

NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

Bringing in the Harvest

³⁵ Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸ therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." -*Matthew 9:35-38*

Have you ever thought about the way that Jesus did ministry? In Matthew 9:35 you see Jesus doing three kinds of ministry: teaching, preaching, and healing. Jesus did not wait for people to come to him; instead, he took the initiative to go to people where they lived to minister to them. He taught them how God wanted them to live. He preached to them about the Good News of God's love, grace, forgiveness, and salvation. He also ministered to people who were sick and hurting by offering them healing.

Then, in Matthew 9:36 you begin to see what motivated Jesus to minister to people. He had compassion for them. Jesus loved people, and it grieved him to see children, youth, and adults who were struggling in life. He wanted to bless them and help them experience the love and grace of the God who had created each of them in God's very own image.

Finally, in Matthew 9:37 you see how Jesus invited his disciples to join him in ministering to people. He identified people's needs, and he empowered his disciples to go and minister to those needs. Even though Jesus was the Son of God, he knew that he needed the disciples to help his ministry grow and impact more and more people.

Jesus calls you and me to share in his ministry, and I would like to invite you to join us in serving in ministry together in one or more of the following ways.

On this **Sunday, August 9, at 9:45 a.m. the KIVA Class and the Reveille Class** are joining together to do a four-week study on Bill Hybels' book, *Too Busy Not to Pray*. I am excited to have the opportunity to help lead this study, and it is my hope that we will all learn how we can grow closer to God through our practice of daily prayer. If you have ever struggled to have a daily time of prayer, or if you are not sure what to say when you pray, I believe this study will bless you and transform your life.

Research has shown that there are generally three times each year when unchurched people are more likely to respond to an invitation to attend worship at a church. As I have shared with you before, those three times are Christmas Eve, Easter Sunday, and the beginning of a new school year in August. **On Sunday, August 23**, we will have our **Bring A Friend Sunday at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.**, and that evening we will have our **Block Party from 5:00 to 7:00**. I hope you have already been praying for a friend, a neighbor, a classmate, or a co-worker who does not have a church home, and I want to encourage you to take the initiative to invite that person to come to worship and to our Block Party with you. That Sunday we will also begin a new sermon series called **Overloaded** which will help you find peace in a high anxiety world.

On Wednesday, August 26, we are going to launch our new mid-week ministry called **Nichols Thrills**. Each Wednesday this fall we will gather for a meal at 5:30 and then offer small groups for children, youth, and adults. We are inviting each of the small groups and Sunday school classes to sign up to serve one of the meals. I have often found that serving in the kitchen is a great way to get to know people. We will also be seeking people to serve in ministry with our children and youth. I look forward to serving in ministry with you this fall.

Blessings,
Trevor

Ministry Calendar

Thursday, August 6

Church offices closed.

Church Staff attending the Global Leadership Summit

Friday, August 7

Church offices closed.

Church Staff attending the Global Leadership Summit.

Sunday, August 9

Too Busy Not to Pray Study

begins in KIVA Class at 9:45

Trustee Meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Youth Group at 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 15

St. Yootz Day at Frontier City

Sunday, August 16

S.P.R.C. 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

Nichols Thrills: Fellowship Meal and Discipleship Classes for Children, Youth, and Adults, 5:30

T.L.C. Open House, 5:30-6:30

Chancel Choir at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, August 30

Simple Church Study at 5:00 p.m.

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

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 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

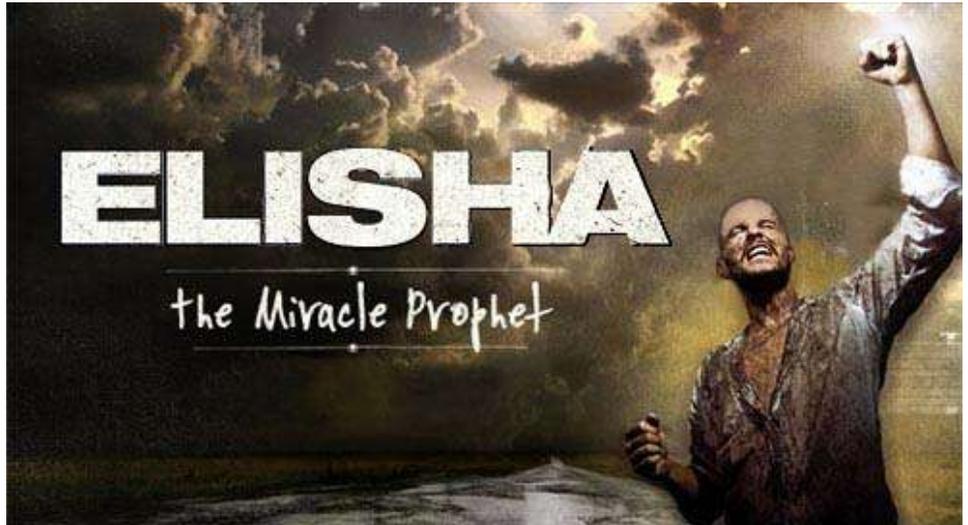
At Home

Jeremee Cloud, Roger Ething,
Beth & Dale Jordan,
Frances Lewis, Joye McLain
David Mueller, Barbara Sullivan,
and Gene Wheeler

Mission Candle

Sponsorships Available

August 9, 23 and all of September 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 9 *Humble Healing*

August 16 *Finding What You Lost*

Making Faith Front and Center



Beginning on Wednesday, August 26th, Nichols Hills UMC will begin our mid-week ministry called *Nichols Thrills*. Nichols Thrills will take place on Wednesday nights. We will share a meal together and then children, youth, and adults will all have an opportunity to enter a small group and learn together.

