



ASH
WEDNESDAY
SERVICE
FEBRUARY 14
6:30 P.M.

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Contact Information:

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Return Service Requested

P.O. Box 72272
Norman, OK 73070



CHURCH TRANSITION *update*

WHAT STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN?

- WE HAVE HIRED AN INTERIM PART TIME BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR TO HANDLE PORTIONS OF THE WEEKLY RESPONSIBILITIES THAT HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT BY THE SENIOR PASTOR. (LINDA SKAGGS)
- WE HAVE FROZEN THE BUDGET THROUGH THE 1ST QUARTER SO THAT WE CAN BETTER UNDERSTAND EXPENSES IN THIS TRANSITION YEAR.
- WE HAVE FROZEN COMMITTEES TO KEEP CONTINUITY IN OUR STRUCTURE.
- WE HAVE APPROVED AN INTERIM PASTOR JOB DESCRIPTION.
- A VOTE IS SCHEDULED TO APPROVE DR. PAM DURSO AS THE LONG TERM INTERIM ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4.
- AN AD HOC COMMITTEE HAS BEEN FORMED TO DEVELOP POLICY FOR THE CREATION OF A PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE.

WHAT WILL BE HAPPENING NEXT?

- OUR AD HOC COMMITTEE SHOULD COMPLETE THEIR WORK BY FEBRUARY 15TH.
- WHEN THOSE POLICIES ARE IN PLACE, A SEARCH COMMITTEE WILL BE FORMED UTILIZING THE METHODS THE AD HOC COMMITTEE HAS PUT TOGETHER.
- IF THE CHURCH APPROVES DR. PAM DURSO AS OUR LONG TERM INTERIM PASTOR, SHE WILL BEGIN HER ROLE IN MARCH.

A NOTE FOR THE CHURCH:

WE WANT THE CHURCH TO BE INFORMED AND INVOLVED IN THIS PROCESS. WHEN WE SAY THAT YOU CAN ASK US QUESTIONS, WE TRULY MEAN THAT. OUR GOAL IS TO GET NORTHAVEN STEADIED IN THIS TRANSITION TIME, AND SET THE CHURCH UP TO FIND AN INCREDIBLE NEXT PASTOR.

WE REALIZE THAT SOMETIMES BUSINESS MEETINGS CAN BE INTIMIDATING. WE ARE GOING TO DO OUR BEST TO GET INFORMATION OUT WELL BEFORE BUSINESS MEETINGS SO THAT YOU HAVE TIME TO GATHER YOUR THOUGHTS AND BRING YOUR QUESTIONS.

WE ARE EXCITED ABOUT THE FUTURE OF NORTHAVEN, AND LOOKING FORWARD TO THE PROCESS OF GETTING THERE!

Rick Sheel
PRESIDENT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



NorthHaven: An inclusive family of Christ followers, inspiring, challenging and equipping each other to participate in God's great story.



Worship ~ 12:00 - 12:30 p.m.
 \$5 Lunch ~ 12:35 - 1:00 p.m.

Wednesdays:

- February 21 ~ Alameda Church of Christ, 801 Alameda St.
 Guest Pastor: Mark Robinson, Wildwood Community Church
- February 28 ~ Grace Fellowship, 3201 60th Ave NW
 Guest Pastor: TBD
- March 7 ~ Memorial Presbyterian Church, 601 24th Ave. SW
 Guest Pastor: Rev. Desi Sharp, Goodrich Memorial UMC
- March 14 ~ McFarlin United Methodist Church, 419 S. University Blvd.
 Guest Pastor: TBD
- March 21 ~ First Christian Church, 220 S. Webster Ave.
 Guest Pastor: TBD
- March 28 ~ First Baptist Church, 211 W. Comanche St.
 Guest Pastor: Dr. Charles Kimball, Univ. of Oklahoma



Who do you know?

