



**Easter Worship Schedule**

## Sunday, April 1st

Sunrise Service - 7:00 a.m.  
 Crossings Worship - 9:00 a.m.  
 Egg Hunt/Bible Study - 10:10 a.m.  
 The Gathering - 11:00 a.m.  
 Intersect Worship - 11:15 a.m.

**Office Hours:**  
 Monday - Thursday  
 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Contact Information:**  
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Return Service Requested

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**NorthHaven**



### Unexpected Encounters with God During Holy Week

Holy Week is my favorite week of the year. I love the special services, the detailed planning, and the gathering of a congregation to remember, to ponder, and to pray. Holy Week always

pushes me to connect my own journey to that last week of Jesus' life: his special dinner with beloved disciples, his heartbreaking encounters with betrayal, and the brutality of his cross. Holy Week puts me into a place of waiting and hoping, trusting that Easter will happen once again.

A few years ago, I was in a hard place in life—overwhelmed by the violence and hatred in our world, despairing over the injustices that seemed to occur daily, and burdened by my own struggles. That year during Holy Week I was in need of a somber worship service that would reflect the darkness in my life. I needed some time for confession. I wanted to sit in silence and shadows.

Because my church did not host services during Holy Week, I ventured out on Maundy Thursday to a nearby Methodist church. I entered the brightly-lit sanctuary and was greeted by the noise of church folk laughing and talking, hugging each other, acting like they hadn't

seen one another in years. I began to

suspect that this would not be the experience I had been hoping to have. We sang an upbeat hymn, read a beautiful litany, listened to some prayers. It was a nice service, a warm and friendly service. Nothing dark. Nothing somber. But then the lights were lowered. Finally! I was ready and waiting. Suddenly a spotlight came on and in the center of that spotlight was a . . . mime.

A mime on Maundy Thursday. I listened as canned music began playing, and then the mime began moving, swaying, acting out the words to the song as only mimes do. Now the mime was not small. He was a bigger mime, dressed all in black except for his white gloves, and as he began moving to the music, lifting his arms into the air, pointing and gesturing, his black t-shirt rode up, and suddenly we all had a really clear view of the mime's belly. His naked, very white belly, shining there in the spotlight. And all my hopes for a somber service were gone. I looked away, hoping the song would be a short one. It was not. I picked up the Methodist hymnal, read several hymns. I looked at the tiles on the floor, noticing a crack in the one nearest the door. I bit my lip, holding the laughter in.

Not the silence and shadows I was wanting. Not the darkness and soberness I needed. But I learned that Holy Week, that God sometimes shows up in unexpected ways, offering not what we want or hope for. Sometimes God enters our dark spaces and gives us laughter and hope through a mime on Maundy Thursday.

May God show up for you in unexpected ways and places in this holiest of weeks.

Pam Durso



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



## "Stewarding the Song of the Church"

Recently, I had opportunity to attend a day long workshop for church musicians. It was a prelude to the Southwest American Choral Directors Association Conference held in OKC. The Baylor University Men's Choir was an honor group selected to sing at the conference and the reason we had the great privilege to host them in concert as well. At the workshop I heard a variety of speakers. Dr. Terry York from Truett Seminary spoke about offering our best in church music. His first statement was, "All songs are in the same key - the key of hope." He said we should 'mine' the music for hope, digging around looking for nuggets of hope. He suggested that music in worship is an act of stewardship. God's word, a light to our feet, is to be used in searching music's hope.

The second speaker was Rev. Geoffrey Moore, representing The Center for Congregational Song, the resource and outreach arm for The Hymn Society. Rev. Moore seemed to tag in to Dr. York's talk by stating "the holy act of singing together can be transformative and is an act of hospitality." I looked up the website for The Center for Congregational Song and found their purpose is to provide resources, conversations about congregational song, and collaboration, being guided by the fact that "the holy act of singing together shapes faith, heals brokenness, transforms lives, and renews peace." These characteristics apply to individuals and corporate bodies. One other thing Rev. Moore said was, "we are servants, not guests." In relating to congregational song, maybe transformation in worship occurs when we come with a servant heart rather than expecting to be served.

What if we came to worship services with a heart and mind of gratitude and a willingness to serve? All my life I have heard that one's attitude colors everything. As we move forward in the celebration of our resurrected Lord, may we exhibit an attitude of gratitude, patterning our lives after Jesus, "who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness." Phil. 2:6-7, NIV.

Now to share a word from Dr. Randall Bradley, Director of the Baylor Men's Choir:

"It was a joy being at NorthHaven, and every aspect of the visit was beautifully organized and carefully planned. On Tuesday in our reflection time during class, the guys commented specifically about this leg of the trip, and how much they appreciated the church's hospitality. We loved the delicious food (both what we ate at dinner and took with us for later), appreciated the good crowd, and we are grateful for the generous love offering."

