

NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith
Senior Pastor

Journey to the Cross

²⁸ After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴ They said, "The Lord needs it." ³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸ saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" -Luke 19:28, 33-38

The Hard Road to Jerusalem ended with Jesus' journey to the cross. On Palm Sunday, Jesus entered Jerusalem, riding a colt. The crowd recognized that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah, but they were expecting him to be a military leader who would conquer and drive out the Romans from their country. But Jesus did not come riding a white horse with a sword in his hand. He is a different kind of King. In fact, he wept over Jerusalem, ⁴² saying, "If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. ⁴³ Indeed, the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you and hem you in on every side. ⁴⁴ They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God." His journey would not lead to an earthly throne but to a cross.

This Sunday we will take a closer look at Jesus' journey to the cross which began with a parade on Sunday and ended with Jesus walking the Via Della Rosa to the place called The Skull where they nailed Jesus to a cross and placed him between two criminals to die a slow and agonizing death. This is the hardest journey for us to walk with Jesus. Like the first disciples, we are tempted to run away and leave Jesus to walk this journey alone. But walk it, we must. I want to invite you to walk the journey to the cross with us during Holy Week. I hope you will worship with us on Palm Sunday at 8:30 or 10:50 a.m.

I also want to invite you to participate in our Holy Week Worship Services. Join us for our **Maundy Thursday Service on April 6 at 6:00 p.m.** The service will conclude with Holy Communion and the *stripping of the sanctuary* as Jesus is taken into custody by the Roman soldiers.

We will remember our Lord's passion and death on the cross in our **Tenebrae Service of Darkness on Good Friday, April 7 at 6:00 p.m.**

Easter Sunday, April 9, will begin at **8:30 a.m.** with our **Easter Worship Service** followed by our **Easter Brunch and Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.**, an **Easter Egg Hunt for our children at 10:15 a.m.**, and another **Easter Worship Service at 10:50 a.m.** It will be a joyous day you will not want to miss. Most people are more open to an invitation to worship at this time of the year, and I hope you will invite someone you know to come to worship with us this Easter. May the Holy Spirit work through you to share the hope of Easter with the people in your life.

Blessings,
Trevor

Ministry Calendar

Palm Sunday, April 2

In Person and Online Worship Services at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Girl Scouts at 1:30 p.m.
Youth Group at 5:00 p.m.

Monday, April 3

Women's A.A. Group - 5:30 p.m.
Cub Scouts at 6:30 p.m.
Boy Scouts at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 4

Reading Buddies at 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 5

Praise Band Rehearsal at 6:30 p.m.
Co-dependents Anonymous - 6:30

Maundy Thursday, April 6

Reading Buddies at 1:30 p.m.
Maundy Thursday Service at 6:00

Good Friday, April 7

The Learning Center Closed
Tenebrae Service of Darkness at 6:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 9

In Person and Online Worship Services at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.
Easter Brunch at 9:45 a.m.
Youth Group at 5:30 p.m.

Monday, April 10

Women's A.A. Group - 5:30 p.m.
Cub Scouts at 6:30 p.m.
Boy Scouts at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 11

Reading Buddies at 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 12

Praise Band Rehearsal at 6:30 p.m.
Co-dependents Anonymous - 6:30

Thursday, April 13

Reading Buddies at 1:30 p.m.

Friday, April 14

Neighborhood Market at 10:30

Nichols Hills U.M.C.

(405) 842-1486

(405) 842-5325 T.L.C.

facebook.com/nicholshillsumc



Chancel Flowers

April 2: The chancel flowers are given by General Bill Bowden in honor of his daughter, Marjorie Trammell of Midwest City, OK.

April 9: The chancel flowers are available.

Mission Candle

April 2: The mission candle is available.

April 9: The mission candle is available.

Tithes and Offerings

Your gifts and tithes make a Christian difference and help us share the ministry of Jesus Christ with people in our church and in our community. Checks may be mailed to 1212 Bedford Drive, Nichols Hills, OK 73116. To make an online donation, visit www.nicholshillsumc.org. To set up an electronic funds transfer contact the Church Office. Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness.

Worship With Us
IN-PERSON & ONLINE

We would love for you to join us for in person worship on Sunday mornings at 8:30 or 10:50.

We also are streaming online. You can view our worship services on Facebook every Sunday morning at 8:30 and 10:50. Our Facebook page is facebook.com/nicholshillsumc. Don't have a Facebook account? No worries. You can view our livestream without having an account. You can also view the worship service throughout the week. If you do have a Facebook account, we encourage you to send us a message and let us know you are participating.

We also post the Sermon Notes and the Prayer and Study Guide on Facebook as well as our website, www.nicholshillsumc.org. We look forward to worshipping with you in-person or online!

The Hard Road

Jesus said, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me." Then, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. Along the way, he visited his friends, taught his disciples to pray, warned people to live in God's ways, and overcame his enemies.

Join us this Lent as we turn to Luke's Gospel to journey with Jesus to the cross and learn to follow him as we walk on **The Hard Road**.

April 2

Journey to the Cross

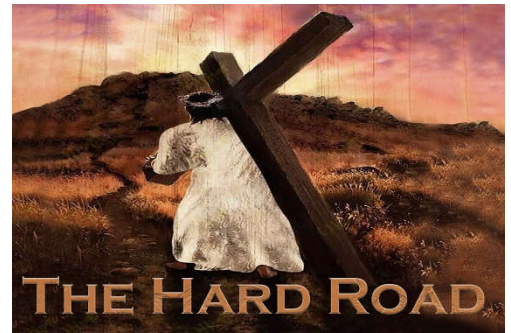
April 6

Food for the Journey

April 9

Walking and Talking with Jesus

Online Worship: facebook.com/nicholshillsumc



Palm Sunday

April 2

8:30 and

10:50 a.m.