By Gala Van Eaton

A Mission to Know: God and God's People

"We need not to be let alone.
 We need to be really bothered once in a while.
 How long is it since you were really bothered?
 About something important, about something real?"
 from Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury

Our February interviewee, Chris Canary, likes science fiction and fantasy in novels but is probably capable of writing his own novel, should he choose to do so. His favorite novel is *The Sea Wolf* by Jack London, but he also enjoys more current writers like Brandon Sanderson. He is attracted to the creativity of that kind of imaginative writing and the psychological adventures depicted. He's had the same best friend since kindergarten, and though they are relational opposites, their friendship has been proven through the test of time.

He is currently an academic advisor and adjunct instructor at Mid-America Christian University in South Oklahoma City where he advises students but also teaches on the life and teachings of Jesus.

Chris was born in Newcastle and grew up in central Oklahoma, mainly in Newcastle and Bridge Creek. He has one older sister and is a devoted uncle to her two children. He said his family, especially his father, was always involved in home renovation and Chris was glad to skip out of some of the home repairs by going with his sister to church. It was there, Woodland Hills Baptist Church in Newcastle, that he made a decision for Christ when he was twelve years old.

In high school he was in the band and played guitar and also was President of the Fellowship of Christian Students. After graduating from high school, he went to Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, and often served in youth ministries there. He worked as a teaching assistant and completed his undergraduate degree.

After experiencing a time of disillusionment, he found Baylor's George W. Truett Theological Seminary and completed his Master of Divinity degree there in General Theology. He worked again during this time as a teaching assistant.

A year after he completed his MDIV, he worked as a substitute teacher at Newcastle High School, then in 2013 was hired as CBF Disaster Response Intern to coordinate teams to assist with ongoing disaster relief. In addition, Chris has worked with college level students at First Baptist Church in Norman.

He came to NorthHaven last year after knowing several NH members, Bryan Partridge, Mitch Randall, Mike Bumgarner, and his philosophy prof at OBU, Randy Ridenour. Now he has high hopes for NorthHaven Church and prays our "congregation can hear each other" as we search for a new pastor and work diligently together to continue to follow God's plan through the life of Christ.

With those high ideals, and a good body of experience and education, you can understand some of what Chris brings to us with an expanding imagination for the future that is more reality than science fiction.

Children's Corner

Sitting in the Birmingham airport on a long wait until my flight leaves seems like the perfect time to write my newsletter article (oh, and it is due today). This year I was selected to participate in Baptist Women in Ministry's Mentoring Cohort and I am returning from a retreat at the Benedictine Sisters Sacred Heart Monastery in Cullman, Alabama. To say I am grateful for this opportunity is an understatement.

In the quick forty-eight hours since I landed, I have gained support, perspective, peace, and rest. As a bonus, one participant brought her four month old who, of course, made my heart go pitter-patter. If that weren't enough, a small group of us went to see the movie "The Post". What is not to love about Meryl Streep and Tom Hanks in the same movie?

I learned many more things than I can ever put on paper during this short retreat. But the most significant awareness I walked away with was the example of the amazing Sisters that call Sacred Heart their home. While staying on this beautiful campus, our group attended a vespers service each evening before dinner. It is one of six times each day these tremendously



dedicated women worship the Lord. We joined the Sisters in the chancel to sing Psalms, hear God's word, and pray. It was quiet, long periods of silence, you could hear yourself breathing kind of quiet. In that space everything stops, everything but God. There is no friendly chatter, no glancing at your phone, only a complete focus on

God. In that stillness I was painfully reminded that my life, and probably most of yours, is completely overscheduled. While on the surface I know this is true, it took actual required stillness to refocus my soul. As I return to daily life I pray for continued focus.

Settling into 2018, I have been firmly reminded that I need more moments of quiet communion with God. Time to just "be". What are you being reminded of?

