

# NICHOLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

35 Shelton Road, Trumbull, CT 06611  
*Founded 1848*

*Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart  
and with all thy soul and with all thy strength and  
with all thy mind and thy neighbor as thyself.*  
*Luke 10:27*



Phone: 203-375-5817  
Education Office & Mothers Day Out: 203-377-7518  
[www.nicholsumc.org](http://www.nicholsumc.org)

## WELCOME VISITORS

We are glad you chose to visit today. We hope you feel at home as we worship together. For over 150 years, Nichols Church has provided opportunities for worship, spiritual growth, Christian fellowship, celebration, nurture and service. We hope you will want to become a part of the Christian life of Nichols Church to make a difference for Christ. May God bless you!

## CHURCH STAFF



### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:30 am – 3:00 pm  
[www.nicholsumc.org](http://www.nicholsumc.org)  
email: nicholmethodist@snet.net

### CHURCH OFFICERS

Senior Pastor  
Associate Pastor  
Pastoral Counselor  
Lay Leader  
Board of Trustees Chair  
Church Council Chair  
Finance Committee Chair  
Staff Parish Relations Chair  
Treasurer  
United Methodist Women Co-Presidents

The Reverend Joseph Piccirillo  
The Reverend Iwy Patel-Yatri  
Rev. Dr. David Harper  
Steve Otfinoski  
Rick Perachio  
Jeff Bruner  
Randy Chase  
Paul Lang  
Adrian Iouw  
Carol Steinberg &  
Louise MacCormack

### WESLEY Ministries

Worship  
Education  
Service  
Liturgical Music  
Evangelism  
Youth

Nancy Melson & Caroline Schadlich  
Kathleen Gibson  
Bill Faber  
Rev. Dr. David Harper  
Toni Pensiero & Marie Strolin  
Pastor Iwy Patel-Yatri

### VOLUNTEER AND PAID STAFF

Administrative Assistant  
Director of Christian Education  
Director of Music  
Sexton  
Nursery Care Giver  
Parish Nurse Coordinator  
Mothers Day Out Director  
Carillon Newsletter Editor  
Webmistress

Carole Chameides  
Debbie Packnick  
Gregory Horton  
Chuck Collinge  
Margaret O'Malley  
Marilyn Faber  
Debbie Packnick  
Lisa Peters  
Kim Galla

## MISSION STATEMENT

*“With Christ as our foundation, the mission of the Nichols United Methodist Church is to build, teach and encourage reverence for the Lord by sharing God’s love with others through worship, discipleship, evangelism and service.”*

## PURPOSE STATEMENT

*Nichols United Methodist Church is a supportive and caring fellowship of Christians who respond to God’s love and who are committed to sharing that love with our community and the world.*

*Following Jesus’ example, we believe in:*

*Worshiping privately and publicly;*

*Teaching individuals to grow spiritually and make responsible choices;*

*Helping those in need by sharing our time, talent and resources;*

*Promoting peace and justice in the world; and*

*Spreading the good news of God’s love by our word and example.*

## VISION

*Our vision is that Nichols United Methodist Church becomes:*

*A spirit-filled, warm, growing fellowship*

*That worships God and serves Jesus Christ,*

*That accepts, affirms and appreciates all in the church family, and*

*That reaches out in love to share with those in need nearby and around the globe.*



## PASTORS

### SENIOR PASTOR: REV. JOSEPH PICCIRILLO

Joseph began his ordained ministry in the Roman Catholic Church where he served in the Diocese of Bridgeport for seven years. He served four years in inner city ministry and three years on the faculty of Kolbe Cathedral High School where he taught Old Testament theology and Christian morality. He also served as chair of the theology department.

Joseph received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Saint John’s Seminary College in 1982 and Master of Divinity from the same school in 1985. He completed Methodist Studies at Yale Divinity School in 1996. His prior appointments as Pastor were at East Berlin United Methodist Church and First United Methodist in Shelton. Joseph has been serving as Senior Pastor of the Nichols Church, in his hometown of Trumbull, Connecticut, since July 2002.

