



NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

Wiser the First Time

¹³ Happy are those who find wisdom, and those who get understanding, ¹⁴ for her income is better than silver, and her revenue better than gold. ¹⁵ She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her. ¹⁶ Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor. ¹⁷ Her ways are ways of pleasant, and all her paths are peace. ¹⁸ She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called happy. —*Proverbs 3:13-18*

Most of us have done something really stupid and then thought to ourselves, "I'll be wiser next time." One of God's greatest gifts to us is the wisdom we find in the Book of Proverbs which can help us learn to be wiser the first time. Proverbs describe how God designed life to work most of the time. Proverbs are short, one-sentence wisdom from everyday life. They are often born out of life experiences, and older people like to give proverbs to younger people as a gift, as if to say, "You don't have to reinvent the wheel. Let me share with you what I have learned about life." I hope you will make a commitment to seek God's wisdom for your life by joining us for worship at 8:30 or 10:50 a.m. for each of the next six Sundays.

Another excellent opportunity for you to seek God's wisdom for your life is to join a small group or Sunday school class. On Wednesday at 5:30 we gather for our Nichols Thrills Fellowship Meal. Then, at 6:00, we have Expedition for our children and the Alpha Course for adults. This week we are examining the question *How Can I Have Faith?*, and next Wednesday we will discuss *Why and How Do I Pray?* I always get a lot out of our small group discussions because there is a lot of shared wisdom around each table.

At 7:30 on Wednesday, our Choir gathers to rehearse. As Michael Wylder shared with us in worship, singing in the Choir is an excellent way to learn the scriptures through song. I have no doubt that God is calling some of the people in our church to join the Choir, and I want to encourage you to step out in faith if you feel the Holy Spirit nudging you to do so.

I am also excited to share with you that Matt Patrick, our Student Pastor, has started a new small group for Young Adults on Wednesday evenings at 8:30. This group of college students and young adults is studying Adam Hamilton's book, *When Christians Get It Wrong*.

Our Sunday school classes offer wisdom opportunities for children, youth, and adults of all ages. You can find out more information about each of our Sunday school classes and small groups on the back of this newsletter. I hope you will consider trying out one of our small groups.

I know that God will continue to bless us as we seek to live by God's wisdom.

Blessings,
Trevor

Ministry Calendar

Sunday, September 20

Worship at 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Worship at 10:50 a.m.
SPRC at 3:00 p.m.
Youth Group at 5:00 p.m.

Monday, September 21

Altar Guild Meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 22

Scout Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 23

Nichols Thrills - 5:30 to 7:00

Fellowship Meal at 5:30 p.m.
Small Groups at 6:00 p.m.
Expedition Children's Group-6:00
Alpha Course for Youth at 6:00
Alpha Course for Adults at 6:00
Parent Training Class at 6:00 p.m.
Chancel Choir at 7:30 p.m.
Young Adult Group at 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 26

Memorial Service for Bob Webber at 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, September 27

Worship at 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Worship at 10:50 a.m.
Missions Meeting at 4:00 p.m.
Youth Group at 5:00 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

Like us on Facebook and
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 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 **October 11, 18, and all of November**. To serve, 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 help them to grow in their faith.

Leaders: Matt Patrick and Matt Eales

Cares and Concerns

Epworth Villa

Bill and Katie Alexander,
Maxine Asch, Joanne Crosby

Town Village

Joanna Garnett

The Fountains at Canterbury

Barney and Virginia Brown

At Home

Roger Etling, Ann and Tom Flesher,
Beth & Dale Jordan, Frances Lewis,
Joye McLain David Mueller,
Barbara Sullivan, and Gene Wheeler

Chancel Flower

Sponsorships Available

November 1 is available for flower sponsorship. Reserve your special dates now to honor or remember loved ones. The cost to sponsor chancel flowers is \$70.50 for two arrangements per Sunday. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board by the church office.



Wiser

Have you ever done something really stupid and then thought, "I'll be wiser next time?"

Beginning on Sunday, September 20, Pastor Trevor Smith will lead us as we study the wisdom of *The Book of Proverbs* and learn how we can be wiser the first time. Bring a friend and join us as we grow **Wiser**.

- September 20** *Wisdom's Paycheck*
September 27 *Wiser in Our Work*
October 4 *Wiser in Our Decisions*
October 11 *Wiser with Our Sexuality*
October 18 *Wiser with Our Words*
October 25 *Wiser with Our Future*

How Can I Be Sure of My Faith?



Matt Patrick

The assurance of faith and the assurance of salvation can be really hard to obtain. For many of us, we often find ourselves feeling unworthy or inadequate to receive God's gift of salvation. We wonder if our faith in Christ is good enough. This isn't a question or concern that is new. Many of the biblical figures struggled with God and their own faith. Many of them felt as if God should abandon them because of their transgressions. Tradition holds King David as the inspiration behind many of the Psalms, which show a man who is crying out to God in his time of trial. After John Wesley's failed ministry in Georgia, he wrote in his journal after the Aldersgate experience that he felt "an assurance that he had taken away my sins, even mine." We will explore this question at our Alpha course this week that is open to adults and youth. I invite you to be praying about this question and to know that no matter what we have done, you can have assurance that Christ has forgiven our sins, even yours.

Blessings,
Matt Patrick

Transportation Ministry

How would you feel if you wanted to come to worship at Nichols Hills United Methodist Church but you couldn't drive yourself? You might feel alone and disconnected. We want to make it possible for anyone who would like to worship with us to have the opportunity to do so. 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.