Mid-week ministry is something that has been done before at Nichols Hills but maybe not in this way. Some of us might have to reorient our schedules to make a place for church in the middle of the week, but it is important that we do so. For children, youth, and adults it is extremely important to be involved in your church mid-week simply for the reminder that it gives all of us to continue living for Christ throughout the entirety of the week. When we only have church on Sunday, it can be easy to lose focus on what is truly important by Thursday or Friday. We will have learning opportunities for all ages, so I encourage all of us to come together mid-week as we learn and grow together in what it means to be a disciples of Jesus Christ.

Matt Patrick

Simple Church

Are the people in your church being transformed?
Is your church making real disciples, the kind of disciples Jesus made?
Or is everyone just busy?

Churches with a simple process for reaching and maturing people are growing and making a Big Impact.

Beginning on Sunday, August 30 at 5:00 p.m. I will be leading a nine-week study of the book *Simple Church* by Thom Rainor and Eric Geiger. *Simple Church* will help us consider what kind of disciples God is calling our church to make. We will also discuss how we might design a simple process of discipleship to help people grow and mature as disciples of Jesus Christ. If you would like to help us think about our church's vision for ministry, sign up in the church office for this meaningful study.

-Trevor Smith

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, Delaney Sheffield, our Administrative Assistant, is sharing with us about her life and how Nichols Hills U.M.C. has blessed her.

Delaney is originally from Frederick, Oklahoma. She went to college at the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, graduating Cum Laude with a Bachelors Degree in Fine Arts with an emphasis in Graphic Design and a minor in Music.

Delaney married her high school sweetheart, Steven, in 2004 and now has two boys, Garrett (age 4) and Trevor (age 2). Steven and Delaney attend New Hope United Methodist Church, and they both play in the praise team. Delaney began working at Nichols Hills United Methodist Church on May 7, 2014.

"I am so very excited to see what God has planned for Nichols Hills United Methodist Church! I am especially looking forward to the upcoming Block Party on August 23! I know it will be a ton of fun and full of great fellowship!" One of Delaney's favorite quotes is by John Wesley: *Do all the good you can, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can, In all the places you can, At all the times you can, To all the people you can, As long as you ever can.*" We are so glad to have Delaney serving in ministry with us here at Nichols Hills United Methodist Church.



Serving In Ministry - August 9

The coffee host will be Carol Sue and Eli Whitney.

The chancel flowers will be given by Dick Sias in honor of his grandson Philip Pippin'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
8/17	Lauren Matthes
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

Who will you invite to our Block Party?

Sunday, August 23, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

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



Nichols Thrills is Coming

Nichols Thrills is a mid-week opportunity to meet new friends and grow in your relationship with God. *Nichols Thrills* begins at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 26 with a Fellowship Meal for all ages. We will offer small groups for children, youth, and adults from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Sign up in the Church Office or on our website to enroll for the Fall Semester.



Children and Family Ministry News

Children's summer **Sunday School** has a brand new look, and we want you to come see what all the excitement is about!! This week, we will learn about Bartimaeus and how Jesus gives us faith! We will sing, dance, and have games, crafts, and a fun snack! It will make an eternal difference in our children. We want you to be a part of the excitement for Christ that we are sharing!!

You are a blessing!

Lauren



Tidbits from The Learning Center

We celebrate many special occasions with our children and staff. Birthdays, anniversaries, and end of sessions are always acknowledged. This week we celebrate the four year work anniversary of Keyneisha Prather, teacher of the Jaguars (three year olds.) During these last four years she has had a son, Kaiden, and has attended Rose State University. The children call her Miss Key and love her a great deal. She babysits often for children of TLC in her off hours. Her commitment to children is very strong. We are so honored to have her work with our children. Congratulations Miss Key!



This week we are on vacation. We will return to school on August 10. The next session has 90 children enrolled. Isn't that wonderful? We will move our Jaguars upstairs this fall with our Pre-K class (Cheetahs.) We will see you all then.

Church Offices Closed

On Thursday, August 6 and Friday, August 7, the Church Office will be closed.

Congratulations Denise

We want to congratulate Denise Buthion on her one year anniversary as Director of The Learning Center! We are so glad that you are serving in ministry with us at Nichols Hills U.M.C.!



Nichols Hills United Methodist Church
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Sunday School News

The Brew Class: *Meets in the Adult Bible Class room* This class is studying Bill Hybels' *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* - Dr. Trevor Smith will lead a Prayer Study using the book *Too Busy Not to Pray* by Bill Hybels.
Leaders: Allen and Sherron Evans.

Open Circle Class: *Meets in the Archives room* - The Open Circle Class will have videos called "Early Christian Experiences of the Devine" narrated by Tim Johnson at Emory University. The videos have been provided by one of our class leaders, Fran Rosier. John Marshall, Teacher.

Roundtable Class: *Meets in the Bride's room* - The Roundtable Class is moving! This Sunday we will begin meeting one room down from our current room. This Sunday the Roundtable Class is studying Jeremiah 7:1-15. In these scriptures the prophet Jeremiah is instructed to warn the people of Jerusalem about the unjust actions their lives represent. This is always needed, and we can wonder where today's Jeremiah is, for surely one is needed. We invite you to join us as Dr. Jerry Perryman leads our discussion and understanding. Teacher: Jerry Perryman.

Reveille Class: *Meets in the Parlor* - The Reveille class will be joining the KIVA class this month for the *Too Busy Not to Pray* study. 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: Rev. 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.

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