He is married to Sandra, who grew up in Milford. He enjoys basketball, cycling, tennis, and astronomy. He also likes working with computers in the area of digital video and photography in addition to being the Chaplain and volunteer firefighter at Nichols Fire Department. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees for the New York Annual Conference.

Parsonage:

22 Shelter Rock Rd  
Trumbull, CT 06611

Email: revjpic@snet.net  
203.545.3277

### ASSOCIATE PASTOR: REV. IWY PATEL-YATRI

Iwy grew up as a pastor’s child in the Methodist Church of India. After graduating from college with a B.A. in Psychology, she worked at Covenant House NY, which is a faith-based shelter for runaway and homeless youth in crisis. She worked with the children and teenagers as a Coordinator of programs and also served as Coordinator of Pastoral Ministries.

In 2002, Iwy enrolled in the M.S.W. program at Fordham University while continuing to pursue the Master’s of Divinity degree from New York Theological Seminary. At the same time, she became active in helping to coordinate South Asian Youth Ministry sponsored by the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) of the United Methodist Church. Iwy graduated with dual degrees of M.Div. and M.S.W. in 2004. She was also appointed to serve as Pastor at St. Mark’s United Methodist Church in Staten Island, NY. In 2005, Iwy was commissioned as a probationary member of the New York Annual Conference. In June 2008, Iwy was ordained as an elder in the New York Annual Conference.

Iwy is married to Enock, who also served as Pastor and Teacher in the Methodist Church of India. Enock currently serves the First Ansonia United Methodist Church. They have been blessed with a son, Arpit Evan, whose name means “dedicated to God” in their native Gujarati language. She has been serving at Nichols since July 2006. In June 2008, Iwy was ordained as an elder in the New York Annual Conference. Iwy currently serves as co-coordinator of the CT District Youth Ministry.

Parsonage:

1790 Huntington Turnpike  
Trumbull, CT 06611

Email: numcpastoriwy@snet.net  
203.378.0825

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## BELIEFS



United Methodism is considered one of the most inclusive of mainline Christian denominations, and we welcome people of diverse backgrounds and beliefs into our church family.

- We acknowledge our sinful nature and our need for God's forgiveness in order to grow in our personal relationship with God and with one another.
- God is revealed to us as three distinct personalities: the Father (Creator), Son (Savior), and Holy Spirit (God present with us).
- Jesus, the Son of God, walked among humankind 2,000 years ago to teach us God's purpose and to become a living sacrifice to atone for our sins. It is through belief in Jesus Christ that we are able to receive God's grace, overcome death and experience everlasting life.
- We believe the Bible is the Holy Word of God. It is the foundation document of our faith, and within it we find guidance for living in harmony with the world, a plan to help us prepare for life after death, and an explanation of the nature of the Church.
- We celebrate the sacraments of Baptism and the Lords' Supper and perform the Sacramental rituals of Confirmation, Ordination, Matrimony and anointing of the sick.
- God calls us as individuals and as a church body to be witnesses, to share the "good news" of Jesus Christ so that others may learn a better way of living and accept Him as Savior.
- Our devotion to God expresses itself in a love for all that God creates. And so we reach out to heal the pain and mend the brokenness in our community and around the world.

Summarized from the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church in the "Book of Discipline."

## CHURCH MEMBERSHIP



Although you do not need to be a member to be involved in the church, we hope you will consider joining our Nichols Church family. It is one of the ways we can profess our commitment to God, our faith and the church community. Being a member allows you to vote at special church meetings and share in leadership ministry in the Church.

When considering membership, here are basic guidelines. If you have been baptized in another Christian church or denomination, we recognize and accept that baptism as a valid covenant with God. If you have never been baptized and would like to profess your faith in Jesus Christ, this can be arranged. Membership from another United Methodist Church or denomination may be transferred. New members are received into the church at the Family Worship Service. Please feel free to speak to a pastor or call the church office to express your interest or ask questions.

Current dates of New Members classes can be found on our web site at [www.nicholsumc.org](http://www.nicholsumc.org) and will be published in our Sunday church bulletins 3 weeks prior to each meeting.



## HISTORY

### UNITED METHODISTS

The Methodist movement began in the eighteenth century when an Anglican pastor, John Wesley, defined a “method” of linking the Christian faith to practical rules for living. Early Methodists encouraged one another to grow in faith through preaching services and earnest sharing in weekly small group gatherings, called “Class Meetings,” which included self-examination, Bible study and prayer.

