyone who came to our meeting this past Sunday! You are such a blessing to our Children's Ministry program! Mark your calendars for August 21st for the Block Party! It will be from 5:00 to 7:00, and we have some awesome things planned!

The memory verse for the month of August is I Corinthians 10:31 which says, "Whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God." If your child can memorize the verse they will get a prize from the treasure box! Hope you all are having a great summer! Good luck to all the families starting school this week!

-Madison



Madison Chillless

Tidbits from The Learning Center



Denise Buthion

This is the week the staff and I are out for relaxation and rest. You know, R&R? In our absence we will display the art work of the children made during the summer session. We are very proud of their work and hope you will recognize the uniqueness of each piece. There are photos to share, the process taken, information sheets to high light the artist and a book that was read to the classroom to inspire the children.

Our art teacher, Ms. Heather, will return for the fall session on Tuesdays and Fridays. She will continue her work with the children 18 months and older. We are excited for the next session! Please feel free to write down your comments or reflections regarding the art show in the notebook provided by the sculptured items on the round table by the west doors. Your feedback is very important to our artists! See you all on August 8.

-Denise





Nichols Thrills Is Returning!

Nichols Thrills will begin again on Wednesday, August 24, with a Meal at 5:30 p.m. and three meaningful groups for adults.

Disciple Fast Track is an adaptation of the original Disciple Bible Study. Join us this fall for a 12-week in-depth study of the Old Testament. Participants will read three to five chapters of the Bible each day between sessions and will meet each Wednesday to discuss and learn together for 75 minutes. The price of the book is \$22.

Leader: Dr. Trevor Smith.

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University is a nine-week class on faith and money. Would you like to eliminate \$5,300 in debt and save \$2,700 in three months? Dave and his teaching team will walk you through the basics of budgeting, dumping debt, planning for the future, and much more! The price is \$99.

Leader: Jean Warner.

GriefShare is a 13-week support group for persons who are grieving the death of a family member or friend. If you've lost a spouse, child, family member, or friend, you may feel isolated and have many questions about things you've never faced before. GriefShare meets weekly to help you face these challenges and move toward rebuilding your life. The price of the book is \$16.50. Leaders: Don and Lynn Batson.

We hope you will join us for one of these meaningful small group opportunities this fall. Sign up in the Narthex after worship or in the Church Office during the week.



BLOCK PARTY

Sunday, August 21
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Bring a friend and join us for hot dogs, homemade ice cream, music, Bingo, games, a giant Slip-N-Slide, water games, face painting, and fun for all ages!!!

There are lots of ways to help with our Block Party.

Make some home-made ice-cream, brownies, or cookies.

Help with the set-up at 3:00 or the clean-up at 7:00 that day.

Bring a white-elephant prize for Bingo.

Sign up in the Narthex on Sunday to serve at the Block Party.

Below are some photos from last year's Block Party. It was such a fun time! We hope to see you at this year's Block Party on Sunday, August 21!

2015 Block Party



John Marshall Breakfast for Teachers and Staff



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.

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.

Serving In Ministry on Sunday, August 7.

The chancel flowers are given by Billie Boston in memory of her husband, William C. Boston, Jr.

Birthdays

- 08/06 Anita Dahlgren
Megan Dean
- 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
- 08/26 Claire Vick
- 08/30 Judy Kauffman

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 (405) 842-1486.

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* - Bring your coffee and join “The Brew” for fellowship and discussion on topics that provide insight and support for staying on the pathway of a Christian lifestyle in today’s world. For the next three weeks our topic will be: ***Building A Legacy*** – (8/7) Why do I need a Legacy? – (8/16) Who will benefit from my Legacy? –(8/21) How do I begin to build my personal Legacy? For more information about “The Brew”, please contact: Tim Baker (405) 209-5467 or Christie Baker (405) 922-5154, Ben Dickey (816) 885-3324 or Katie Dickey (816) 898-1668.

KIVA Class: *Meets in the Parlor* - Aurora Lora, superintendent of the Oklahoma City Public Schools, will speak to our class this week. She is responsible for leading and overseeing the Oklahoma City Public Schools with 46,000 students and 5,000 staff members. 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 Open Circle Class will focus on Luke 12:32-40. Verse 35: “Be dressed for service and keep your lamps lit.” Our hymn: *Faith of our Fathers*. We will continue with some of the history of Israel that we started last week. Guests are welcome and class discussion and participation are always part of our lessons. Teacher: John Marshall.

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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