We Are The Church

Our church makes a Christian difference through the many wonderful people in our congregation. This week, Bill and Margaret Wells share with us about their lives and how Nichols Hills U.M.C. has blessed them.

Bill and Margaret Wells have lived in Oklahoma City all of their lives. They have a daughter and a son, as well as two granddaughters and two grandsons. The first thing that drew them to Nichols Hills U.M.C. was the close proximity to their home. Once they attended, they fell in love with the friendliness of the people and the music.

Bill has served on many committees including the Staff Parish Relations Committee, the Trustees, and the Finance Committee. Margaret has served on Staff Parish Relations Committee, Volunteers In Mission, and continues to serve on the Care Committee. She loves the Care Committee members and says that they are wonderful. They are proud to be able to say that they know three and four generations of families! "We really enjoy the music ministry and the new church staff. They are a real blessing to our church."

"This is truly our church home and our church family. You can't get any better!" We are happy to have Bill and Margaret Wells in our Nichols Hills United Methodist Church family!



Your Mission



Lauren Matthes

The mission, if you choose to accept it, is to make Disciples of Christ. We have been called by Christ Jesus to expand His Kingdom. According to Barna Group studies, the majority of people who accept Christ's salvation and develop a relationship with Him do so before the age of 13. Then the percentage begins to drop rapidly after the age of 18. Our goal is to help the families of Nichols Hills U.M.C. grow stronger in their faith and equip parents to lead Spiritual Champions. We want to engage our families into fun questions that lead into meaningful discussions.

My passion for Christ and love for children encourages me to live out the scripture from Deuteronomy 6:4-9 — *4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. 5 Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. 6 These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. 8 Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. 9 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.*

I pray that every family of this congregation will walk in a relationship with Christ and reach out to those around them with love and encouragement!

You are a blessing,
Lauren

Tidbits from The Learning Center



This past Friday we honored our children's grandparents with a "come and go" breakfast. After all, Sunday was National Grandparents' Day. The menu consisted of rolls, muffins, and crumb cake. Juice and water accompanied the treats. Our children got so excited to show their grandparents their classrooms, their work, and their playground. It's fun to see how proud the grandparents are of their grandchildren. Photos were taken of the families that came and then sent to the parents of the children. It is interesting to see the differences of the generations and connect with the grandparents. We are committed to supporting and caring for whole families. Grandparents are indeed a big part of that!

Serving In Ministry September 20

The coffee hosts for Sunday are Dick and Carol Sue Manley.

The chancel flowers will be given by Chris and Judy Kauffman in memory of John Goodman.

September/October Birthdays

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
10/03	Cheryl Fraley
10/04	Carol Magness
10/05	Linda Klos Graham Murphy Harrison Murphy
10/06	Joie Dickey James Lavenue
10/07	Anna Bookout Hardy Robinson Fred Schonwald, Jr.
10/09	Randi Garza Jacob Roan John Rowntree, Jr.
10/10	Bill Shdeed
10/11	Blythe Butler Ann Garrett
10/12	Tracey Saunders
10/13	Trish Cloud Annemarie Edmonds Dick Sias
10/15	Marshall Dickey
10/17	Gwen Niemann
10/17	Patricia Schonwald
10/18	Mark Barker Cynda Ottaway Nicholas Schoeffler
10/20	Preston Robinson
10/21	Melissa Davis
10/22	Chris Kauffman Sylvia Miller
10/23	Barney Brown
10/24	Tim Sanders
10/25	Margaux Lavenue Ashton Niemann
10/26	James Tirrell
10/27	Suzanne Lavenue
10/29	Akiko M. Knotts David Mueller
10/30	Kay Goebel
10/31	Keith Jones

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

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit Number 1226
Oklahoma City, OK



Weekly Small Groups

Nichols Thrills Fellowship Meal for Children, Youth, and Adults: Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.

The Alpha Course - Adults: Wednesday, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Join us for dinner at 5:30 and a video called *How Can I Have Faith?* Leader: Dr. Trevor Smith.

Expedition for Children: Wednesday from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Teachers: Allyson Smith and Sandra Smith

Chancel Choir: Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Director: Michael Wylder.

Young Adult Group: Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. Join us as we discuss Adam Hamilton's book, *When Christians Get It Wrong*. Leader: Rev. Matt Patrick.

Sunday School Classes - Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

The Brew Class: *Meets in the Room 131*. This class is studying *Addicted to Hurry* by Kirk Byron Jones. 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 Fellowship Hall* - Dr. John Starkey from OCU will teach the class this Sunday. Leaders: Allen and Sherron Evans.

Reveille Class: *Meets in the Fellowship Hall* - 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* - Join us as learn from Bible scriptures and songs. Teacher: John Marshall

Roundtable Class: *Meets in Room 124* - In Acts 5:27-29 and 33-42, Luke describes how God's truth will prevail. We are reminded of this when current events force us to consider actions such as the clerk in Kentucky who refused to register a same-sex marriage. Though perhaps not as dramatic, we are often confronted with choices between God's truth and society's. Dr. Jerry Perryman will lead us in understanding these scriptures.

Teacher: Jerry Perryman.

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.

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/Custodian
Alfred Walker, Sunday Host
Randall Blair, Sunday Host

405-842-1486 • 405.843.1835 Fax • www.nicholshillsumc.org
The Learning Center (T.L.C.): 405-842-5325