Methodism spread throughout England and into the American Colonies. After the *Revolutionary War, many Anglican pastors returned to England, so Wesley ordained Americans as Methodist pastors. The first Methodist churches were actually formed here in the Northeast over 200 years ago.*

*The United Methodist Church represents the confluence of three streams of tradition: Methodism, the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, and the Evangelical Association. Three Methodist bodies were reunited in 1939 to create the Methodist Church. In 1968, the United Methodist Church was created from the union of the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church, which had, in turn, been formed from the 1946 uniting of the Evangelical Church and the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. When the United Methodist Church was created in 1968, it had approximately 11 million members, making it one of the largest Protestant churches in the world.*

### CROSS AND FLAME EMBLEM



The history and significance of the Cross and Flame Emblem are as rich and diverse as the United Methodist Church. Following more than two-dozen conceptualizations, a traditional symbol—the cross—was linked with a single flame with dual tongues of fire. The resulting insignia is rich in meaning and has been in use since 1968.

It relates the United Methodist Church to God through Christ (cross) and the Holy Spirit (flame). The flame is a reminder of Pentecost when witnesses were unified by the power of the Holy Spirit and saw “tongues, as of fire” (Acts 2:3). The elements of the emblem also remind us of a transforming moment in the life of Methodism’s founder, John Wesley, when he sensed God’s presence and felt his heart “strangely warmed.” The two tongues of a single flame may also be understood to represent the union of two denominations to create the United Methodist Church.

### NICHOLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Nichols United Methodist Church was founded in 1848 by a group of local residents who sought spiritual renewal not available in other local churches. Nichols United Methodist is named for the community, but also for Grandison Nichols, a local Christian who was instrumental in founding the church. The Ladies Aid Society raised much of the money (through dinners, fairs, and other events) needed to construct the original building. The current sanctuary was completed in 1962 and the education building was built in 1980. Our unique organ was renovated in 1998 and utilizes a state-of-the-art computerized three-manual console to control pipes, electronic voices, and synthesized voices. The church’s history is the subject of the book “A Church of Their Own,” written by Steven Otfinoski in 1998 in honor of the church’s 150th anniversary (available in the church library).

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH

**NURSERY** — (Age 0 – 2) Childcare during Family Worship Service and other events

**CHURCH SCHOOL** — (Age 3 – 8th grade) Christian education classes during Family Worship Service (September-June).

**CONFIRMATION** — (8th grade) A 1-year program to prepare youth for becoming disciples of Jesus Christ and members of the church.

**BOB** — (6th – 9th grade) Community-based Bible study that meets every other Monday night during the school year. BOB stands for Breaking Open the Bible. (Sept – June)

**REALITY** — An ongoing Bible study for high school students during Family Worship Service.

**CROSSROADS** — An ongoing Bible study for young adults. High school graduates and older during Family Worship Service.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** — (Preschool – 5th grade) Weeklong morning summer Bible camp featuring Christian teachings, music, crafts, games & missions.

**TEEN VIBE** — (6th – 9th grade) Community-based Bible Study (includes Worship) for teens that meets one evening a week. VIBE stands for Vacation Inter-church Bible Experience (July – August)

### YOUTH FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

- Methodist Young Youth Fellowship (MYF) – 4-5 grades
- Junior Nichols Youth Fellowship (Jr NYF) – 6-8 grades
- Senior Nichols Youth Fellowship (Sr NYF) – 9-12 grades

A Christian environment for young people to share ideas, socialize and participate in service-related projects. Highlights include hikes, hayrides, field trips, and the **Appalachia Service Project**, a yearly mission trip for youth with adult advisors.



## CHILDREN AND YOUTH

**MOTHERS DAY OUT** — (Age 2) State-licensed morning nursery program, including free play, art, music, stories & games, offered weekdays during the school year.

**CHOIR** — Children celebrate God's love through music in the Cherub and Youth Choirs (see Music Ministries).

**ACOLYTES** – (6th – 8th grade) Youth assist pastors at the altar during Family Worship Service.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** – A musical celebration that gives honor to the true meaning of Christmas.

