



# NICHOLS HILLS

## united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

## Financial Margin

<sup>6</sup> Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; <sup>7</sup> for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; <sup>8</sup> but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. <sup>9</sup> But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup> For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. -1 Timothy 6:10

In our culture today, financial stress is completely normal. You see it in almost everyone with whom you come in contact. Living paycheck to paycheck is absolutely normal. Having monthly payments is normal. Debt is normal. Worry, anxiety, and fear, especially in a slowed economy, is very normal. Sadly, having tension in your relationships and fights if you are married is very, very normal. Sadly again, having little or no financial margin is very, very normal.

The Apostle Paul tells us that those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. What are some of the many pains that we see today? We see debt causing tremendous grief. We see financial pressure causing tremendous grief. We see stress causing tremendous grief. We see financial tension over money causing tremendous grief. We see people unable to enjoy the blessings that they have because they are always worried about money.

We have ignored the virtue of contentment. Our culture's definition of happiness is more than I currently have. That is what the world is telling us. Whatever you have is not enough. If you have something else, then you will be happy. If you have just a little bit more, then you will be happy. Our culture tells us, "You deserve it! If you can't afford it, make payments! Get it now! It's going to make you happy! You've got to have it now! You are not happy because you don't have enough. Go out there and get it!"

On Sunday we will continue our sermon series on *Margin* by talking about ways we can gain *Financial Margin* which can be understood to be having more money than you need. I hope you will plan to worship with us at 8:30 or 10:50 on Sunday morning as we look to the Bible to discern God's wisdom about how we can attain the ability to be financially at rest—not anxious, not worried, and not always afraid. Have a great week, and I will see you on Sunday.

Blessings,  
Trevor

### Ministry Calendar

#### Sunday, September 4

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, September 5

Labor Day - Church Offices and  
The Learning Center Closed

#### Wednesday, September 7

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

#### Sunday, September 11

Missions Committee at 12:15 p.m.

#### Monday, September 12

Care Committee at 4:00 p.m.  
Finance Committee at 5:30 p.m.

#### Nichols Hills U.M.C.

(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

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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 **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: Rosemary Scalpone, Marty Smith, 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,  
David Mueller, Maxine Permenter,  
and Gene Wheeler



## Margin

Sometimes it seems like the only way to keep up with all the demands on our lives is to run at maximum capacity - and then some. But there is another way... one where we have room to breathe and space to respond to what life brings our way.

Join us at Nichols Hills United Methodist Church on Sunday mornings at 8:30 or 10:50 a.m. as we explore what it means to live with *Margin*.

September 4

September 11

*Financial Margin*

*Moral Margin*



Rev. Matt Patrick

## God Helps Those Who Help Themselves

In our study entitled *Half Truths*, this week our young adults group will be discussing the phrase, "God Helps Those Who Help Themselves." This is a common phrase within American Christianity and its origins date back to ancient Greece some 2500 years ago. While problematic, this phrase does have a nugget of truth in it. As Christians and as God's people, we are called to work hard and work for good in our lives and in the lives of others. Things generally don't just fall into our laps. However, this phrase is usually used when Christians want to neglect their divine calling to help the poor and needy. Contrary to popular belief, there really are people in our world who can't pull themselves out of difficult situations because of some kind of limitation or lack of knowledge.

All throughout the Bible, God calls us to care for the immigrant, the widow, and the orphan. It is a command, not an option. It is something we *must* learn to do. I believe that it is the very nature of God to help those who can't help themselves. Let us remember that humanity was trapped by the power of sin. We can't save ourselves by pulling ourselves up by our own bootstraps. But instead of condemning us, God showed up in the most spectacular way and showed us how to live. In the end, God saved humanity through the cross of Christ, which is something we could not do ourselves. That's the power of grace. It is the undeserved favor we receive from a God who desperately loves us.

-Matt

## Children's Ministry

This Sunday we will have our new Sunday school class for second graders through fifth graders, and we would love for kids ages 2nd-5th grade to be a part of it! We have selected a great curriculum for them that will get kids engaged and digging deeper into the word of God. All kids will be dropped off and picked up in Creation Station.

Our memory verse for the month of September is from Psalm 19:1 which says, "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands." If your child is able to memorize the verse and tell me during Sunday school they can get a prize from the treasure box!

If you are interested in volunteering with our Children's Ministry on Sunday mornings please email me at [mchilless@uco.edu](mailto:mchilless@uco.edu). We would love to have you involved and help our children grow in their faith! I hope you are having a great start of the school year! See you Sunday!



Madison Chilless

-Madison



## Tidbits from The Learning Center



Denise Buthion We recently had 130 cubic yards of new wood chips delivered for our big playground. Just look at the photos to understand the enormous amount of work it took to spread it out all over our playground.

The Boy Scouts came and spent eight hours on a Saturday to move the wood chips with the assistance of a front loader. Thank goodness they had six scouts and three scout leaders to get it all spread out! These wood chips help to keep our children safe when they fall. We are so grateful for their assistance!

THANK YOU SCOUTS!!

-Denise



## RDS Unite App

We are excited to announce a new app from RDS called Unite that allows you to have access to our church directory, make contributions, change your personal information, and view your personal contribution history all from your phone! This app is available for Apple, Android, and Microsoft. It is free for download from the app store on your phone. To find it, search for "RDS Unite."

Once it is downloaded and installed, open the app and click on "Register." Enter the church code 10081, then your email address, then enter a password of your choice and click "Register." To use the app once you have registered, open it and log in using the church code 10081, your email address, and the password you created. If you do not wish to enter this information each time you log in, click the "Remember Me" button. Now you are all set to use the new RDS Unite app! If you have any questions, feel free to contact Delaney in the Church Office at 405-842-1486 or dsheffield@nicholshillsumc.org.



## An Important Message From The Brew

"The Brew" Sunday School class will have a **Welcome Back Breakfast** on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 – 10:45 am. in the Fellowship Hall. Children of members and invited guests are also welcome at the breakfast and will then attend their regular Sunday School classes. Members and guests will have the opportunity to socialized and catch up with friends.

Brew members will be contacted as asked to provide menu items for the gathering. Please check your e-mail.

Mark your calendars! You won't want to miss out on what's happening with The Brew. See you on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.



## 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.

## Birthdays

09/02	J.B. Sims
09/03	Norma Moe
09/06	Ryan McNeill
09/10	Frances Rosier
	Jack Story
09/11	Donna Blakley
	Julie Fischer
09/12	Audrey Harrah
09/14	Madison Chilless
	George Craig
	A'Shonda Garrett
	Robert Vick
09/15	Gracie Sanders
09/16	Geoffrey Stafford
	William Stafford
09/17	Kerry Maye
	Sally Stringer
09/19	Jess Harris, Jr.
09/22	Billie Boston
	Jami Cravens
	Meg Miller
	Jerry Perryman
09/24	Jason Ott
09/25	Pamela Bracken
09/26	Juanita Greer
	Ellie Roberts
09/27	Alan Niemann
09/28	Caitlin Dyke
09/30	Cara Fraley

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](http://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 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* - Join us as we learn how to make a Christian difference 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* - The Open Circle Class primarily utilizes the Lectionary approach to studying scriptures, which excerpts scriptures from the Bible so that the full Bible is covered every two years. We also study hymns. 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. Ministry Intern: Laley Braucher.

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**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  
**Laley Braucher**, Ministry Intern  
**Rachel Spear**, Nursery Attendant  
**Mel Carrion**, Nursery Attendant

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