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In the Interim by Pam Durso



Growing up as the daughter of a Baptist pastor, I experienced what seemed to be more than my fair share of transitions. My dad began pastoring when I was three years old. By the time I was sixteen, he had pastored four different churches; I had attended five different schools; and my family had lived in five different houses. I know my experience seems inconsequential compared to that of children of military personnel, but for me, each move involved grief and anxiety. I said sad goodbyes to friends and church families. I lost all that was familiar and safe. I experienced great doubts and fears about whether I would make new friends, do well in this new school, find a place where I fit.

But oddly enough, my shy, introverted childhood self also saw these moves as an opportunity. Moving meant starting over. Moving offered me the chance to reinvent myself, to do something different, to establish a new identity and live into it. So while I learned early on that transition brings anxiety and uncertainty, I also discovered that it opens up new possibilities.

Such is true for NorthHaven. This transition time—the time between pastors—has produced feelings of anxiety and questions of concern. But this transition time, if we embrace it, can also bring opportunities.

In this time of interim, we have both time and space to talk about congregational identity—to remember who NorthHaven has been as a church for the past fourteen years and to discuss where God is calling us to be in the future. We have both the time and space for discerning God’s leadership as we seek to identify congregational purpose, mission, and vision. We have both time and space for discussions about the church’s resources and challenges. We have both time and space for stretching our congregational imagination, dreaming together about all that can be and all that we can do as a community of faith. The interim time is wide open for conversations and discussions—I pray that you will join in and share your hopes and dreams for NorthHaven’s next season with the pastor search committee. But I hope too that in the interim you will find opportunities to serve. In this critical time of change, the church needs ALL members to be active participants—to show up, to sign up, to step up. This is a grand time of opportunity for us all!



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



“Thanks & More...”

Thank you to the NHC Choir for their presentation of Pepper Choplin’s “Come to the Cross and Remember.” Special thanks as well, to Dawson Lasseter for his expressive narration and to Sandi Lasseter for coordinating the physical expression of the moments of Jesus’ last week on earth. Our church offers wonderful opportunities of worship and for that, I am most thankful.

Recently, I read some notes I had jotted down from reading Gordon MacDonald’s book, “Who Stole My Church?” In his preface he says some people “think their churches aren’t adapting fast enough to new realities, and others think their churches have simply changed too much.” He goes on to say that some people deal with change by dropping out while others take on the role of critic, and thereby sap the strength of the church community. He further states that there are “marvelous people who seem to understand that a church is not meant to be a club organized for the convenience of insiders, but a cooperative where people combine together to grow spiritually, to worship the triune God, and to prepare themselves for Christian living and service in a larger world.”

I believe that last description fits NorthHaven. It is an ongoing effort, for sure. In his song “Peaceful World,” John Mellencamp (Clay’s favorite rock-n-roller) says, “So be careful with your heart and what you love; make sure it was sent from up above; it’s what you do and not what you say; if you’re not part of the future then get out of the way.”

Ouch. John always shoots from the hip and doesn’t hold back. I believe he is saying to think about what we do and say, pondering the affect it might have on others. To my dismay, we live in a time when rudeness is becoming the norm. I don’t like it. I really don’t like it when I see it in myself!

And what about change? We are really in a time of change at NorthHaven. It seems to me, we are in a time of change on many levels, personally and culturally. So, let’s evaluate what we ‘do’ and what we ‘say.’ I think we ARE part of the future and don’t need to get ‘out of the way.’

May our prayer be to embrace the change that God brings to us.
Now, I just need to write it on my heart. Or my bathroom mirror!!!

Embracing change!
Cheryl

Embracing
Change



THE UNSEEN ARTIST

Article by Don Schooler



Isn’t this the coolest picture?! Of course that’s a rhetorical question because, yes, in fact, THIS IS the coolest picture!

There are a lot of noteworthy pictures in the world of “cool pictures.” There’s the 1965 photo by Sports Illustrated photographer Neil Leifer capturing the fleeting moment heavyweight champ, Muhammad Ali stood over Sonny Liston in the middle of the ring shouting “Get up and fight, Sucker!” There’s the heartbreaking 1936 picture by Dorothea Lange of the Dust Bowl era mother staring off into nowhere with worry deeply etched on her brow, as her baby sleeps in her left arm and her older child hides her face in her shoulder. And there’s the uncontrolled joy of the American soldier kissing a surprised nurse in the middle of Times Square in celebration of the V-J Day and the end of WWII, captured for all time by Life photographer Alfred Eisenstaedt. And then there’s THIS PICTURE!