If you were in attendance, I think you would agree that we were the fortunate and blessed ones to have experienced the Baylor guys.

Have an attitude of gratitude, rejoicing in the risen savior, Jesus Christ!

Cheryl

*ARTicle* by Don Schooler

## "An Inevitable Consequence of Trying Something New"

Everyone has a favorite Pixar movie, right? Maybe even a couple. Or maybe you like them all.

Do you remember the heart-breaking opening of Ellie and Carl growing old together in "Up"? (No, you're crying! I'm not crying! You are!) Or how beautiful the Land of the Dead looked in "Coco" when Miguel first crossed the marigold bridge? Or watching "Toy Story" with Woody & Buzz "falling with style"? (And if you don't love Woody & Buzz then you need to seek counseling because you have some issues to work out.)

Oh, oh, I know one! Do you remember "Newt," where the last remaining male (Newt) and female (Brooke) blue-footed newts on the planet are forced together to save the species but they can't stand each other?! No? Maybe this pictures will help.



Did that help? No? Well, before you get to thinking Pixar slipped one past you, or that I've confused blue-footed newts with blue-feathered macaws\* let me explain. As early as 2008 Pixar announced it would be releasing a movie entitled "Newt" in 2011, which was later pushed back to 2012, and eventually shelved altogether. Why was it shelved? Well, for a number of reasons, including a competing animated film with a nearly identical story.\* But the primary reason was it just wasn't working. Pixar spent years drafting (and re-drafting) the story, modeling characters, creating environments, scoring music, talking to voice actors, and all the other things that go into making an animated movie and then they dumped it and walked away. It just wasn't coming together like they'd hoped. Pixar had made a huge and very costly MISTAKE.

A mistake that size, someone has to pay, right? I mean, someone has to be fired. Maybe even stripped of their dignity and made to walk down the middle of the street while a crowd shouts "SHAME! SHAME! SHAME!" and spits and throw things at them. (Yes, that's a nod to GOT, you're welcome.) But, no, Pixar's President Ed Catmull chalked it up as a learning opportunity, an expensive one no doubt, but not a reason to destroy people. Or to allow people to destroy themselves with self-doubt and uncertainty.

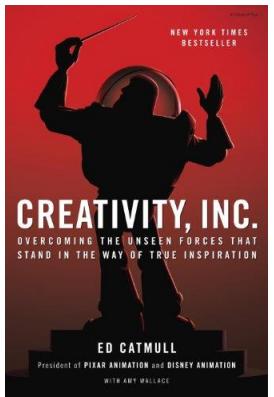
In the book "Creativity, Inc.," which I highly recommend you order on Amazon or check out at your local library, Catmull says:

*"Mistakes aren't a necessary evil. They aren't evil at all. They are an inevitable consequence of doing something new and, as such, should be seen as valuable; without them, we'd have no originality."*

I like that; it resonates with me. Not because it permits me to be careless with my efforts, or unconcerned with my failures, but because it recognizes they're inevitable and they carry value. Andrew Stanton, who directed "A Bug's Life," "Finding Nemo," and "Finding Dory" for Pixar, says you should "*fail early and fast*" and "*be wrong as fast as you can*" so you can move forward. He likens it to learning to play a guitar:

*"You wouldn't say to someone learning to play the guitar, 'You better think really hard about where you put your fingers on the guitar neck before you strum, because you only get to strum once, and that's it. And if you get that wrong, we're going to move on. That's no way to learn, is it?'*

So, get out there and try something new and if you fail, if you make a mistake, GREAT! it just means you're that much closer to succeeding. And I bet your mistake won't be half as costly as was Pixar's "Newt".



\*Blue Sky Studios' 2011 "Rio" had a nearly identical premise but it was about two spix macaws, Blu and Jewel, rather than blue-footed newts.

## Taking Care of Business...

A big shout out to our Building & Grounds Committee and all those who helped on our Spring Work Day. Thank you Duncan Family, Knapp Family, Wayne & Susan Chambers, Don Steveson, David & Lincoln Taylor, Fred Benenati, Nathan Foreman, John Knowles, David Warren, Gary Skaggs, and the Ridenours. Trees were trimmed and most of the flower beds got a good cleaning out, but there is still work to do if you would like to help. The growing season is just beginning and we have a lot of mowing and trimming ahead. You don't have to be on the Building & Grounds Committee to help. Nathan Foreman has graciously agreed to head up the lawnwork for us this summer. I'm sure he would love you to help! If you have questions about how you could help, contact the church office and we'll point you in the right direction.



