

NICHOLS HILLS

united methodist church



Dr. Trevor Smith

God Intended It for Good

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹ But Joseph

said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

-Genesis 50:15-21

How do you deal with it when someone hurts you deeply? Do you plot your revenge? Are you one of those people who believe that payback is a dish best served cold?

Do you cut that person out of your life? Are you one of those people who think, "Hurt me once, shame on you. Hurt me twice, shame on me." So, you just avoid that person. "You're dead to me."

Do you ask for God's help? Are you one of those people who does what Jesus told us to do? Do you pray for your enemies? Do you ask God to help you forgive as you have been forgiven?

Are you one of those rare persons who believe that all things are possible for God? Do you dare to hope that God could find a way when there is no way? Do you actually believe that you can do all things through Christ who strengthens you, even forgive someone who hurt you really badly?

Joseph was one of those people who embraced God's power to offer big forgiveness in response to a big and painful wrong done to him by his brothers. He was able to step back and see the hidden hand of God at work in his life. You see, God is at work to accomplish God's purposes both through people and many times in spite of people. So, Joseph told his brothers, "*Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today.*"

Somehow, somehow, God is able to redeem the wounded places in our lives and turn them into something beautiful. Joseph was able to focus more on the way God was at work in his life to accomplish God's purposes than on the hurt his brothers intended to inflict on him so many years ago.

I hope you will invite someone you know to worship with us in person or online as we conclude our **Faithful** sermon series by talking more about the way God is at work in our lives to accomplish his purposes. We will also consider the way God can bring about forgiveness and reconciliation in our families even when there have been deep hurts in the past. Have a great week, and I will see you on Sunday.

Blessings,
Trevor

Ministry Calendar

Saturday, September 11

Funeral Service for Alfred Walker at 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 12

In Person and Online Worship Services at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Cross Crew at 12:15 p.m.

Monday, September 13

Nominations Committee at 5:30
Women's Alcoholics Anonymous Group at 5:30 p.m.
Cub Scouts at 6:30 p.m.
Boy Scouts at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 15

Nichols Thrills Meal at 5:30 p.m.
In the Dust of the Rabbi Study at 6:00
Praise Band Rehearsal at 6:30 p.m.
Co-Dependents Anonymous-6:30

Sunday, September 19

In Person and Online Worship Services at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Children's Committee at 12:15

Monday, September 20

Endowment Committee at 5:30
Women's Alcoholics Anonymous Group at 5:30 p.m.
Cub Scouts at 6:30 p.m.
Boy Scouts at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 22

Nichols Thrills Meal at 5:30 p.m.
In the Dust of the Rabbi Study at 6:00
Praise Band Rehearsal at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 3,

Marathon Sunday

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

Nichols Hills U.M.C.

(405)842-1486

(405)843-1835 Fax

www.nicholshillsumc.org

facebook.com/nicholshillsumc



Chancel Flowers

September 12: The chancel flowers are given by Alison and Scott Calhoon.

September 19: The chancel flowers are available.

Mission Candle

September 12: The mission candle is available.

September 19: The mission candle is available.

Acolytes

September 12: Henrietta Dockendorf, Gabriel Ireland, Charlotte Smith, and Wesley Vaughn

September 19: Gabriel Ireland, Jack Kanady, Olivia Kanady, and Avery Smith

Tithes and Offerings

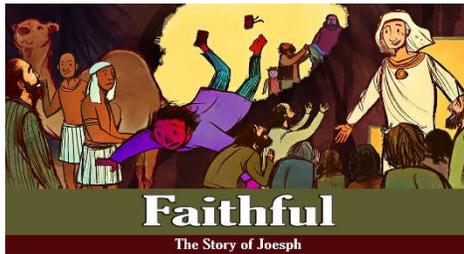
Your gifts and tithes make a Christian difference and help us share the ministry of Jesus Christ with people in our church and in our community. Checks may be mailed to 1212 Bedford Drive, Nichols Hills, OK 73116. To make an online donation, visit www.nicholshillsumc.org. To set up an electronic funds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



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](https://www.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!



Faithful

The Story of Joseph

His father favored him.
His brothers sold him into slavery.

His master falsely accused him of sexual harassment and threw him in prison.

His friends forgot him when he needed them.

But the Lord was with Joseph through it all, and Joseph was faithful to the Lord.

Join us for worship in person or online at Nichols Hills United Methodist Church as we turn to *Genesis* to see how God redeemed Joseph and lifted him from prison to Prime Minister to save his family.

September 12 *God Intended It for Good*

Marathon Sunday

Brunch and Outdoor Worship Services

October 3 is Marathon Sunday. This year, we are moving our worship services outside at their usual times at 8:30 and 10:50 a.m. We will gather in the green space on the west side of Grand just south of Bedford. Look for the big tent and the bounce house. Our Praise Band will lead our music that day.

We will have a golf cart to assist anyone who may need a ride from the parking lot to the place we are gathering. There will be bounce houses, face painting, and other fun things for children. During the Sunday school hour we will cheer on the runners. We want everyone to know that our church loves to reach out to our community and encourage people.

Plan to bring a lawn chair and to dress casually. Please let us know if you would like to bring a breakfast dish to share.

If you would like to assist in the preparations, please contact the church office at 405-842-1486.

