

NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

Less Is More

¹⁹ “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

—Matthew 6:19-21

In *A Christian View of Money: Celebrating God’s Generosity*, Mark Vincent writes, “Money has a godlike power. I think about it a lot. How and when I might get more of it. What I will do with it once I get it. How much of it I want to share. How much I want to keep for myself. What I would do with it if I suddenly came into a large amount. Money consumes my waking moments and shows up in my dreams. Even when I do not think about currency, credit cards, checking accounts, or investments, I wonder about good prices on automobiles, clothing, and generic medications should one of my children get an ear infection. I try to keep my taxes down, improve energy-saving measures in my home, and seek a cost-effective way to travel from point A to point B. In North America, where being a consumer is considered a birthright, money’s hold is so powerful that one-third of all adults say financial worries prevent them from sleeping or relaxing.”

This is a huge issue for us. The American Psychological Association does a survey every year. They ask the question, “What are the main things that stress you out?” Americans almost always say that money is the thing that stresses us out. In 2010, 75% of Americans said that they stay awake at night worrying about money. It affects our physical and mental health. This is the #1 stressor for 3 out of 4 people.

On Sunday, we will conclude our *Overloaded* sermon series by taking a meaningful look at why our relationship with money can be so stressful for most of us. We’ll discuss the causes of our most recent financial crisis and some of assumptions we often make about money that lead us astray. Then, we will see how Jesus’ teachings on faith and money can help us find peace. Just what did Jesus mean when he said, “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Why did Jesus say, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of your possessions.” I hope you will worship with us on Sunday at 8:30 or 10:50 as we attempt to address these issues.

I want to thank Jean Warner and Becky Buchanan for helping me prepare our Nichols Thrills Meal this week. It has really been a blessing to have the opportunity to share a weekly meal and explore the basics of our Christian faith with so many people on Wednesday nights. Next Wednesday, our Alpha Course will discussion will deal with the question, *How Can I Be Sure of My Faith?* I am glad to serve a church with people who are so willing to encourage each other to grow closer to God.

Blessings,
Trevor

Ministry Calendar

Sunday, September 13

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

Tuesday, September 15

Trustees Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 16

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.

Thursday, September 17

T.L.C. Picture Day at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, September 20

S.P.R.C. Meeting at 3:00 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

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 **September 13 and 20**. 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

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

Chancel Flower

Sponsorships Available

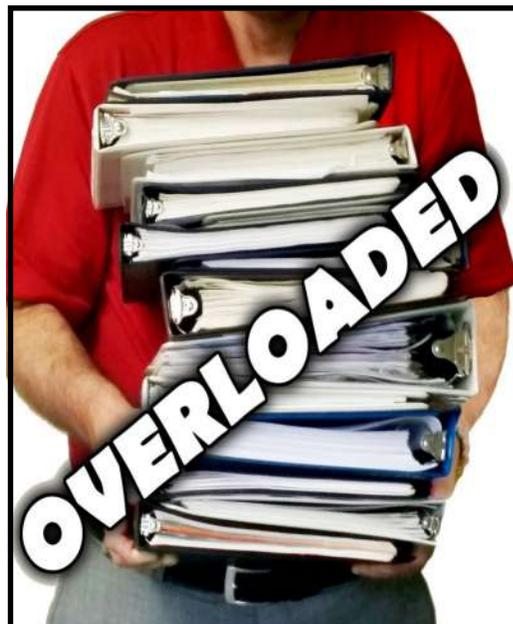
Nov. 1 is available for flower sponsorship. Reserve your special dates now to honor or remember loved ones. The cost to sponsor chancel flowers is \$70.50 for two arrangements per Sunday. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board by the church office.

Overloaded

Are you busy all the time?
Do you find yourself exhausted at the end of most weeks?
Do you feel overwhelmed by the expectations and obligations in your life?

It may surprise you that the Bible offers relevant answers that have the power to change your life. This important series of messages will help you stop being *Overloaded* and start experiencing peace. Join us for *Overloaded* on Sunday mornings at 8:30 or 10:50 a.m.

September 13 *Less is More*



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.

Why Did Jesus Die?



Matt Patrick

Even to this day, the death of Jesus of Nazareth is one of the most powerful stories ever told in world literature. Within the Christian faith, we believe that Jesus' death was more than just an execution. However, the specifics of what Jesus' death does for humanity and why it happened have been debated for two millennia. It is a complicated question that doesn't deserve a simple "Sunday School" answer that we have been taught over the years. This question deserves our full attention and a good amount of our time for reflection and critical thought. Jesus' sacrifice is such an important part of our theology and story as a people. Perhaps you feel that this question has been settled in your heart for quite a while now.

However, I believe that this aspect of our faith is important enough to take another look. *Why Did Jesus Die?* is the question for our Alpha course this week. Come join us at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday's as we discuss together the important questions of our faith.

Blessings,
Matt Patrick

Tidbits from The Learning Center



We are blessed to have the support and encouragement of our church family. Recently, we hired Jaqueline Moreno to work in The Learning Center. Jaqueline is a recent high school graduate who is still deciding her path in life. Jaqueline often cares for her friend's children and her younger siblings. Her eyes light up when she talks about the activities that she does with her small children. We are training her this week to assist in the Monkey Classroom. Our current enrollment is 89 children. We are happy to have these children in our program. The staff sends a huge "thank you" to our church for their contributions to make our program a great place for children and families!