April 1: Phyllis Crawford  
April 3: Peggy Strunk  
April 4: Debbie Pratt  
April 5: Drew Hester  
April 6: Dianna Dorman

April 6: Missy Randall

April 7: Peggy Keefe

April 7: Trevor Wilson

April 8: Sid Rieger

April 14: Rick Skeel

April 15: Colin Moore

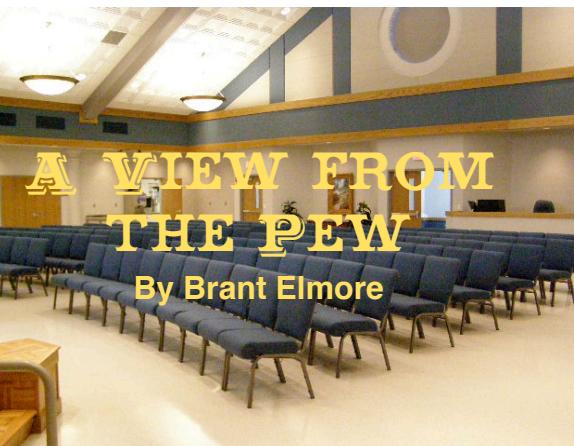
April 16: Gage Foreman

April 16: Mark Lookabaugh

April 17: Jordan Shafer

April 18: Ryan Clark

April 21: Michael Boyd



Since Mitch's resignation many of us have struggled with the feeling that NorthHaven is perhaps rudderless. However, our leadership structure is intact and working for us.

NorthHaven is led by the Executive Committee we voted for during the last election. The current members are Sandi Lasseter, Josh Lockett, Joel Miller, Chad Morris, Gary Skaggs, and Lori Stevens. All of the church staff members are included on the committee. Rick Skeel is the chair. These folks truly care about the church. I am certain that they would enjoy the opportunity to speak with you about any thoughts or concerns which you might hold. I know that they want to do a good job.

The church is also blessed to have the leadership of the Deacon Ministry. The individuals currently serving as deacons are: Cindy Rieger, Randy Ridenour, Linda Skaggs, Beth Taylor, Pam Williams, Gala Van Eaton, and myself. Donna Evers is the chair of the Deacon Ministry. Each and every one of the deacons would love to speak to you about the circumstances of your life. We love and care about you deeply.

NorthHaven is also blessed to have a great church staff. They are diligently working for us. Feel free to contact any of them with any concern. They will get you going in the right direction to get the answer you need. Please

feel free to also give them a pat on the back for their hard work.

Our newest resource is Dr. Pam Durso. Please invite her to share a meal with you or your small group on a Saturday night or Sunday afternoon. Pam has the capacity to help us immensely, and we should take full advantage of this opportunity.

The contact information for all of the above listed individuals is available to you on the church website, [www.northhavenchurch.net](http://www.northhavenchurch.net). If all else fails, email me at [brantelmore@cox.net](mailto:brantelmore@cox.net), and I will put you in contact with the right person or group.

I know that God is actively at work at NorthHaven. He has plans to prosper it and not to harm it, plans to give us hope and a future (Jeremiah 29:11-13). Standing side-by-side and working hand-in-hand, we will make it through this transitional time. NorthHaven is still our church home.

I know the plans I have  
in mind for you,  
declares the Lord;  
they are plans for  
peace, not disaster,  
to give you a future  
filled with hope.  
(Jeremiah 29:11, CEB)

**This is what a mission trip looks like...**

Recently I was honored to be included in the Baptist Women in Ministry's blog series "This is What a Minister Looks Like". Today I am writing from the youth mission trip to Houston. This is what it looks like:

-I've been the only female in my car all week. Between my own boys and several others, I've been completely outnumbered. John Knowles has found himself on the flip side with his daughter and her friends filling his car.

-By the odd strip of burnt skin on the back of my leg, I've learned you shouldn't use spray sunscreen on a windy day.

-There is no need to set an alarm or worry if you forgot something when you co-sponsor with Rachel Youngquist and Susan Miller. Rachel is up with the chickens and turns the overhead lights on to let you know the day is starting and Susan has everything in the world in her bag. Oh, and they both sing the oddest little songs that have been passed down through the family...while I laugh hysterically.

-Seven girls sleeping in one room and twelve sharing four showers is, let's just say, more than a little tricky.

-Conveniently both interns are named Michael. One is much more onerous than the other, so they usually know who we are talking to by our tone.

-Music is certainly part of the trip. We've listened to something from just about every decade. Quite possibly the most entertaining was 1980's Christian music...

with Bryan's commentary and reflection on his childhood mimicking his father keeping rhythm on the steering wheel. John's music with a car full of girls was a bit different but memorable nonetheless!

-Our kids can work harder than we could ever imagine. I have been so proud of all of them. Not to mention they make me laugh with all of their funny code words and stories.

-God has used our team in amazing ways. We've been taken from our comfort zone and placed in a small farming community where people lost all they had worked so hard for in one storm, yet they are generous and loving and determined to rebuild. They cook for us and bring us candy to show appreciation.

They do not realize how grateful we are for them and the opportunity to help them. We will not fix all the damage, but we are making a huge dent on some much-needed projects and leaving the NorthHaven mark on this place.

Kim Divelbiss