With reflection,
Kim



- February 2: Alyssa Turdo
- February 6: Kim Schooler
- February 8: Dan Hobbs
- February 13: Jonathan Privett
- February 13: Caskey Stevens
- February 16: Karen Bowles
- February 16: Jay Liang
- February 16: Julie Morris
- February 17: Seth Jordan
- February 19: JJ Waggoner

- February 20: Eleanor Duncan
- February 20: Sandi Lasseter
- February 20: Kelly Miller
- February 24: Justin Wilson
- February 25: Alex Elmore
- February 25: Ronda Jones
- February 25: Dawson Lasseter

Compass Points

Plug into the community at NorthHaven by planning or attending an event through one of our four **compass points**. These offer opportunities for fellowship around common interests. They also provide wonderful opportunities to invite neighbors and friends to Church related gatherings!

If you are particularly interested in one or more **compass points**, you can register for them so you will get access to a detailed calendar and intentional communication.

Below are a few examples of what kind of gatherings fit into each **compass point**. This is not an exhaustive list.

FunHaven	SportHaven	FoodHaven	ArtHaven
Movie Night	Community Run	Lunch Groups	Going to Museum
Game Night	Pick Up Basketball	Pot Luck	Live Theater Outing
Daytime Kid's Outing	Attending Sporting Event	Barbecue Party	Shakespeare Reading
Swim Party	Golf	Progressive Dinner	Improv Night
Bowling Night	Park Yoga	Themed Dinner	Paint & Palette
Escape Room	Workout Group	Coffee Shop Meet up	Musician Gathering/Jam Session
Day trip/Outing	Ultimate Frisbee		Film Festival
			Live Music

MUSIC MATTERS



Bits & Pieces

Hawkeye Pierce: "Why did you take these things?" Korean boy: "You all have so much. I didn't think you'd miss your bits and pieces."

Yes, yes, friends, it's another M.A.S.H. excerpt. Sorry. I am a M.A.S.H. fanatic. Its true that we forget how much we truly have, whether it be material things or being fortunate to be part of an incredible faith family in NorthHaven Church. We are on a new path, navigating waters we've not been in. Whether you are new to NHC or a charter member, together we are bits and pieces of a new journey.

Elizabeth Hagen, in her blog Preacher on the Plaza, recently spoke about her "word for the year," which happens to be 'connection.' I've been thinking about the word 'journey.' I liked her word as well, so I decided to have a phrase for the year and it is "journey through connection." Maybe our journey these next several months will be made possible through the connections we make with each other, as well as connections we make with others we are yet to meet. God desires to connect with each of us and I believe He desires us to connect with each other. We can be a source of encouragement and strength to one another. 1 John 4:11 says, "Dear friends, since God loved us, we also ought to love one another."

Why do we physically come to worship God together? I just read an article that said many are choosing NOT to physically come to a church service, but just 'attend' online. Much shopping is done that way, so it makes sense that some 'shop' their church service as well. It is great to have the opportunity to be part of worship via technology when one is unable to attend live. However, we are called to meet together (please, I am not advocating coming when you are sick!) Acts 2:46 (NIV) says, "Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts."

Acts 5:42 (KJV) says, "And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ." 1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NIV) says, "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

Words of encouragement. Bits and pieces we are all making up this wonderful entity known as NorthHaven. In these next several months, lets accept the challenge to reach out to each other, as well as those beyond our walls. When asked to serve, may we jump at the chance to do so. When we experience times of frustration, may we take a step back, take a deep breath, refuse fast food theology (I want what I want and want it my way...), and seek the way of God. After all, He promises over and over to be with us.

In that state of mind, might I ask you to set aside a couple of dates to participate in music activities at NHC. On March 9, we will host the Baylor Men's Choir in concert. More info later, but we will need to feed about 100 people! Then hear them sing! On Good Friday, March 30, our choir will present *Come to the Cross and Remember* by Pepper Choplin. Watch for more info on both events.

Love one another, for love is of God.
Cheryl



Our students are digging into Paul's most famous work over the next two months on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights.
Sundays at 10:10am & Wednesdays from 6:30-8pm.

For Connection Weekend, our students will be looking at how to be authentic Christians, who lean into an identity fueled by faith.
February 9-11



Students and adults will be heading to Houston over spring break to serve in Rosharon, TX, which is a Cambodian Farming Community. If you would like to financially contribute to this trip, please see Bryan!