

NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

Meet Jesus: Baptized

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” -Matthew 3:1-2, 13-17

When John the Baptist was 30 years old, he began to preach in the wilderness, and he began to dress like Elijah in camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist. He called the people to repent, to turn away from their sins and turn towards God.

As he preached the people recognized that this must have been what Elijah the prophet was like. They came out to see him out of curiosity. In part, though, they came to hear John preach for the same reasons many of you come to church. They wanted to experience the peace of God. They felt there was something missing in their lives, or they recognized that they had strayed from the path to God and wanted to come back to God. Or they were anticipating the coming of the Messiah, and they wanted to be ready. For whatever reason, they came to hear him: first by the hundreds, and then by the thousands. They came to the Jordan River, where John called them to repent.

Then he baptized them. He would put them in the water, and as he put them in the water the imagery was powerful. By stepping into the water they were saying, “We wish to be God's people wholly and completely. We wish to be forgiven and made right with God.” Then, symbolically the water of the Jordan washed away their sins and carried it downstream into the Dead Sea where nothing could live. The sins you carried with you have been carried down to the Dead Sea. They cannot live again.

This Sunday, on Baptism of the Lord Sunday, we are going to begin a new sermon series called **Meet Jesus** by remembering the way John the Baptist baptized Jesus in the Jordan River and talking about why Jesus calls people to be baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We will talk about the way we find our true identity as disciples of Jesus Christ when we are baptized. We will also have the opportunity to remember our baptism. When we remember our baptism we remember what Jesus has done for us through his life, death, and resurrection, and we remember who God has made us and called us to be as men and women who are made in the image of God and baptized to be disciples of Jesus Christ.

I hope you will join us for in person or online worship on Sunday at 8:30 or 10:50 as we remember our baptism. I'll see you on Sunday.

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Blessings,
Trevor

Ministry Calendar

Sunday, January 10

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.

Monday, January 11

Women's Alcoholics Anonymous Group at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 13

Praise Band Rehearsal at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 17

In Person and Online Worship Services at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

Monday, January 18

Women's Alcoholics Anonymous Group at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 20

Praise Band Rehearsal at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 24

In Person and Online Worship Services at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

Monday, January 25

Women's Alcoholics Anonymous Group at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 27

Praise Band Rehearsal at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 31

In Person and Online Worship Services at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

Monday, February 1

Women's Alcoholics Anonymous Group at 5:30 p.m.

Nichols Hills U.M.C.

(405)842-1486

(405)843-1835 Fax

www.nicholshillsumc.org

facebook.com/nicholshillsumc



Chancel Flowers

January 10: The chancel flowers are available.

January 17: The chancel flowers are available.

Mission Candle

January 10: The mission candle is available.

January 17: The mission candle is available.

Acolytes

January 10: Gabriel Ireland, Avery Smith, and Lucy Ann Sylvester

January 17: Gabriel Ireland, Louis Fraley, Regan Miller, and Charlotte Smith

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 Online

Join us online for worship! You can view our livestream at 8:30 or 10:50 a.m. on Sundays on our Facebook page, [facebook.com/nicholshillsumc](https://www.facebook.com/nicholshillsumc). You can also view the worship service throughout the week. Please send us a message on Facebook to let us know you are participating. We will also post the Sermon Notes and the Prayer and Study Guide on Facebook as well as our website, www.nicholshillsumc.org.

Meet Jesus

As the New Year begins there is one person you need to know: **Meet Jesus.** At his birth, Wise Men worshiped him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. As an adult, he called disciples, healed the sick, and sent his followers to transform the world. Today, Jesus is still changing lives and inviting people to help him build the kingdom of God.



Start the New Year off right by worshipping with us at Nichols Hills UMC as we turn to Matthew's Gospel to **Meet Jesus.**

January 10 *Baptized*

January 17 *Tempted*

January 24 *Called*

January 31 *Healed*

February 7 *Sent*

February 14 *Warned*

Online Worship: [facebook.com/nicholshillsumc](https://www.facebook.com/nicholshillsumc)

Children's Ministry



Tausha
Davison-Beverly
Children's
Ministry Director

It is with great sadness that I share that I will be leaving the position of Director of Children and Family Ministry for NHUMC. My responsibilities with my family are the reason that I must bring this chapter of my life to a close. I have enjoyed the many years that I have called NHUMC home to not only myself but my family as well. I have grown in my spiritual understanding guided by Pastor Trevor and members of NHUMC. I look forward to staying connected with you all through missional opportunities in the future to bless God's kingdom and spread his greatest commandment of all, to love one another.