Okay, maybe I’m being a little overly dramatic, but, come on, this really is an impressive picture because it captures THE UNSEEN ARTIST – THE VOICE

ARTIST. What’s a voice artist? Exactly what it sounds like, it’s a person who uses his/her voice to create art. I know singers use their voices to create art, and they are definitely artists, but I’m talking about something a little bit different. (Besides, music newsletter articles are Cheryl’s gig and she is real possessive, so I’m going to stay out of her sandbox.)

You’ve likely already encountered several voice artists today and it didn’t even register with you. Don’t feel bad about that, that’s kind of the idea, the artists would prefer you to focus on their message rather than them. But when you stop and think about it, they’re kind of everywhere – kind of like June Bugs in an Oklahoma summer. For example, it’s pretty difficult anymore to think about Arby’s without hearing actor Ving Rhames’ voice in your head shouting “We have the Meats!” No, that is NOT James Earl Jones, it’s Ving Rhames’. However, James Earl Jones is another wonderful example of a voice artist. What’s Darth Vader with J.E.J., just a tall, asthmatic bad guy, with a cool sword. (BTW, if you ever have some time to kill and want a chuckle, check out this clip of Darth Vader before the actor in the suit, David Prowse, had his lines replaced by James Earl Jones. Pretty funny. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KQFho0_G1VI.)

And of course, without voice artists cartoons are just a bunch of moving drawings. But when Mel Blanc says “What’s up Doc?,” Bugs Bunny comes to life. Without Casey Kasem’s Top 40 voice Shaggy Rogers is just another stoner, but with it he instantly becomes an indispensable part of “Mystery Incorporated.” Now, try this . . . picture Winnie the Pooh in your mind, he’s got himself stuck coming out of Rabbit’s house because he’s eaten all of Rabbit’s honey, and he mutters to himself “Oh bother” . . . you just heard his voice in your head thanks to Sterling Holloway. And without June Foray there is no “Rocky and Bullwinkle,” there’s just Bullwinkle.

So, that’s why this picture has me all worked up – it’s a selfie of a bunch of very talented Disney voice artists and the characters they voiced. Fun, right?

BTW, if anyone ever decides to do a cartoon about me I’d like to go on record right now that I think J.E.J. would be a good voice artist for me. Or Morgan Freeman. Or even Sam Elliott. And if any of you who suggest Mark McKinney, “Superstore’s” Store Manager, Glenn, would be a better fit just know you will find me sitting behind you next Sunday, and every Sunday thereafter, giving you the stink-eye.

PICTURE KEY: Left-to-right, Front Row: Kristen Bell (Anna, “Frozen”); Josh Gad (Olaf, “Frozen”); Anika Noni Rose (Tiana, “The Princess & the Frog”); Jodi Benson (Ariel, “The Little Mermaid”); Linda Larkin (Jasmine, “Aladdin”); Middle Row: Paige O’Hara (Belle, “Beauty & the Beast”); Sarah Silverman (Vanelllope Von Schweetz, “Wreck-It Ralph”); Back Row: Irene Bedard (Pocahontas, “Pocahontas”); Mandy Moore (Rapunzel, “Tangled”); Auli’l Cravalho (Moana, “Moana”); and Kelly MacDonald (Meredith, “Brave)

Graduate Recognition is Sunday, May 20th. If you have a High School Senior graduating this year, please send a picture of your Senior to Sheri (sheri@northhavenchurch.net) by Monday, May 14th.

Church Office Closed for Memorial Day on Monday, May 28th.



May 1: Michael Robison
May 1: Linda Skaggs
May 1: Wiley Taylor

May 2: Oma Gean Geis
May 2: Justin Straily
May 5: Edith Duncan
May 5: Addie Shelton
May 6: Sherry Cox
May 6: Isabella Fullbright
May 8: Makenna Morris
May 12: Abigail Pratt
May 14: Isaac Miller
May 14: Lou Scriviner

May 15: Vien Tran
May 16: Jeffery Knapp
May 18: Emily Miller
May 20: Richare Divelbiss
May 21: Hannah Hodge
May 26: Andrew Collins
May 26: Chad Duncan
May 26: Scott Paganoni
May 30: Randy Ridenour
May 30: Grayson Schooler

Report from NorthHaven Church Executive Committee

As the summer approaches, the Executive Committee and staff have looked ahead at the church calendar. Our custom at NorthHaven has been to consolidate meetings and Wednesday night activities during summer months. After reviewing the current worship schedule and after careful consideration of the work and energy required to plan, organize, and lead two separate services while many members and staff are on vacation or traveling to church-sponsored activities, the Executive Committee invites the congregation to consider with us the summer worship schedule. We will convene a Special Church Conference on **Sunday, May 20**, to discuss options for the summer and will recommend that our two worship services be consolidated into one **for the summer months** (June through August). We will vote on this recommendation during the first part of Sunday School at 10:10 a.m. If you are unable to attend on May 20, you may email your vote to Sheri Ridenour at sheri@northhavenchurch.net no later than Saturday, May 19.