Tidbits from The Learning Center



Denise Buthion,
T.L.C. Director

This session is off to a healthy start with 101 children enrolled.

Recently, we received a wonderful gift from a family. They gifted us a beautiful farm table and two benches for our oldest classroom, the



Cheetahs. The children are truly enjoying this new table as it is quite unique from our other tables and chairs. In the spring we are planning to redo the flooring to match our classrooms downstairs.

-Denise

Nichols Thrills

In the Dust of the Rabbi *Learning to Live as Jesus Lived*

How could you learn to walk like the Rabbi if you were not so close to him, so consumed with becoming like him, that you were covered in his dust?

Join Ray Vander Laan on a journey through Galilee to the land where Jesus' disciples walked in their Rabbi's dust. Then move out to the places where those disciples and their disciples walked, carrying forth the Gospel, living it out for the world to see.

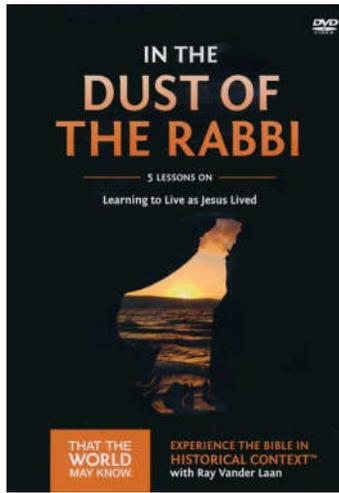
It's a whole new view of discipleship. It's a whole new way of following Jesus. Get dusty.

Join us for a meal Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall and an opportunity to grow in your relationship with Jesus. We will see the places Jesus walked, hear the lessons Jesus taught, and learn to follow Jesus more closely.

Dr. Trevor Smith will lead this 5-week study.

The price of the book is \$11.00.

Sign-up in the Narthex after worship or in the Church Office at 405-842-1486 during the week.



Claire Fraley,
Director of
Children and
Youth Ministry

Children's Ministry

We are having our first Cross Crew of the school year this Sunday, September 12th from 12:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. Cross Crew is once a month for 1st - 6th graders and includes lunch in the Fellowship Hall with a different activity each time. For our first Cross Crew we will be working on beautiful pieces of art to showcase on the walls outside the classroom. I would love for your child to make it and join us for fun and fellowship! If you have any questions, please contact me at (405) 842-1486.

I would like to introduce our new Sunday morning nursery attendant, Rana Abolhosn.

Rana has worked with children for 10 years and has been working in childcare since 2018. Rana is excellent at connecting with the children and helping them feel God's love every Sunday. Rana recently said, "My favorite part of being in the nursery is enjoying Bible stories with the children and seeing their faces light up with joy while being in the loving presence of the Lord, their friends, and their teachers."

We are so excited and thankful that Rana is part of our church and the work we are doing to make devoted disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Make sure to welcome Rana to our church when you see her on Sunday mornings.



Rana Abolhosn

Blessings,
Claire

Birthdays

09/10 Frances Rosier
09/10 Jack Story
09/11 Donna Blakley
09/11 Julie Fischer
09/12 Audrey Harrah
09/14 Robert Vick
09/15 Gracie Sanders
09/16 Geoffrey Stafford
09/16 William Stafford
09/17 Kerry Maye
09/17 Sally Stringer
09/22 Billie Boston
09/22 Jami Cravens
09/22 Meg Miller
09/24 Jason Ott
09/26 Ellie Roberts
09/27 Alan Niemann
09/30 Cara Fraley
10/01 Angela Michael
10/02 Randall Blair
10/03 Cheryl Fraley
10/04 Carol Magness
10/05 Louise Glass
10/05 Linda Klos
10/05 Graham Murphy
10/05 Harrison Murphy
10/06 Joie Dickey
10/06 James Lavenue
10/07 Anna Bookout
10/07 Hardy Robinson
10/07 Fred Schonwald, Jr.
10/09 Randi Garza
10/09 Jacob Roan
10/10 Bill Shdeed
10/11 Blythe
10/11 Ann Garrett
10/12 Elizabeth Gober
10/12 Tracey Saunders
10/13 Trish Cloud
10/13 Annemarie Edmonds
10/13 Dick Sias
10/14 Collier Vaughn
10/17 Gwen Niemann
10/17 Patricia Schonwald
10/18 Cynda Ottaway

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.

Cares and Concerns

Town Village
Bette Harris

The Fountains at Canterbury
Anita Dahlgren

StoneCreek
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 The Conference Room* - Bring your coffee and join “The Brew” as we gather for fellowship and a video study of Ray Vander Laan’s *Life and Ministry of the Messiah*. 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. The Reveille Class will be restarting soon. 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.
Leader: Claire Fraley

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.
Leader: Claire Fraley

Dr. Trevor Smith, Senior Pastor

Michael Wylder, Director of Church Music

Delaney Sheffield, Director of Communications

Claire Fraley, Director of Children’s Ministries

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

Jeremy Gossett, Audio Visual Team Leader

John Naecher III, Audio Visual Tech

Dustin Davis, Sunday Host and Audio Visual Tech

Patricia Harris, Nursery Attendant

Rana Abolhosn, Nursery Attendant