**SCOUTS** – The church sponsors a local Boy Scout Troop (Wednesday 7:30-9:30 pm) and Cub Scout Pack (Monday 7:00-8:00 pm) and Venture Crew (Sunday 7-8:30pm).

**METHODIST CAMPS** – Weeklong camping opportunities for youth and adults at our 3 United Methodist camps: Quinipet (Shelter Island, NY), Epworth (Kingston, NY) & Camp Kingswood (Hancock, NY).

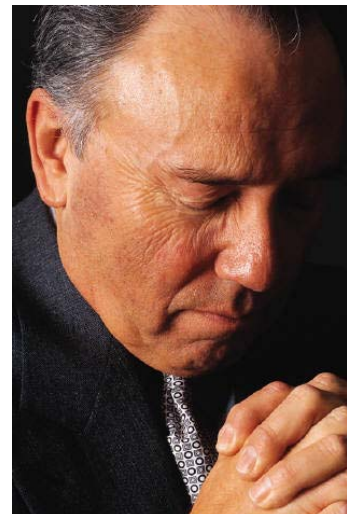


## WORSHIP AND EDUCATION



### SUNDAY

8 am	Worship in the Chapel with Holy Communion
8:45 – 9:45 am	Confirmation Class Adult Education
10 am	Family Worship Service in the Church Sanctuary Chancel Choir and Children's Message Holy Communion celebrated: 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month Children's Church School Nursery available Fellowship Hour after the service in Fellowship Hall



- Prayer and Healing is available every Sunday after the 10 am service. Wednesday evening Prayer Service each week at 6:30 p.m.
- Pastoral visitation is available to those in need.
- Special services, organized by Nichols United Methodist Church and the Trumbull Interfaith Committee, are held during Thanksgiving Eve and Good Friday and other times throughout the year at Nichols Church and at other area churches.
- If you miss a Sunday service, a copy of the Family Worship Service can be provided on CD from the office.
- Amplification devices are available for hearing impaired.

## LITURGICAL MUSIC AND ARTS

### CHANCEL CHOIR (HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE STUDENTS AND ADULTS)

Sings at the Family Worship Service every week during the school year, with special music programs during Lent, the Christmas season and an annual choir concert. Rehearsals are held in the Church Sanctuary on Thursdays 7:15-9:15 pm.

### CHERUB CHOIR (AGE 3 TO 1ST GRADE)

Periodically performs during Family Worship Services, especially at Christmas and on Celebration Sunday. Rehearsals are held during Sunday Church School with an emphasis on learning Bible passages.

### HAND BELL CHOIR (YOUTH AND ADULT)

Periodically performs at worship services during the school year. Rehearsals are held in the Church Sanctuary on Tuesdays 6:30-7:45pm.

### SOLOISTS AND SPECIAL MUSIC (HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE STUDENTS & ADULTS)

Instrumentalists, accompanists, vocal soloists, small ensembles and individuals with performance experience are encouraged to share their gifts and talents for the Family Worship Services at 10am.

### THE BELLISSIMA QUARTET (ADULT)

The Hand Bell Quartet is a small group of players who are keen to play more advanced technique and music. Rehearsals are held in the Church Sanctuary on Tuesday 5.30 – 6.30 pm

### YOUTH CHOIR (7TH – 12TH GRADE)

Periodically performs during Family Worship Service during the year. Youth also practice duets and solos for special services. Rehearsals are held on Thursdays from 6:15 - 7:15 pm

## ADULT ENRICHMENT MINISTRIES

**ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** — Up to 10 different scriptural and topical Bible studies and a Christian Book Club are available for adults at various times on Sunday and throughout the week. Check the weekly bulletin, monthly newsletter (Carillon) or our website for more details.

**ANNUAL EVENTS** — These include Marriage Retreats, Leadership workshops, Women Retreats, Ladies night out and a Celebration Sunday picnic.

**BELIEVING WOMEN** — This special group meets on Thursday evenings and aims to strengthen women who are feeling emotionally drained due to the stresses of life. Come and feed your soul thru scripture, witness talks, fellowship discussion, prayer, music and more. All women are welcome.