Blessings,
Tausha

Welcome The Staley Family

We would like to welcome Bayley and Craig Staley and their children, Shepherd, Vann, and Nora to our Nichols Hills UMC family. Craig, Vann, Nora, and Shepherd were baptized, and Craig and Bayley joined our church on December 20, 2020. We are so glad to have the Staleys in our church family.



Making Change



Less Is More



Stress Is Bad



Giving Is Good



Tomorrow Matters

Nichols Hills United Methodist Church

Estimate of Giving Card

In response to God's love and as a concrete expression of my faith in Christ and my commitment to Christ's church, I plan to **Take One Step Up** in my giving.

_____ **Step Up Beyond Tithing**

My desire is to do more than the Biblical standard.

_____ **Step Up To Tithing**

I will give one tenth of my income to God's work.

_____ **Step Up Toward Tithing**

I am not yet a tither, but I will move toward that goal.

My Commitment to the General Fund is

\$ _____ **Weekly for 52 weeks**

\$ _____ **Monthly for 12 months**

\$ _____ **Quarterly**

\$ _____ **Annually**

My Total Commitment for 2021: \$ _____

_____ This represents an increase over last year.

_____ I would like to learn about electronic giving.

_____ I would like information on how to include Nichols Hills UMC in my will and estate plans.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Tidbits from The Learning Center



Denise Buthion,
T.L.C. Director

Happy New Year to everyone! We are so grateful for the time off to celebrate the holidays. There have been some staffing changes in The Learning Center.

It is our blessing to welcome back Claire Longoria to serve as a floater. Claire previously served as a teacher in The Learning Center in 2015. Her sister, Kassy, also serves on our staff. Claire has been able to step in and assist with breaks and teacher absences.

Ms. LaRodree has left us to become a new mommy. Her baby boy was born December 24th.

As the new year rolls in we are busy with 103 wonderful children for the spring session. It is going to be a great year!

-Denise

Birthdays

01/01 Lisa Franklin
01/01 Lauren Harrah
01/03 Michael Dean
01/04 Graham Jones
01/04 Anesha Smith
01/05 Lynn Greene
01/05 Anne Holbrook
01/05 Brenda McDaniel
01/05 Morgan Smith
01/06 Sayde Saunders
01/07 Sherron Evans
01/12 Garrett Fraley
01/13 Pam Eales
01/13 Joan Payne
01/14 Maddy Davis
01/15 Kathy Griffin
01/15 Graham Murray
01/15 Pama Palmer
01/18 Cynthia Meyerson
01/19 Sue Ann Hyde
01/24 Mary Crownover
01/24 Barbara Dean
01/24 Lou Kerr
01/24 Mason Martin
01/24 Marjorie Polk
01/25 Fletcher Hill
01/28 Ken Blakley
01/28 Morgan Hunt
01/28 Stuart Hunt
01/30 Nick Berry

Cares and Concerns

Town Village

Bette Harris

The Fountains at Canterbury

Anita Dahlgren

StoneCreek

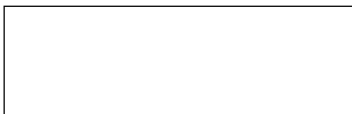
Ray and Lynn Greene

At Home

Roger Etling, Frances Lewis,
David Mueller

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 Room 131* - Bring your coffee and join “The Brew” as we gather for fellowship and an in depth study of the *Letter to the Romans*. For more information about “The Brew” contact Tim Baker (405) 209-5467 or Christie Baker (405) 922-5154.

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.

Open Circle Class: *Meets in the Archives Room* - Join us as we gather for fellowship and a meaningful study. Our Circle is always Open.

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

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.

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
Jeremy Gossett, Audio Visual Team Leader
Dr. Antone Godding, Organist
Kathy Smith, Treasurer
Louise Glass, Financial Secretary

Denise Buthion, Director of The Learning Center
Brandon Price, Custodian
Alfred Walker, Sunday Host
Dustin Davis, Sunday Host and Audio Visual Tech
John Nacher III, Audio Visual Tech
Julie Keller, Nursery Attendant
Patricia Harris, Nursery Attendant

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