During the summer months, the Executive Committee will host multiple listening sessions about our future worship service schedule and our dreams for church growth. We will contact each Sunday School class and schedule a time to visit so that we can hear your thoughts, wishes, questions, or concerns. We will also host a Sunday afternoon session for those who wish to attend. Following those discussions, the Executive Committee will make a recommendation to the congregation based on the input gathered at those listening sessions. A Special Church Conference will be held on **Sunday, September 9**, to discuss and then vote on the worship service schedule. We will provide more details about this special church conference as the summer months progress.

We need to hear from you. Please plan to join us at one of these listening sessions, or contact a member of the Executive Committee directly.

Executive Committee Members:

Rick Skeel, President
Gary Skaggs, Vice President
Josh Lockett, Treasurer
Joel Miller, Assistant Treasurer
Chad Morris, Budget Committee Chair
Lori Stevens, Nominating Committee Chair
Sandi Lasseter, Personnel Committee Chair
Bryan Partridge, Minister to Students
Kim Divelbiss, Minister to Children & Families
Cheryl Tarter, Music Minister
Linda Skaggs, Interim Business Administrator



NEWSLETTER MAY 2018

- APRIL 11: FEAR
- APRIL 15: PETER DENIES JESUS
- APRIL 18: WISDOM
- APRIL 22: ABRAHAM
- APRIL 25: IDLENESS
- APRIL 29: DAVID & BATHSHEBA
- MAY 2: PRIDE
- MAY 6: HAMAN
- MAY 9: ADDICTION
- MAY 13: SAMSON
- MAY 16: COMFORT
- MAY 20: RICH YOUNG MAN



\$100 PER STUDENT
RAVP TO OBTAIN BY MAY 20

2 NIGHTS IN A HOTEL
RANGERS GAME VS. ROCKIES
SERVICE PROJECT

AND WE GET TO SUPPORT
ABBIE WAGGONER AS SHE
IS RECOGNIZED AS 1 OF 25
YOUTH TO KNOW IN
CBF CHURCHES!

SUMMER ROAD TRIP 2018
JUNE 14-16

NHSM
MOVIE FUNDRAISER
MAY 25TH, 7-9PM

\$10 ADMISSION
IN THE LOFT



May 2nd in the LOFT at 6:30pm!

NHSM GRADUATION
WEDNESDAY
MAY 23RD
6:30PM IN THE LOFT



My Dearest Church Family,

By the time you read this I will be near preaching on May 6th or possibly just finished. If there is a moment that I pass out, please pick me up and assure God that I gave it the good ole college try. It is far easier for my words to appear on paper than out of my mouth. I know what you are thinking and trust that you know I am referring to meaningful and appropriate words, because for heaven's sake, none of us can survive a full twenty minutes of my announcement style delivery.

I have a true belief that God does have a reasonable sense of humor...calling me to ministry in my forties after some truly enjoyable (and at times rather stupid) years before my frontal lobe was developed is proof that Jesus does indeed save and God can use anyone! However, all joking aside, one of the memories most burned into my mind is that of my Granny teaching second grade girls Sunday school. After peeking during the prayer at one of her friends, a young lady giggled. No other "amen" has been uttered more quickly than the one of my Granny on that day. Granny's next action would be to escort that little darlin down the hall to the class that her mother taught. I'm not sure if that girl lived long enough for redemption, but it resonated with me that humor has boundaries in church. Here's hoping I'll find just the perfect balance and that Minnie Porter can remain quiet in her grave pleased with her granddaughter.

I adore this church and the people that fill it. I treasure every hug, every word of support, and every holding of my hand as I step out of my comfort zone. I treasure the laughs too. This journey is not my will but His. It is both terrifying and rewarding.

And just so we are clear, if I do pass out, hit my head, and leave NorthHaven in an ambulance, do not come see me in the hospital for my verbal expression on pain medication makes my announcements look oh so mild. As a worse case scenario, if I pass out, hit my head, and pass on, I trust Bum, Randy, and Bryan to handle my funeral with the perfect amount of humor.

Love and so much gratitude,
Kim