**BODY & SOUL FITNESS** — A Christian-based fitness program glorifies God by keeping our bodies healthy and nurturing our faith through aerobic exercise, toning, stretching and meditation. We also offer PACE (People with Arthritis Can Exercise) and Christian Yoga.

**COVENANT GROUPS** — Based on concept of Wesley Class Meetings, a small group makes a covenant together and gathers weekly for accountability, study and prayer.

**LENTEN BIBLE STUDY** — A church-wide small group study during Lent (childcare available).

**TRES DIAS & TEEN EMMAUS** — Provide a retreat experience for Christians to deepen and renew their faith and spirituality.

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW)** — Women meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month for a luncheon and guest speaker (childcare available). Women meet on the 1st Wednesday of the month for their Executive Board meeting. Additional activities include: mission work, annual Women's Retreat, Lending Library (church lounge), Fall Festival Fair & Lenten Bible Study and Advent Bible Study.



## NATIONAL AND GLOBAL MISSIONARIES

*"Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptize them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you."*

*Matt 28:19-20*

**APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT –APPALACHIA REGION, USA** — NUMC has participated in this mission program for 27 years. Last year over 100 youth, college students and adult advisors traveled to Johnson, TN and Martin, KY for a week to help repair homes to make them safer and drier.

**DORO, SOUTHERN SUDAN – VICKIE BEATTIE** — Vickie is a nurse that trains native Community Health Workers so they can return to their village and give basic health care. She is active in sharing her faith and encouraging new Christians and churches in nearby villages.

**CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST, DARTMOUTH COLLEGE – TONY AND KAYLENE FEIGER** — They have been working with students and professors to begin a club for Intelligent Design and a 24/7 prayer room. Tony has also taken some students on a short term mission trip.

**CHILDREN'S RESCUE MISSION, TEUPANSENTI, HONDURAS – MIGUEL GIRON** — Miguel is the founder of CRM which provides the Word of God, food, education and job training to help the people in this rural area to recover from Hurricane Mitch and become self-sufficient. NUMC is planning a short term mission trip in 2010 to Honduras.

**CHRISTIAN LIBERTY CHURCH, SWAZILAND –PASTOR INNOCENT** — Bill Faber, one of our members has been instrumental in helping us work with Pastor Innocent to purchase property and build a church where they serving their community with the hope of God's Word and a soup kitchen. In the future we plan to help them buy additional property for a garden and health clinic.

**MISSION TO UNREACHED PEOPLES, CAMBODIA – CHHON AND ARUN KONG** — Chhon serves the Evangelical Fellowship of Cambodia by overseeing church leadership development, production of Christian radio programming and church planting. They have set a goal to plant 10,000 new churches by 2021.

**METHODIST HOSTELS AND HIGH SCHOOL, CHANDRAKAL, INDIA – OMEGA SHAKER** — NUMC has supported this school for poor Christian and Muslim students for over 50 years. Our support has included the building of the boys Hostel, a well, computers, blankets, sweaters, teacher's salaries and scholarships for students.

## LOCAL HANDS-ON MINISTRIES

*"Then the righteous ones will reply,  
Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you?  
Or thirsty and give you something to drink?  
Or a stranger and show you hospitality?  
Or naked and give you clothing?  
When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?  
And the King will tell them, I assure you,  
when you did it to one of the least of these  
my brothers and sisters you were doing it to me"*

*Matt 25:37-40*

**BRIDGEPORT RESCUE MISSION**— Volunteers serve meals to patrons of Rescue Mission. In addition members of our church take clothing, furniture and food to the shelter and serve meals from a mobile van on different nights of the week.

**COVENANT TO CARE** — Thanksgiving baskets, school supplies and Christmas & birthday gifts are given to children in family preservation programs, foster care and after school programs at a Fairfield satellite office of Boy's Village.

**CROP HUNGER WALK** — An annual fundraising walk, usually in May, to combat hunger, supported by walkers and sponsors. One quarter of the money raised goes to Bridgeport food pantries and the rest to hunger programs sponsored by Church World Services.