Maundy

Thursday

April 6

6:00 p.m.

Good

Friday

April 7

6:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday

April 9

8:30 and

10:50 a.m.

In Person or Online at facebook.com/nicholshillsumc

Children's Ministry

Easter will be here next week, and we hope your child will join us for our fun-filled Easter Sunday and Egg Hunt. Thank you to everyone who has already donated eggs and candy. If you would still like to donate, you can drop them off in the Narthex on or before Sunday, April 2. Our Girl Scouts will be helping fill all the Easter eggs after Church, and we couldn't be more appreciative for their help!

The Children's Choir is excited to sing for the congregation on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. They have been working extra hard! Please let Allyson Smith know if you would like to serve in our Children's Ministry.

Youth Ministry

Our Youth Group has a great time every Sunday eating together.

This summer, our middle school students will attend Disciple Camp on June 1 through June 4. The cost is \$250 for students and adults. Checks should be made to Nichols Hills United Methodist Church. Disciple Camp is held at Camp Heart O' Hills near Tahlequah. Please let me know if you have any questions. We had a great time at church camp last summer, and I know we will have a great experience this summer.

Blessings,
Trevor

Celebrate Easter

at
Nichols Hills United Methodist Church

Easter Sunday, April 9

Celebrate Easter

Easter is the story of how Jesus rose from the grave on the third day after he was put to death on a cross.

Join us Easter Sunday at Nichols Hills United Methodist Church for a morning filled with hope and joy. You'll experience a beautiful worship service, complete with heart-stirring music and a message that relates Jesus' death and resurrection to your life today. Bring your family and friends for an Easter celebration that will send you home renewed, refreshed, and full of hope for the future.

Easter Sunday, April 9

Worship Services - 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.

Easter Brunch - 9:45 a.m. / Easter Egg Hunt - 10:15 a.m.

Online Worship: facebook.com/nicholshillsumc

Childcare available on Sunday morning.

Easter Brunch

Easter Sunday, April 9
Fellowship Hall at 9:45 a.m.
Sign Up in the Narthex



Tidbits from The Learning Center



Denise Buthion,
T.L.C. Director

We are excited that Easter is almost here! The Easter story will be shared through Bible verses and songs with our T.L.C. children and through Chapel with our older T.L.C. children's classes, the Jaguars and the Cheetahs.

We will also have lots of fun in next week's Easter Egg Hunt.

Families will contribute one dozen pre-stuffed eggs with wrapped treats inside.

What a blessing to get to experience the joy of Easter through children's eyes.

Blessings to all,
Denise



Birthdays

03/31 Preston Parsons
04/03 Jim Buchanan, III
04/05 Avery Robinson
04/07 Jake Huchton
04/08 Mason Heflin
04/08 Leigh Love
04/09 Calli Heflin
04/09 Nell Johnson
04/13 Avery Smith
04/14 Alivia Rogers
04/15 Emily Ellis
04/16 Delaney Sheffield
04/17 Cathy Betterton
04/17 Casey Miller
04/18 Thad Butler
04/20 Louis Fraley
04/20 Jim Jones
04/22 Claire Fraley
04/23 Karen Clark
04/26 Kery Mueller
04/29 Marty Margo
04/30 Colin Anderson
05/01 Christie Baker
05/01 Alice Pippin
05/03 Nathan Hilger
05/04 Myrla Pierson
05/05 Donna Cole
05/05 Caroline McLain
05/06 Mary Blake
05/07 Jennifer McGinnis
05/08 Jacob Ellis
05/08 Kathleen Ellis
05/09 Pam Coyle
05/10 Mark Miller
05/14 Becky Johnston
05/17 Rosemarie Chase
05/17 Rachel Huchton
05/18 Warren Henry

Are you or your family members not on our birthday list? Call the church office at 405-842-1486 to let us know your birthdays.



Reading Buddies

We are so excited to start Reading Buddies at Nichols Hills Elementary School. We need your help. You can sign up for either Tuesday or Thursday afternoon from 1:30-2:00 or 2:00-2:30. If you would like more information on Reading Buddies, please contact Alison Calhoon or Dudley Hyde.

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.

Seekers Class: Meets in the Archive Room - Join us as we begin a study called *The Alpha Course* which focuses on the basics of our faith.
Teacher: Kyler Kanady

The Brew Class: *Meets in Room 131* - Bring your coffee and join "The Brew" as we gather for fellowship and a study on Proverbs.
For more information about "The Brew" contact Tim Baker (405) 209-5467.

KIVA Class: *Meets in the Parlor* - Join us as we learn from speakers on various topics. Leaders: Dennis and Delores Bradford.

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.

Youth Class: *Meets in the Youth Basement* - Join us for fun, fellowship, and a lesson that will bring you closer to God.
Teacher: True Wallace.

First Graders through Fifth Graders: *Meets in Room 124.* Join us for a fun time with your friends as we grow closer to God and each other.
Teacher: Allyson Smith

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.

Dr. Trevor Smith, Senior Pastor
Michael Wylder, Director of Church Music
Delaney Sheffield, Director of Communications
Dr. Antone Godding, Organist
Kathy Smith, Treasurer
Becky Sellers, Financial Secretary

Denise Buthion, Director of The Learning Center
Caleb McNeely, Custodian
Jeremy Gossett, Audio Visual Team Leader
John Naeher III, Audio Visual Tech
Dustin Davis, Sunday Host and Audio Visual Tech
Patricia Harris, Nursery Attendant

Nichols Hills United Methodist Church
405-842-1486 • 405.843.1835 Fax • www.nicholshillsumc.org
The Learning Center - 405-842-5325