We Are The Church

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

Paul joined the church with his parents in early 1949, when he was a senior in high school, a few months after it opened in the Nichols Hills Fire Station. They had been attending St. Luke's and Crown Heights Methodist Churches, then later moved to Nichols Hills in 1938. Paul and Midge met at work. Midge joined Nichols Hills U.M.C. in 1962, after she and Paul were married.



Paul served in the Navy for two years. Upon graduating from OU, he finished law school, then moved to Tulsa. After practicing law and working for a local corporation for several years, he served for two years as legal assistant to Commissioner Hugh Owens at the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washing D.C. Paul returned to Oklahoma City and became a U. S. Magistrate in 1979 and a Bankruptcy Judge in 1986. He formally retired in 1996 but continued to serve here and in other districts around the country until 2005. "I suppose I am still eligible for recall to duty, but don't expect it to happen."

Midge has a degree in journalism from OU and has served in volunteer capacities in a large number of non-profit organizations including serving as president of the Junior League and the YWCA. She also chaired the Oklahoma Humanities Council for six years.

Paul needlepointed one of the kneelers which adorn the altar rail. "I did two+ panels in the *Women at the Tomb* tapestry project in 1996 and oversaw and did several panels of the *Jesus and the Children* project this year and last." Reverend Lester Meyer and Paul designed a special kneeler for weddings, and Paul needlepointed it during his tenure here. Paul also did the bell pull hanging in the Parlor. "Our house is full of needlepoint projects, which have, if nothing else, kept me off the streets for many years." Paul is currently serves by heading our Counting Committee for the Finance Committee. Midge is active in the church as well. She has taught Sunday School for the Kindergarten age group and occasionally the Junior High School.

Rev. Byron Cravens was always a source of strength and stability, and Rev. George Graham christened both of our children. Mark is a registered nurse in the heart-lung transplant area at Integris Baptist Hospital. Leslie is a television segment producer in Hollywood, and she lives with her husband and our beautiful and talented granddaughter, Ella, in Santa Monica, California. In 2010, Ella surprised them by singing a solo at the Christmas Eve service at our church - the best Christmas present we could have received, and she did it again in 2011.

Paul sang in the choir for many years and loves music of all kinds. Paul and Midge's favorite part of the ministry of the church has always been the music ministry. They deeply appreciate the level at which Michael Wylder leads the music ministry and Tony Godding's long and expert service as organist. Midge said that she "loves the music and the warmth of the church."

This church has meant a great deal to Paul and Midge over the years, and "is perhaps even more dear to us at this point in our lives. Its various leaders have been of inestimable help to us at stressful times over the years. The friendships which have developed here are very dear to us. This is not just a place of worship, it is a place of genuine strength, friendship and love." We are happy to have Midge and Paul Lindsey in our Nichols Hills United Methodist Church family!

Parent Training Series

Conscious Discipline® Parent Training provides a proven and comprehensive approach that will improve both your life and the lives of your children. It empowers you with the self-awareness, brain information, developmental knowledge, and useable skills necessary to create safe, connected, problem-solving homes. Learn to see discipline not as something you **do to children**, but something you **develop within them**.

Led by Cristy Roberts. \$20 per session. Contact Denise Buthion at 405-842-5325 or dbuthion@nicholshillsumc.org for more information or to reserve your spot.



Serving In Ministry - September 13

The chancel flowers will be given by Lindsay Ocker in memory of Lady Bird Johnson.

September Birthdays

09/11	Donna Blakley Julie Fischer
09/12	Audrey Harrah
09/14	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

Thanks from Antone Godding

I greatly appreciated last Sunday—the special music, the lavish coffee hour, the cards and gifts from many folks. To those who helped to make the occasion of my 40th anniversary at NHUMC a memorable one for me, many thanks to you all!

John Marshall Parent/Teacher Conference Dinner

On September 3rd, we hosted a dinner for the teachers and staff at John Marshall High School prior to their Parent/Teacher Conferences.

It was a wonderful opportunity to encourage and support these teachers in the new school year. The teachers and staff were extremely appreciative of the dinner, our homemade desserts and the great conversations. We included the following quote on a card that was left for each teacher. "May God richly bless you as you seek to impart knowledge and wisdom into the lives of those God has entrusted to you." Special thanks to Buzz and Linda Rosser McDaniel, Helen Sullivan, Marty Smith, Carla Hill, and Becky Buchanan. The above photo is of Aspasia Carlson (John Marshall principal), Buzz and Linda Rosser McDaniel, and Helen Sullivan.



Nichols Hills United Methodist Church
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Oklahoma City, Ok. 73116

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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 followed by a video called *Who is Jesus?* Leader: Dr. Trevor Smith.

The Alpha Course - Youth: Wednesday, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Join us for dinner at 5:30 followed by a video called *Who is Jesus?* Leader: Rev. Matt Patrick.

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. 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 the next 2 Sundays. 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* - Scriptures of Acts 4:34-5:10 describe the dangers of selfishness. There are misunderstandings of the meaning of some of these texts, so join us in the Roundtable Class as Dr. Jerry Perryman leads our discussion. 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

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The Learning Center (T.L.C.): 405-842-5325