**GOLDEN HILL METHODIST CHURCH COMMUNITY SUPPERS, BRIDGEPORT** Four times a year on the 5th Wednesday of the month, volunteers prepare and serve a meal to 100-125 people at Golden Hill's soup kitchen.

**KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY**— Members of our church visit Danbury prison on a regular basis to bring the Word of God and exemplify His Love to inmates there.

**MOTHERS DAY OUT** — State-licensed morning nursery program for 2 year-olds, including free play, art, music, stories and games, offered weekdays during the school year.

**READING PARTNERS MINISTRY, BRIDGEPORT** — Tutoring Program at Longfellow School.

**SAINT LUKE'S/SAINT PAUL'S EMERGENCY FOOD CENTER, BRIDGEPORT** Non-perishable grocery items are collected each week in the closet near the church front entrance and delivered to this food bank.

**THOMAS MERTON HOUSE, BRIDGEPORT** — Volunteers make and deliver bag lunches on the 4th Saturday of each month to this soup kitchen. A picnic lunch and back-to-school supplies are provided through "Christmas in July".

**WICKE NURSING HOME VISITATION, SHELTON** — On the 1st Monday of each month, visitors treat residents to a piano sing-a-long.

**IN ADDITION WE SUPPORT** —

- AIDs program at Yale, Bridgeport Coalition for Children, Center for Women and Families
- CT Food Bank, Heifer Project International, Henderson Settlement, Franks, KY
- Honduras School Loan Project, Methodist Hospital, Brooklyn NY
- Project Learn After School Program, Summerfiled UMC Bridgeport
- Red Bird Mission, Robins Nest, Ronald McDonald House Charities
- Trumbull Social Services

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## CHURCH FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES

*"So now I am giving you a new commandment:  
Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you  
should love each other. Your love for one another  
will prove to the world that you are my disciples."  
John 13:34-35*

**FALL FESTIVAL FAIR** — To support mission projects, Nichols United Methodist Women conduct a fair in October featuring attic treasures, a cookie walk, crafts and more.

**FELLOWSHIP HOUR** — Held after the Family Worship Service in Fellowship Hall for beverages, snacks and fellowship with members and visitors.

**FLOWER DELIVERY TO SICK AND SHUT-IN**— Volunteers deliver altar flowers to members who are either sick, recovering or unable to attend church.

**GREETERS** — Welcome and greet people arriving for the Family Worship Service.

**GRIEF SUPPORT** — Join us for an opportunity to be with others who are grieving the loss of loved ones. They meet the 3rd Monday of each month.

**HEALTH FAIR** — Our Parish Nurses provide an information resource with experts available to answer your health questions.

**LUVIN' OVEN** — Volunteers prepare hot meals on the 3rd Tuesday of the month (Sept – June) and deliver them to church members who are confined to home or recently home from a hospital stay.

**NICHOLS UNITED METHODIST WOMEN LUNCHEONS** — A women's group of all ages which meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month for a luncheon meeting with a special program speaker (childcare available).

**PARISH NURSES** — Provide health and first-aid information through screenings (blood pressure, blood sugar & cholesterol); evening Grief Support meetings (3rd Monday of the month) and an annual health fair.

**POT LUCK LENTEN SUPPERS** — Potluck dinners on Wednesday evenings during Lent, with guest speakers from neighboring parishes (childcare available).

**SAVORY SAMARITANS** — Meals are prepared for church members in times of need.

**SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER** — A pancake supper in Fellowship Hall on the night before Lent begins.

**SUNSHINE COMMITTEE** — Prepares and serves sandwiches, desserts and beverages for funeral receptions, pastoral events and other times of need.

**USHERS** — Oversee the Family Worship Service by distributing service bulletins, assisting worshippers to their seats, facilitating the reception of our tithes and offerings and collecting prayer request cards and fellowship folders.

**YOUTH FELLOWSHIP GROUPS** — Children share ideas, socialize and participate in service-related projects in a Christian atmosphere (see Children's Ministries).



### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:30 am – 3:00 pm

[www.nicholsumc.org](http://www.nicholsumc.org)

email: [nicholsmethodist@snet.net](mailto:nicholsmethodist@snet.net)

For updates or edits to this brochure, please email the church office. v4 022210